

ON A SPERM WHALE *PHYSETER MACROCEPHALUS* LINNAEUS  
STRANDED AT KRUSADAI ISLAND IN THE GULF OF MANNAR, WITH AN  
UP-TO-DATE LIST AND DIAGNOSTIC FEATURES OF WHALES STRANDED  
ALONG THE INDIAN COAST

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ADDENDUM

[Continued from *J. mar. biol. Ass. India*, 1979, 21 (1 & 2) : 17-40]

Subsequent to the submission of the paper another stranding of a whale was reported from Mallipatnam, Tanjavur District (Tamilnadu Coast). The whale was actually sighted in the early hours of 30-1-81 by a group of fisher men who had laid drift nets at about 10 metre depth off Point Calimere. The whale was reported to have been entangled in the nets, but its partially decomposed condition when brought ashore indicated that it would have been in the dead condition prior to entanglement in the net. The whale was towed to Mallipatnam shore on 31-1-81. The total length of the whale was about 9.9 metres. There were 48 plates on the ventral side. The baleen plates had come off from the whale

and the basal portions of the plates were jet black while the bristles were yellowish white. Ratio of flipper length to total length was 1 : 10.4. The flippers and caudal flukes were dark grey on both sides (Plate I A—D). Based on these characters the whale was identified as the sei whale *Balaenoptera borealis* Less.

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