'Thangoose Net'
A Gill Net With Plastic Webbing

The recent introduction of a gill net with plastic webbing, locally called *thangoose net* (Vovva Valai) has been reported by Shri K. S. Krishnan, Technical Assistant at Nagapatnam Field Centre of CMFRI. This net is being operated, of late, from Arcattuthurai to Chandrapuri in the Tanjore District, Tamil Nadu. The net is fabricated with plastic threads ranging from 35-60 counts and mesh size ranging from 11-13 cm. One kg of plastic thread is required for making one piece and 15 such pieces make one full net of 4 fathoms height and 250 fathoms length. One kg of plastic thread costs about Rs 150/- The net together with catamaran costs about Rs 6000/-. The mode of operation of the *thangoose net* is like any other gill net. Floats are attached to the head with sinkers at the bottom. The *thangoose net* is mainly used for catching pomfrets, catfish, seerfish and also perch.

Whale Sharks Land Near Mangalore

Three whale sharks *Rhincodon typus* ranging in length from 4.88-6.71 m were caught off Kaup on 20 January, 1981. Two more whale sharks measuring 7.90 m and 2.50 m each were landed at Malpe on 31 January. Off Kaup a chain of submerged rocks exists.

A female whale shark (*Rhincodon typus*) measuring 3.81 m in length was landed at Karwar on 21 January, 1981. The specimen, first of its kind in Uttara Kannada District was captured by a purse seiner, Hemavathi at 18 m depth off Anjadev Island.

Stranding of a whale measuring 11.5 m was reported from Periathalai coast on 18 February. On receipt of the information a team of scientists visited the spot and identified the same as Baleen whale, *Balaenoptera sp.*