



# A New Record of the Sri Lankan Painted Frog, *Uperodon taprobanicus* (Parker 1934) (Microhylidae), from Parbhani, Maharashtra, India

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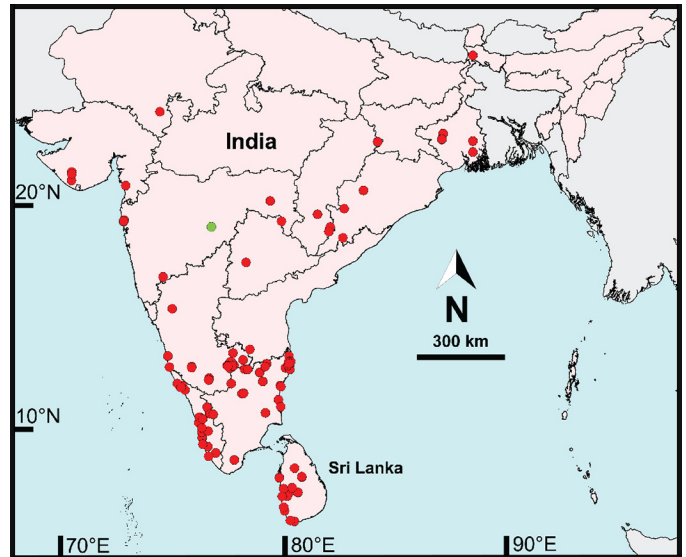
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The Sri Lankan Painted Frog (*Uperodon taprobanicus*) is a medium-sized microhylid (adult SVL < 6 cm) with a flat snout, triangular and balloon-like body, and an obscure or absent tympanum (Daniel 2002; Daniels 2005). These largely fossorial frogs occupy a wide range of habitats such as forests with trees like *Acacia Senegal* and *Azadirachta indica*, plantations, wetlands, cultivated lands, sites near human habitations, and even urban areas (Daniels 2005; Sengupta et al. 2009; Inger et al. 2016; Garg et al. 2018; Frost 2024). Microhabitats include leaf litter, tree holes, shrubs, and branches of trees at various heights, often near water, and frogs are known to venture onto roads (Jena and Palita 2020). The species is listed as Least Concern on the IUCN Red List (IUCN SSC Amphibian Specialist Group 2023).

Elevational distribution extends from sea-level to 1,000 m asl (Daniels 2005) and records exist from the Indian states of Tamil Nadu, Kerala, Karnataka, Maharashtra, Gujarat, Andhra Pradesh, Telangana, Odisha, Madhya Pradesh, Chhattisgarh, West Bengal, Bihar, and Assam (Garg et al.



**Figure 2.** Map of India showing locality records for the Sri Lankan Painted Frog (*Uperodon taprobanicus*). Red dots indicate previously known records and the green dot marks the new record from Parbhani, Maharashtra, India. Map provided by Dr. Amrut Bhosale.



**Figure 1.** A Sri Lankan Painted Frog (*Uperodon taprobanicus*) from Parbhani, Maharashtra, India. Photograph by Kranti Bandgar, Mahesh Bandgar, and Pratik Rayat.

2018). In Maharashtra, this species has been reported in the Navegaon Bandh Wildlife Sanctuary, Arnala Beach, Virar, Mumbai, and the central and eastern Vidarbha region (Padhye et al. 2002; Nandvikar and Shaikh 2009; Sreekumar and Dinesh 2020), and was recently reported from Chandgad, Kolhapur District, and Sangali (Hiragond 2022; Yadav et al. 2023). Herein we report a new record of *U. taprobanicus* from Parbhani, Maharashtra, India.

At 2300 h on 13 September 2022, we opportunistically encountered a single *Uperodon taprobanicus* (Fig. 1) near the wash basin behind Hotel 7 By 12, Pokharni Phata, Pokharni, Parbhani, Maharashtra, India (19.12583333 N, 76.7261111

E; elev. 417 m asl). This new record extends the known distribution of *U. taprobanicus* 340 km north from Sangali toward Ameenpur Lake, Medak District, 245 km west of Daryapur Taluka, Amravati District, and 208 km south and 402 km east of Mumbai, and is the fourth authenticated record from Maharashtra (Fig. 2).

A photographic voucher was deposited in the Zoological Reference Collection in the Lee Kong Chian Natural History Museum at the National University of Singapore (ZRC(IMG)1.293) and the identity of the frog was confirmed by Dr. Omkar Yadav. The frog was probably attracted by insects like termites, moths, and crickets, which were in turn attracted to light sources behind the hotel.

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