



First Confirmed Record of Gore’s Coralsnake, *Sinomicrurus gorei* (Wall 1908), from Tripura, India

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Gore’s Coralsnake (*Sinomicrurus gorei*) is a recently resurrected Indian species (Wall 1908; Biakzuala et al. 2023; Uetz et al. 2023). The distinctive morphological features that differentiate it from its sister species, *S. maccllelandi* (Reinhardt 1844), are reduced or absent transverse bands (vs.

distinct bands in *S. maccllelandi*) and the anterior edge of the black nuchal band is usually irregular and straight in orientation (vs. usually pointed forward and between parietals in *S. maccllelandi*) (Biakzuala et al. 2023). The distribution of the species includes northeastern India, Nepal, Bhutan, Bangladesh, Myanmar, Thailand, Vietnam, and southern China, including Taiwan (Uetz et al. 2023). Herein we provide the first confirmed record of *S. gorei* from Tripura, India.

Around 1900 h on 24 August 2023, we encountered a road-killed *S. gorei* (Fig. 1) on the Kamalpur-Kumarghat Highway near the route to the SaikiaTuisoi Waterfall in Dhalai District, Tripura, India (24.110680, 91.906846). Although the carcass was mutilated, identification based on the lack of transverse bands on the body and the shape of the black nuchal band agreed with the description in Biakzuala et al. (2023). Snout-vent length was approximately 255 mm, but the state of the carcass and the broken tail rendered determination of the exact length impossible. A photographic voucher was deposited in the Zoological Reference Collection at the Lee Kong Chian Natural History Museum, National University of Singapore (ZRC(IMG) 2.637). The identity of the species was confirmed by H.T. Lalremsanga, Mizoram University.

Literature Cited

Biakzuala, L., Z.A. Mirza, H. Patel, Y.S. Rathee, and H.T. Lalremsanga. 2023. Reappraisal of the systematics of two sympatric coral snakes (Reptilia: Elapidae) from Northeast India. *Systematics and Biodiversity* 21: 2289150. <https://doi.org/10.1080/14772000.2023.2289150>.

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Uetz, P., P. Freed, R. Aguilar, F. Reyes, J. Kudera, and J. Hošek (eds.). 2023. *The Reptile Database*. <<https://www.reptile-database.org>>.



Figure 1. A partially decomposed Gore’s Coralsnake (*Sinomicrurus gorei*) from Dhalai District, Tripura, India. Photograph by Arnab Deb.