

## New record of Bombay duck from Veravel

An exploratory deepwater fisheries resource survey reveals that a previously unreported species of Genus *Harpadon* occurs in the Northern Arabian Sea of Indian EEZ off Veraval at 275 – 310 m depths from where it was caught in EXPO trawl net. This species differs from *H. nehereus*, the only reported species in the Northern Arabian Sea, by its distinctively small size (220 mm) and very short pectorals (9.4 - 11.1 % SL). DNA barcoding (sequencing of ca.650 bp region of mitochondrial gene cytochrome oxidase subunit I) and phylogenetic analysis strongly suggested the same as a newly recorded *Harpadon* spp. other than *H. nehereus*.

(PFD & MBTD, CMFRI, Cochin)



*Harpadon* sp. collected off Veraval