Black marlin landed

A large specimen of black marlin identified as *Makaira indica* (Cuvier 1832) was caught by a gillnet at Veraval on 22 February. The total length of the animal was 325 cm and the weight was 150 kg.

Two black porpoises (*Neophocaena phacoena*) were landed at the Old Light House landing centre at Veraval on 7 and 8 March. The specimens were caught by gillnets and were 96 cm and 107 cm respectively in length and 18.5 kg and 25 kg in weight.

Baleen whale stranded

Stranding of a baleen whale (*Balaenoptera borealis*) measuring 12m in length was reported from Tuticorin on 27 February for the first time from that area.

Whale sharks landed

Forty whale sharks of the species *Rhineodon typus* were caught by Veraval fishermen during the first half of March.

Incidental catch of dolphin

A dolphin (*Stenella longirostris*) was caught incidentally at Veraval on 29 March. It was 148 cm in length and weighed 32 kg.

Oyster spat airlifted

At the request of the State Department of Fisheries, Gujarat, a consignment of 15,000 edible oyster spat produced at the Hatchery Laboratory at the Tuticorin Research Centre of CMFRI was airlifted to Jamnagar on 9 March.

KVK-TTC

Training Programmes

Four training courses of 5 days duration on scientific farming of prawn fish was organized. Two courses were conducted within the KVK campus and one each were conducted at Cumulam and Chathamma of Ernakulam district. Thirty three farmers and 14 farm women were trained under this programme.

Seventeen farm women were trained in one-day training course on integrated farming of prawn and poultry.

Two training programmes on preparation of prawn and fish pickles and wafers were organised for the benefit of 40 rural women.

A one-day awareness programme on nutrition and health care was organized in which 18 farm women participated.

The low-cost technique for the production of commercially important marine prawns were demonstrated in the KVK campus. An attempt was made to culture the hatchery-produced seed of *M. affinis* by stocking 12,000 numbers of seed in grow-out system in KVK. The growth rate obtained has been satisfactory.

Demonstration of mini prawn hatchery to fisherwomen