

APPENDIX – III

Fish fauna – commercially important species and their ecology

Species	Ecology
A. Fish	
Grey mullets (<i>Mugil, Liza</i>)	Marine and estuarine: very tolerant to salinity fluctuations: fry enters estuary in post-monsoon months
<i>Mugil cephalus</i>	
<i>M. cunnesius</i>	
<i>M. persia</i>	
<i>M. macrolepis</i>	
Sciaenids	
(Daysciaena albida)	Marine: lower estuary
Seabass or Cock-up	Marine: very tolerant to low salinities
Milk fish (<i>Chanos chanos</i>)	Marine: far upstream in estuary
Marine catfish	Spawning in lower estuary: seaward migration of young fish
<i>(Tachysurus spp.)</i>	
Half beaks (<i>Hyporamphus spp.</i>)	Estuarine: upper and middle estuary
Tarpon (<i>Megalops cyprinoides</i>)	Estuarine: head and upper estuary
B. Crustaceans	
Penaeid prawns	Marine: post-larval migration into estuary for hatching of larval prawns
Edible crab	Estuarine: migration of juvenile crabs towards lower salinities
(Scylla serrata)	
C. Molluscs	
Black clam	Estuarine: tolerant of wide salinity range: maximum growth at higher salinities.
<i>Velorita cyprinoides</i>	
<i>B. cornucopia</i>	
<i>Meretrix meretrix</i>	
<i>Ostrea cuculata</i>	