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## ANIMAL DIVERSITY OF MAJALGAONTAHSIL, BEED DISTRICT OF MARATHWADA REGION, MAHARASHTRA STATE

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### ABSTRACT

Diversity is the hallmark of living things on earth today built by impounding. Obviously biological diversity needs a system of classification to understand it. The better we understand living things; the better will be the classification.

The present investigation was carried out to study the diversity of animals from Majalgaon Reservoir and Majalgaon Tahasil of Dist. Beed from Maharashtra state. The present work is carried out during the Academic year 2014-2015. The animal diversity is represented by 4 major groups of vertebrates and invertebrates were discussed. The diversity among vertebrates and invertebrates animals recorded that, **42** Fishes, **23** Molluscan, **04** Amphibians, and **14** Reptiles.

### INTRODUCTION

Sindhphanaa River, an area of 35,000 ha. Due to huge biodiversity, a system of classification is needed when dealing with anything in large numbers. Majalgaon reservoir & nearby region also have diversity among the Molluscs, Amphibians, Reptiles and Fishes. The present investigation was undertaken to study the aquatic as well as terrestrial animals with reference to all above from Majalgaon region. Majalgaon reservoir is one of the major irrigation projects in Beed district. The Majalgaon reservoir and height of dam is 1020 meters & 37 meters respectively & is very famous earthen dam.

Fishes form one of the most important groups of vertebrates, influencing the aquatic ecosystem & life in various ways. Millions of human beings suffer from hunger and malnutrition. The fishes form a rich source of food and provide a meal to tide over the nutritional difficulties of man in addition to serving as an important item of human diet from time immemorial and are primarily caught for this purpose. Fish diet provides proteins, fat and vitamins A & D. A large amount of phosphorous and other elements are also

present in it. They have a good taste and are easily digestible.

The phylum Mollusca (Latin: Molluscus Soft bodied) includes over 60,000 Species. It is second largest animal phylum after Arthropods. Mollusca form an ancient group. They have lived over 500 Million Years.

Gastropods – The Gastropods with a single, coiled shell form the largest class of Mollusca. Bivalves – They have two hinged shells, hence their name. Cephalopods – Includes octopuses and squids.

Majalgaon reservoir has a large amount of aquatic vegetation like *vallisneria*, *pistia* as a food for Molluscs. They are amphibious being adapted for life in water & on land.

As their name indicates, most Amphibians have two phases in their lives. For breeding they required the water environment because fertilization is normally external. So amphibians though generally adapted to life on land have to be near water to complete their life cycle.

There are about 3,000 species are known today. Out of these 2,600 species are of Frogs and Toads. And they are