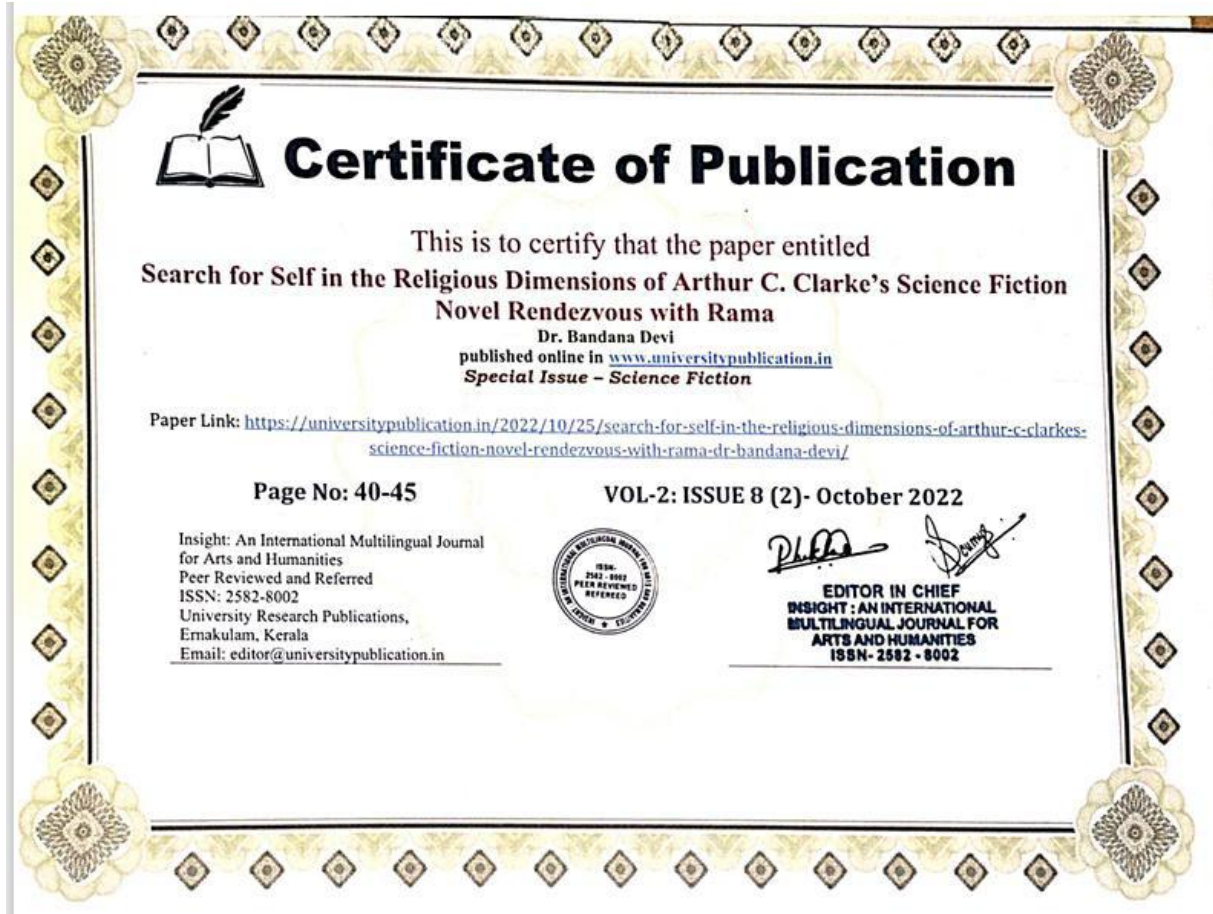


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A new sub species and first host record of *Procamallanus (Spirocamallanus) Bagarii lanceolata* N. SSP. (Karve and Naik, 1951) in freshwater fish, *Mastacembelus armatus* from Seer Khad, Himachal Pradesh, India

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Abstract

Helminthological examination of the freshwater fish, *Mastacembelus armatus* revealed the presence of *Procamallanus (Spirocamallanus) Bagarii lanceolata* N. SSP. from Seer Khad, district Bilaspur, Himachal Pradesh. It is characterized by diagnostic features such as buccal capsule is not separated into two halves, internally having discontinuous spiral thickenings; presence of a basal lancet in buccal capsule and additional four sessile lateroventral papillae (3 precloacal and 1 postcloacal). The present finding represents a new host.

Keywords: *Procamallanus (Spirocamallanus) Bagarii lanceolata* N. SSP. *Mastacembelus armatus*, Seer Khad

Introduction

Fishes are indigenously and economically important in India as it provides high nutritional value and serves as an essential food for the different section of the human population. Fishes are prone to many parasitic infections due to diverse feeding habits and habitats. During the careful examination of nematode infection in 11 hosts (*Mastacembelus armatus*) from Seer Khad, 32 nematodes of the genus *Procamallanus* Baylis, 1923 recovered from the intestine. Nematodes of genus *Procamallanus* with well developed, orange-brown and highly sclerotized buccal capsule mainly parasitizes freshwater fish (Baylis, 1923; Moravec and Scholz, 1991; Moravec and Thatcher, 1997). Moravec and Thatcher (1997) [4, 1, 1], presented a key in which *Procamallanus*, *Spirocamallanus*, *Spirocamallanoides*, *Punctocamallanus* and *Denticamallanus* were considered as a subgenus of *Procamallanus*. Out of these, the only representative of the first two subgenera has been reported from freshwater fishes of Himachal Pradesh, India. Although many authors consider *Spirocamallanus* a distinct genus, we agree with Moravec and Sey (1988) [2]; Rodrigues *et al.* (1991) [3]; Moravec and Thatcher, 1997 [1]; Gibbons, 2010 in considering *Spirocamallanus* a subgenus of *Procamallanus* recognized by the presence of buccal capsule with internal spiral thickening in both sexes (Moravec and Thatcher, 1997) [1]. The present finding observed a new host record of these parasite species.

Materials and Methods

Collection

The collection of nematode parasites from freshwater fish was done from Seer Khad at Jhanduta in Bilaspur district of Himachal Pradesh, India during the month of June and September 2020. Fishes were purchased from the local fishermen at Seer Khad in district Bilaspur during the months of June and September 2020. About 35 specimens of *Mastacembelus armatus* were thoroughly examined for the recovery of parasites. To remove debris the recovered

nematodes from gut were washed in saline (0.7% solution).

Fixation and preservation

Recovered nematodes were killed and fixed in boiling 70% alcohol. This step helps to straighten the nematodes.

The fixed nematodes were then preserved in fresh 70% alcohol and labeled for the date, name of the host and locality.

Preparation for microscopic studies

For microscopical examination, the nematodes were first cleared in lactophenol (The nematodes are bulk cleared in lactophenol (Glycerine: 2 parts; Distilled water: 1 part; Lactic acid: 1 part & Phenol crystal (melted): 1 part) or glycerine (involving a series of upgrading mixture of 70% alcohol & glycerine) for the preparation of temporary mounts.

Table 1

Sr. No.	Type of treatment	Time
1.	70% Alcohol: Glycerine:: 3:1	12-17 hrs
2.	70% Alcohol: Glycerine:: 1:1	Overnight
3.	70% Alcohol: Glycerine:: 1:3	Overnight
4.	Pure Glycerine	Preserved

Since a prolonged action of lactophenol caused the bursting of specimens, the nematodes after studies were washed in 70% acid alcohol before preserving them back in 70% alcohol.

Identification

'CIH Keys to the Nematode Parasites of Vertebrates (Vol. 1-10)' (Ed. Roy C. Anderson, Alain G. Chabaud & Sheila Willmott, 2009) and 'Keys to the Nematode Parasites of Vertebrates: Supplementary volume' (Ed. Lynda M. Gibbons, 2010) were used for the generic diagnosis of the worms, followed by the consultation of the relevant literature available worldwide, for the validation of the species.

DIGITAL INDIA – A ROADMAP TO SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS

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ABSTRACT

The whole world is racing to promote business, politics, entertainment etc. online. Achieving sustainable development goals is the task of all countries, both developed and developing. At the same time, almost all countries are moving to a digital economy, with the core of e-commerce. One such programme is 'digitalization' a crucial Part in "digital India Programme". Digital India is an innovative thought of Hon'ble Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi of India to integrate the government functionaries and the people of India. The drive behind the concept is to build participation, transparent and responsive system. The digitalization of economic activities and trade is of direct relevance to several of these Goals. But its implementation proved to be a great challenge. There are many roadblocks in the way of its successful implementation like digital illiteracy, poor infrastructure, low internet speed, lack of coordination among various departments, etc. These challenges need to be addressed in order to realize the full potential of this Programme. This paper attempts to examine all aspects of employing digital technologies in accelerating the processes of 17 UN Sustainable Development Goals.

Keywords: E-Commerce, Digital India Programme, Sustainable Development.

INTRODUCTION

The government launched several major and minor e-governance and digitalisation programmes which were later brought into the fold of Digital India Programme. During 1st July 2015 Modi government's flagship programme 'Digital India' was introduced. The programme has one mission and one target that is to take nation forward digitally and economically. The objective was to make Government services easily available to the citizens electronically by improving its online infrastructure all over the country. The process would be structured to increase internet connectivity to make the country digitally empowered. It helps to reach out to the masses and encourages them to use technology in their daily lives and reducing paper work. The initiative aims at connecting rural India with the help of high-speed internet connectivity. It will push the usage of technology to connect and empower people in areas relating to health, education, labour and employment, commerce, etc. It is one of the biggest steps of the government to motivate the citizens of the country and connect our economy to the world and setting itself on the path to achieve the UN 17 SDGs by 2030.

OBJECTIVE OF STUDY

1. To identify the concept of digital India and its affect on SDGs.
2. To analyse the Sustainable Development Goals relevance to digital India.
3. To study the contribution of digital India to achieve SDGs.
4. To find the challenges towards achieving SDGs and to find the future prospects of it.

RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

This is a descriptive research which helps to understand about the Digital India campaign and its effects so far and to develop a model to achieve Sustainable Development Goals with the pillars of Digital India. The type of data used is secondary data obtained from sources such as research papers, newspaper, journals and magazine articles etc

DIGITAL INDIA PROGRAMME

Digital India is a awning initiative that aims to transform India into digitally empowered society and knowledge economy. The theme can be explained as Indian Talent (IT) + Information Technology (IT) =India Tomorrow (IT). Digital India is rooted in three vision areas and nine pillars. Three vision areas are 'Digital Infrastructure as a Utility to Every Citizen', 'Governance & Services on Demand' and 'Digital Empowerment of citizens'. These key areas are expected to be achieved by nine pillars of DI that include Broadband Highways, Universal access to mobile connectivity, Public Internet access programme, e-Governance: Reforming government through technology, e-Kranti – electronic delivery of services, Information for all, Electronics manufacturing, Information technology for jobs and Early harvest programmes. Out of these nine pillars, four are about provision of Internet and access, and the other pillars focus on providing governance and services on demand. Digital India programme has received appreciation world over for its innovative approach of mobile first and involvement of citizens in co-creation of next generation public services coupled with robust approach towards



IMPACT OF GENDER INEQUALITY ON ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

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Abstract

This paper attempts to analyze the issues and challenges face by women due to gender inequality in India. Achieving gender equality and empowering all women and girls are decisive factors in transforming this vision into a reality. The purpose of this paper is to offer a new gender – aware framework to provide a springboard for furthering a holistic understanding of women empowerment affect the economic development. Gender equality and female participation in all sectors (primary, secondary and tertiary) are key factors in economic development. Particularly India has slipped to rank 140 among 156 countries in Global Gender Gap Report 2021, by World Economic Forum. In order to study the relationship between gender equality and the economic development this paper investigates how women actively participation are related to economic development.

Key words: Gender inequality, Women Empowerment, Economic Growth & Development.

INTRODUCTION

Gender inequality is persistent and takes on many forms in India, rooted in socio-economic-cultural practices. As a result, women are disproportionately under-represented in economic and other activities. In recent years, the empowerment of women has been recognized as the central issue in determining the status of women. The National Commission for women was set up by an Act of Parliament in 1990 to safeguard the rights and legal entitlements of women. India has ratified various international conventions and human rights instruments and hence committed to empowering its women.

Traditionally, women have been expected to perform most of the work in the home. This traditional attitude is still an important explanation of the differences in women's labour participation (considerably greater than men's) found in different part of country. Another argument is that gender gaps in employment impose a serious distortion on the economy. They artificially reduce the pool of talent from which employers can draw, thereby reducing the average ability of the workforce. Gender inequality can affect economic growth in various ways. Hence this study concentrates on the impact of gender inequality in education and labour force participation on economic development.