

Whales Stranded

Stranding of five whales were reported from different centres of CMFRI. One Sei whale *Balaenoptera borealis* Lesson was brought ashore at Tuticorin in May. The total length of the whale was 750cm. Three baleen whales measuring 900, 1800 and 2300 cm in length were stranded at Bombay and Gujarat. The species identification could not be established due to highly putrified condition of the specimens. One fin whale *Balaenoptera physalis* (Linnaeus) was entangled in a trawl net at a depth of 40m at Pudumanikuppam near Madras in June. It was a young baby female whale measuring 470 cm estimated to be one-year old.

Stray catches of whale shark *Rhincodon typus* were reported from Veraval during April.

Catch of *Octopus* sp and a male hump dolphin *Sousa chinensis* were reported from Veraval. Landing of a dolphin measuring 172 cm and weighing 95 kg was reported from Ghokala landing centre near Veraval.