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**ABSTRACTS**



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## Scope for light assisted fishing in Southeastern Arabian Sea

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Squid jigging is a fishing method using light attraction carried out for the exploitation of squids. Squid jigging was carried out in the Arabian Sea (8°N to 17°N lat and 64°E to 76°E long) during August 2010 to March 2013 on board a trawler converted squid-jigger *MV Titanic*. Apart from squids a number of marine fishes were also seen attracted to light, during the fishing operation. The aggregations were indicated after 2 to 3 hours of illumination, based on visual and echosounder observations. The oceanic pelagic fishes which aggregated in the proximity of the vessel were caught by hook and line operation. The catch consisted of tunas such as little tuna (*Euthynnus affinis*), striped bonito (*Sarda orientalis*), bullet tuna (*Auxis rochei rochei*), skipjack tuna (*Katsuwonus pelamis*), yellowfin tuna (*Thunnus albacares*); moonfish (*Mene maculata*); horse mackerel (*Megalaspis cordyla*); sharks such as silky shark (*Carcharhinus falciformis*) and blacktip shark (*C. limbatus*); halfbeaks (*Hemiramphus marginatus*) and queenfish (*Scomberoides tol*). The results indicate scope for light assisted fishing in Arabian Sea.

**Keywords:** Light assisted fishing, squid jigging, Arabian Sea