T. B. Retheesh, D. Prakasan, A. R. Akhil, U. Ganga and E. M. Abdussamad

ICAR-Central Marine Fisheries Research Institute, Kochi *e-mail: tbretheesh@gmail.com

Routine sampling of Indian oil Sardine, *Sardinella longiceps*, for biological studies was done. On 31st December, 2017, out of 61 specimens collected, one sardine with blunted snout (Fig. 1) and one with deformed caudal fin (Fig. 2) was observed.



Fig. 1. Indian oil sardine with deformed head region



Fig. 2. Indian oil sardine with deformed candal fin

Pre orbital region in one sardine specimen was deformed and formed a distorted upper jaw. Lower jaw also appeared more blunt than a normal specimen. The specimen was immature with total length (TL) of 14.4 cm and total weight (TW) of fem 23.3g with empty gut. The other was a maturing