On the mud bank fishery observed in Thrissur District, Kerala during June, 2012

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During the month of June, 2012 from 25th to 30th, mud bank fishery was observed in Thrissur District, Kerala. During the six days of mud bank fishery, the landings of the district concentrated only at five centres, namely Puthan kadapuram, Blangad, Chettuva, Kaipamangalam (Companykadavu) and Perijanam (Bhajanamadam). The phenomenon was first noticed along the west coast, off Chettuva and Kaipamangalam, mostly in 5 to 16 m depth range.

Both motorised and mechanised crafts were used in this fishery. Motorised craft, included murivallam and vallam with outboard engine. The gears operated are choodavala and double net (mini trawl net). Thanguvlla was the gear operated in mechanised craft during the period. The details of species obtained in different gears are as follows:

**Choodavala:** Metapenaeus dobsoni, Fenneropenaeus indicus, Ambassis spp., Stolephorus spp. and Raconda russeliana.


**Thanguvlla:** Metapenaeus dobsoni, Fenneropenaeus indicus, Sardinella longiceps, Thryssa spp., Esculosa thoracata, Ambasis spp., Leioignathus spp., Raconda russeliana and Pampus argenteus.

Green turtle, *Chelonia mydas* rescued from Dabholi-Waingani Landing Centre, Maharashtra

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Sea turtles are found all along the coast of India including the Lakshadweep and Andaman & Nicobar Islands. Five species inhabit the Indian seas viz., *Dermochelys coriacea* (Leatherback turtle), *Eretmochelys imbricata* (Hawksbill turtle), *Chelonia mydas* (Green turtle), *Lepidochelys olivacea* (Olive ridley turtle) and *Caretta caretta* (Loggerhead turtle). Turtles are categorised as endangered in the IUCN Red List (IUCN, 2002) and are included in Schedule I of Indian Wild Life (Protection) Act, 1972.

On 26th February 2011, a huge green turtle, *Chelonia mydas* locally known as ‘Hirve kasav’ was caught in shore-seine at Dabholi-Waingani.