



NEOGENE PALAEOONTOLOGY OF THE SURMA GROUP, MIZORAM, INDIA. 2 - THE TELLINOIDEA (MOLLUSCA : BIVALVIA)

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ABSTRACT

The Bhuban Formation, Surma Group (lower to middle Miocene) of Mizoram is rich in mega-invertebrate palaeobiota dominated by bivalves. Superfamily Tellinoidea of the Class Bivalvia is represented in these sediments by four genera viz., *Tellina*, *Apolymetis*, *Gari* and *Solecurtus*. The author has described two species of the genus *Apolymetis* previously. Twelve species of the genera *Tellina*, *Gari* and *Solecurtus* are described here for the first time, of which four are designated as new. The fossil assemblage seems to be allochthonous.

The fossil assemblage indicates an overall age of Aquitanian–Helvetian for the Bhuban Formation. It also points to a sandy substrate with depth ranging from inter-tidal to 75 fathoms (135 m), and normal salinity of seawater.

Key words: Neogene (lower to middle Miocene), Tellinoidea, Surma Group (Bhuban Formation), Mizoram