Olive Ridley turtle washed ashore

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A carcass of an olive ridley turtle, *Lepidochelys olivacea* (Eschscholtz, 1829) was found washed ashore on Cherai beach on 12.01.16. It was in a badly decomposed state, with only the head, front flippers and part of the carapace intact, making it difficult to take morphometric measurements. Enquiries with local fishers indicated that a small number of turtles had laid eggs on this beach 12-15 years ago but there is no evidence of nesting here for the past 10 years.

Note on a stranded Indo-Pacific humpback dolphin

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A dead specimen of the Indo-Pacific humpback dolphin, *Sousa chinensis* was found washed ashore at Konad beach (11° 16' N; 75° 45' E), Kozhikode on 21st February, 2016. The specimen was an adult female and measured 243 cm in Total Length (TL), having characteristic 36 and 34 pairs of teeth in the upper and lower jaws respectively. The morphometric characters were recorded (Table 1). An injury was found on the ventral region close to the vent but cause of its death could not be ascertained.

Table 1. Morphometric measurements of the stranded Indo-Pacific humpback dolphin

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Morphometrics</th>
<th>Measurement (cm)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Snout to melon</td>
<td>25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Snout to angle of mouth</td>
<td>36</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Snout to blowhole</td>
<td>44</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Snout to centre of eye</td>
<td>42</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Snout to anterior insertion of dorsal fin</td>
<td>95</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Snout to tip of dorsal fin</td>
<td>140</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Snout to fluke notch</td>
<td>239</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Snout to anterior insertion of flipper</td>
<td>53</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Snout to centre of genital aperture</td>
<td>162</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Snout to centre of anus</td>
<td>173</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Flapper length</td>
<td>32</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Flapper width (maximum)</td>
<td>44</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fluke width</td>
<td>67</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dorsal fin height</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Girth (axillary)</td>
<td>140</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Girth (at the level of origin of dorsal fin)</td>
<td>144</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Girth (at level of anus)</td>
<td>90</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>