

SALIENT FINDINGS BY SURVEY VESSELS IN THE MONTH OF FEBRUARY 2023:

FSI vessels conducted the **Marine Mammals** survey along with demersal fishery resources survey and tuna oceanic resources survey.

- **Vessel MFV Yellow fin** of Mormugao Base conducted Marine mammals survey for 16 days, expended time for survey 165.30hrs in the area Lat.10°N -11°N; Long 68°-71°E at a depth range of 55-2371m. During the Marine Mammals Survey 11 sightings in which 02 nos. of Whales and 151 nos. of Dolphins were sighted
- **MFV Blue Marlin** of Port Blair Base carried out the Marine Mammal Stock Assessment survey in the area Lat. 11°N - 12°N; Long.93°E-94°E at the depth range 1027-2322 m. During the voyage, 09 sightings of dolphins were recorded from the survey area, where 77 individuals of dolphin with 4 species were recorded. The shoal size ranges from 4-25 and 04 calfs were also sighted during the survey.
- **MFV Matsya Drushti** of Chennai Base was engaged in marine mammal survey for 17 days. A total of 13 sampling stations were covered in the area Lat. 11°N-13°N/ Long. 79°-83°E and the depth of operation was in between 76.3-3555 m. A total of 22 marine mammal sightings were noticed and 586 no. (approx.) of marine mammals were recorded during the voyage. Marine mammals identified during the voyage were *Stennella attenuata*, *Stenella longirostris*, *Stenella Coeruleoalba*, *Tursiops truncates*, *Peponocephala electra* and *Belanoptera edeni*.
- **Matsya Vrushti** of Mumbai Base was engaged in marine mammal survey for 07 days and longline survey for 03 days. Total 34 No. of fishes were hooked comprised of Dolphin fish, Sail fish, Sharks, Yellowfin Tuna etc
- **MFV Matsya Darshini** of Visakhapatnam Base was engaged for Marine mammal stock assessment survey for 06 days. During the survey, the area from Lat.19°25.0'N/ Long.85°11.0'E to Lat. 19°25.0'N /Long.89°10.0'E (transect No. 04, 05) and Lat.20°15.0'N/Long. 86°34.0'E to Lat.20°15.0'N/Long.88°57.0'E (transect No. 02, 03) and Lat. 21°05.0'N/ Long.88°57.0'E (transect No. 01) was surveyed. A total 02 sightings of Spinner dolphins (*Stenella longirostris*) (30 Nos. approximately) were recorded during the voyage. The depth of survey was in between 50 – 3250 M