

**ON A LARGE-SIZED GREEN SAW FISH *PRISTIS ZIJSRON* BLEEKER
LANDED AT PORT BLAIR, ANDAMANS**

Pristis zijsron is fairly common along the Meckran and Sind coasts (Day, 1878) and the species is said to attain about 24 feet in length (Munro, 1955). This note records some observations made on *Pristis zijsron* measuring 5.13 metres (20 feet 2 inches) landed on 1-6-1967 at Port Blair, Andamans (Lat. 11°41'N. Long. 92° 46'E.). The present size appears to be the largest size recorded from Andaman waters and

some of the important morphometric measurements are given below : (all measurements in cm.)

Total length 512 ; Standard length 451 ; Interorbital distance 21 ; Snout to D1 176 ; Snout to D2 263 ; Snout to Pectoral 68 ; Snout to Ventral 167 ; Height of 1st dorsal 27.5 ; Height of 2nd dorsal 33 ; Least height of caudal peduncle 12 ; Girth of body at pectoral base 66 ; Length of rostrum 143 ; Width of rostrum at base 14.3 ; Width of rostrum at tip 7 ; Number of teeth on right side 26 ; Number of teeth on left side 25.

The number of teeth on either side of rostrum appears to vary from 25 to 28. In a stuffed specimen measuring 4.31 m. in total length present in the museum of the Fisheries Development Office at Port Blair, the rostrum measures 114 cm. in length with 27 teeth on either side. Another saw measuring about 58 inches of the same species which is now available at the museum of this Research unit shows 28 teeth on left side and 25 on the right.

The stomach of the fish revealed one *Caranx* sp. measuring 17 cm. in total length in a semidigested condition and a few *Centriscus* sp. The liver measured 94 cm. in length and weighed about 70 kg. The ovary measured 82 cm. in length and a few large-sized yolk laden ova measuring 37 to 40 mm. in diameter were seen at the posterior region of the ovary.

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