



## NEW RADIOLARIAN ZONES IN THE EARLY TO MIDDLE MIOCENE OF ANDAMAN-NICOBAR, NORTHERN INDIAN OCEAN

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### ABSTRACT

The evolutionary appearance datum of radiolarian species *Dorcadospyris alata* from *Dorcadospyris dentata* is difficult to determine in the Early to Middle Miocene sequences of Andaman-Nicobar due to extremely poor occurrence of both these index taxa. As a result, the datum which is used to delineate the boundary between *Calocycletta (C.) costata* and *Dorcadospyris alata* zones according to the existing low latitude zonal scheme cannot be applied satisfactorily. Hence, the last appearance datum of *Carpocanopsis cingulata* is employed to subdivide the interval represented by combined *Calocycletta (C.) costata*-*Dorcadospyris alata* zones. This led to the recognition of two new zones, the lower, *Carpocanopsis cingulata* Zone and the upper, *Carpocanopsis cristata* Zone. The zones can be useful in the tropical Indian Ocean as well.

**Keywords:** Radiolarian zones, Miocene, Andaman-Nicobar, Indian Ocean