

Diversity of Lionfishes (Genus: Pterois) in North East Coast of India

Muddula Krishna* and GovindaRao.V.

Department of Marine Living Resources, Andhra University, Visakhapatnam, India
E-mail: govindarao.mlrau@gmail.com

Abstract: *Diversity begets diversity that ensures sustainability of the system. Loss of biodiversity of results in the collapse of an ecosystem. The greater biological diversity of the system the greater sustainability. The biological diversity of each country is valuable and vulnerable natural resources. The global diversity is somewhere near 10 million species out of which only 1.71 million have been named. Marine system are known for the vast diversity with the deep sea floor containing million under scribed species. Coral reefs are the nurseries of the oceans; they are biodiversity hot spots, mainly lion fishes. Biodiversity comprises all habitats and their sustainable use. Biodiversity and its conservation are regarded as one of the major issues of enabling sustainable use of natural resources. This contribution focuses on the diversity of fish population and their conservation aspects in the Visakhapatnam waters. The fish diversity of the coast Visakhapatnam zoographically and emphasise the value of conserving biodiversity. The present paper deals with the diversity, abundance and IUCN Red list status of lion fishes in Visakhapatnam coastal waters, east coast of India. Among fishes of lion fishes six species followed by order Scorpaeniformes. Based on the investigations held so far some conclusions can be drawn concerning lionfish species distribution and community pattern and in some cases even their resilience in terms of environmental heterogeneity. The power of taxonomy related diversity measures to depict historical changes has been ably proved in this case.*

Keywords: *Lion fish diversity, Visakhapatnam and*