

Indigenous modification in dolnets operated along the Saurashtra coast

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The dolnetters of Jaffrabad, Rajapara and Nawabunder were using stone heaps as anchors for fixing their submerged dolnets. This process was very



tedious and costly. Recently an innovation in this method was devised by fisherfolk from Jaffrabad in which they used long steel pipes hammered to the bottom of the sea in place of stones they used earlier. Since this process is much more flexible and durable, all the dolnetters of Jaffrabad, Rajapara and Nawabunder have adopted it.

The structural details are as follows:

- Length: 12-14 ft.
- Width: 3-4 inches
- Cost: Rs. 1,800-2,200/pipe
- Weight: 40-50 kg
- Three rings welded on the outside of pipe for safe anchorage at the bottom.
- Heavy loaded ring used on the upper side of pipe for load safety.
- Two pipes used for one net.
- Pipes anchored in muddy area instead of rocky area.
- Pipes dismantled at the end of each fishing season and reused in the next season.



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Table 1. Comparative benefit of steel pipe technology

Stone anchors	Steel pipe
Laborious and costly	Easy and cheap
Changing of fishing ground is difficult	Changing of fishing ground is very easy
Cannot be used in the next fishing season	Removable and reusable in the next fishing season
Net damage more	Net damage very less
Fishing operations not flexible	Flexibility in fishing operations