Frog and Toads

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Amphibian diversity in India

- 394 species, about 5% of global species
- 159 new species in last 16 years (10 new/yr)
- 3 orders, 11 families, 59 genera

Photos: GM Rosa, Dinesh KP
Identification
Terrestrial
Common Indian toad, *Duttaphrynus melanostictus*
up to 16cm, nocturnal, terrestrial, human habitation, water
Ferguson’s toad, *Duttaphrynus scaber* up to 5cm, nocturnal, terrestrial, human habitation, water bodies
Indian burrowing frog, *Sphearotheca breviceps* up to 6cm, nocturnal, fossorial, human habitation, water bodies
Semi-Aquatic/Semi-Terrestrial
Ornate narrow mouthed frog, *Microhyla ornata*
up to 3cm, nocturnal, semi-aquatic, human habitation, water
Wrinkled cricket frog, *Fejervarya caperata*
up to 4cm, nocturnal, semi-aquatic, paddy fields, pools
Indian bull frog, *Hoplobatrachus tigerinus*
up to 25cm, nocturnal, semi-aquatic, ponds, streams, paddy
Bicolored frog, *Clinotarsus curtipes* Endemic south India up to 6cm, nocturnal, semi-aquatic, reservoirs, streams, river
Aquatic
Common skittering frog, *Euphlyctis cyanophlyctis*
up to 6cm, nocturnal, aquatic, human habitation, water bodies
Arboreal
Amboli bush frog, *Pseudophilautus amboli* Endemic
up to 3.5cm, nocturnal, arboreal, shrubs, bushes, tree bark
Common tree frog, *Polypedates maculatus*
up to 6cm, nocturnal, arboreal, tree trunks, bushes, walls
Red List status of Indian Amphibians

CHALLENGES AND OPPORTUNITIES

- Biggest challenge is that ecological status is not known for 51% of Indian species!
- Every possibility that there could be a new species in searches that we are conducting!
IF FROGS GO EXTINCT, YOU’LL NOTICE.
Collaborations

- Ashoka Trust for Research in Ecology and the Environment, Bangalore
- Earthwatch Institute, India
- French Institute, Pondicherry
- Mangalore University, Mangalore
- Kalinga Center for Rainforest Ecology
- Vanamitra, Bangalore
- National University of Singapore
- University of Vienna, Austria
- Zoological Society of London, UK
Thank you.