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AEROMONADS-INDUCED ALTERATIONS IN ACTIVITIES OF CATALASE, ALKALINE PHOSPHATASE AND ACID PHOSPHATASE IN THE FRESHWATER FISH *CHANNA PUNCTATUS* (BLOCH)

ABSTRACT : The short-term effects of intramuscular inoculation of sublethal dose (4 x 10^7 cfu /ml) of aeromonads viz. *Aeromonas salmonicida* and *Aeromonas hydrophila* on the activities of catalase, alkaline phosphatase and acid phosphatase in adult Channa punctatus (Bloch) were investigated. Spectrophotometric method was used to determine the activities of these enzymes from haemolysate, liver and kidney of fish. We found site-specific variations in the activities of these enzymes in aeromonad-treated fish groups compared to sham-injected control groups over the study periods. The comparative infectivity of two strains of aeromonads could be understood by analyzing these enzymatic parameters as biomarkers during initial stages of infection.