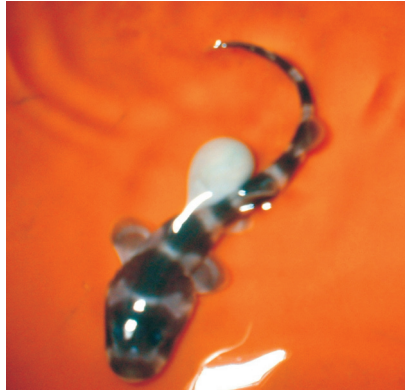


Experiment on Breeding and rearing of the Bamboo shark in Aquarium successful at Calicut RC

Few numbers of Bamboo sharks, *Chyllocilium griseum*, were collected from Thikkody artificial reef area for maintaining in the Marine Research Aquarium during August 2009. The sharks were maintained on a daily diet of freshly chopped tuna. Few of them in the size range of 538-590 mm laid 38 egg capsules (Mermaid's purse) in the aquarium tank during July 2011 and were maintained in the aquarium tank for hatching. Water quality was maintained by water exchange and aeration. The water quality of the aquarium tank was as follows: water temperature from 25.5 to 28.2 C, salinity from 29.0 to 35.2ppt and pH from 7.7 to 8.5. Egg cases were collected and maintained in separate FRP tank with filtered seawater and aeration. The egg cases were observed periodically for the growth of embryo and decayed egg cases were removed.



12 day old juvenile of bamboo shark

Hatching started from 118th day onwards and it continued upto 130th day. In some cases the edge of the capsules was surgically removed enabling the young ones to easily come out. Altogether 18 hatchlings were collected and reared to juveniles in the FRP tanks maintained at the Marine Research Aquarium. Feeding



Egg case of bamboo shark

was initiated with chopped mussel meat and later on fed with prawn meat and mussel meat. The yolk attached with the juveniles lasted for 24 days although the young ones started feeding from 18th day onwards.

(Reported by P. P. Manoj Kumar and P. K. Asokan, Calicut RC)