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A New Locality Record of a Freshwater Fish *Brachyamblyopus brachysoma* Bleeker, 1854 (Family: Gobiidae) from Paschim Medinipur, West Bengal, India

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Abstract
Present paper is mainly based on the field observation of the species *Brachyamblyopus brachysoma* Bleeker, 1854, the only Indian species which is very rare in West Bengal. Present observation is the first record from West Bengal. Authors observed a single specimen in the river Kapaleswari at Kundra (22.176° N, 87.668° E), Total length 17.5 cm. This is the highest recorded length of this species from India. Kundra is a village of Sabong Block under Paschim Medinipur District.

Keywords: *Brachyamblyopus brachysoma*, First Record, Length, West Bengal.

1. Introduction
Small indigenous freshwater fish are often an important ingredient in the diet of village people who live in the proximity of freshwater bodies. These fish can live in a harsh environmental condition and able to reproduce and grow rapidly in favourable condition. These species are not only a source of vital protein to the rural poor but also a valuable source of micro-nutrients such as calcium, zinc, iron & fatty acids (Roos *et al*., 2007; Halwart 2008) [14, 5]. Research has proved that the bioavailability of calcium from these small indigenous freshwater fish, prawn, crab & molluscs species is at par with that derived from milk (Ross *et al*., 2007) [14]. It has been reported that some species such as *A. mola*, *O. cotio cotio*, *E. danricus* and *C. soborna* contain high amount of vitamin A and other micronutrients and minerals (Thilsted *et al*., 1997) [17]. So, small indigenous freshwater fishes are very important source of nutrients for low earning people of village and research on the subject is accelerating gradually. In West Bengal a very few work have been done on the small indigenous fish fauna, Sen, 1992 [15], Mishra *et al*., 2003 [11], Barman. R.P. 2007 [1], Basu *et al*. (2012) [2], Paul & Chanda (2014) [13].
The family Gobiidae consists of over 1718 species belonging to 251 genera (Nelson, J.S., 1994) [12], of which genus *Brachyamblyopus* consists only one species. *Brachyamblyopus brachysoma* is found in India, Thailand, Hong Kong, Indonesia and New Guinea and also found in Persian Gulf and Africa. Recently Rao and Krishna (2014) [10] recorded the species first time from Interu mangrove swamp of Krishna estuarine region, Andhra Pradesh, India. This species is also listed as *not evaluated* (IUCN 3.1). We collect the specimen from fisherman, take some photograph and preserved it in the college museum (Regn. No. NLK-54).On the basis of identification key of Talwar, P. K. (1991) [16] and Jayaram (2010) [7] the specimen is identified as *Brachyamblyopus brachysoma* Bleeker, 1854 [3].

2. Meterial Examined: 1 male, TL – 17.5cm, Kapaleswari river, Kundra, Paschim Medinipur, West Bengal, 6.4.2015, B. Paul.

2.1 Systematic Position
- Kingdom: Animalia
- Phylum: Chordata
- Class: Actinopterygii
- Order: Perciformes
- Family: Gobiidae
- Genus: *Brachyamblyopus* Bleeker 1874 [3]
- Species: *brachysoma* Bleeker 1854 [3]

2.2 Synonym
- *Amblyopus brachysoma* Bleeker, 1854d: 510 [3]
- *Brachyamblyopus burmanicus*, Hora, 1926
- *Brachyamblyopus brachysoma*, Larson & Lim, 2005: 74 [9]

2.3 Type locality
Priama, Sumatra Indonesia by Bleeker, 1854 [3]. Holotype [105 mm TL]: RMNH 4670, Eschmeyer, 2011) [4]

3. Diagnosis
Body very elongate, compressed laterally and having no scales. Head depressed, scaleless, lack of barble. Eyes small, not visible from ventral surface. Mouth oblique, jaws sub equal. Teeth three rows in both jaws, outer row of teeth is enlarged, canine absent. In opercular region no pouch like depression found. Isthmus broad, gill opening is as long as the breadth of pectoral fin base. Dorsal fin continuous with caudal fin with six spines and 36 soft rays. Pectoral fin with 30 rays. Anal fin with one spine and 32 soft rays, continuous with caudal fin. Caudal fin long and pointed, with 16 soft rays.

Brachyamblyopus brachysoma

4. Distribution
India: Andhra Pradesh, West Bengal.
Elsewhere: Thailand, Hong Kong, Indonesia, New Guinea, Africa and also found in Persian Gulf.

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