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Results of the Austrian-Indian Hydrobiological Mission 1976 to the Andaman-Islands: Part V: Taxonomy and Ecology of the Decapoda-Caridea

By H. H. Costa1)

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The previous work done on the crustacean fauna from Andaman islands has been already referred to by Tiwari & Pillai (1971) in their description of the atyid shrimps of the Genus Caridina from the Anadaman islands. Several carcinologists have made collections from these islands and these include C. G. Rogers (1911), H. S. Rao (1934), K. K. Tiwari (1959) and B. S. Lamda (1964). However, these collections have been made mainly for taxonomical studies and hence no description of the ecological conditions prevailing in the places of collection has been given. The most recent collections of the Decapod Crustacea of the Andaman islands have been made by the Austrian-Indian Hydrobiological Mission (1976) led by Prof. Dr. F. Starmuhlner. During these collections detailed studies were also made of the physical and chemical condititions prevailing in the various biotopes of the collecting localities.

I am very thankful to Prof. Dr. F. STARMUHLNER for placing at my disposal the crustacean collection of the expedition for study and description.

The present work is one in a series of studies on the ecology and distribution of Decapoda-Caridea in the Indian Ocean islands (Costa, 1979).