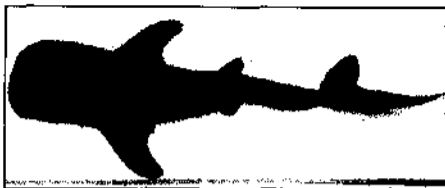


## **Smallest whale shark recorded**

Juvenile of the whale shark, *Rhincodon*



Juvenile whale shark *Rhincodon typus* Smith caught at Vizhinjam

*typus* Smith, the largest living fish (18 m TL) in the oceans and a species under threat included in the IUCN Red List (2000) was entangled in the gill net set for sardines by about 0600 hrs on 26 December at Vizhinjam fish landing centre. Attempts were made at the Vizhinjam Research Centre of the Institute to save the smallest of the whale shark hitherto caught from Indian waters but the fish could be kept alive only for 13 hours.