

6. Awareness/Education
 - a. Awareness campaign in local media about existence of artificial reefs; Where are they? and Why are they there?
 - b. Use of newspapers, magazines, radio, billboards
 - c. Experience in Malaysia demonstrated that 50% of the artificial reef success is achieved through awareness in local media
7. Sponsoring a series of local town meetings, inviting all stakeholders for Question-and-Answer sessions and producing handouts and media releases, which are based on concerns aired in these meetings. For:
 - i. trawlers
 - ii. fishermen
 - iii. local authorities
 - iv. residents
 - v. educators and students
8. Introduction of primary and secondary curriculum supplements and materials to schools in coastal region. A booklet and a package of teaching aids used in delivery of educational activities about turtles and other coastal resources nearby in order to promote

local environmental awareness and encourage discussion of strategies for protection and management. Education of school children is a means of ensuring that future generations have the skills to engage in discussion and democratic decision making on these issues.

9. Continued studies and surveys to assess the impact artificial reefs have on physical environment, fish populations, turtle breeding habits and mortality rates.

In summary, artificial reefs would deter trawl fishing and would have a positive impact on artisanal fishing. While they might not be the single magical solution to conserving sea turtles in Orissa, they could provide a much needed alternative to labour intensive enforcement in selected areas.

References

RAM, K. & B. PANDAV (2001) Reproductive biology of the olive ridley sea turtle in Gahirmatha, Orissa. 21st Annual Symposium on sea turtle Biology and Conservation. Philadelphia. USA.

Some Notes on the Olive Ridley Sea Turtle from the Fishery Desk, West Bengal

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The migration of Olive Ridley turtles to West Bengal for nesting has been documented. The coast of West Bengal extends from Sundarbans to Midnapore district. The turtles prefer the islands for nesting.. This region is characterised by abundant food, favourable ecosystems with creeks, canals, lagoons, luxuriant forest of mangrove vegetation and sandy beaches. Olive Ridley turtles are found in the coastal areas of the Sundarbans where they nest in small numbers. During the visit to different islands of Sundarban, viz., Bijera, Kalas, Jambudwip & Marichjhanpi, turtles were found in Bijera and turtle nests were found in Kalas and Jambudwip. Turtles were also found nesting at Kedurdeep, Hansaraj in Sundarbans.

Olive Ridleys are abundant in the Bay of Bengal near the coast of Midnapore. From the region known as 'Military boya' to Dhamra of Orissa, from November

till the 1st week of January. From February onwards their presence starts to diminish in Shankarpur coast.

Trading of different types of sea turtles has been documented at many places in the maritime districts. Turtles are hauled along the coastline from Kakdwip towards Midnapore district and landed at Babasahed ghat at Rasulpur and Petuaghat. These hauls never land at Digha or Shankarpur area to avoid guards. The meat of turtle are sold at interior markets viz., Sopna, Chowrangee in Contai sub-division. With an aim to conserve sea turtles, the Fishery Department, Government of West Bengal issued an order regarding introduction of TED in the mechanised trawlers.

A trematode *Parangiodictyum satyabrati* was isolated by the author from a marine turtle *Chelonia mydas* from the coast of Orissa