

A bibliography for sea turtles on the mainland coast in India

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This bibliography aims to cover literature on sea turtles on the mainland coast of India. In the previous issue, we included a bibliography of literature on sea turtles in Orissa, which forms a substantial body of work. We have included in this issue additional references on Orissa. The Andaman and Nicobar Islands and Lakshadweep Islands will be compiled in an upcoming issue. We also hope to cover south, southeast Asia and Indian Ocean islands in upcoming issues.

This compilation does not include proceedings of small workshops, training programmes or meetings, since most of them do not constitute full or reviewed papers, and are largely either brief or extended abstracts. For the same reason, papers presented at the Annual Symposia of Sea Turtle Biology and Conservation are not included. We have, however, included articles from special collections that resulted from workshops or conferences such as the 'Proceedings of the Symposium on Endangered Marine Animals and Marine Parks' held in Cochin in 1985, and 'Proceedings of the Workshop on Sea Turtle Conservation', held in Madras in 1984, published as CMFRI Special Publication No. 18.

Included in this bibliography is the 'Proceedings of the National Workshop for the development of a national sea turtle conservation action plan' held in Bhubaneswar, Orissa in 2001, but we have not individually listed the papers presented, as these were primarily extended abstracts. This particular workshop (and numerous others) were conducted under the auspices of the GOI UNDP sea turtle project, executed by the Wildlife Institute of India (WII), Dehradun, between 2000 and 2002. Reports of various workshops conducted during the project can be obtained from the WII. Results from many of these projects have been published as papers in

Kachhapa and in other professional journals, which are listed here. In addition, all GOI UNDP sea turtle project results for 2000-2002 are to be published in "Marine Turtles of the Indian subcontinent", edited by Kartik Shanker and B.C. Choudhury (in press). The book also contains reviews of sea turtles in other south Asian countries, and other articles on sea turtles in India.

In general, we have not included publications where sea turtles are not the focus, such as field guides and wildlife books. We have not included press reports, as those are simply too numerous to list. However, we have included authored articles in the popular press, both in newspapers and magazines.

Bibliographies are dynamic, since papers are being produced constantly. Furthermore, the class of papers that merit inclusion depend on the judgement of the authors. Many references and papers are simply lost in inaccessible archives and surface periodically. Thus, no published bibliography can ever expect to be a finished work. To address this issue, we hope to have an integrated, interactive bibliography on our website (www.seaturtle.org/iotn) where (a) all published bibliographies from the region can be integrated (b) references can be added from time to time by all users of the resource (c) information can be added from time to time, such as the availability of each paper and the source.

We hope that this bibliography will be useful to all biologists and conservationists interested in the sea turtles of India. We apologise for any significant lapses and welcome inputs, especially regarding obscure references that we may have missed. Eventually, we hope that this will become part of a print and online repository, that will serve the entire sea turtle conservation community.

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Orissa - An update

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