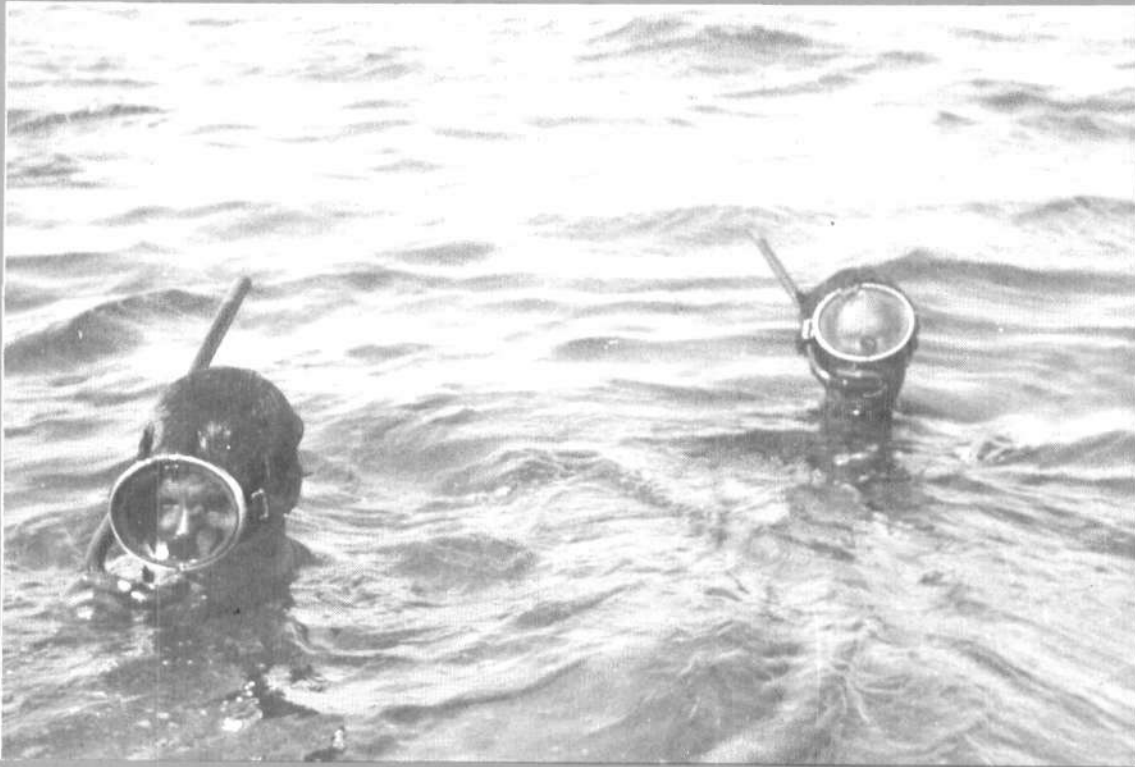




समुद्री मात्स्यकी सूचना सेवा MARINE FISHERIES INFORMATION SERVICE

No. 117

JULY, AUGUST, SEPTEMBER 1992



तकनीकी एवं TECHNICAL AND
विस्तार अंकावली EXTENSION SERIES

केन्द्रीय समुद्री मात्स्यकी CENTRAL MARINE FISHERIES
अनुसंधान संस्थान RESEARCH INSTITUTE
कोचिन, भारत COCHIN, INDIA

भारतीय कृषि अनुसंधान परिषद
INDIAN COUNCIL OF AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH

ON A PORPOISE (*NEOPHOCAENA PHOCAENOIDES*) STRANDED ALONG PALK BAY COAST, NEAR THONDI, TAMIL NADU *

On 21-1-1992, a male porpoise *Neophocaena phocaenoides* locally called, 'Minikutty' was found washed ashore afresh at Mullimnai, a landing centre near Thondi along the Palk Bay coast north of Ramanathapuram District. On examination, it was found that there was no trace of any wounds on the body. Local fishermen told that another 'Minikutty' was seen on that beach a week back. There was information about yet another mammal of this species found stranded in the same week at M.V. Patnam (Soliakudi) a fish landing centre which is about 5 km from this observation centre. Altogether there was stranding of 3 mammals of the same species in a week's duration and that too along the 5 km stretch of beach.

The following were the measurements (in cm) of *N. phocaenoides* :

Tip of upper jaw to deepest part of caudal fluke notch	12
Tip of upper jaw to anus	100
Tip of upper jaw to centre of umbilicus	83
Tip of upper jaw to centre of blow hole	15
Tip of upper jaw to centre of eye	12
Projection of lower jaw beyond upper	7
Length of eye	2
Length of blow hole	1.2
Flipper length-tip to anterior insertion (right)	25
Girth at eye	28
Teeth counts - Right upper	17
Right lower	15
Left upper	12
Left lower	12

* Reported by A. Ganapathy, Mandapam Regional Centre of CMFRI, Mandapam Camp - 623 520.