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> भारतीय कृषि अनूसंधान परिषद INDIAN COUNCIL OF AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH

समुद्री मास्टियकी सूचना सेवा: समुद्री मास्टिकी पर आधारित अनुसंधान परिणामों को आयोजकों, मस्य उद्योगों और मस्य पालकों के बीच प्रसार करना और तकनोलजी का प्रयोगशाला से अमशाला तक इत्यांतरित करना इस तकनीकी और विस्तार अंकावली का लक्ष्य है।

THE MARINE FISHERIES INFORMATION SERVICE : Technical and Extension Series envisages dissemination of information on marine fishery resources based on research results to the planners, industry and fish farmers and transfer of technology from laboratory to field.

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Front cover photo : Foetus of the dolphin Sousa chinensis (Ref. Article 6).

मुख आवरण फोटो: डाल्फिन सोसा चैनेनसिस का भ्रूण।

Back cover photo : Heaps of molluscan shells landed by shrimp trawlers at Neendakara. The shells are graded and sent for various purposes (Ref. Article 3).

पृष्ठ आवरण फोटो : नीन्डकरा में चिंगट आनायकों द्वारा पकडे गये मलस्क कवच। इन कवचों को वर्गीकृत करके विविध कार्यों केलिए भेजते है।

## FISHERY AND RESOURCE CHARACTERISTICS OF MACKEREL OF VISAKHAPATNAM COAST

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### Introduction

Mackerel in recent years accounted for 1-3% of the total marine fish landings in Andhra Pradesh. It occurred in two broad regions: one along the coastal stretch of Visakhapatnam and East & West Godavari districts, and another along the districts of Guntur. Prakasam and Nellore. Mackerel landings of the East Godavari alone formed about 45% of the state's mackerel catch. and that of the Guntur-Prakasam districts accounted for another 45%. Visakhapatnam area contributed to about 3% of the state's mackerel landings. This account deals with some aspects of the fishery and resource characteristics of the Indian mackerel, Rastrelliger kanagurta, based on observations made at Visakhapatnam from 1989-'90 to 1993-'94\*.

### Mackerel landings

The annual mackerel landings ranged between 71 and 153 t with the average at 107 t. The bulk of this catch came from the drift gillnet (56%) followed by shrimp trawl (38%), sardine gillnet (4%) and boat seine (2%). Their respective catch per net (cpue) with their ranges and averages were : 1.3-9.3 (3.7) kg; 0.6-4.5 (1.9) kg; 0.6-3.1 (1.1) kg; and 0.5-2.1 (0.9) kg. The percentage composition of mackerel (range and average) in the total fish landings for the above four gears respectively 24-66% (48%); 0.03-1.6% were (0.7%); 2.4-15.0% (4.3%) and 0.5-5.3% (2.7%). The lowest composition of mackerel in shrimp trawl was due to the high catch per net of a variety of demersal and a few groups of pelagic fishes caught in this gear compared with any single fishing unit in the artisanal fishing sector. Mackerel formed about 13% of the total fish catch landed by the artisanal sector. Thus, drift gillnet and shrimp trawl are the two principal gears landing mackerel in this area, and the former could be regarded as the standard (effective) gear for catching mackerel, as at many localities along the Indian coast.

Although a variety of fishes were captured by the drift gillnet, mackerel (24-66%), carangids (19-27%) and seerfishes (8-18%) formed the bulk of its catch accounting for 65-80% of the total fish caught. The other groups met with in the landings of this gear were tuna, bullseye, croakers, wolf herrings, Indian drift fish, perches, catfishes, pomfrets and others. While the operational depth of this gear as well as that of the other artisanal gears extends upto 40 m depth, that of the shrimp trawl extends up to 60-80 m, and rarely upto 100m.

### Fishery season

Fishery season for mackerel started in December-January lasting till March-May. Very good catches were obtained during January, February and May during the present observations. However, mackerel occurred in spurts during the other months also, though not consistently every year, contributing to very good catches. In the present study 57% of the annual catch was obtained in a five month period from January to May; and another 14% during June-July (Fig. 1). Catch, effort and catch per net (cpue) for mackerel in the two major gears namely drift gillnet and shrimp trawl are depicted in Figs. 2 & 3 respectively. It was observed that whenever the monthly cpue was high in shrimp trawl, it was generally low in drift gillnet and vice-versa, indicating frequent movement of mackerel between nearshore and further deeper waters.

### Sex ratio and size at first maturity

In the drift gillnet and shrimp trawl where the occurrence of adult mackerel was high, the sex ratio of adult fish varied in certain months. But the annual sex ratios showed no significant difference statistically. The size at first maturity of R. kanagurta has been estimated as 195-199 mm size group since 50% of fish examined in this size were mature, having gonads in maturity stages III and above including those

\* A second species of mackerel, *R. faughni*, was observed occasionally in the artisanal fish landings. It occurred during March-June and September-November over the period of this study and accounted for 0.02-3.0% of the annual mackerel landings. Both older juveniles and adults in advanced stages of maturity were encountered.



Fig. 1. Trends in the total monthly mackerel (*R. kanagurta*) landings by all gears over the period of study at Visakhapatnam.

in spent-resting stage. The percentage of such fish steeply increased from this size group onwards.

## Seasonal distribution of fish in different maturity stages, and spawning season

Over the period of study, fish with gonads in resting state (maturity stage II b) and in partially

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Fig.2. Monthly variations in the catch, effort and catch per net (cpue) for mackerel, *R. kanagurta* landed by drift gillnet over the period of study at Lawsons Bay, Visakhapatnam.



Fig. 3. Monthly variations in the catch, effort and catch per net (cpue) for mackerel. *R. kanagurta* landed by shrimp trawl over the period of study at fishing harbour, Visakhapatnam.

spent state (stage VII a) were common, each accounting for about 33% followed by fish in fully spent state (VII b) forming about 25% of the adult fish examined. Although fish in these three stages of maturity occurred almost throughout the year (Fig. 4), their periods of relative abundance were different. Fish with resting gonads were common



 Resting (1[b)

 Developing (1[1-1V])

 Gravid (V-VI)

 Part(ally spent (VIIa)

 TS Fully spent (VIIb)

Fig. 4. Seasonal trend in the relative percentage distribution of mackerel, R. kanagurta in different maturity stages landed by drift gillnet over the period of study at Lawsons Bay, Visakhapatnam.

during July-January with higher abundance during October - December. They were rather rare during February-April. Fish with developing gonads (stages III-IV) accounted for only 2% of the adult fish component. Though they occurred over a long period, from February to September, their occurrence was relatively high only in February and May-July. This could indicate two periods of gonadal activity. Gravid fish (stages V-VI) also were rare in the catches with its compostion as 8% of the adult fish caught over the period. Though gravid fish also occurred over a long period, from January to August, they were relatively more abundant during January-March and May. The partially spent fish (stage VII a), on the other hand, occurred almost throughout the year, with greater abundance during February-April and June-July. They were rather rare during October-December. Fish with fully spent gonads also occurred almost throughout the year, but their period of abundance was different, being May and August - January, with a peak in September. From these details it may be noted that in the inshore fishing grounds, the period October-December represents a period when (1) fish with gonads in developing, gravid and partially spent states were either scarce or absent, and (2) fish with resting gonads were quite high. These two situations when viewed together would suggest October-December as a period of low spawning and also as a period which affords favourable conditions for spent fish to recover quickly to reach the resting state. Therefore, the continued occurrence of fully spent fish during October - December may indicate that fish that have spent prior to this period may await the favourable period of October-December to recover and to reach the resting state (IIb).

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Considering the combined seasonal abundance of fish in advanced stages of gonadal maturity (stages V-VII b), February - June emerges as the major spawning period, followed by a shorter minor peak period during August-September for the mackerel, *R. kanagurta* of Visakhapatnam area, and October-December comes out as the period of low spawning activity (Fig.5).

It is of interest to note that the period of high spawning activity (February-June) on the one hand, and the period of high spent recovering activity as well as the low spawning activity (October - December) on the other for mackerel (*R. kanagurta*) of Visakhapatnam area coincide re-





spectively with the periods of upwelling and sinking phenomena that are known to take place along this part of the east coast (Bhavanarayana, P.V. 1970: *Prof. P.N. Ganapati Shas. Comm. Vol.* p.30).

### Length distribution

The size of *R. kanagurta* observed in the regular commercial fish landings ranged between 50-54 mm and 265-269 mm size groups. The total length range and the dominant size, as well as the proportion of adult fish in the catches of the four gears mentioned previously are given below.

| Gear            | Lengh<br>range<br>(mm) | Dominant<br>size<br>(mm} | % of fish<br>in dominant<br>size range | % of adult<br>fish |
|-----------------|------------------------|--------------------------|--|--------------------|
| Drift gillnet   | 120-265                | 200-245                  | 94.4                                   | 97.5               |
| Shrimp trawl    | 65-250                 | 170-225                  | 82.8                                   | 67.2               |
| Sardine gillnet | 90-215                 | 130-195                  | 92.6                                   | 7.4                |
| Boat seine      | 50-220                 | 110-165                  | 63.6                                   | 2.9                |

From the foregoing table it may be seen that while adult fish formed bulk of the mackerel catches in drift gillnet and shrimp trawl, only juvenile fish accounted for the bulk of the mackerel catches in sardine gillnet and boat seine. The length distribution of the mackerel in the above four gears over the period of study are given in Fig. 6. Stray samples of mackerel collected from shore seine landings were in the size range of 35-135 mm with dominant modal sizes at 55 mm and 105 mm in March '92, at 90

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Fig. 6. Distribution of various size groups of mackerel, *R. kanagurta* (total length, mm) landed by different gears at Visakhapatnam over the period of study: (a) drift gillnet, (b) shrimp trawl, (c) sardine gillnet and (d) boat seine.

mm and 110 mm in May '93, and at 50 mm and 65 mm in March '94.

From the length distribution of fish caught in boat seine (a non-selective gear), it may be seen that fish of 50-90 mm size form the dominant group of youngest fish in the landings indicating that R. kanagurta is recruited to the fishery at this size. Fish with modal length within this size range was observed during March-May and October -December. (This confirms that mackerel has two spawning periods in a year). Medium sized fish of 100-190 mm was common in the catches of boat seine and sardine gillnet mainly during April-August and October-December. Though adult fish (from 195-199 mm size group onwards) was available throughout the year they formed dominant component of the catches during October-May.

#### Growth

As the bulk of the regular fortnightly fish samples for biological studies came mainly from

drift gillnet landings comprising large sized fish, the length data as and when available from other gears namely, shrimp trawl, sardine gillnet, boat seine and shore seine were supplemented to the regular length data to understand the growth in length of mackerel, *R. kanagurta* from the shifting of their modal lengths. Average lengths of fish for different ages ( in months) estimated from the modal progression analysis, as well as the calculated lengths obtained employing the Von Bertalanffy Growth Function (VBGF) are given below. The curve for growth in length based on the VBGF is given in Fig. 7.



Fig. 7. Von Bertalanffy Growth Curve (growth in length) for mackerel, R. Kanagurta, of Visakhapatnam area.

| Month | Average<br>emperical total<br>length (mm) | Calculated total<br>length (mm)<br>using VBGF |
|-------|---|---|
| 3     | 108                                       | 108.8   |
| 6     | 159                                       | 159.2   |
| 9     | 197                                       | 196.3   |
| 12    | 225                                       | 223.5   |
| 15    | 243                                       | 243.6   |

From the present study the effective life-span of the mackerel, *R. kanagurta* of this area has been estimated as 2.45 years.

For selected lengths (mm) of *R. kanagurta* in

\* Log W = -5.6817 + 3.3066 Log L (r = 0.99), where W = total weight of fish and L = total length of fish.

fresh condition the respective estimated weights in g (given in brackets) based on the length weight relation obtained\* are as follows: 9(6.0), 10(8.5), 11 (11.7), 12(15.6), 13(20.3) 14(26.0), 15(32.6), 16(40.4), 17 (49.4), 18(59.6), 19(71.3), 20 (84.5), 21(99.3), 22(115.8), 23(134.1), 24(154.4), 25(176.7), and 26 (201.2).

#### **General remarks**

The salient fishery and biological features of the mackerel, R. kanagurta of the Visakhapatnam area may be stated as follows.

Mackerel is recruited to the fishery at the age of 1-2 months twice in a year during March-May and October - December. But adult fish of 9-15 months of age form the bulk of its landings, being contributed mainly by drift gillnet and shrimp trawl. These catches are supplemented by relatively smaller quantities of juvenile fish of 3-9 months of age captured by boat seine and sardine gillnet. January-May generally represents the season when bulk of mackerel landings take place. In the beginning of this period fish in spentresting state followed by fish with partially spent, fully spent and gravid gonads in that order occur in the catches. But during February - April period mackerel with partially spent gonads dominate in the landings. Gravid fish also makes significant appearance during this period, though with low relative abundance. The partially spent fish however, continue to be well represented in the catches till July. Thus, the partially spent fish mainly supports the mackerel fishery of Visakhapatnam area. During the off season of the fishery (August-December) adult fish with fully spent and spent-resting gonads, as well as young and medium sized fish occur in the catches. The spent resting fish, however, are dominant during October-December, which also forms the period of low spawning activity. Coincidence of the last mentioned period. October-December, with the sinking phenomenon and that of the main fishery season as well as the main spawning season (February-June) with the period of upwelling that are known to take place off Visakhapatnam is quite interesting, and requires further intensive studies.

## A COMPARATIVE ASSESSMENT OF THE IMPACT OF MOTORISATION ON THE ARTISANAL FISHERIES AT VIZHINJAM

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#### Introduction

The mechanisation of traditional crafts with outboard motors in the early eighties can be considered as one of the milestones in the development of artisanal fisheries of Kerala State. Eventhough this trend was initiated in central Kerala by 1981, it spread to northern and southern areas by about 1983 only. At Vizhinjam, which is one of the most important artisanal fish landing centres of southern Kerala, the motorisation programme was initiated during the middle of 1982 and since then it has become very popular and resulted in the replacement of non-motorised crafts by motorised ones to a large extent. The breakwater facility at Vizhinjam is an added advantage for berthing and launching the crafts even during the monsoon months. Hence during these months, fishermen from all over the nearby

coastal areas migrate to Vizhinjam for fishing. A detailed account of the traditional fishery in the area was given by Luther *et al.* (*Mar. Fish. Infor. Serv.*, T & E Ser., 1982, No. 38 : 1-17) and a marine fish calendar from the area was published by Nair *et al.* (*Mar. Fish. Infor. Serv.*, T & E Ser., 1988, No.87 : 1-15). But in recent years the pattern of fishery has undergone considerable changes mainly due to the motorisation of traditional crafts and hence it is felt necessary to present a comparative assessment of the impact of motorisation on the artisanal fisheries in the area.

#### Data source

The fishery statistics collected from Vizhinjam fish landing centre for seven years from 1986 to 1992 was utilised as the data for the motorisation period. The fishery data during the pre-motorisation period is taken from Luther *et al.* (1982) for presenting the comparative assessment of the impact of motorisation.

### **Comparative analyses**

### Craft and gear

Fibreglass coated plywood built boats became the most widely used craft during the motorisation period in the place of catamarans and dugout canoes employed during the pre-motorisation period. The gears employed were the same, eventhough the magnitude of effort expended varied during both the periods. The *disco vala* (bottomset trammel net) is now widely used in the place of *Konchu vala*. The area of fishing has been expanded, reaching upto a depth of about 80m during the motorisation period.

### Catch trend

The average annual catch ranged between 1,497 t in 1975 and 8,506 t in 1978 with the average annual catch at 4,525 t during the premotorisation period. The range increased between 6,216 t in 1992 and 10,236 t in 1987 with the annual average at 7,525 t during the motorisation period. The monthly average catch varied between 147 t in February and 750 to in July with the average at 350 t during the pre-motorisation period. The range increased between 339 t in December and February and 1,129 to in August with the average at 627 t during the motorisation period. Thus it is evident that the catch substantially increased during the motorisation period. The fishery season remained the same during both the periods viz. June to October.

### Gearwise catch

The percentage composition of the different gears to the total fish catch during both the periods were as follows:

| <u>Pre-motorisation</u><br>Period | <u>Motorisation</u><br><u>period</u>  |
|-----------------------------------|---|
| %                                 | %   |
| 47.9                              | 31.0  |
| 22.7                              | 34.0  |
| 16.6                              | 28.7  |
| et 0.9                            | 3.0   |
| 4.3                               | 2.0   |
| 1.4                               | 1.0   |
| 2.4                               | 0.3   |
| 0.5                               | Negligible  |
| 2.6                               | Negligible  |
|                                   | Pre-motorisation<br>9%<br>47.9<br>22.7<br>16.6<br>et 0.9<br>4.3<br>1.4<br>2.4<br>0.5<br>2.6 |

It could be seen that during the motorisation period, the catch contribution by drift net, hooks and line and *Konchu vala* (Disco net) showed a marked increase while the catch by boat seine, *Chala vala, Netholi vala,* shore seine, *Kolachi vala* and *Katchal* declined.

The annual average effort, catch and catch per unit effort for the different gears during both the periods are given in Table 1. It is evident that the effort, catch and catch per unit effort of drift net,

| Gear                    | Pre-mot                  | ortsation                   |              | Motoris                  | ation                       |              |
|-------------------------|--------------------------|-----------------------------|--------------|--------------------------|-----------------------------|--------------|
|                         | Annual average<br>effort | Annual average<br>catch (t) | CPUE<br>(kg) | Annual average<br>effort | Annual average<br>catch (t) | CPUE<br>(kg) |
| fooks and Line          | 52,775                   | 1,028.1                     | 19.5         | 58,525                   | 2.568.4                     | 43.4         |
| Drift Net               | 16,636                   | 751.1                       | 45.2         | 41,208                   | 2,165.3                     | 52.5         |
| (onchu vala (Disco vala | ) 7,248                  | 96.3                        | 13.3         | 10,546                   | 191.5                       | 18.2         |
| soat seine              | 34,571                   | 2,165.8                     | 62.6         | 19,246                   | 2,373.7                     | 123.3        |
| Chala vala              | 10.290                   | 196.2                       | 19.1         | 8,797                    | 153.7                       | 17.5         |
| vetholi vala            | 2.064                    | 70.2                        | 34.0         | 1,798                    | 48.9                        | 27.2         |
| shore seine             | 1,962                    | 110.3                       | 56.2         | 379                      | 22:3                        | 58.7         |

hooks and line and Konchu vala (Disco net) increased considerably due to motorisation. Eventhough the effort of boat seine declined, the catch and catch per unit effort had improved. On the other hand, there is a substantial reduction in the effort with a resultant decline in the catch of Chala vala, Netholi vala and shore seine. The peak fishery seasons of driff gill net, hooks and line and Konchu vala also changed due to motorisation. The operation of all these gears were intensified during the monsoon months and consequently these months became one of the peak fishing seasons for these gears.

### Gearwise catch composition

### Drift net

The annual average catch of all the major species of tunas viz. Euthynnus affinis, Auxis thazard, A. rochet and Sarda orientalis showed considerable increase due to motorisation. The annual average catch of these species increased from 284 t during the pre-motorisation period to 993 t during the motorisation period. The annual average mackerel catch increased from 27 t during the pre-motorisation period to 384 t during the motorisation period. The other groups whose catch substantially improved due to motorisation were Decapterus sp., Selar crumenophthalmus, other carangids, Sphyraena sp. and perches. On the other hand, the annual average catch of sharks, Megalaspis sp., catfish and Chirocentrus sp. declined in the drift net catches during the motorisation period.

### Hooks and line

The most significant increase in the annual landing by hooks and line due to motorisation was in the catch of bullet tuna, Auxis rochet which formed only an insignificant component of tuna landing during the pre-motorisation period but increased to an average annual landing of 771 t during the motorisation period. The other tunas which increased in hooks and line catch due to motorisation were E. affinis. Thunnus albacares and Katsuwonus pelamis. The average annual catch of the species of Nemipterus, Decapterus, Selar crumenophthalmus, lethrinids, mackerel, Pristipomoides, Epinephelus, Trichiurus and Loligo also improved in hooks and line due to motorisation. The catch of Megalaspis, catfish, balistids, sharks, Saurida and Coryphaena declined in hooks and line catch due to motorisation.

### Boat seine

The catch of species of Loligo and Decapterus

markedly increased in boat seine landings during the motorisation period. The catch of *Trichiurus* and *Stolephorus* also marginally improved during the period. On the other hand, the catch of silver bellies, other carangids, *Acetes*, catfish, *Dussumieria*, sciaenids, lesser sardines, goatfish and *Lactarius* declined in boat seine landings during the motorisation period.

### Shore seine

The annual average catch of all the major groups caught by this gear viz. whitebaits, silverbellies, lesser sardines, *Decapterus*, other carangids and *Dussumieria* declined considerably during the motorisation period.

### Chala vala

The catch of lesser sardines by this gear drastically declined during the motorisation period. However, the oil sardine and silverbelly catch by the gear improved during the period.

### Konchu vala (Disco net)

The catch of flatfish, sciaenids, rays and crabs showed marked increase during the motorisation period.

### Netholi vala

<sup>•</sup> The catch of whitebaits by this gear considerably declined during the motorisation period.

### Kolachi vala

The Hemirhamphus and Cypselurus catch by this gear became insignificant during the motorisation period.

### The resource pattern

The annual average catch of the major fishery resources of Vizhinjam area during the premotorisation and motorisation periods are given in Table 2. It could be seen that the catch of A. rochei, S. orientalis, Selar crumenophthalmus, Epinephelus, Pristipomoides and flatfishes which were insignificant in the fishery prior to motorisation contributed substantially in the catch during the motorisation period. Apart from this, the groups which markedly increased the catch during the motorisation period were mackerel, E. affinis, A. thazard and species of Sphyraena, Decapterus, Lethrinus, Nemipterus and Loligo. The groups which marginally increased their landing were Stolephorus spp., other carangids, seerfish and ribbonfish.

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In contrast to the above, it could be seen that certain groups of fishes which contributed significantly to the fishery during the pre-motorisation

| TABLE 2. | The annual average landings (in tonnes) of the major |
|----------|--|
|          | resources at Vizhinjam during the pre-motorisation   |
|          | and motorisation periods                             |

|                        | P-o motoricotion  | Mataviaation      |
|------------------------|-------------------|-------------------|
| Resource               | pre-motorisation  | Motorisation      |
|                        | lootob in tonnee) | (establin tennes) |
|                        | (catch in tonnes) | (catch in tonnes) |
| Lesser sardines        | 219.3             | 81.1              |
| Dussumieria spp.       | 78.9              | 53.5              |
| Stolephorus spp.       | 264.0             | 318.4             |
| Sphyraena spp.         | 47.6              | 82.8              |
| Decapterus sp.         | 158.5             | 519.4             |
| Other carangids        | 290.3             | 324.0             |
| Selar crumenophthalmus | s t*              | 193.4             |
| Euthynnus affints      | 221.0             | 656.8             |
| Auxis thazard          | 144.5             | 342.0             |
| Auxis rochei           | t*                | 962.8             |
| Sarda orientalis       | ť*                | 183.3             |
| Scomberomorus spp.     | 111.6             | 137. <del>9</del> |
| Mackerel               | 75.1              | 458.4             |
| Trichiurus spp.        | 1,021.3           | 1,363.2           |
| Epinephelus sp.        | t*                | 75.1              |
| Lutjanus sp.           | 47.0              | 43.6              |
| Lethrinus sp.          | 61.9              | 109.6             |
| Nemipterus sp.         | 114.1             | 233.4             |
| Pristipomoides sp.     | t*                | 55.6              |
| Silverbellies          | 187.5             | 135.5             |
| Sciaenids              | 66.4              | 59.8              |
| Flatfishes             | t*                | 42.2              |
| Loligo sp.             | 137.0             | 311.2             |
| Cuttlefish             | 96.6              | 91.1              |
| Sharks                 | 70.8              |                   |
| Ravs                   | 32.9              | •                 |
| Oil sardine            | 33.0              | *                 |
| Saurida sp.            | 39.7              | *                 |
| Catfish                | 173.8             | •                 |
| Tulosurus sp.          | 28.6              | •                 |
| Lactarius sp.          | 35.2              | •                 |
| Megalaspis sp.         | 152.3             | •                 |
| Comphaena sp           | 31.6              | •                 |
| Upeneus sp.            | 51.2              | •                 |
| Istiophorus sn         | 32.2              |                   |
| Balistids              | 160.3             | •                 |
| Acetes sp.             | 48.6              | *                 |
|                        |                   |                   |

\* Below 1% of the total catch.

period had become insignificant during the motorisation period. These include sharks, rays, oil sardine, balistids, catfish and species of Saurida, Tylosurus, Lactarius, Megalaspis, Coryphaena, Upeneus, Istiophorus and Acetes. In addition to this, the magnitude of the catch of lesser sardines, rainbow sardines and silverbellies were reduced considerably. The catch of Lutjanus, sciaenids and cuttlefish were reduced marginally during the motorisation period.

### General remarks

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An increase in the total fish catch as well as in the catch per unit effort is evident during the motorisation period. The fast accessibility to the distant fishing grounds by the motorised crafts, the increased number of fishing hands employed in the motorised units and the availability of more time for actual fishing due to the time saved for rowing seem to be the major reasons for the higher catch and catch rate in the motorised units. The motorisation programme has also helped to increase the fishing activities during the monsoon months. The breakwater facility at Vizhinjam is being fully utilised at present by the fishermen employing the motorised crafts. During the peak monsoon months, many fishermen from Anchengo to Colachel migrate to Vizhinjam along with their craft and gear for fishing from Vizhinjam.

The better exploitation of certain hitherto underexploited and unexploited species can be considered as one of the most significant aspects of motorisation of traditional crafts. Since the chief gears employed by the motorised units are hooks and line and drift net and the area of fishing is relatively distant ground, there has been an increase in the yield of certain resources of high unit value like tunas, carangids and perches. On the other hand, as more and more traditional crafts were motorised, there is a reduction in the effort of non-motorised crafts which operate gears like Chala vala, Netholi vala etc. This shifting of effort together with the change in the fishing ground of motorised crafts led to the decline in the catch of certain nearshore resources like sardines and silverbellies. It is likely that considerable quantities of nearshore resources which were exploited during the pre-motorisation period are now lost to the fishery. Hence, it is felt that diversification of effort by motorised crafts is highly essential to avoid underexploitation of these resources.

Vizhinjam is a pioneering fishing centre in Southern Kerala which initiated the motorisation of traditional crafts. The expansion of this programme is still in the ascending phase and a growth stagnancy has not yet reached. Hence it is too early to predict its future impact on the fishery. However, the effect of motorisation on different resources will vary according to the change of gear and fishing ground, as is seen from the present study. Hence it is felt that regular resource-wise monitoring and assessment should be done at this centre to get an overall picture of the impact of motorisation on various resources in future years.

## A CHECK - LIST OF GASTROPODS LANDED AT SAKTHIKULANGARA - NEENDAKARA AREA\*

Many commercially important gastropods are landed as by-catch of shrimp trawlers at Sakthikulangara-Neendakara area along with prawns, fishes, crustaceans and cephalopods. Recent observations on the landings of moliuscan shells indicate that 29 species of gastropods and a few bivalves are landed as by-catch of shrimp trawlers and there is an increasing trend in the quantity landed (Fig. 1). Meat of two species of edible whelks, *Babylonia spirata* and *B. zeylanica* (Fig. 2) were exported since early 1993. Other gastropods are utilised mainly for shell handicraft trade (Fig. 3). Taking into consideration the importance of these groups, a check-list of gastropods landed, their abundance and common names are given in Table 1.

Two species of edible whelks locally known as 'Pravumutta shank' ranks first in abudance among the gastropod landings. Whelks assume importance in recent years since the meat of these seashells are exported in fairly good quantities from india to Japan since July 1993. The analysis of samples of both the species of whelks indicates that the total length of *B. spirata* ranged from 25-51 mm and *B. zeylanica* from 37-60 mm, the latter growing to a larger size. The length-



Fig. 1. Shells being graded.

| TABLE 1. | List | of gastro | oods. th | ir abundı | ance and | common | names |
|----------|------|-----------|----------|-----------|----------|--------|-------|
|----------|------|-----------|----------|-----------|----------|--------|-------|

| Species                    | Common name             | Magnitude of occurrence |
|----------------------------|-------------------------|-------------------------|
| Turritella attenuata       | Screw/Turret shell      | ++ .                    |
| Polystira sp.              | **                      | +                       |
| Crassispira sp.            | "                       | +                       |
| Architectonica perspectiva | Staircase/Sundial shell | 0                       |
| Epitonium scalaris         | Ladder shell            | 0                       |
| Xenophora sp.              | Carrier shell           | +                       |
| Tibia curta                | Wing shell              | <del>**</del> *         |
| Natical albula             | Naticas/Moon shell      | 0                       |
| Natica lineata             | 11                      | 0                       |
| Phalium alaucum            | Helmet shell            | +                       |
| Phalium canaliculatum      | 91<br>1                 | +                       |
| Bursa spinosa              | Purse/Frog shell        | +++                     |
| Tonna dolium               | Tun shell               | ▲                       |
| Ficus ficus                | Fig shell               | 0                       |
| Rapana bulbosa             | Purple shell            | ++                      |
| Murex trapa                | Venus comb/murex shell  | ++                      |
| Murex viraineus            | 11                      | 0                       |
| Murex badius               | 11                      | õ                       |
| Murex sp.                  | · •                     | 0                       |
| Babulonia spirata          | Whelk                   | +++                     |
| Babulonia zeulanica        | "                       | +++                     |
| Hemifisus muailmus         | Hairy crown conch       | ▲                       |
| Tusinus toreuma            | Spindle shell           | ò                       |
| Oliva aibbosa              | Olive shell             | +                       |
| Oliva sp.                  |                         | 0                       |
| Xancus purum               | Sacred chank            | ++                      |
| Hama conoidalis            | Haro shell              | +                       |
| Conus alans                | Cone shell              | ++                      |
| Conus sp.                  | ++ ·                    | 0                       |

\* Prepared by M. Babu philip, Quilon Field Centre of CMFRI, Quilon and K.K. Appukuttan, CMFRI, Cochin-682 014.





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frequency distribution (Fig. 4) shows that in *B.spirata* 32-47 mm dominated the catch with peak mode at 40-43 mm whereas in *B. zeylanica* 44-55 mm dominated with peak mode at 52-55 mm. The boiled meat weight was approximately 35%. The total whelk meat export for 18 months from July 1993 to December 1994 is around 175 tonnes. The ornamental shells are graded and packed in gunny bags (Fig. 1) and sent to shell trade centres in Tamil Nadu.

Appukuttan and Phillip (Seafood Export Journal, **25** (21):5-17, 1994) reported for the first time the details of whelk landings and whelk meat trade at Sakthikulangara-Neendakara area and noted whelks as an emerging resource in the by-catch of shrimp trawlers. The analysis and close scrutiny of by-catch from other major shrimp landing centres along east and west coasts may reveal the occurrence of these gastropods in exploitable quantities. The possibilities of increased landings of whelks and expansion of shell based handicraft trade are bright.



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Fig. 3. A collection of ornamental gastropods.



Fig. 4. Percentage of length frequency of Babylonia spirata and B. zetlanica.

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## FREQUENT STRANDINGS OF DOLPHINS AND WHALES ALONG THE GULF OF MANNAR COAST\*

#### Introduction

Instances of dolphins caught accidentally by gill nets and their occasional strandings along the Indian coasts have been mentioned earlier by many workers. In some instances, prutrified carcasses of such animals were reported to be washed ashore. However, the strandings or washing ashore the carcasses of dlophins and whales in an intermittent pattern within a short priod of about five months is a peculiar phenomenon and a matter of great concern about the safety of such endangered species in prevailing ecosystem of Gulf of Mannar. In this report our observations on the occurrence of carcasses of dlophins and whales along the Gulf of Mannar during September 1994 to January 1995 have been mentioned (Table 1). The possible factors leading to such strandings together with morphometric characters are also described.

### Morphometric measurements of dolphins

Three dolphins and whales each were stranded during the

\* Prepared by A.P. Lipton, A.D. Diwan, A. Reghunathan and C. Kasinathan, Mandapam Regional Centre of CMFRI, Mandapam Camp - 623 520. TABLE 1. Observations on stranding particulars of dolphins and whales

| Place                                  | Date of stranding   |
|--|---|
| ······································ |   |
| Near CMFRI jetty<br>Mandapam Camp      | , 15.9.1994<br>,  |
| Seeniappa Dharga<br>(putrified)        | a 15.9.1995   |
| Near CMFRI jetty                       | 09.1.1995   |
|  |   |
| Valinokkam Bay                         | 11.9.1994   |
| Vedalai (putrified)                    | 13.10.1994  |
| Dhanushkodi                            | 25.11.1994  |
|  | Place<br>Near CMFRI jetty<br>Mandapam Camp<br>Seeniappa Dhargi<br>(putrified)<br>Near CMFRI jetty<br>Valinokkam Bay<br>Vedalai (putrified)<br>Dhanushkodi |

period of observation. The details of different meristic counts and other body measurements of the dolphins (except the one stranded at Seeniappa Dharga) and whales stranded at Dhanushkodi are given in Table 2. The dolphins were identified as Sousa chinensis and Turstops aduncus (Fig. 1). The total body length of the former species was found to be 255 cm and that of the latter 221 cm. The teeth count of dolphin landed at Seeniappa Dharga could be made and was found to be 70 on the upper jaw and 68 on the lower jaw.

The dlophins landed near the CMFRI jetty were examined carefully for any external injury to the body. Both the specimens had injury on the snout region and the blood was oozing out (Fig. 2). Besides this, there was no wounds anywhere on the body. Later internal body parts were dissected out for post-mortem examination. All the organ systems were found intact. The stomach was totally empty. The gonads were not developed. The kidneys had a total of 820 renculii in them (Fig. 3). After examining all internal organs, one of the dolphins was buried near to CMFRI jetty to make further studies on osteological aspects.

TABLE 2. Morphometric and meristic characteristics (in cm) of carcasses of dolphins and whales found along the coast of Gulf of Mannar

| Date of observation15.9.19949.1.199525.11.1994Total length (snout to2552211.330notch of caudal flukes)777Tip of snout to blowhole4337-Tip of snout to canter of eye4035280Tip of snout to centre of anus160143990Notch of fluke to centre of anus560143990Notch of fluke to centre of anus54666395Length of fluke on outer curvature6578PutrifiedDistance between extremities of fluke514-Uength of fluke on inner curvature4461PutrifiedUstance between extremities of fluke514-Uength of fluke on fluke514-Uength of fluke of outer border2628150Of dorsal flin1625-Uength of fluper from3540.5165anterior insertion to tip14.513.560Depth of body at anal region10427350Depth of body at origin of fluper14.5300235Length of lower jaw3631270Diameter of the eye3010025Total number of teeth on3524-Or one side of lower jaw3524-SexQQ125 kg7 k  | Name of the species                               | Sousa chinensis | T.aduncus | B. musculus |
|---|---|-----------------|-----------|-------------|
| Total length (shout to<br>notch of caudal flukes)2552211.330The of sout to blowhole4337-The of snout to centre of eye4035280The of snout to centre of eye4035280The of snout to centre of anus160143990Notch of fluke to posterior end11097885of dorsal fin88566395Length of fluke to notter curvature6578PutrifledDistance between extremities of fluke514-Length of dorsal fin base3634-Vertical height of dorsal fin base3634-Vertical height of dorsal fin base3634-Length of fluper raing curve of lower border2628165Createst width of flipper12029380Depth of body at ordin of flopper12029380Depth of body at ordin of flopper12029380Length of lower jaw3330235Length of lower jaw3330235Length of lower jaw3631270Diameter of the eye301025Total number of teeth on34Diameter of teeth on3424-Or   | Date of observation                               | 15.9,1994       | 9.1.1995  | 25.11.1994  |
| Thp of snout to blowhole       43       37       .         Thp of snout to centre of eye       40       35       280         Thp of snout to centre of anus       160       143       990         Notch of fluke to posterior end       110       97       885         of dorsal fin       78       78       78         Notch of fluke to centre of anus       54       66       395         Length of fluke to centre of anus       54       66       395         Length of fluke on unter curvature       65       78       Putrified         Distance between extremities of fluke       -       61       -         Width at insertion of fluper ifom       36       34       -         Length of dorsal fin       16       25       -         Length of flipper ifom       35       40.5       165         Itength of flipper along curve of lower border       26       28       150         Createst width of flipper       14.5       13.5       60         Depth of body at origin of dorsal       148       42       -         Length of bipper jaw       33       300       235         Depth of body at origin of dorsal       148       42       -      <   | Total length (snout to<br>notch of caudal flukes) | 255             | 221       | 1.330       |
| Thp of shout to centre of eye       40       35       280         Thp of shout to centre of anus       160       143       990         Notch of fluke to posterior end       110       97       885         of dorsal fin       78       910         Notch of fluke to centre of anus       54       66       395         Length of fluke to centre or anus reurvature       65       78       Putrifled         Length of fluke on inner curvature       64       61       Putrifled         Length of fluke on inner curvature       64       61       -         Width at insertion of fluke       5       14       -         Vertical height of dorsal fin       16       25       -         Length of flupper from and curve of lower border       26       28       150         Greatest width of flipper       14.5       13.5       60         Depth of body at and region       104       27       350         Depth of body at origin of dorsal fin       148       42       -         Depth of body at origin of dorsal 148       42       -       -         Depth of body at origin of dorsal 148       280       270       270       280       270         Diameter of the eye  | Tip of snout to blowhole                          | 43              | 37        | -           |
| The of snout to anterior insertion of flipper       62       53       410         The of snout to centre of anus       160       143       990         Notch of fluke to posterior end       110       97       885         of dorsal fin       78       910       395         Length of fluke on outer curvature       65       78       Putrified         Length of fluke on outer curvature       65       78       Putrified         Distance between extremities of fluke       61       -       -         Width at insertion of fluper form       35       14       -       -         Length of dorsal fin       16       25       -       -       -         Vertical height of dorsal fin       16       25       - <td>Tip of snout to centre of eye</td> <td>40</td> <td>35</td> <td>280</td>  | Tip of snout to centre of eye                     | 40              | 35        | 280         |
| The of snout to centre of anus160143990Notch of fluke to posterior end11097885of dorsal fin66395Length of fluke to centre of anus5466395Length of fluke on outer curvature6578PutrifledLength of fluke on inner curvature4461PutrifledDistance between extremities of fluke6191900Width at insertion of fluke51466Urritical height of dorsal fin162566Length of flipper from3540.5165anterior insertion to tip2815060Length of flipper from14513.560Depth of body at anal region10427350Depth of body at origin of flipper12029380Depth of body at origin of dorsal1484260Length of luper jaw3330235Length of lower jaw3524300Tip of lower jaw3524300Diameter of the eye301025Total number of teeth on3524-Orial number of teeth on3424-Orial numbe  | Tip of snout to anterior insertion of fli         | pper 62         | 53        | 410         |
| Notch of fluke to posterior end<br>of dorsal fin11097885Notch of fluke to centre of anus5466395Length of fluke on outer curvature6578PutrifiedLength of fluke on inner curvature4461PutrifiedDistance between extremities of fluke514-Length of dorsal fin base3634-Vertical height of dorsal fin1625-Length of flipper from<br>anterior insertion to tip3540.5165Length of flipper along curve of lower border2628150Createst width of flipper14.513.560Depth of body at origin of dorsal14842-Depth of body at origin of dorsal14842-Depth of body at origin of dorsal16230010Tip of lower jaw3631270Diameter of the eye301025Length of lower jaw3631270Diameter of teet on<br>one side of upper jaw34-SexQ $\vec{O}^2$ $\vec{O}^2$ Weight200 kg125 kg7 t   | Tip of snout to centre of anus                    | 160             | 143       | 990         |
| Notch of fluke to centre of anus       54       66       395         Length of fluke on outer curvature       65       78       Putrified         Length of fluke on inner curvature       44       61       Putrified         Distance between extremities of fluke       61       -       -         Width at insertion of fluke       56       34       -         Length of dorsal fin base       36       34       -         Vertical height of dorsal fin       16       25       -         Length of flipper from       35       40.5       165         anterior insertion to tip       -       -       -         Length of flipper along curve of lower border 26       28       150         Greatest width of flipper       14.5       36       -         Depth of body at anal region       104       27       350         Depth of body at origin of dorsal       148       42       -         Depth of body at origin of dorsal       184       42       -         Depth of body at origin of dorsal       184       42       -         Depth of body at origin of dorsal       184       42       -         Depth of body in the region of eye       90       142       360  | Notch of fluke to posterior end<br>of dorsal fin  | 110             | 97        | 885         |
| Length of fluke on outer curvature6578PutrifiedLength of fluke on inner curvature4461PutrifiedDistance between extremities of fluke61-Width at insertion of fluke514-Length of dorsal flin base3634-Vertical height of dorsal flin1625-Length of flipper from,<br>anterior insertion to tip3540.5165Length of flipper along curve of lower border2628150Greatest width of flipper14.535060Depth of body at anal region10427350Depth of body at origin of dorsal14842-Depth of body at origin of dorsal14842-Depth of lower jaw3330235240Depth of lower jaw3330235240Depth of lower jaw3330235240Depth of body in the region of eye301025-Diameter of the eye301025-Total number of teeth on<br>one side of ouper jaw3524-SexQ0025-Weight200 kg20 kg125 kg7 t  | Notch of fluke to centre of anus                  | 54              | 66 *      | 395         |
| Length of fluke on inner curvature4461PutrifiedDistance between extremities of fluke61-Width at insertion of fluke514-Length of dorsal fln base3634-Vertical height of dorsal fln1625-Length of flipper from<br>anterior insertion to thp185165Length of flipper along curve of lower border2628150Greatest width of flipper14.513.560Depth of body at anal region10427350Depth of body at origin of flipper12029380Depth of body at origin of dorsal14842-Depth of body at origin of dorsal162142960Length of lopper jaw3330235Length of lopper jaw3631270Diameter of the eye301025Total number of teeth on<br>one side of upper jaw3524-Sex<br>Weight00025Weight200 kg0250  | Length of fluke on outer curvature                | 65              | 78        | Putrifled   |
| Distance between extremities of fluke61-Width at insertion of fluke514-Length of dorsal fin base3634-Vertical height of dorsal fin1625-Length of flipper from<br>anterior insertion to tip3540.5165Length of flipper along curve of lower border<br>2628150-Createst width of flipper14.513.560-Depth of body at anal region10427350-Depth of body at origin of flipper12029380-Depth of body at origin of dorsal14842Depth of body at origin of dorsal162142960-Tip of lower jaw3330235Length of lower jaw3330235Diameter of the eye301025Total number of teeth on<br>one side of upper jaw3524Sex<br>WeightQQQQSex<br>Weight200 kg125 kg7 t   | Length of fluke on inner curvature                | 44              | 61        | Putrified   |
| Width at insertion of fluke514-Length of dorsal fin base3634-Vertical height of dorsal fin1625-Length of flipper from<br>anterior insertion to tip3540.5165Length of flipper along curve of lower border2628150Greatest width of flipper14.513.560Depth of body at and region10427350Depth of body at origin of flipper12029380Depth of body at origin of dorsal14842-Depth of body at origin of eye9024300Tip of lower jaw to centre of anus162142960Length of lower jaw3330235Length of lower jaw3524-Dianeter of the eye301025Total number of teeth on<br>one side of upper jaw3424-Sex<br>Weight $Q$ $Q$ $Q$ $Q$ Weight200 kg125 kg7 t  | Distance between extremities of fluke             | •               | 61        | -           |
| Length of dorsal fin base3634-Vertical height of dorsal fin1625-Length of flipper from<br>anterior insertion to tip3540.5165Length of flipper along curve of lower border2628150Greatest width of flipper14.513.560Depth of body at anal region10427350Depth of body at origin of flipper12029380Depth of body at origin of dorsal14842-Depth of body at origin of dorsal162142960Length of lower jaw3330235Length of lower jaw3524-Diameter of the eye301025Total number of teeth on<br>one side of upper jaw3424-Sex $Q$ $Q$ $Q$ $Q$ Weight200 kg125 kg7 t  | Width at insertion of fluke                       | 5               | 14        | -           |
| Vertical height of dorsal fin1625-Length of flipper from<br>anterior insertion to tip3540.5165Length of flipper along curve of lower border<br>Greatest width of flipper14.513.560Greatest width of flipper14.513.560Depth of body at anal region10427350Depth of body at origin of flipper12029380Depth of body at origin of dorsal14842-Depth of body at origin of dorsal162142960Depth of body at origin of dorsal162142960Depth of body at origin of dorsal162142960Depth of body in the region of eye9024300Tip of lower jaw to centre of anus16216225Length of lower jaw3631270Diameter of the eye301025Total number of teeth on<br>one side of upper jaw3424-Sex $0$ $0$ $0$ $0$ Weight $200$ kg125 kg7 t  | Length of dorsal fin base                         | 36              | 34        |             |
| Length of flipper from<br>anterior insertion to tip3540.5165Length of flipper along curve of lower border<br>Createst width of flipper2628150Greatest width of flipper14.513.560Depth of body at anal region10427350Depth of body at origin of flipper12029380Depth of body at origin of dorsai14842-Depth of body at origin of dorsai14842-Depth of body at origin of dorsai162142960Depth of body in the region of eye9024300Tip of lower jaw to centre of anus162142960Length of lower jaw3330235Length of lower jaw3631270Diameter of the eye301025Total number of teeth on<br>one side of upper jaw3424-Sex0000Weight200 kg125 kg7 t   | Vertical height of dorsal fin                     | 16              | 25        | -           |
| Length of flipper along curve of lower border 26       28       150         Greatest width of flipper       14.5       13.5       60         Depth of body at anal region       104       27       350         Depth of body at origin of flipper       120       29       380         Depth of body at origin of dorsal       148       42       -         Depth of body at origin of dorsal       148       42       -         Depth of body at origin of dorsal       162       300       -         Dipth of body at origin of dorsal       162       142       960         Dipth of body in the region of eye       90       24       960       235         Length of upper jaw       33       30       235       235         Length of lower jaw       33       30       235       24       -         Diameter of the eye       30       10       25       -       -       -         Total number of teeth on one side of upper jaw       34       24       -       -       -         Sex       Q       0       0       -       -       -       -       -         Weight       200 kg       125 kg       7 t       7 t       -       - </td <td>Length of flipper from anterior insertion to tip</td> <td>35</td> <td>40.5</td> <td>165</td> | Length of flipper from anterior insertion to tip  | 35              | 40.5      | 165         |
| Greatest width of flipper14.513.560Depth of body at anal region10427350Depth of body at origin of flipper12029380Depth of body at origin of dorsal14842-Depth of body in the region of eye9024300Tip of lower jaw to centre of anus162142960Length of upper jaw3330235Length of lower jaw3631270Diameter of the eye301025Total number of teeth on one side of upper jaw3424-SexQ0'0'0'Weight200 kg125 kg7 t   | Length of flipper along curve of lower            | border 26       | 28        | 150         |
| Depth of body at anal region10427350Depth of body at origin of flipper12029380Depth of body at origin of dorsal14842-Depth of body in the region of eye9024300Tip of lower jaw to centre of anus162142960Length of upper jaw3330235Length of lower jaw3631270Diameter of the eye301025Total number of teeth on one side of upper jaw3424-Sex0024-Weight200 kg125 kg7 t  | Greatest width of flipper                         | 14.5            | 13.5      | 60          |
| Depth of body at origin of flipper12029380Depth of body at origin of dorsal14842-Depth of body in the region of eye9024300Tip of lower jaw to centre of anus162142960Length of upper jaw3330235Length of lower jaw3631270Diameter of the eye301025Total number of teeth on<br>one side of upper jaw3424-Sex<br>Weight200 kg0125 kg7   | Depth of body at anal region                      | 104             | 27        | 350         |
| Depth of body at origin of dorsal14842-Depth of body in the region of eye9024300Tip of lower jaw to centre of anus162142960Length of upper jaw3330235Length of lower jaw3631270Diameter of the eye301025Total number of teeth on<br>one side of lower jaw3424-Sex<br>WeightQ007Sex<br>Weight200 kg125 kg7 t   | Depth of body at origin of flipper                | 120             | 29        | 380         |
| Depth of body in the region of eye9024300Tip of lower jaw to centre of anus162142960Length of upper jaw3330235Length of lower jaw3631270Diameter of the eye301025Total number of teeth on<br>one side of upper jaw3424-Total number of teeth on<br>one side of lower jaw3424-Sex<br>Weight200 kg125 kg7 t   | Depth of body at origin of dorsal                 | 148             | 42        | -           |
| Tip of lower jaw to centre of anus162142960Length of upper jaw3330235Length of lower jaw3631270Diameter of the eye301025Total number of teeth on<br>one side of upper jaw3524-Total number of teeth on<br>one side of lower jaw3424-Sex<br>Weight0125 kg7 k   | Depth of body in the region of eye                | 90              | 24        | 300         |
| Length of upper jaw3330235Length of lower jaw3631270Diameter of the eye301025Total number of teeth on<br>one side of upper jaw3524-Total number of teeth on<br>one side of lower jaw3424-Sex<br>Weight0000200 kg125 kg7 t1  | Tip of lower jaw to centre of anus                | 162             | 142       | 960         |
| Length of lower jaw3631270Diameter of the eye301025Total number of teeth on<br>one side of upper jaw3524-Total number of teeth on<br>one side of lower jaw3424-Sex<br>Weight0000200 kg125 kg7 t0  | Length of upper jaw                               | 33              | 30        | 235         |
| Diameter of the eye301025Total number of teeth on<br>one side of upper jaw3524-Total number of teeth on<br>one side of lower jaw3424-Sex0000Sex0000Weight200 kg125 kg7 t  | Length of lower jaw                               | 36              | 31        | 270         |
| Total number of teeth on<br>one side of upper jaw3524-Total number of teeth on<br>one side of lower jaw3424-Sex000Sex000Weight200 kg125 kg7 t   | Diameter of the eye                               | 30              | 10        | 25          |
| Total number of teeth on<br>one side of lower jaw34<br>2424<br>-Sex0<br>200 kg0<br>125 kg0<br>7 t   | Total number of teeth on one side of upper jaw    | 35              | 24        | -           |
| Sex         Q   | Total number of teeth on<br>one side of lower jaw | 34              | 24        | -           |
| Weight         200 kg         125 kg         7 t  | Sex   | Ŷ               | ൪         | 5           |
|   | Weight  | 200 kg          | 125 kg    | 7 t         |

Fig. 1. Turstops aduncus stranded near CMFRI jetty.



Fig. 2. Close view of T. aduncus. Arrow indicates injury.



Fig. 4. Balaenoptera musculus stranded off Dhanushkodi.

Fig. 3. Renculii of T. aduncus.

### Morphometric observations on whale

The whale washed ashore near Vedalai was found to be in a highly putrified condition. The caudal portion was completely damaged and some of the caudal vertebrae were found scattered in the adjoining area. The approximate total body length was 12 m and the head length around 3.3 m. The width at the origin of flipper was 2 m and the maximum depth of the body was 5.3 m. The morphometric measurements of the whale stranded at Dhanushkodi are given in Table 2. With the morphological observations and taxonomic keys, the whale found in Dhanushkodi was identified as Blue whale, *Balaenoptera musculus*. There were 80 throat grooves. The whale measured around 13.3 m in length. (Fig. 4 - 6).

#### **Possible reasons for stranding**

1. Dolphins and whales require deeper water areas for their movement, feeding and migration for breeding. Once they are entrapped in shallow water their direction finding system fails and they get stranded. It is possible that in Gulf of Mannar, the water being shallow, the mammals would have been trapped resulting in strandings.

2. It is possible that sometimes these mammals might have met with an accident with the fishing boats and got injured resulting in death.



Fig. 5. Close view of the male copulatory organ of B. musculus.

3. The Gulf of Mannar is notorious for fish poachers using dynamite. Dynamite explosion can cause death of the marine mammals also,

4. To a lesser extent diseases could also be one reason for



Fig. 6. Baleen grooves of B. musculus.

the stranding. Perusal of literature indicates that diseases affect the transmission of nerve impulses to the brain which in turn result in the failure of direction finding.

Although during the present observations no specific reason could be attributed towards the frequent strandings of marine mammals in the Gulf of Mannar region, it is inferred that any one factor as given above or more would have contributed towards the strandings.

As the Indian Ocean is declared as a sanctuary for whales, the frequent stranding of whales and dolphins emphasise the need for intensive study on conservation measures. The scientific information on the extent of strandings of marine mammals all along the coast needs consolidation. The marine mammals may require well defined habitats at different times of year for their specific biological and physiological activities such as breeding and feeding. Only well-planned research studies can provide better understanding of the habitat requirement in each season of the year. Conservation and non-consumptive use of all species of marine mammals through the inter-Governmental and regional organisations are to be ensured. As the Gulf of Mannar is declared as the 'Marine Biosphere Reserve', an inter-disciplinary approach and concerted efforts by different agencies such as the Ministry of Environment and Forests, the Institute like CMFRI, Fisheries Department, Forest Department, the Coast Guard and the Navy are required towards conservation. The awareness among the public on the need of protection of marine mammals has to be improved by vigorous national campaign all along the coast.

The help rendered by the Technical staff viz. Shri. N. Ramamoorthy, Shri. K. Jayabalan and Shri. A. Gandhi in morphometric studies is greatly appreciated.

## A NOTE ON THE FOETUS OF THE HUMP-BACK DOLPHIN FROM TUTICORIN COAST, GULF OF MANNAR\*

Very few reports are available on the foetuses of dolphin. On 16-2-'94 a female Hump - back dolphin Sousa chinensis (Osbeck) measuring 2,235 mm and weighing 80 kg was accidently caught in drift gilinet off Tuticorin. When the dolphin was cut opened a foetus measuring 250 mm was obtained from it (Fig. 1).

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The foetus was more or less a perfect replica of the adult dolphin except that it possessed the umblical cord. The beak of the foetus was at 152° to trunk, eyes opened, teeth not sprouted but tender teeth gums were clearly visible, dorsal fin and caudai fluke well developed, genital and anal opening far apart, umblical cord robust, 150 mm long with papillae like processes arranged in rows, body uniformly light brown, few black patches on vertical side, skin very delicate and tender and bristles absent on beak. Morphometric measurements of the foetus are given in Table 1.



| TABLE - 1. Morphometric measurements (mm) of Sous | a chinensis    |
|---|----------------|
| off Tuticorin                                     |                |
| Tip of upper jaw to notch of fluke                | 250            |
| Tip of upper jaw to centre of eye                 | 43             |
| Tip of upper jaw to apex of melon                 | 41             |
| Tip of upper jaw to angle of gape                 | 30             |
| Tip of upper jaw to external auditory meatus      | 51             |
| Centre of eye to angle of mouth                   | 15             |
| Centre of eye to external auditory meatus         | 15             |
| Centre of eye to centre of blowhole               | 26             |
| Tip of upper jaw to blowhole                      | 40             |
| Tip of upper jaw to anterior insertion of flipper | 60             |
| Tip of upper jaw to tip of dorsal fin             | 175            |
| Tip of upper jaw to mid point of umblicus         | 126            |
| Tip of upper jaw to genital aperture              | 154            |
| Tip of upper jaw to centre of anus                | 170            |
| Length of filpper (anterior insertion to tip)     | 45             |
| Length of flipper (axilla to tips)                | 30             |
| Width of flipper (maximum)                        | 16             |
| Height of dorsal fin                              | 15             |
| Width of fluke (tip to tip)                       | 54             |
| Length of umbilical cord                          | 150            |
| Number of bristles on the beak                    | Absent         |
| Angle of the beak to the trunk                    | 152°           |
| Weight  | <b>2</b> 40 gm |
| Sex   | Female         |

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Fig. 1. The foetus of dolphin Sousa chinensis.

\* Prepared by G. Arumugam, T.S. Balasubramaniam and M. Chellappa, Tuticorin Research Centre of CMFRI, Tuticorin - 628 001.

Lal Mohan (1982) estimated the age of foctus of 241 mm of *T. aduncus* as  $2^{1}/_{2}$  month, that of 91 mm foctus to be about 1 month and the 471 mm foctus of *S. plumbea* as  $5^{1}/_{2}$  month old. By comparing the size of the present foctus of *S. chinensis* it is presumed that the age would be between  $2^{1}/_{2} - 3$  month old. Based on the gestation period and the age determined for the foctus, the mating season of *S. chinensis* is likely to be during

October - November as a  $2^{1}/_{2}$  - 3 month old foetus was collected during February along the Tuticorin coast. But this could be confirmed beyond doubt if only some more reports are available on this aspect.

Such endangered animals have to be protected. Fishermen should be educated to save such entangled specimens by releasing them back into the sea.

## OBSERVATIONS ON A WHALE SHARK RHINODON TYPUS SMITH CAUGHT AT ATHANKARAI ALONG THE PALK BAY COAST, TAMIL NADU\*

On 26.10.92 a large specimen of whale shark *Rhinodon typus* Smith was caught in a shore-seine at Athankarai in live condition but died the next day. The net was badly damaged by the whale shark.

As there was no demand for its flesh, the fish was cut into pieces and buried near the sea shore. The morphometric measurements of the whale shark (cm) are given below:

| Body characters                               | Measurements (cm)  |
|---|--------------------|
| Total length (tip of snout to tip of caudal t | fin) 1, <b>022</b> |
| Tip of snout to origin of pectoral fin        | 204                |
| Tip of snout to centre ridge                  | 35                 |
| Length of pectoral fin                        | 210                |
| Tip of snout to first gill opening            | 148                |
| Tip of snout to last gill opening             | 217                |
| Length of upper caudal fluke                  | 225                |
| Length of lower caudal fluke                  | 129                |
| Head length                                   | 240                |

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| Width of head                 | 224  |
|-------------------------------|------|
| Tip of the snout to eye       | 65   |
| Length of mouth opening       | 145  |
| Eye diameter                  | 4.5  |
| Eye length                    | 6.5  |
| Tip of snout to spiracle      | 95   |
| Length of spiracle            | 4.5  |
| Width of spiracle             | 3.3  |
| Height of first dorsal fin    | 153  |
| Tip of snout to caudal fluke  | 822  |
| Height of first gill opening  | 81   |
| Height of second gill opening | 94   |
| Height of third gill opening  | 87   |
| Height of fourth gill opening | 80   |
| Height of fifth gill opening  | 60   |
| Weight                        | 5 t  |
| Sex                           | Male |

\* Reported by C. Kasinathan and N. Ramamoorthy, Regional Centre of CMFRI, Mandapam Camp - 623 520.

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|  |                   |  |

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## विशाखपट्टनम क्षेत्र की बाँगडा मात्स्यिकी और संपदा

जी. लूथर, सी एम एफ आर आइ का विशाखपट्टनम अनुसंधान केन्द्र, विशाखपट्टनम-630 003

### आमुख

हाल ही के आकलन के अनुसार आन्ध्रप्रदेश के कुल समुद्री मछली अवतरण में 1-3% बॉंगडे है। यहाँ विशाखपट्टनम के तट क्षेत्र और पूर्वी और पश्चिम गोदावरी जिलाओं, गुन्टूर, प्रकाशम और नेल्लूर जिलाओं से बॉंगडे का अवतरण होता है। राज्य के कुल बॉंगडे अवतरण का 3% विशाखपट्टनम का योगदान है। इस लेख में भारतीय बॉंगडे की मात्स्यिकी और संपदा स्वभाव, 1989-90 से 1993-94 तक विशाखपट्टनम में चलाये गये परीक्षणों के आधार पर प्रतिपादित किया गया है।

## बाँगडे अवतरण

वार्षिक बॉॅंगडे अवतरण औसत 107 टन पर, 71 टन और

152 टन के बीच में देखा गया। ये पकड मुख्यत: ड्रिफ्ट गिल जाल(56%) श्रिम्प जाल (38%) के ज़रिए और सारडीन गिलजाल (4%) और पोत संपाश (2%) आदि अन्य संभारों से प्राप्त हुई। परंपरागत सेक्टर द्वारा प्राप्त कुल अवतरण में 13% बाँगडे थे।

ड्रिफ्ट गिलजाल में अन्य मछलियों के साथ मुख्य पकड बाँगडे (24-66%) करैंजिड्स (19-27%) और सुरमई (8-18%) थी। ड्रिफ्ट गिल जाल का प्रचालन गहराई 40 मी और चिंगट आनायक का 60-80 मी और कभी कभी 100 मी तक होती है।

## मात्स्यिकी मौसम

बाँगडे की मात्स्यिकी मौसम दिसंबर-जनवरी से मार्च-मई

तक देखा गया। अन्य महीनों में कभी कभी इसकी अच्छी पकड प्राप्त हुई वर्तमान अध्ययन के अनुसार वार्षिक पकड के 57% जनवरी से मई तक के पाँच महीनों में प्राप्त हुई थी। इसके अलावा जून-जुलाई में 14% पकड प्राप्त हुई। यह देखा गया कि चिंगट आनायक में माहिक प्रति एकक प्रयास पकड जब उँचा था ड़िफुट गिल जाल में यह कम देखा गया जिससे बॉॅंगडे के निकट तट और गहराई के बीच निरन्तर आना जाना व्यक्त होता है।

## प्रथम प्रौढता में लिंग अनुपात और आमाप

डिफट गिल जाल और चिंगट आनायकों की पकड में प्रौढ मछलियाँ अधिक थी, जिनके लिंग अनुपात में कुछ महीनों में परिवर्तन देखा गया। लेकिन वार्षिक लिंग अनुपात में विशेष परिवर्तन नहीं देखा था।

## प्रौढता के विविध अवस्थाओं में मछली का मौसमी वितरण और अंडजननकाल

अध्ययन काल में सुप्ति अवस्था के जननग्रंथी वाली मछलियाँ (प्रौढ अवस्था 11 बी) और भागिक रूप में अंडरिक्त अवस्था (अवस्था 7 ए) की मछलियाँ अधिक थी (दोनों 33%) जिनके अनुगमन करते हुए पूरी अंडरिक्न अवस्था की मछलियाँ (7 बी) 25% देखी गयी। इन तीन प्रौढावस्थाओं की मछलियाँ साल भर उपस्थित होने पर भी इनकी प्रचरता का समय बिलकुल अलग था। सुप्ति अवस्था की जननग्रंथीवाली मछलियाँ अक्तूबर-दिसंबर में प्रचुरता दिखाती हुई जुलाई-जनवरी के दौरान साधारण थी। विकासी अवस्था की जननग्रंथीवाली मछलियाँ (अवस्था -III-IV) केवल 2% थी और फरवरी और मई-जुलाई के दौरान इनकी उपस्थिति अधिक थी। अंडपूर्ण मछलियाँ जनवरी-मार्च और मई के दौरान प्रचुरमात्रा में उपस्थित थी। भागिक रूप में अंडरिक्त मछलियाँ फरवरी-अप्रैल और जून-जुलाई के दौरान प्रचुरता के साथ साल भर उपस्थित थी। पूर्णतया अंडरिक्त जननगंथीवाली मछलियाँ भी साल भर उपस्थित थी। लेकिन प्रचुरता की अवधि विविध थी, मई, अगस्त-जनवरी और सितंबर ऋंगकाल थे। इन विवरणों से यह व्यक्त होता है कि अपतटीय मत्स्यन तलों में अक्तूबर-दिसंबर को अवधि में विकसित जननग्रंथीवली मछली, अंडपूर्ण और भागिक रूप में अंडरिक्त मछलियाँ बहुत कम या अनुपस्थित थी और सुप्ति अवस्था की मछलियाँ अधिक थी।

जनन ग्रंथी प्रौढता की अग्रिम अवस्था की मछलियों की मिश्रित मौसमी प्रचुरता को देखने पर फरवरी-जून प्रमुख अंडजनन अवधि देखी गयी, विशाखपट्टनम क्षेत्र के बॉॅंगडे *आ*र. कानागर्टा केलिए अगस्त-सितंबर गौण ऋंगकाल देखा गया।

सामान्य अभ्युक्तियाँ

विशाखपट्टनम क्षेत्र के बॉंगडे *आर. कानागुर्टा* की मात्स्यिकी और जैविक स्वभाव निम्नप्रकार है। ये 1-2 महीने की आयु में मार्च-मई और अक्तूबर-दिसंबर के दौरान मात्स्यिकी में आती है। लेकिन 9-15 महीने की आयु की प्रौढ मछलियाँ डि्फुट गिल जाल और चिंगट आनायक में भारी मात्रा में प्राप्त होती है। पोत संपाशों और सारडीन गिलजालों में 3-9 महीने आय की किशोर मछलियाँ प्राप्त होती है। जनवरी-मई के दौरान साधारणतया बॉॅंगडे की भारी पकड मिलती है। इस अवधि के आरंभ में पकड में अंडरिक्त-सुप्ति अवस्था की मछलियाँ, भागिक रूप में अंडरिक्त, पूर्णतया अंडरिक्त और अंडपूर्ण, इस कम में प्राप्त होती है। लेकिन फरवरी-अप्रैल के दौरान अवतरण

नियमित वाणिज्यिक मत्स्य अवतरण में आर. कानागुर्टा का आमाप 50-54 मि मी और 265-269 मि मी के बीच विविध था। डिफट गिलजाल और चिंगट आनायक की पकड में प्रौढ बाँगडे अधिक थे तो सारडीन गिलजाल और पोत संपाशों में किशोर बॉॅंगडे अधिक थे। तट संपाश अवतरण से संग्रहित नमुनों के आमाप 35-135 मि मि के बीच और प्रमुख आमाप मार्च 92 में 55 मि मी और 105 मि मी. मई. 93 में 90-110 मि मी के बीच और मार्च 94 में 50 मि मी और 65 मि मी के बीच थे।

पोत संपाशों में प्राप्त मछलियों के लंबाई वितरण से यह व्यक्त होता है कि इस संभार में 50-90 मि मी आमाप की छोटी मछलियाँ प्रमुख है और ये भी मार्च-मई और अक्तूबर-दिसंबर में पायी गयी। अप्रैल-अगस्त और अकृतबर-दिसंबर के दौरान पोत संपाश और सारडीन गिलजाल में 100-190 मि मी आमाप की मछलियाँ साल भर प्राप्त होने पर भी प्रमुख काल अक्तूबर-मई देखा गया।

## बढती

इस अध्ययन के अनुसार बॉंगडे आर. कानागुर्टा की जीवन अवधि 2.45 साल है।

प्राप्त लंबाई-भार संबन्ध के अनुसार चुनी गयी लंबाई में ताजा स्थिति में आर. कानागुर्टा का आकलित भार ग्राम में (कोष्ठक में) इस प्रकार है 9(6.0), 10(8.5), 11(11.7), 12(15.6), 13(20.3), 14(26.0), 15(32.6), 16(40.4), 17(49.4), 18.(59.6), 19(71.3), 20(84.5), 21(99.3), 22(115.8), 23(134.1), 24(154.4), 25(176.7) और 26(201.2)

रूप में अंडरिक्त मछलियों के सहारे पनपते है। अगस्त-दिसंबर के दौरान पूर्णतया अंडरिक्त प्रौढ मछली और अंडरिक्त-सुप्ति जननग्रंथीवाली एवं छोटी और मध्यम आमाप की मछलियाँ पकड में उपस्थित थी।

में भागिक रूप में अंडरिक्त मछलियाँ प्रमुख है। इस अवधि में अंडपूर्ण मछलियाँ भी प्राप्त होती है। भागिक रूप में अंडरिक्त मछलियाँ जुलाई तक मातिस्यकी में उपस्थित थी। इस प्रकार विशाखपट्टनम क्षेत्र के बाँगडे मातिस्यकी मुख्य रूप से भागिक

## विषिंजम की परंपरागत मत्स्यन रीति में यंत्रीकरण का प्रभाव पर तुलनात्मक अध्ययन

जी. गोपकुमार, पी.एस. सदाशिव शर्मा, ए.के. वेलायुधन, के.टी. तोमस, टी.ए. ओमना और के. शशिधरन पिल्लै सी एम एफ आर आइ का विषिं़जम अनुसंधान केन्द्र, विषिं़जम

भारत में पहली बार मत्स्यन क्षेत्र में यंत्रीकरण इस शताब्द के नवें दशक में हुआ था। केरल में यह वर्ष 1981 में शुरू हुआ था। देश के उत्तर व अन्य पश्चिम मत्स्यन क्षेत्रों में 1983 में यंत्रीकरण फैल गया। विषिंजम केरल का सब से प्रमुख परंपरागत मत्स्यन केन्द्र है। 1962 के मध्य में यहाँ यंत्रीकृत मत्स्यन शुरू हुआ। विषिंजम की विशेषता यहाँ का तरंग-रोध है जिससे यहाँ मनसून के दौरान भी मत्स्यन कर सकता है। वर्ष 1982 में लूथर आदि ने यहाँ की परंपरागत मात्स्यिकी पर विवरण पेश किये है। नायर आदि ने वर्ष 1988 में समुद्री मछली केल्ंडर प्रकाशित किया। लेकिन मत्स्यन पार्टर्न में हाल ही में यंत्रीकरण से बडा परिवर्तन आया है। इसलिए इस पेपर में यंत्रीकरण के प्रभाव पर प्रकाश डाला गया है।

## डाटा का श्रोत

वर्ष 1986 से 1992 तक विषिंजम मछली अवतरण केन्द्र में पकडी गई मात्स्यिकी की सांख्यिकी यंत्रीकृत पकड के श्रोत में लिया गया है। लूथर (1982) आदि का पूर्व यंत्रीकरण अवधि की सांख्यिकी की डाटा तुलनात्मक अध्ययन केलिए लिया गया है।

### तुलनात्मक विश्लेषण

क्राफट व गिअर : यंत्रीकरण अवधि में कटामरैन और डगऔट कानोस के स्थान पर फाइबरग्लास से आवृत और प्लाइबुड से निर्मित बोटों का उपयोग होने लगा। दोनों अवधि में उपयोग किये गये यान एक ही थे। केन्यु वला के स्थान पर आज डिस्को वला का प्रयोग होता है। यंत्रीकरण के फलस्वरूप मत्स्यन करनेवाला क्षेत्र भी बढ गया।

## पकड की प्रवणताः

यंत्रीकरण आने से पहले वार्षिक औसत पकड 4525 टन थी। यंत्रीकरण के बाद यह 7525 टन हो गई। यंत्रीकरण से पहले मोहिक औसत पकड 350 टन थी तो यंत्रीकरण के बाद में 627 टन हो गई। इस से व्यक्त होता है कि यंत्रीकरण के बाद पकड में वृद्धि हुई है। मत्स्यन केलिये अनुकूल काल दोनों अवधि में जून से अक्तूबर है।

## गिअरवार पकड

पूर्व-यंत्रीकरण और यंत्रीकरण अवधियों में मिली गिअरवार पकड का प्रतिशत नीचे प्रस्तुत है।

| गिअर का नाम           | पूर्व यंत्रीकरण अवधि | यंत्रीकरण अवधि |
|-----------------------|----------------------|----------------|
| बोट सीन               | 47.9                 | 31             |
| कॉंटा-डोर             | 22.7                 | 34             |
| ड्रिफट जाल            | 16.6                 | 28.7           |
| कोन्चु वला/डिस्को जाल | 0.9                  | 3.0            |
| चाला वला              | 4.3                  | 2.0            |
| नेतोली वला            | 1.4                  | 1.0            |
| कोष संपाश             | 2.5                  | 0.3            |
| कोलची वला             | 0.5                  | नगण्य          |
| कचल                   | 2.6                  | নগত্য          |

ऊपर के आँकडों से स्पष्ट है कि यंत्रीकरण की अवधि में कॉंटा-डोर, ड्रिफ्ट नेट, कोन्चु वला की पकड में विचारणीय बढती हुई है जबकि बोट सीन, चाला वला, नेतोली वला, शोर सीन, कोलची वला और कचल में मछली कम पकडी गई है।

## गिअरवार पकड सम्मिश्र

ड्रिफ्ट नेट: यंत्रीकरण के फलस्वरूप सभी मुख्य जातियाँ जैसे ई. अफिनिस, ए. थसार्ड, ए. रोचई और एस. ओरियन्टालिस को वार्षिक औसत पकड में बढती महसूस की। इन जातियों की पकड में पूर्व यंत्रीकरण अवधि की तुलना के यंत्रीकरण अवधि में 284 से 993 टन की वृद्धि हुई। बॉँगडों की पकड में भी 27 से 384 टन की वृद्धि हुई। यंत्रीकरण के फलस्वरूप पकड में वृद्धि हुई अन्य वर्ग हैं डेकाप्टीरस सेलार, क्रुमेनोप्थालमस, करंजिडे, फिरेना और पर्चे। इसके विपरीत ड्रिफट जाल में मिलनेवाली सुराएं, मेगलाप्सिस, शिंगटी और किरोसेन्टस की पकड में यंत्रीकरण के दौरान घटती महसूस की।

## काँटा-डोर

यंत्रीकरण के जरिए काँटा डोर परिचालन में सब से अधिक मिली मछलियाँ थी बुल्लेट ट्यूना और अक्सिस रोचई। ए. रोचई की वार्षिक औसत पकड में 771 टन की वृद्धि हुई थी। यंत्रीकरण के फलस्वरूप अधिक मिले अन्य ट्यूनायें है ई. अफिनिस, थन्नस अलबकारस और काटसुओनस पेलामिस। नेमिप्टीरस, डेकाप्टीरस, एस. क्रुमेनोप्थालमस, लेथिनिडस, माकेरल, पिस्टिपोमोइडस इपिनेफिलस, ट्रेकियूरस और लोलिगो की औसत वार्षिक पकड में बढती हुई थी। काँटा-डोर से पकडी जानेवाली मछलियाँ जैसे मेगलाप्सिस काटफिश, बालिस्टिडस, सुरायें, सारूदा और कोरिफीना की पकड में यंत्रीकरण काल में घटती देखी गई।

## बोट-सीन

यंत्रीकरण अवधि में लोलिगो और डेकाप्टीरस बोट सीन पकड में वर्धित हुये। उपांतिक रूप से ट्रैकियूरस और स्टोलेफोरस की वृद्धि हुई थी। इसके विपरीत यंत्रीकरण के दौरान बोट-सीन पकड में मुल्लन, करंजिडें, असेटस, शिंगटी, डसुमेरिया, सेनिअडस, लेसर सारडीन्स, गोटफिश और लैक्टारियस की पकड में घटती दिखाई पडी।

## शोर-सीन

इसके जरिए पकडी जानेवाली श्वेत बेट, मुल्लन, लेस्सर सारडीन, डेकाप्टीरस, अन्य करंजिडें और डसुमरीया की पकड में घटती दिखाई पडी।

## चाला वलै

इसके ज़रिए पकडी जानेवाली लेसर सारडीनों की कम पकड

हुई थी फिर भी इसके ज़रिए तारली और मुल्लन की पकड में बढती देखी गई।

## कोन्चु वलै

यंत्रीकरण अवधि में कोन्चु वलै के ज़रिए चपटी मछली, सियेनिड्स, रेसर और कर्कटों की पकड में विचारणीय वृद्धि हुई थी।

## नेतोली वलै

इस गिअर के जरिए मिलनेवाली श्वेत बेट यंत्रीकरण के दौरान कम हो गये।

## कोलची वलै

यंत्रीकरण के दौरान *हमिराम्फेस* और *सित्सेलुरस* की पकड नगण्य थी।

## संपदा का पार्टेन

पूर्व यंत्रीकरण अवधि में ए. रोचई, एस. ओरियन्टालिस, कुमेनोप्तालमस इपिनेफीलस, पिस्टिपोमोइड्स और चपटी मछलियाँ पकड में नगण्य थी। लेकिन यंत्रीकरण में इनकी पकड होने लगी। यंत्रीकरण अवधि में पकड में बढती हुई मछलियाँ है बाँगडा, ई. अफिनिस, ए. थसार्ड, स्फिरेना, डेकाप्टीरस लेथिनस, नेमिप्टीरस और लोलिगो । उपांतिक रूप से बढे वर्ग हैं स्टोलेफोरस, करंजिडें, सुरमई और फीतामीन।

इसके विपरीत पूर्व यंत्रीकरण की अवधि में ज़्यादा मिली मछलियाँ जैसे सुरायें, रे मछलियाँ, तारली, सारिदा, शिंगटी, टैलोसुरस, लाक्टारियस, मेगालाप्सिस, कोरिफिना, उपेनिअस, इस्तियोफोरस, बालिस्टिड्स व असेटस यंत्रीकरण के दौरान कम पकडी गई। इसके अलावा लेसर सारडीनों, रेइनबो सारडीनों और मुल्लन की पकड भी कम हुई।

## सामान्य अभ्युक्तियाँ

कुल मछली पकड और प्रति एकक पकड श्रम में यंत्रीकरण के दौरान वृद्धि हुई है। मनसून के दौरान मत्स्यन कार्य यंत्रीकरण के दौरान आसान हुये। अभी तक न विदोहन की गई मछली संपदाओं का विदोहन यंत्रीकरण के जरिये हो पाया है। संपदाओं की पकड में वैविधीकरण इस रीति से संभव हो पया है। अब विषिंजम की मछली पकड में यंत्रीकरण के जरिए जो बढती की प्रवणता दिखाई पडती है, इस में स्थिरता नहीं आई हैं। इसलिए इसकी भविष्य साध्यताओं पर अब कुछ नहीं बता सकता, इस पर निरंतर निगरानी की जरूरत है।

## शक्तिकुलंगरा - नीण्डकरा क्षेत्र में पाये गये जठरपादों से संबंधित सूचना\*

शक्तिकुलंगरा-नीण्डकरा क्षेत्र में प्रचालित चिंगट आनायकों में झौंगे, मछलियों, क्रस्टेशियनों और सेफालोपोडों के साथ एक उप पकड के रूप में वाणिज्यिक दृष्टि से महत्वपूर्ण कई जठरपादों का अवतरण होता है। मलस्क कवचों पर किये गये हाल ही के निरीक्षण यह सूचना देती है कि जठरपादों की 29 जातियों और कुछ द्विकपाटियों का भी अवतरण चिंगट आनायकों में उप पकड के रूप में हुआ है। इन में बाबिलोणिया स्पिराटा और बी. जेइलानिका के मांस का निर्यात 1993 के शुरूआत से ही शुरू किया था। अन्य जठरपादों का उपयोग प्रमुखत: कवच हस्तशिल्प व्यापार केलिए होता है। जठरपादों के प्राधान्य को मानकर इस से संबंधित सुचना ऊपर प्रस्तुत है।

पाए गये जठरपादों में प्रालुमट्टा शंक की प्रचुरता थी। हाल ही में, याने जुलाई 1993 में इन समुद्र कवचियों के मांस का निर्यात के शुरू होने से इनका महत्व और भी बढने लगा। दोनों जातियों के विश्लेषण के अनुसार बी. स्पिराटा की लंबाई 25-51 मि मी के बीच और बी. जेइलानिका की लंबाई 37-60 मि मी के बीच देखी गयी। पकड में 32-47 मि मी की बी. स्पिरिटा और 44-55 मि मी लंबाई की बी.जेइलानिका प्रमुख थे। क्रथित मांस का भार लगभग 35% था। जुलाई 1993 से दिसंबर 1994 तक के 18 महीनों में लगभग 175 टन मांस का निर्यित हुआ। आलंकारिक कवचों को अलग करके गन्नी थैलियों में पैक करके तमिल नाटु के कवच व्यापार केन्द्रों को भेज दिया।

शक्तिकुलंगरा - नीण्डकरा क्षेत्र के जलजन्तुओं के अवतरण और इनके मांस व्यापार के बारे में प्रथम रिपोर्ट अप्पुकुट्टन और फिलिप ने की है। अन्य प्रमुख चिंगट प्रचालन केन्द्रों का सूक्ष्म निरीक्षण करने से जठरपादों की भारी मात्रा में उपस्थिति मालूम पडने की संभावना है। जल जन्तुओं की भारी मात्रा में अवतरण और कवच व्यापार की विकास की साध्यतायें देश केलिए बहुत ही उज्वल कार्य है।

\* एम. बाबु फिलिप, सी एम एफ आर आइ का क्यलॉन क्षेत्र केन्द्र और के.के. अप्पुकुट्टन सी एम एफ आर आइ का कालिकट अनुसंधान केन्द्र द्वारा तैयार की गयी रिपोर्ट

| अवतरित जठरपाद इनके साधा       | रण नाम और प्रचुरता संबंध | री सूचना    |
|-------------------------------|--------------------------|-------------|
| जाति                          | साधारण नाम               | उपस्थिति का |
|                               |                          | परिमाण      |
| टरिटेल्ला अटेनुआरा            | स्क्रू/टरेट शेल          | ++          |
| <i>पोलिस्टिरा</i> एस पी       | **                       | +           |
| क्रास्सिस्पियं ए पी           | **                       | +           |
| आर्किटेक्टोनिका पेरस्पेक्टीवा | स्टेयरकेस/सनडयल शेल      | 0           |
| एपिटोनियम स्कालरिस            | लाडर शेल                 | 0           |
| <i>सीनोफोरा</i> एस पी         | कारियर शेल               | +           |
| टिबिया कुर्टा                 | पक्ष कवची                | ++          |
| नाटिका आलबुला                 | नाटिकास/मूनशेल           | 0           |
| नाटिका लीनियेटा               | 41                       | 0           |
| फैलियम ग्लौकम                 | हेलमेट कवची              | +           |
| फैलियम कानालिकुलाटम           | हेलमेट कवची              | +           |
| बुर्सा स्पिनोसा               | पर्स/फ्रॉंग कवची         | +++         |
| टोना डोलियम                   | टन कवची                  | +           |
| फिकस फिकस                     | फिंग कवची                | 0           |
| रापाना बुलबोसा                | पर्पिल कवची              | ++          |
| म्यूरेक्स ट्रापा              | वीनस कोम्ब/म्यूरेक्स क   | वची ++      |
| म्यूरेक्स विजीनियस            | वीनस कोम्ब/म्यूरेक्स क   | वची 0       |
| म्यूरेक्स बाडियस              | वीनस कोम्ब/म्यूरेक्स क   | वची 0       |
| म्यूरेक्स एस पी               | वीनस कोम्ब/म्यूरेक्स क   | वची 0       |
| बाबिलोनिया स्पिराटा           | वेल्क                    | +++         |
| बाबिलोनिया जीलानिका           | वेल्क                    | +++         |
| हेमीफिसस प्यूजिलिनस           | हेयरी क्राउन कोच         | +           |
| फ्यूसिनस टोरीमा               | स्पिन्डिल कवची           | 0           |
| अलीवा गिब्बोसा                | अलीव कवची                | +           |
| अलीवा एस पी                   | अलीव कवची                | 0           |
| जाकस पाइरम                    | सेकरड चॉक                | ++          |
| हार्पा कोनोइडालिस             | हार्प कवची               | +           |
| कोनस ग्लान्स                  | कोन कवची                 | ++          |
| कोनस एस पी                    | कोन कवची                 | 0           |
| + + + प्रचुर मात्रा           | + + सुलभ + साधारण        | 0 कभी कर्भ  |

## अपूर्व धनुर्मुह गिटार मीन राइना आनकैलोस्टोमा पर निरीक्षण\*

### आमुख

धनुर्मुह गिटार मीन, राइना आनसाइलोस्टोमा जो राइना वंश के एक मात्र जाति है, उष्णकटिबंधीय इन्डोपैसिफिक क्षेत्रों में देखा जाता है। तलीय ट्राल और अन्य तलीय जालों में इसकी पकड विरल है। वृत्ताकार सिर, बडी दंतिकाओं सहित भारी कटक, धीमी रंग के बिन्दुओं के धूसर रंग का रूक्षत्वक और पृष्ठ भाग का गहरा भूरा रंग आदि के साथ इसका विचित्र आकार है। इसका स्थानीय नाम ''कल उल्लुवाय'' है। गिटार मीन के बारे में सूचना बहुत ही कम है। हाल ही में दक्षिण भारत के पोटौ नोवा में इसकी उपस्थित को रिपोर्ट मिली है। इसके सिवा इस जाति के बारे में और कोई सुचना नहीं है। फिर भी 1986 अप्रैल को उपास्थिमीन मात्स्यिकी के मोनिटरन केलिए आंकडा संग्रहण करते वक्त इस मछली को उपस्थिति रिपोर्ट को थी। इसकी कुल लंबाई 1070 मि मी से 2360 मि मी के बीच थी। हमारे तट से प्राप्त 2360 मि मी लंबई की मादा नमूना अभी तक प्राप्त रिकोर्ड के अनुसार सबसे बडा है। मद्रास से ब्रिटीश संग्रहालय में भेजे गये नमूने की कुल लंबाई 6' 10'' थी। इसके अलावा और बड़े नमने की रिकार्ड अभी तक उपलब्ध नहीं है। इस अपूर्व नमूने की लंबाई, भार, आहार और खाने की रीति और प्रौढता की आंकडा संग्रहण किया था।

### प्रौढता

140 से मी तक के नमूने अप्रौढ थे। नर जाति का आलिंगक प्रौढता

प्राप्त करने पर दृढ़ बन जाता है। प्रौढ मादा जाति में अंडाशय और गर्भाशय विकसित हो जाते है। अभी तक रिकोर्ड की गयी 2360 मि मी लंबाई की बडी मादा जाति में मध्यावस्था के नौ भ्रूण थे जिनमें पीतक कोष लटका हुआ था। भ्रूण का आकार 268 मि मी और 310 मि मी के बीच था, जिनमें आठ नर थे। पीतक भरे पीतक कोष के भ्रूणों गर्भाशय में कोई लगाव के बिना देखा गया। अधर पार्श्व में अंस पखों के बीच से उत्पन्न पीतक वृंत की लंबाई 75-80 मि मी थी। पीतक कोष का व्यास 100-120 मि मी था।

### भोञ्च

गिटार मीन के शारीरिक लक्षण और रंग समुद्र के तलीय स्थितियों के अनुरूप है। इसलिए भोज्य भी तलीय मछलियाँ जैसे कर्कट, झींगा, स्विवल्ला और अन्य तलीय कवच प्राणियाँ है।

## निपटान

गिटार मीन का मांस बहुत ही पसंद की चीज है और पंखें निर्यात मार्केट में उच्च मूल्य पाते है। इसलिए इसका नीलाम उच्च मूल्य में होता है। 70 कि. ग्रा. भार के एक गिटार मीन इसकी पखों के कारण 3,000- रु में बिक गया। नीलाम के बाद पंखें निकालकर धूप में सुखाते है। इस प्रकार सूखी गयी पंख 2,500/- रु से 3,000/- रु. मूल्य में बिकी जाती है। मांस ताजे रूप में बिकने योग्य आकार के छोटे छोटे टुकडों में काटकर, समुद्र जल में धोकर बिके जाते है।

\* पी. दोवदोस और हमीद बाचा, सी एम एफ आर आइ का मद्रास अनुसथान केन्द्र, मद्रास की रिपोर्ट।

## मान्नार खाडी में डाल्फिनों और तिमियों का बारंबार अवतरण \*

### भूमिका

गिल जालों में डाल्फिनों का आकस्मिक पकड के बारे में और भारतीय तटों में कभी कभी इसके धँसने के बारे में पहले ही कई सूचना मिली है। यह भी नहीं इन जीवियों के सडे हुए शवशरीर तट पर कई बार पाये गये थे। यद्यपि, पॉच महीने की छोटी अवधि में डाल्फिनों और तिमियों का अल्पांतर में इस प्रकार धँसना या इनके शवशरीर तट पर पाया जाना एक विशेष परिघटना है। मान्नार खाडी के मौजूद पारिस्थितिक तंत्र के परिप्रेरक्ष्य में ऐसी संकटकारी जातियों की सुरक्षा सुस्थिर करनी चाहिये। इस रिपोर्ट में 1994 सितंबर से 1995 जनवरी तक के दौरान मान्नार खाडी के तट में डाल्फिन और तिमियों के बारंबार धँसने या इनके शवशरीर पाये जाने पर किये गये निरीक्षण की सूचना प्रस्तुत की गयी है।

डाल्फिनों का आकृतिमान मापन

धैंसे गये डालफिन जातियाँ - सूसा चैनेनसिस और टरसियोप्स अंडकस थी। सूसा चैनेनसिस की कुल लंबाई 255 से मी और टरसियोप्स अंडकस की लंबाई 221 से मी थी। एस. चैनेनसिस के उपरी और अधो हनु के एक भाग में क्रमश: 35 और 34 दॉत दीख पडे। टी. अंडकस के उपरी हनु और अधो हुनु के एक एक भाग में 24 दॉत थे। एस. चैनेनसिस मादा जाति की थी और टी. अंडकस पुरुष जाति की। एस. चैनेनसिस और टी. अंडकस का भार क्रमश: 200 कि. ग्रा और 125 कि. ग्रा था। इन दोनों में एस.चैनेनसिस बहुत सडी हुई अवस्था में थी कि इसके शरीर का मापन करना असंभव था।

सी एम एफ आर आइ जेटी में अवतरित डाल्फिन के शरीर में कोई चोट नहीं था। लेकिन दोनों के प्रोथ भाग में आन्तरिक चोट देखा गया। बाद में शवपरीक्षा केलिए आन्तरिक अवयवों का विच्छेद किया था। पेट बिलकुल खाली था। जनन ग्रंथी विकसित नहीं था। वृक्क बहुत लंबी और चपटी थी और इस में 820 रेनकुली थी। अस्थिविज्ञान संबंधी अध्ययन केलिए एक डाल्फिन को सी एम एफ आर आइ जेटी के निकट दफन किया गाया।

### तिमी पर आकृतिमान निरीक्षण

वेदालै में पायी गयी तिमी बहुत आधिक सडी हुई थी। शरीर की कुल लंबाई लगभग 12 मी और सिर की लंबाई 3.3 मी थी। अरित्र शुरु होने के भाग की चौडायी 5.3 मी थी। घनुष्कोटी में पायी हुई तिमी नील तिमी *बालिनोप्टीस मसकुलस* थी। यह नर जाति का था।

डाल्फिनों और तिमियों के धँसेने का कुछ संभाव्य कारण नीचे प्रस्तुत है।

- डाल्फिन और तिमियों के चलन, खाने की रीति, प्रवास और प्रजनन केलिए गहरा जल की अवश्यकता है। एक बार उथला पानी में फैंस जाने से वे धॅस जाते है। मान्नार खाडी में पानी उथला होने के कारण ये धँस गये होंगे।
- ये सस्तनियाँ शायद किसी मत्स्यन पोतों से टकराकर घायल होकर मर गये होंगे।

- पानी में ऑक्सिजन का अवक्षय इनके मरने का और एक संभाव्य कारण है।
- 4. ऑक्सिजन के अवक्षय के अलग्वा लवणता स्तर का अवक्षय, जो मानसून के समय मान्नार खाडी में अलवण जल के अंतर्वहन से होता है. धॅसने का और एक संभाव्य कारण है।
- 5. आजकल मान्नार खाडी में प्रदूषण काफी अधिक है जिससे समुद्री पारिस्थितिकी और समुद्री प्राणिजातों पर भारी नुक्सान पड जाता है। ये सस्तनियाँ काफी संवेदनशील होने के कारण इनके नाश केलिए प्रदूषण भी एक कारण होगा।
- कई लोग मान्नार खाडी में डयनामिट के प्रयोग करके मछली पकडते है। डयनामिट विस्फोड इन सस्तनियों केलिए अपायकर है।
- 7. छोटी हद तक बीमारियाँ भी इनके नाश के कारण होते है।

वर्तमान निरीक्षण से मान्नार खाडी में समुद्री सस्तनियों के इस प्रकार धँसने का कारण स्पष्ट नहीं हुआ है, फिर भी उपर्युक्त कारणों में कुछेक वस्तुताएं इन समुद्री सस्तनियों के नाश का कारण हो सकता है।

\* ए.पी. लिप्टन, ए.डी. दीवान, ए. रघुनाथ और सी. काशिनाथन, सी एम एफ आर आइ का मण्डपम क्षेत्रीय केन्द्र, मण्डपम कैम्प द्वारा तैयार की गयी रिपोर्ट।

## हंपबाक डाल्फिन सोसा चिनेनसिस के भ्रूण पर अध्ययन\*

डॉल्फिनों के अवतरण और धंसन पर कई रिपोर्टे उपलब्ध है। लेकिन इनके भ्रूणों पर प्राप्त रिपोर्ट बहुत कम है। टूटिकोरिन में 16-2-94 को स्त्री जाति की हम्पबाक डॉलफिन *सोसा चिनेनसिस* मादा प्राप्त हुई। इसका आमाप 2255 मि मी और भार 80 कि ग्राम थे। इसका नीलाम 130 रु. पर किया गया। कॉंटा-डोर मत्स्यन में चारे के रूप में इसके माँस का उपयोग होता है। इसकेलिए इसे काटने पर 250 मि मी का भ्रूण मिला था।

्रप्राप्त हुआ भ्रूण लगभग वयस्क डॉल्फिन के समान था। अन्तर सिर्फ

इस बात में था कि भ्रूण में नाभि रज्जु था। भ्रूण के औंखें खुले थे। दांतों के स्थान पर मसूढा विकसित था, पृष्ठ पख और पुच्छ पालि विकसित थे। जननिक और गुद द्वार दूर पर था। भ्रूण नाभि ह्रुष्ट पुष्ट था। शरीर के सब कहीं भूरा रंग था। चर्म बहुत कोमल और चंचु में कडा बाल नहीं था। इस भ्रूण की अनुमानित आयु 2 <sup>1</sup>/2 --3 महीने हैं।

\* सी एम एफ आर आइ के टूटिकोरिन अनुसंधान केन्द्र के जी. अरूमुगम और टी.एस. बालसुब्रहमण्यन द्वारा तैयार किया लेख।

## तिमि सुरा रेनोडोन टैपस स्मिथ की पकड\*

तमिलनाडु के अत्तनकरे में 26-10-92 को एक बड़ी तिमि सुरा रेनोडोन टैपस स्मिथ का अवतरण हुआ। यह जीवन्त था। कई मछुए कठिन प्रयत्न करके इसे तट पर लाया था। 27.01.92 को यह मर गया। पृष्ठ भाग में सुरा का रंग धूसर था जिस में अनेक सफेद बिंदियाँ थी। आँखों के पीछे से शुरू हुआ मध्य पृष्ठीय उन्नत भाग (mid.dorsal ridge) पृष्ठ पख में आकर समाप्त हुआ इसके सिवा शरीर के दोनों भाग में तीन उन्नत भाग (ridges) भी थे। इसका मांस खाद्ययोग्य नहीं होने के कारण टुकडे टुकडे करके समुद्र तट में गाड़ दिया।

\* सी एम एफ आर आइ क्षेत्रीय केन्द्र मंडपम कैंप 623520 के श्री सी. काशीनाथन और एन. राममूर्ति की रिपोर्ट।

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