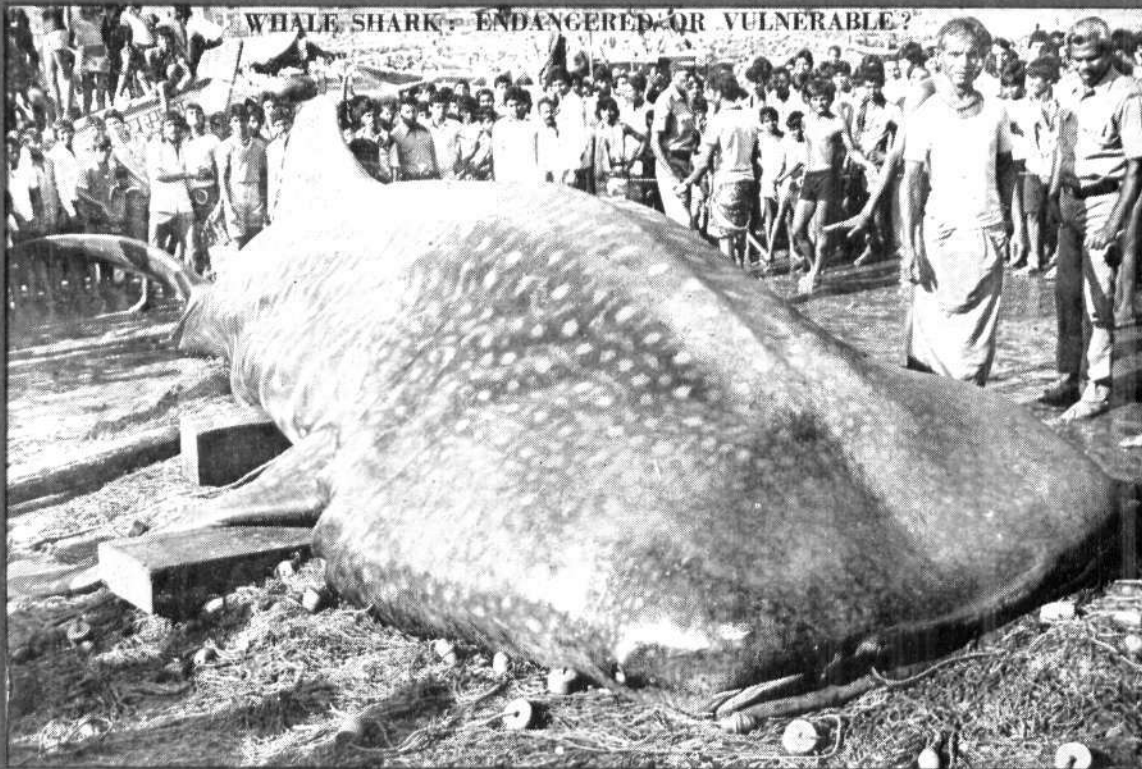




MARINE FISHERIES INFORMATION SERVICE



No. 66
JANUARY, FEBRUARY
MARCH
1986

Technical and Extension Series
CENTRAL MARINE FISHERIES RESEARCH INSTITUTE
COCHIN, INDIA

INDIAN COUNCIL OF AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH

THE MARINE FISHERIES INFORMATION SERVICE: Technical and Extension Series envisages the rapid dissemination of information on marine and brackish water fishery resources and allied data available with the National Marine Living Resources Data Centre (NMLRDC) and the Research Divisions of the Institute, results of proven researches for transfer of technology to the fish farmers and industry and of other relevant information needed for Research and Development efforts in the marine fisheries sector.

Abbreviation - *Mar. Fish. Infor. Serv. T & E Ser.*, No. 66: 1986

**NOTE ON A WHALE SHARK *RHINCODON TYPUS* SMITH LANDED
AT PONDICHERRY***

A juvenile male whale shark *Rhincodon typus* Smith was captured by the Solathandavankuppam fishermen of Pondicherry State on 30th January, 1984 at 0530 hrs in gill net (13 cm mesh size *kattu valai*) operated by a 9 m long mechanised boat near Marakkanam (off Eggi-kuppam) at about 40-45 m water depth. The net was partly damaged while bringing the whale shark by the mechanised boat to the shore at 1030 hrs. The morphometric measurements (in cm) of the whale shark are as follows:

1. Total length (Snout to caudal tip) ...	497	3. Snout to origin of first dorsal ...	218
2. Standard length (Snout to caudal pit) ...	375	4. Snout to first gill opening ...	75
		5. Width of head ...	100
		6. Eye diameter ...	3.5
		7. Width of mouth ...	68
		8. Length of anterior gill opening ...	60
		9. Length of posterior gill opening ...	30
		10. Length of first dorsal fin ...	60
		11. Length of pectoral fin ...	80
		12. Length of second dorsal fin ...	25
		13. Length of ventral fin ...	24
		14. Length of caudal fin (upper) ...	122
		15. Length of caudal fin (lower) ...	122

*Reported by L. Chidambaram, Pondicherry Field Centre of CMFRI, Pondicherry.

Anal fin could not be measured due to scar.

