Unusual landing of *Hilsa ilisha* and *Rastrelliger kanagurta* at Raigad region of Maharashtra

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Presently there are three landing centres in Raigad District under regular operation during monsoon fishery viz., Alibag, Borli-Mandla and Nandgao-Mazgao. In these landing centres, fishes caught during monsoon fishery by gillnet operation are landed where good catch of *Hilsa ilisha* and *Rastrelliger kanagurta* are obtained.

On 5th July 2011, there was unusual landing of *H. ilisha* (85 to 160 kg per craft) and *R. kanagurta* (60 to 120 kg per craft) by six bottom set gillnets locally called budijal having mesh size of 60 to 100 mm at Alibag Landing Centre during the monsoon period. The prices at the landing centre were ₹ 460 to 500 per kg for *H. ilisha* and ₹ 100 per kg for *R. kanagurta*.

It was reported by the local fishermen that the above phenomenon continued upto the second fortnight of July and very good catch of these species were landed during this period at these centres.

Longbeak common dolphin *Delphinus capensis* (Gray, 1828) stranded at Karwar, Karnataka

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A dead specimen of longbeak common dolpin *Delphinus capensis* (Gray, 1828), locally called 'handi meenu' which was floating approximately 500 m away from sea shore of Aligadda village, Karwar was brought ashore by fishermen and instructors of Karavali sports club in the morning hours of 08.01.2011.

The specimen was a male of 2.1 m total length and 127 kg weight. The animal had injuries on the right side of the dorsal fin with a hole on the body. During the post-mortem examination of the specimen, the said hole was found to be 5 inches deep with a damage in the right lung which might be the cause of death. Fresh fishes were observed in the stomach.

Sperm whale *Physeter macrocephalus* washed ashore at Devbagh, Karnataka

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A female sperm whale *Physeter macrocephalus* was stranded and washed ashore in dead condition, at Devbagh, 10 km away from Karwar on 18.9.2009. According to fishermen, the whale was noticed on