

A note on Green turtle found on Thikkody beach

Ramya Abhijith, P. Kaladharan, P. K. Asokan, K. Vinod, M. T. Shilta, V. Mahesh and K. Anirudh

Calicut Regional Station of ICAR-Central Marine Fisheries Research Institute, Kozhikode-673 005, Kerala

ICAR-Central Marine Fisheries Research Institute, Kochi-682 018, Kerala

The carcass of a green turtle (*Chelonia mydas*) was found on Thikkody beach which is only 10 kms from the regular nesting area 'kolavipalam' located in Kozhikode, northern Kerala. Found on 27.2.2020, observations indicated that the turtle was entangled in a gillnet and had injury to the head. The semi decomposed specimen was 84 cm in total length and weighed approximately 45 kg. Carapace length and width were 72 and 70 cm

respectively. Globally, the Green turtle has an endangered status in the IUCN Red List and population is decreasing. In India, the species is listed in Schedule-I part (2) of the Indian Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972 for conservation purposes. The Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES) has recorded it in Appendix-I and the Convention on Migratory Species has included it in Appendices I and II.



Fig.1. Green turtle found on Thikkodi beach