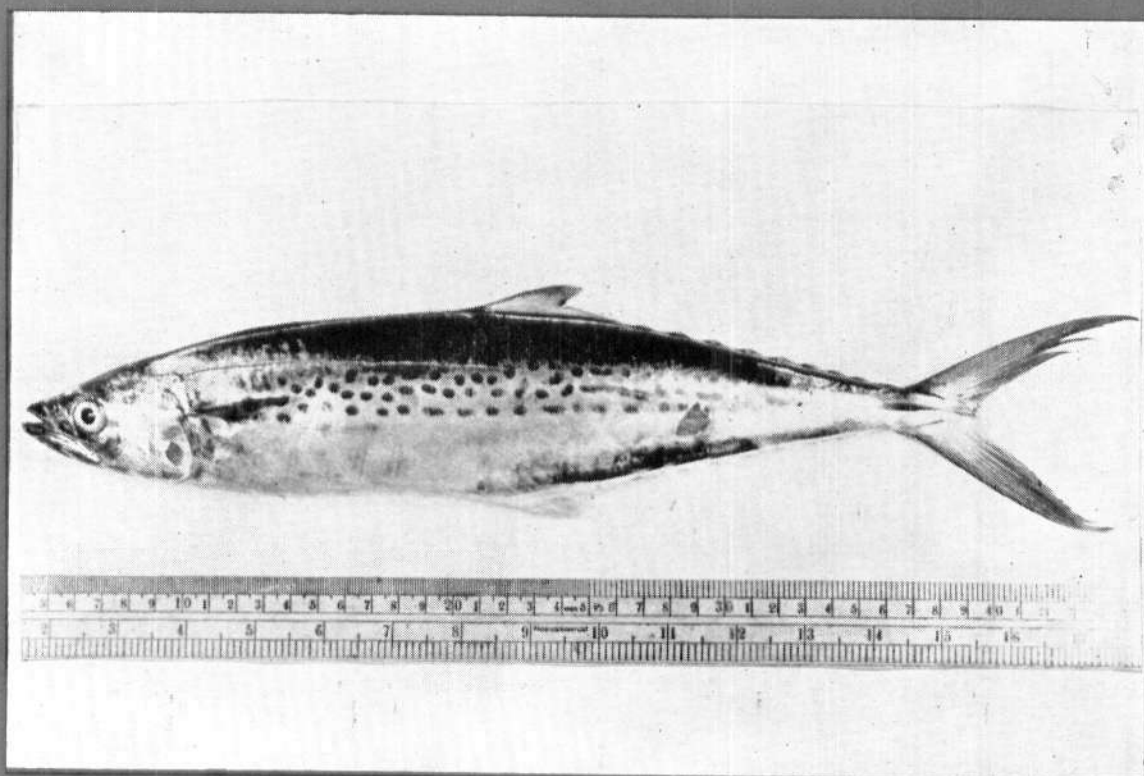




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ON THE CAPTURE OF A GIANT SIZED 'INDIAN THREADFIN' *POLYNEMUS INDICUS* SHAW AT SATPATI, MAHARASHTRA COAST*

A female specimen of *Polynemus indicus* Shaw locally called 'dara' measuring 170 cm in total length and weighing 50.08 kg was landed at Satpati (about 80 km north of Bombay) on 29th January, 1987. It was caught along with other fishes by a 22-footer mechanised 'bagnetter' in 28 m depth off Murba-Satpati coast. The fish was auctioned locally for a record price of Rs. 855/-.

Day (*Fauna of British India - Fishes*, 2, London, 1889) had recorded a maximum length of 126.6 cm for *Polynemus indicus* with the weight of 9 kg. Mohamed (*Indian J. Fish.*, 2: 164-179, 1955) had observed 142.3 cm in length with the weight of about 27 kg for this species. According to Fisher & Bianchi (*FAO Species Identification Sheets, Western Indian Ocean, Area 51 Vol. 3*, 1984) the fish attains a maximum length of 142 cm. The present record of the fish is the highest both in length and weight from Indian waters. The important morphometric characters of the present fish (in cm) are presented below.

1. Total length	...	170
2. Standard length	...	134

*Reported by J. P. Karbhari, J. R. Dias and M. Aravindakshan, Bombay Research Centre of CMFRI, Bombay.

3. Head length	...	39.4
4. Girth of body	...	95.4
<i>Vertical height of</i>		
5. First dorsal fin	...	26.2
6. Second dorsal fin	...	27.9
7. Anal fin	...	20.2
8. Length of caudal fin from caudal pit along the upper margin	...	37.3
9. Length of the upper filamentous ray of pectoral fin	...	50.1
10. Diameter of eye	...	1.6
11. Distance between eye and nostril	...	3.8
12. Distance between eye and snout	...	9.5
13. Length of swim bladder	...	48.5
14. Weight of swim bladder (g)	...	80
15. Weight of ovary (kg)	...	1.5

