On the disco net operated along Midnapur district, West Bangal*

The introduction of the encircling net also termed disco net and locally called Ghanjal, (Figs. 1) has created great awareness in recent years along the Midnapur district, West Bengal. It is operated throughout the year. The net measures about 500 m in length and has a width of 20 m and the mesh sizes varying between 1.5 and 5.0 cm. The disco net made up of decron nylon yarn costs about Rs. 76,000/-. These nets are operated by 12-16 fishermen in shallow coastal waters at the depth of 7-8 m with the help of plank built boats called Patia. The important species caught include silver bellies, whitebaits, ribbonfishes, croakers, mullets and Acetes sp.

* Reported by Swapan Kumar Kar, Coastal Field Centre of CMFRI, Contai - 721 401.