

### Project Update: March 2013

Today we did fieldwork to understand a dolphin's death and use it for raising community awareness through local media. This dead dolphin was washed ashore at Velivayal (PBC) village, after I visited the site in early morning. We informed marine police, forest department, and veterinary doctors officially and organised a meeting at Palk Bay Centre. We found that the dolphin is a rare animal, and first time it has been recorded in Palk Bay. This dolphin was killed by a sting ray which injected its sting into the lungs of the dolphin. We informed all the visual media and newspaper reporters. I gave an interview about this dolphin and its characteristics after discussing with marine mammal experts through internet. The news will be broadcasted and printed across the state today.

Really, it was the good opportunity to raise awareness about Palk Bay ecosystem as it holds one more important marine mammal other than Palk Bay. It is one of the wonderful days in life, as I can organize all the stakeholders to talk about Palk Bay ecosystem conservation through this dolphin.

Please see some interesting photos in my blog <http://palkbay.blogspot.in/>

I also have some good news that our seagrass environmental awareness is published in IUCN-CEC newsletter <http://www.iucn.org/about/union/commissions/cec/?12837/Raising-Seagrass-Awareness-among-Youths-in-Palk-Bay-India>

