



मीना समाचार MEENA News

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I. FROM THE RESEARCH FRONT**Rich Grounds of Polynemids and Priacanthids**

MFV *Samudrika*, the bottom trawler survey vessel attached to the Chennai Base of FSI caught appreciable quantity of Polynemids from the area off Krishnapatnam (latitude 14°N), Andhra Pradesh during January 2010. In a single haul operated at 46 m depth, 700 kg of this commercially important fish were caught. The vessel could identify rich ground for Priacanthids from the area off Pulicat during the same month. About two tonnes of Priacanthids were caught in a single haul operated at a depth of 125 m. The specimens caught was in the size range (TL) of 32-38 cm. More survey is planned during the ensuing months for establishing the viability and confirming new fishing grounds for these species.

Biology of Pelagic Stingray

Pelagic Sting ray, *Pteroplatytrygon violacea* caught from Arabian Sea with its near-term embryo (inset)

The Fishery Survey of India has undertaken a programme to study the biology of Pelagic Stingray, *Pteroplatytrygon violacea* (Bonaparte 1832). Data on the bycatch species of the tuna longline survey voyages undertaken by the four vessels was analysed to study the distribution, abundance and biology of the pelagic stingray in the Indian Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ). A total of 378 specimens of the species were caught from Arabian Sea, Bay of Bengal, and Andaman and Nicobar waters during the study period. From the Arabian Sea, this species was caught at a hooking rate (HR) of 0.42 individuals/1000 hooks while a HR of 0.51 and 0.96 were registered for this species from the Bay of Bengal and Andaman and Nicobar waters respectively. The abundance was maximum in the southern latitudes (6-9° N) of Andaman and Nicobar waters. The disc width of the specimens caught was in the range of 40-58 cm and weighed 2.0-5.6 kg. The species was found to feed upon swimming crabs, jellyfish, oceanic squids, argonauts, and finfishes. Egg-bearing females were observed in the catch during December-March and pregnant mothers carrying embryos were caught during May in the Arabian Sea. Results of the study are published in the Vol. 106 (1) of the *Journal of the Bombay Natural History Society* (P. 57-62).

Redescription of Japanese Catalufa

Japanese Catalufa, *Pristigenys nipponia* (Cuvier & Valenciennes, 1829), Family Priacanthidae, is a reef-associated fish distributed in the tropical waters of Indian and Pacific Oceans. The species is found associated with rocky habitats in depths from 80 to more than 100 m depth, but probably also occurs in shallower water as juveniles (Fishbase). The species is being represented in the demersal trawl catches of the vessel MFV *Matsya Varshini* attached with the Cochin Base of Fishery Survey of India. Scientists at the Cochin Base have redescribed the species with the meristic counts and features of the skeletal structures. Details of the study are published in the Vol. 106 (1) of the *Journal of the Bombay Natural History Society* (P. 99-104).

II. OUTREACH AND TRAINING**1. Regional Workshop at Cudalore, T. N.**

A one-day regional Workshop on *Marine fishery resources off Tamilnadu Coast* was organised by the Chennai Base of FSI on 16 February 2010 at Cudalore, Tamilnadu. The event was organised in association with the Tamilnadu State Fisheries Department. Talks on the coastal as well as

oceanic fishery resources were delivered in local language by the scientists of the Base for the benefit of the local fishermen. Charts depicting major resources, models of crafts, gear etc are exhibited as a part of the Workshop. About 100 fishermen from local fishing villages attended the Workshop.

2. Regional Workshop at Malpe, Karnataka

A regional Workshop on *Marine fisheries of Karnataka: Resources and Sustainable Utilisation* was organised by the Mormugao Base at Fishing Harbour, Malpe, Karnataka on 18 February 2010. Dr. M. E. John, Zonal Director, in his keynote address, highlighted the importance of sustainable utilisation of marine

fishery resources. The workshop was inaugurated by the Chief Guest, Dr. Y. Basavaraju, Dean, College of Fisheries, Mangalore. Shri Harish Kumar, Assistant Director of Fisheries, Government of Karnataka presided over the function. Shri Hiryani Kedyoor, Chairman, Malpe Fisheries Union shared his experiences on the occasion.

3. Regional Workshop and Fishermen Rally at Betapur, A&N Islands

As a part of the extension and outreach programmes, the Port Blair Base of FSI, in association with the Directorate of Fisheries, A&N Islands, organised a one-day workshop on *Marine fishery resources of A&N Islands* at Hawksbill Nest Guesthouse, Betapur on 19 February 2010, to create awareness among the local fishermen of Padmanavapur and Betapur. The importance of optimum utilisation of fishery resources, the technology to exploit the abundant oceanic resources, the Code of Conduct for Responsible Fisheries, and the measures to be adopted for conserving the marine environment were the topics covered. The workshop was inaugurated by Smt. Shantha Kumari, Pradhan, Sivapuram Gram Panchayat. Shri J. Chandrasekhar, Assistant Director of Fisheries, North and Middle Andaman presided over the function. Dr. L. Ramalingam, Zonal Director, Port Blair Base delivered the keynote address. Shri A. Thirupathy Rao, member, Zilla Parishad was the Guest of Honour. The scientists from the Port Blair Base presented five technical papers during the workshop. About 122 fishermen along with PRI members from Padmanavapur and Betapur fishing villages attended the workshop. A fishermen rally was also organised as a part of the workshop.

4. Regional Workshop at Puri, Orissa

A regional Workshop on *Marine fisheries resources of the upper east coast of India with special reference to Odisha coast* was organised by the Visakhapatnam Base at Puri, Orissa on 5 March 2010. During the workshop, the fishermen were apprised on the fishery resources availability, seasonality, their sustainable utilisation etc by the Scientists of the Base. A stakeholder's meeting to elucidate the views on fishing ban was also organised along with the workshop.

5. Regional Workshop at Kakinada, A. P.



A regional Workshop on *Marine fishery resources of east coast of India* was organised jointly by the Visakhapatnam and Port Blair Bases at State Institute of Fishery Technology (SIFT), Kakinada, Andhra Pradesh on 25 March 2010 to create awareness among the local fishermen, entrepreneurs and fish traders of Kakinada.

The workshop covered topics such as the optimum utilisation of fishery resources, the technology to exploit the oceanic as well as neritic resources, the Code of Conduct for Responsible Fisheries, safety at sea and the importance of conservation of the marine environment. The workshop was inaugurated by Shri Prakasa Rao, Principal, SIFT, Kakinada and Prof. D. E. Babu, Head, Department of Zoology, Andhra University presided. Dr. G. Venugopal, Principal Scientist, CIFE, Kakinada was the Guest of Honour. Shri Ranga Rao, President, Fishermen Welfare Association was the special invitee. A team of scientists, including Dr. L. Ramalingam, Zonal Director, Port Blair Base and Dr. S. K. Naik, Sr. Fisheries Scientist, Visakhapatnam Base engaged various topics. About 108 fishermen from the fishing villages of Kakinada attended the Workshop.

6. Open house at Kochi



Cochin Base organised an open house at the Marine Engineering Division, Ernakulam and onboard the the survey vessels MFV *Matsya Varshini*, *M. Sugundhi* and *Lavanika* on 9 March 2010. Dr. K. Vijayakumaran, DG, FSI, inaugurated the open house in the presence of the

Chief Guest, Dr. S. Girija, In-Charge, NIFPHATT, Kochi. Instructors and students of CIFNET, Kochi, Officers and Staff members of Cochin Base, Shri L. K. Rao, Sr. AO, FSI also attended the inaugural function. Models of crafts and gears, fishery charts, preserved specimens of rare fishes and deepsea shrimps caught during the exploratory surveys were displayed. A film show on fishing methods and activities of FSI was also arranged. The three survey vessels attached to the Cochin Base were opened for the public. Equipment for fish finding, navigational, communication etc. and various fishing gears like trawl nets, traps, squid jigging machines, hooks and line etc. were exhibited. Students and teachers of several colleges and schools and general public visited the open house. The life raft section and machineries in the workshop of MED were enthusiastically observed by the participants.



7. Open houses at Chennai



Chennai Base of FSI organised two open houses during the quarter ending March 2010. The first one was organised at Government High School, Annai Sivagami Nagar, Ennore, Chennai on 26 February 2010. The target group was local fishermen, school children and general public. The open house

was visited by about 200 students, fishermen and general public.

The second open house was organised on 5 March 2010 at the Base office, during which, the visitors were allowed to see the survey vessels of the Base, MFV *M. Drushti* and *Samudrika*. The open house received huge response from the fishermen, school and college students and general public. About 300 people visited the venue and the survey vessels and acquired first hand information on the fishing vessels, machinery onboard, fish finding and environmental monitoring equipments and the scientific facilities onboard these vessels.

8. Training on Latest Technologies of Tuna Longlining

Fishery Survey of India, with the support of National Fisheries Development Board (NFDB), Hyderabad has launched a programme to train the fishermen on the latest technologies in tuna longlining. As per the programme, 120 fishermen from different maritime states and Union Territories of India will be accommodated onboard during survey voyages of the three tuna longline vessels of FSI viz., *M. Vrushti*, *M. Drushti* and *Blue Marlin*, attached with the Mumbai, Chennai and Port Blair Bases of the Institute respectively. The entire cost of the training will be borne by the NFDB. During the training period, fishermen will be paid an amount of ₹ 300 per day towards daily allowance and an amount of ₹ 200 per day towards messing allowance. In addition to this, the selected fishermen will be paid travelling allowance of an amount equivalent to the sleeper class railway ticket from the nearest railway station to the Base of training. During the training, the fishermen will be provided hands on experience in vessel navigation, locating fishing ground, gear deployment and retrieving and handling the catch onboard. The first batches of fishermen will be taken onboard during the May 2010 voyage of the identified vessels.

III. ACADEMIC ACHIEVEMENTS

Degree Awarded

Shri A. Anrose, Zonal Director, Chennai Base was awarded with the Ph. D. Degree on 15 March 2010 by the University of Madras for his thesis entitled *Studies on deepsea shrimps around peninsular India*. Shri Anrose worked under the guidance of Dr. V. S. Somvanshi, the former Director General, FSI. He had studied the diversity, abundance, stock assessment and some aspects of the biology of these relatively new resources of the southwest coast of India.

IV. CONSULTATIVE GROUP MEETINGS OF THE BASES

- The Consultative Group of the Chennai Base met on 15 March 2010 at the conference hall of the Base. The meeting discussed and approved the survey programme of the base for the year 2010-11.

- Meeting of the Consultative Group of the Visakhapatnam Base was held on 28 February 2010 at the conference hall of the Base. Dr. Manmohan Singh, IAS, Commissioner of Fisheries, Government of Andhra Pradesh Chaired the meeting. The members actively took part in the discussions on the programmes to be taken up by the Base for the year 2010-11.

V. DISSEMINATION OF SURVEY FINDINGS

- The Chennai Base published the Resource Information Series (in Tamil and English) for the quarter October-December 2009.
- The Visakhapatnam Base published the Resource Information Series (in Telugu and English) for the quarter January-March 2010.

VI. PARTICIPATION IN TRAININGS, SEMINARS etc.

- S/Shri Sanjeev Kumar Singh, Thule Gopal Wasudeo (Mumbai HQ) and Kum Vandana Waghmare (Mumbai Base) attended the five-day Hindi software training programme held from 4- 8 January 2010 at National Power Training Institute, Nagpur, Maharashtra.

- S/Shri K. N. Swamy, B. K. Singh (Visakhapatnam Base), A. K. Khare, A. K. Saha (Chennai Base) and Santhosh Babu P. (Mormugao Base), P. V. Latheesh and T. Jayaprakash (Cochin Base) attended Hindi Software training programme at National Power Training Institute, Bangalore during 18-23 January 2010.
- Dr. L. Ramalingam (Port Blair Base), Dr. S. K. Naik, Shri K. S. N. Reddy, Shri N. Jagannadh, Dr. Ansuman Das, Shri A. Siva and Shri V. U. Mahesh (Visakhapatnam Base) attended the National Seminar on *Challenges for Sustainable Management of Fisheries Resources of Indian EEZ* organised by the Forum of Fisheries Professionals at Visakhapatnam on 20 January 2010.
- Shri K. Govindaraj, Port Blair Base participated in the *workshop on stranding of marine mammals* during 21-23 January 2010 at CMFRI, Kochi sponsored by the Indo-US Science and Technology Forum, New Delhi.
- A team of scientists from FSI, Headquarters participated in the *National Conference on Biodiversity and conservation of nature and natural resources* held during 29-30 January 2010 at Dayanand College of Arts and Science, Solapur, Maharashtra. FSI organised a Marine Fisheries Exhibition at the venue for the benefit of students, faculty, fishing industry and general public.
- Dr. L. Ramalingam and Shri Dharamvir Singh, Port Blair Base attended the National Workshop on *Coconut based farming system in A&N Islands* conducted by High Value Agriculture Development Agency at Port Blair on 10 February 2010.
- Dr. L. Ramalingam and Shri A. B. Kar, Port Blair Base attended meeting on *Installation of Fish Aggregating Devices in A&N Islands* Chaired by Shri Vivek Rae IAS, the Chief Secretary, A&N Administration in his chamber on 17 February 2010 and highlighted the works done by the Base on the subject.
- Dr. L. Ramalingam, S/Shri A. B. Kar and H. D. Pradeep, Port Blair Base attended the *National seminar on applied chemistry in marine science: current and future trends* during 24-25 February 2010 organised by the Department of Ocean Studies and Marine Biology, Pondicherry University and Indian Society of Applied Geochemists (ISAG) at the Pondicherry University, Brookshabad, Port Blair.
- Dr. L. Ramalingam and Shri A. B. Kar, Port Blair Base attended the Workshop on *Promotion of tuna fishing and allied activities in A&N Islands* held at State Bank of India, Port Blair on 10 March 2010 and presented a paper on *Tuna fishery resources of A&N Islands*.
- Shri M. Vinodkumar, Mumbai Headquarters participated in the *National Symposium on Parasite Taxonomy, Biodiversity and Fish Health: Environmental Health*, organised by the Department of Zoology, Andhra University in association with the Helminthological Society of India, at Visakhapatnam on 12-13 March 2010 and presented a paper entitled *On the first report of two parasites from the large pelagic predatory fishes of Indian EEZ*.
- S/Shri P. Tamilarasan, C. Babu (Chennai Base), A. B. Kar and H. D. Pradeep (Port Blair Base) participated in the Workshop on *Marine Fisheries census 2010* during 15-16 March 2010 at the Regional Centre of CMFRI, Chennai.
- Dr. S. K. Naik, Dr. Ansuman Das and Shri S. K. Pattnayak, Visakhapatnam Base attended the trainers *training programme* sponsored by SISCOFED at CIFNET, Visakhapatnam during 18-22 March 2010. Dr. Naik participated as a resource person and delivered a lecture on *Marine Fishery Resources*.
- S/Shri K. S. N. Reddy and S. K. Pattnayak, Visakhapatnam Base attended the training programme on Marine Census 2010 at the CMFRI Regional Centre, Visakhapatnam during 22-23 March 2010.
- Dr. A. Anrose, Chennai Base participated as a resource person in the Workshop on *Fisheries Resources Management* organised by Tamilnadu Corporation for Development of Women on 23 March 2010 and presented a paper on *Diversified fishing methods*.
- Shri Dharamvir Singh, Port Blair Base attended a meeting of the *Committee to finalise the admissible subsidy for insulated ice boxes* Chaired by the Development Commissioner-cum-Secretary (Fy), A&N Administration on 24 March 2010.
- Dr. A. Anrose and Shri P. S. Parasuraman, Chennai Base presented papers on *Tuna resources, fishing methods and survey results of tuna fishing* by M. Drushti and *Monofilament tuna longlining* respectively in the stakeholders' meeting of tuna organised by Fisheries Institute of Technology and Training (FITT), Chennai on 29 March 2010.

VII. IN-HOUSE MEETINGS

● Meeting of Vessels staff and shore Engineers

A Meeting of the engineers and vessel staff of FSI was convened by the Director General to review the operational aspects of vessels on 8 March 2010 at Kochi. The Director General, in his introductory remarks, briefed the importance of the meeting and requested the participants to exchange the ideas on the operation and maintenance of the vessels. The DG further emphasised the importance of putting extra efforts on effective execution of survey programmes assigned to the vessels. Followed by this, the Skippers/key operational staff of each survey vessels presented their view on the condition of the vessels, difficulties in implementation of survey programmes, suggestions for improving the quality of survey etc. The Meeting took note of the deliberations and it was assured that, the suggestions, comments, grievances of the floating staff will be taken care of. A discussion on the performance of the Marine Engineering Division (MED) of the Institute also was held during the meeting.

● Meeting of FSI Scientists

The Director General convened a meeting of scientists of the Institute for discussing various issues related to improving the standards of the scientific performance of the Institute. The meeting was held on 3 February 2010 at FSI Headquarters and was attended by all the Zonal Directors/ Officer-in-charges, a representative of the scientists from each Base and all the scientists available at Mumbai. The Director General, in his introductory remarks, stressed the need to give importance to science & scientific activities for elevating FSI as a top class scientific institute in the country. Reiterating the utilization of vessel facilities, he suggested to review and modify the present practices to suit to the emerging needs pointing to the areas where attention is needed. He further emphasized the need for standardizing the data collection procedure, systematic analysis of the collected data and scientific publication by the scientists in the departmental publications as well as in peer reviewed journals.

The Meeting further discussed on formulation of the performance based career advancement programme for the scientists and it was decided that the performance of the scientists will be assessed on the basis of their participation in cruises, publication of scientific papers in journals and other scientific outputs. Issues related to the promotional incentives for voyage participation and other administrative issues were also discussed during the meeting. The Meeting further decided to organize a training programme for the scientists on scientific writing, presentation of the information, photography and in specimen preparation. To facilitate better flexibility of organizing events, the meeting decided to float an organization of FSIans. The Director General requested the Scientists to give suggestions on the celebration of International Biodiversity Year and it was decided to organize a National Seminar/ Symposium.

VIII. AWARDS



Shri M. Vinodkumar, Jr. Fisheries Scientist was awarded the "Young Scientist award" for the scientific paper on *Status of threatened and near threatened marine fishes of India – strategies for conservation and management* during the National Conference on *Biodiversity and conservation of nature and natural resources* held during 29-30 January 2010 at Solapur.

IX. OFFICIAL LANGUAGE IMPLEMENTATION

● Award for Mormugao Base



Mormugao Base won the second prize for the implementation of Official Language Policy of the Union during the year 2008-09. Shri Ajay Makan, Hon'ble Union Minister of State for Home Affairs awarded a shield for the commendable work done by the Base in the implementation of

Official Language at a function organised at Daman on 27 March 2010. Shri B. L. Anjana, Jr. Hindi Translator, Mormugao Base was awarded with an individual merit certificate for commendable performance in implementing the Official Language Policy of the Union during the year 2008-09.

● Workshop at Mormugao

A one-day Hindi workshop on *Unicode for Indian languages* was organised at Mormugao Base on 20-03-2010 for the benefit of the Base staff. Shri Rajendra Varma, Assistant Director, C-DAC, Pune, was the resource person. All the officers and the staff members of the Base attended the Workshop and got exposure to the Unicode system.

● Workshop at Visakhapatnam

A one-day Hindi workshop was organised at the Conference Hall of Visakhapatnam Base on 11 February 2010 for the benefit of the Base staff. Smt. Visal Verma, Superintendent of Hindi Division, DRM Office was the resource person who trained the office staff of the Base on use of Hindi in daily office works. All the officers and the staff members of the Base attended the Workshop.

● Workshop at Port Blair

A Hindi Workshop on *Noting and Drafting* was organised at Port Blair Base on 04 February 2010 for the benefit of the Base staff. Shri Ajay Singh, Hindi Translator, Directorate of Education, UT of Andaman and Nicobar Islands, was the resource person. All the officers and the staff members of the Base attended the Workshop.

● Magazine from Cochin Base

Matsya Dwani, the in-house Hindi magazine of Cochin Base was published on 10 March 2010. News items, poems, short stories, recipes, etc. contributed by the staff members were published in the magazine.

● Workshop at Mumbai Headquarters

In order to increase the use of Hindi on computer by the staff members, a one-day training on *Unicode* was conducted on 29 March 2010 at Mumbai Headquarters. The training was arranged in association with C-DAC, Pune. Shri Rajendra Varma, Asstt. Director, C-DAC, Pune was the resource person. The trainees got hands-on practice on the usage of *Unicode*.

X. VISITORS

Thai delegation visits Visakhapatnam Base



Dr. Paul Pandian, Dy. Commissioner (Fy) Department AHD&F, MOA, with the Thai delegation at the Visakhapatnam Base of FSI.

A Thai mission, comprising of ten delegates from Thailand, headed by Mr. Taweeep Doonwanich, Expert in Fishing gear, visited the Visakhapatnam Base on 4 February 2010. The delegation was accompanied by Dr. Paul Pandian, Dy. Commissioner (Fy) Department of Animal Husbandry, Dairying and Fisheries, Ministry of Agriculture, Government of India. The delegation had

discussion with the Base-in-charge and staff of the Base. The Thai team also held discussions with the stakeholders.

XI. DG'S PARTICIPATION IN MEETINGS/ SEMINARS

Dr. K. Vijaykumaran, DG, FSI participated in the following programmes.

- Workshop on *Kutch Coast, People, Environment and Livelihoods* at Bhuj, Kutch District, Gujarat on 7-8 January 2010.
- Awareness campaign regarding deployment of the Wave Rider Buoy off Ratnagiri organized by INCOIS in coordination with CCMB, Ratnagiri and stakeholder's meeting at Ratnagiri during 12-13 January 2010.
- Seminar on *Challenges For Sustainable Management of Fishery Resources off Indian EEZ* organized by Forum of Fisheries Professionals, Visakhapatnam on 20 January 2010.
- Second Meeting of the Scientific Advisory Committee on Marine Living Resources Programme (SAC-MLRP) at Kochi during 22-23 January 2010.
- Stakeholders Workshop at Goa on 27 January 2010.
- Stakeholders meeting with regard to the Draft Fisheries Bill at NASC, Pusa, New Delhi on 28 January 2010.
- Consultative Committee meeting on Hilsa at Central Inland Fisheries Research Institute (CIFRI), Barrackpore on 1 February 2010.
- Stakeholder meeting with regard to the Draft Fisheries Bill at NASC, Pusa, New Delhi on 12 February 2010.
- Sixth Meeting of *Working Group constituted for Monitoring and Review of Implementation of IOTC Resolutions* at Krishi Bhavan, New Delhi on 15 February 2010.
- Departmental Promotion Committee (DPC) meeting held at Union Public Service Commission, New Delhi on 18 February 2010.

- SAFARI TRG CHL meeting at CIFT, Kochi on 19 February 2010.
- Second meeting of the Technical Committee to Assess the Impact of Fishing Ban and to Review its duration at CMFRI, Kochi on 20 February 2010.
- Discussions at Geological Survey of India, Mangalore, on Environmental impact assessment in the continental shelf of Kerala during 22-23 February 2010.
- Meeting with the Engineers and Vessel Staff of FSI to review the operational aspects of vessels at Kochi on 8 March 2010.
- Meeting with the Chairman, MPEDA, Kochi for discussing various issues regarding the conversion of trawlers to tuna longliners and the 2nd Meeting of the Expert Committee for Revalidation of Potential Fishery Resources in the Indian EEZ at CMFRI, Kochi on 9 March 2010.
- India-Australia joint Workshop on *Ocean Colour Remote Sensing* at Space Application Centre (SAC), Ahmedabad 18-19 March 2010.
- De-briefing meeting on possible collaboration with the FAO in the Chamber of Joint Secretary (Fy), Ministry of Agriculture, New Delhi on 26 March 2010.

XII. PARTICIPATION IN INTERNATIONAL EVENTS

● Second Regional Consultation on Management of Hilsa

The Second Regional Consultation on preparation of Management Plan for Hilsa Fisheries (RC-HF-2) was held at Chittagong, Bangladesh during 7-8 February, 2010. Dr. K. Vijayakumaran, along with Dr. S. N. Singh and Dr. Madhumita Mukharjee participated the meeting. The Meeting discussed various matters on Hilsa fishery and prepared a road map for Hilsa management plan.

● The 14th Session of the IOTC

The fourteenth session of the IOTC was held during 1-5 March 2010 at Busan, Republic of Korea. Ministry of Agriculture, Government of India deputed Dr. M. E. John, Zonal Director, Mormugao Base for representing the country in the Session. Mr. Rudolph Payet, Chairperson of the Commission opened the Session, which was attended by delegations from 16 member countries (Australia, Belize, China, European Union, France, India, Indonesia, Japan, Oman, Philippines, Republic of Korea, Seychelles, Thailand, United Kingdom, Tanzania and Vanuatu), three co-operating non-contracting parties (Maldives, South Africa and Uruguay) and observers. The Session discussed the recommendations of the 12th Session of the Scientific Committee including the stock status and recommendations for conservation and management of tuna stocks. After detailed discussions, the report of the Scientific Committee was adopted by the Commission. During the six-day Session, various Resolutions and Recommendations were adopted by the Commission for the sustainable exploitation of tunas and allied resources of the Indian Ocean. Indian delegation highlighted the importance of protecting the interest of the coastal nations while imposing regulatory measures on fishing capacity, quota etc.

● First Meeting of the BOBLME Project

The First Meeting of the Project Steering Committee (PSC) of the Bay of Bengal Large Marine Ecosystem (BOBLME) Project was held during 3-4 March 2010 at Dhaka, Bangladesh. Dr. K. Vijayakumaran, along with Dr. J. R. Bhatt of Ministry of Environment and Forests, Government of India participated in the meeting. The meeting discussed the various aspects of project implementation including budget.

XIII. ADMINISTRATIVE NEWS

Appointments

- Shri Amiya Kumar Tarai appointed as peon on regular basis at Visakhapatnam Base with effect from 24 March 2010.
- 2. Ms. R. P. Bhuvanewari appointed as Data Enumerator (on contract basis) with effect from 8 March 2010 at Chennai Base.

Promotions

- Shri P. Tamilarasan, Jr. Fisheries Scientist, Gr. I, Chennai Base promoted as Fisheries Scientist and posted at Chennai Base with effect from 23 March 2010.
- Shri A. K. Malik, Jr. Fisheries Scientist, Mumbai Base was promoted to the post of Fisheries Scientist with effect from 23 March 2010.

Retirements

- Shri K. D. Ouseph, Net mender, Cochin Base retired on superannuation on 31 January 2010.
- Shri P. Haridas, Mate Gr. I, Cochin Base retired on superannuation on 31 January 2010.
- Shri S. D. Rasam, Office Superintendent, Mumbai Base retired on superannuation on 28 February 2010.
- Shri T. Kaliappan, Sr. Deckhand, Chennai Base retired on superannuation on 31 March 2010.
- Shri Victor Khajur, Sr. Deckhand, Visakhapatnam Base retired on superannuation on 28 February 2010.

Transfers/deputations

- Shri B. Suresh Kumar, Sr. Clerk, Port Blair Base was relieved from duty on 23 February 2010 on his deputation to the Coastal Aquaculture Authority.