second step egg resumes its first meiotic division by releasing the first polar body which is observed very distinctly in the activated eggs. This is again followed by the release of a second polar body after sometime. Finally the hatching envelope (protective extra cellular matrix) forms around the egg. Up to this stage of activation, fertilization process is not required, but the same is needed for the activated eggs to execute embryonic cleavages.

ON A PELAGIC THRESHER ALOPIAS PELAGICUS CAUGHT OFF NORTH OF KANINADA*

Thresher sharks of the family Alopiidae are rarely landed by the commercial gears even though they are reported to have wide distribution in the oceanic and coastal epipelagic waters of the circum-tropic. Of the three known species, ALOPIAS PELAGICUS, has commonly been mistaken for A. vulpinus. This misidentification as well as landing of these sharks by commercial vessels after removal of tails might have contributed to the lack of continuity in the spatial distribution of this species.

A pelagic thresher, A. pelagicus, was caught by Fishery Survey of India vessel M. F. V Matsuja Darshini in the afternoon of 25-3-1990 (Fig. 1&2). The shark measuring 2.6 m (T. L.) and weighing 48 kg was caught in a bottom trawl operated by the vessel at 70 m depth off north of Kakinada (17° 06'N and 82° 47'E), along with 1,160 kg of other fishes. The specimen was a male and had its dorsal caudal lobe as long as the rest of the body.

Fig 1 Dorsal view of the thresher shark
Fig 2 Ventral view showing pectoral and tail fins

*Reported by K. Vijayakumaran, Visakhapatnam Research Centre of CMFRI and K. P. Philip Visakhapatnam base of Fishery Survey of India Visakhapatnam - 530 003

ON A HAWKSBILL TURTLE WASHED ASHORE NEAR THONDI ALONG PALKBAY COAST OF TAMIL NADU*

An adult Hawksbill turtle washed ashore at Narendal, a small fishing village along Palkbay coast near Thondi in Tamil Nadu is reported here. The animal was found in a dead condition on the shore on 20.4.1994.

The morphometric measurements in cm are given below.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Measurement</th>
<th>Value</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Total length</td>
<td>50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Carapace length</td>
<td>45</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Lateral scutes .......... 4 pairs
Central scutes .......... 5 Nos
Marginal scutes .......... 11 pairs
Precentral scutes ....... 2

A number of barnacles were found attached to all the scutes of the carapace and the dorsal and ventral sides of the flippers of the turtle.

* Reported by A. Ganapathy Regional Centre of CMFRI Mandapam Camp - 623 520
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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5. On a Hawksbill turtle washed ashore near Thondi along Palk Bay coast of Tamil Nadu

Front cover photo: Traditional or mechanised fishing? Of late a practice under way along the Kerala coast especially in the Cochin-Alleppey area is to cut the traditional fishing canoes into two and to convert each of the parts into a mini trawl boat driven by outboard motor.

Back cover photo: Seen in the picture is a scene of loading ring seine into a canoe ready to go out for fishing. Ring seines are operated from country crafts in the nearshore waters north of Alapppey Kerala.

पृष्ठ अवरण फोटो: विश्व में पक्षी दैतिष्ठाकारी होमी में बल तंदुरा लगाने का दृश्य है। बल तंदुरों का प्रचालन केरल के आलम्ब जमीन में ऐसी यानों से होता है।