

ABSTRACT

A total of 36 expeditions were made for the collection of fish fauna from Tarbela reservoir, Nandihar bridge Thakot, area, Distt: Batgram, Qila Besham, Khan Khoar, Ghorband Nala at Karora, Ranyal etc. A total of 979 fishes were collected which have been identified into 26 species belonging to 22 genera, 6 families, 4 orders, 2 super orders of Cohort Eutelostei. The most abundant species comprised, *Schizothorax plagiostomus*, *Cyprinus carpio*, *Tor macrolepis* and *Oreochromis aureus* in Tarbela reservoir while in upstream of river Indus at Thakot, *Schizothrox* Spp. *Crossocheilus diplocheilus* and *Schistura* Spp dominate the streams. At Qila Besham and Karora area again *Schizothorax plagiostomus* is found quite frequent. Three new records *Puntius chola*, *Acanthocobitis botia* and *Glyptosternum reticulatum* have been made from Khalabat pocket (Tarbela reservoir), Nandihar bridge (Thakot) and Karora near Ranyal (Qila Besham) respectively which have not been collected by any worker previously. Hundreds of people living along the Indus valley use dynamites, poisons, and explosives to kill the fish. This greatly destroys the juveniles and are putting the commercial as well as forage fish species into extinction. Not a single specimen of *Tor macrolepis*, used to be available at Thakot and Qila Besham, has been collected. Wapda is managing development of fish in Tarbela reservoir and has introduced exotic fish species like *Cyprinus carpio*, and *Hypophthalmichthys molitrix*. *Cyprinus carpio* had dominated Khalabat pocket and *Hypophthalmichthys molitrix* has shown good growth. Fish seed production and its stocking should be a regular phenomena. Still much work for the development of fisheries is required and the emphasis should be given to fish seed production. In Tarbela reservoir the fishes are captured by using gill nets. The fish contractor has deployed 40 to 50 fishermen for the exploitation of commercial fisheries.