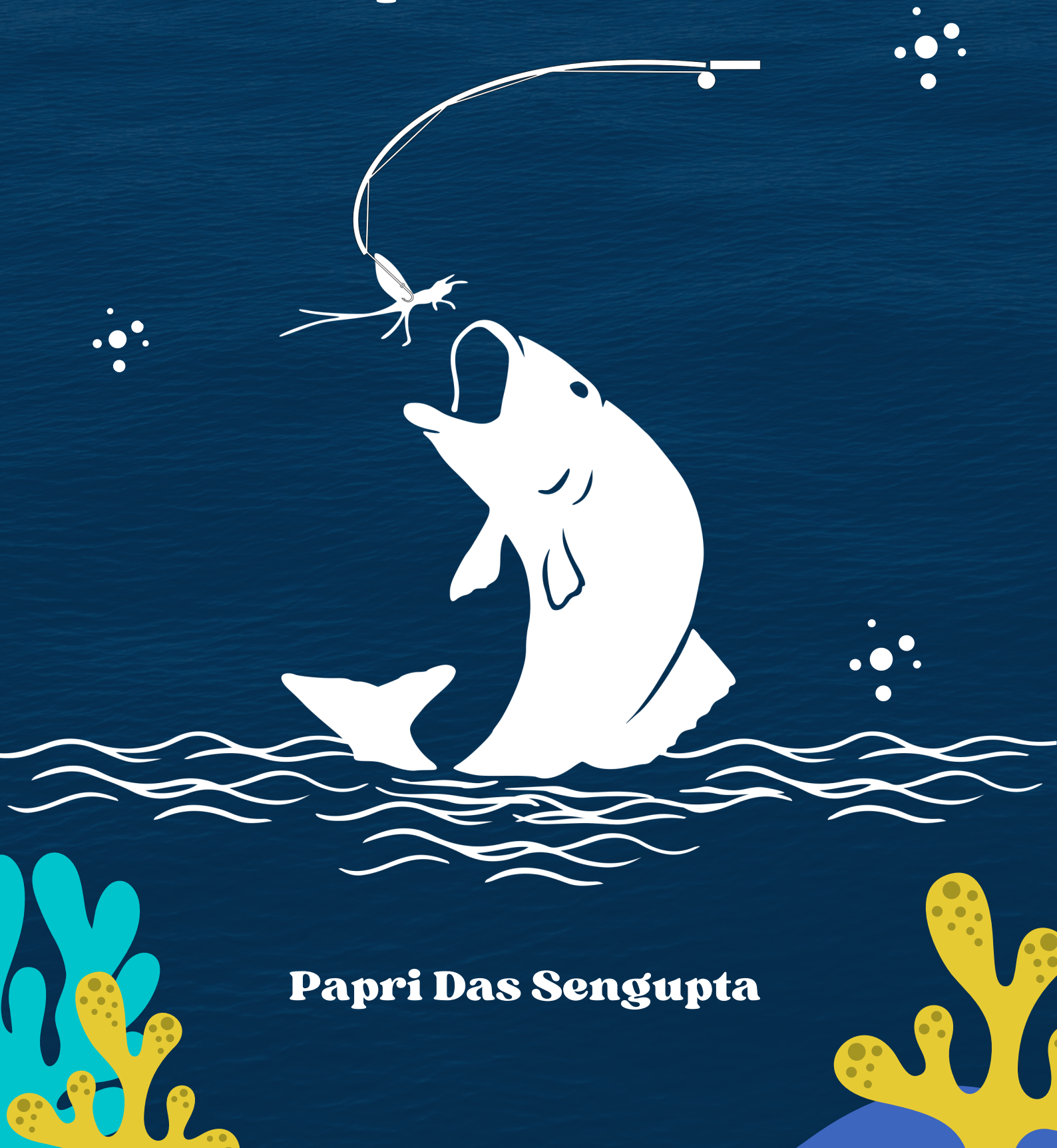


Ompok Pabda

**The Hidden Treasure of
Tripura's River**



Papri Das Sengupta

Ompok Pabda:

The Hidden Treasure of Tripura's River



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Ompok Pabda: The Hidden Treasure of Tripura's River

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Preface

The decline of *Ompok pabda*, commonly known as the Pabdah catfish, has raised significant concerns in aquatic biodiversity conservation. This book provides an in-depth analysis of its ecology, physiology, reproduction, and conservation with a focus on Tripura and the rest of India. Given the increasing threats posed by habitat destruction, overfishing, climate change, and invasive species, urgent measures are required to ensure its survival.

This book aims to serve as a comprehensive reference for researchers, students, fisheries professionals, policymakers, and conservationists. It covers various aspects, including:

- **Ecology** – Natural habitat, distribution, and environmental influences
- **Physiology** – Growth patterns, feeding behavior, and metabolic adaptations
- **Reproduction** – Breeding patterns, spawning cycles, and fecundity analysis
- **Conservation** – Strategies to protect *Ompok pabda*, statistical analysis of population trends, and future recommendations

Scientific studies, statistical data, and graphical representations are incorporated to provide a clear understanding of the species' current status and conservation needs. The book also highlights traditional knowledge from local fishing communities and integrates it with modern scientific approaches.

By presenting a detailed examination of *Ompok pabda*, this book seeks to contribute to the ongoing conservation efforts and encourage further research in sustainable fisheries management. It is my hope that this work will inspire greater awareness and action towards the preservation of this important freshwater species.

Acknowledgment

With a heart full of gratitude, I wish to acknowledge all those who have been a part of my long academic journey, which has culminated in the preparation of this book on the Ecology, Physiology, Reproduction, and Conservation of Ompok pabda in Tripura, India.

I owe my deepest appreciation to my dear students — past and present — who have been the true inspiration behind this work. Their love, respect, and continuous connection have given me strength beyond words. They are not just students to me; they are like my own children, and I have always strived to stand beside them both academically and personally. I am forever grateful to them for sharing their dreams, questions, and sometimes even their struggles with me — all of which have contributed to my growth as a teacher and as a human being.

I am grateful to my colleagues, my parents, my son Saagar Sengupta, my husband Dr. Subhasis Sengupta , and loved ones who encouraged me throughout this endeavour. Their support and motivation played an integral role in shaping this work.

Lastly, I express my humble gratitude to the beautiful rivers, wetlands, and ecosystems of Tripura, which have always been my silent teachers and companions

Papri Das Sengupta

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Papri Das Sengupta is the Principal In-Charge of Ramthakur College and Associate Professor of Zoology at Government Degree College, affiliated with Tripura University (A Central University). With 29 years of academic and administrative experience, she has passionately contributed to teaching, research, and student welfare. Deeply committed to freshwater fish biology and conservation, she has guided numerous student projects and participated in government-funded research initiatives. Prof. Sengupta is widely admired by her students as both an excellent teacher and a compassionate mentor



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