



Observations of Predation by an Indian Bullfrog (*Hoplobatrachus tigerinus*) and a Banded Krait (*Bungarus fasciatus*)

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Indian Bullfrogs (*Hoplobatrachus tigerinus*) are known to be voracious feeders that consume a variety of invertebrate and vertebrate prey (Khan 1973; Padhye et al. 2008; Rahman et al. 2012; Dutta and Khaledin 2017; Mishra 2017; Tripathi 2018; Mohanty and Measey 2019; Vazifdar et al. 2021). Herein we report the predation of a Western Painted Bronzeback (*Dendrelaphis proarchos*) by an Indian Bullfrog at Nahira, Kamrup District, Assam, India (26°06'41.23"N, 91°28'20.25"E) at ca. 1420 h on 15 September 2017 (Fig. 1). Both prey and predator were adults and complete ingestion of the snake took about 45 minutes including periodic breaks.

At ca. 2250 h on 10 August 2021, we observed an adult Banded Krait (*Bungarus fasciatus*) preying on a Lesser Black Krait (*Bungarus lividus*) at Dakhala, Kamrup District, Assam, India (26°06'36.36"N, 91°29'38.41"E) (Fig. 2). Complete ingestion took about 30 minutes. Banded Kraits are known to be ophiophagous and records of prey include at least 13

species of snakes (Daniels 2002; Bharos 2013; Knierim et al. 2017; Luu and Ha 2018; Lalbiakzuala et al. 2019).

To the best of our knowledge both of these observations document novel prey of their respective predators.

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Fig. 1. An Indian Bullfrog (*Hoplobatrachus tigerinus*) preying on a Western Painted Bronzeback (*Dendrelaphis proarchos*). Photograph by Mrigen Mishra.



Fig. 2. A Banded Krait (*Bungarus fasciatus*) preying on a Lesser Black Krait (*Bungarus lividus*). Photograph by Prasanna Kalita.

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