SYNOPSIS
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Chanda ranga (Ham.) locally known as "Bhingrya" belongs to the family Chandidae. Along with other freshwater fishes it forms a minor freshwater fishery and is caught throughout the year from Godavari river near Nasik, and is consumed by poor class people of this area.

This fish is economically important as food as well as larvivorous fish. The knowledge of different aspects of its biology has an important applied role in the management and exploitation of its fishery. Very little attention has been paid to study the biology of this food fish and hence a detailed investigation on important aspects such as maturation, spawning season, spawning periodicity, sex ratio, ponderal index, fecundity, length-weight relationship, length-frequency studies, morphometric measurements, food and feeding habits and biochemical composition has been carried out.

The systematic position of the fish, which covers a brief description of the order, family and genus to which the species belongs. The synonyms of the species have also been included.
For the present investigation on the biology of *Chanda ranga* the fishes were collected from the river "Godavari" near Nasik.

To study the maturity and spawning 1,547 specimens were examined in a period of one year from January to December, 1983. The individuals were grouped as per the stages of maturity and analysed in relation to different length groups and during different months. On the basis of these analyses the conclusions about the minimum size at first maturity, spawning season and sex composition were drawn. The growth of the ovaries and the spawning periodicity based on the ova-diameter measurements have been investigated.

26 gravid females were selected for the study of fecundity in relation to total length, weight of the fish as well as ovary length and weight was calculated.

Condition factor 'K' was studied in both the sexes in relation to different seasons and length of the fish.

The growth in the length of fish is studied by Peterson's length-frequency method. The Length-weight relationship of the fish has also been determined separately in Juveniles, males and females. Le Cren's equation was used to find out the length-weight relationship.
The morphometric relationships between the total length and other body measurements have also been studied to show the relative growth rate of the fish.

Food and feeding habits of the adult *C. ranga* have been studied in relation to length groups and different months. The data were analysed to show the percentage composition and the percentage of prevalence. Intensity of feeding in relation to maturation and spawning has been studied.

The most important aspect of fish biology which deals with the fluctuations in the chemical composition such as water, protein, fat and glycogen of muscles, liver and ovaries and their correlation with spawning season in both the sexes has also been studied in *C. ranga*. 