

Landing of giant devil rays at Chennai Fisheries Harbour

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Three numbers of giant devil rays, *Manta birostris* (Fig. 1), locally called as “kombu thirukkai” along with the lesser devil ray, *Mobula diabolus* (Fig. 2) were landed by mechanised gillnet at Chennai Fisheries Harbour on 04-06-2011 (Table 1).

Subsequently on 09-06-2011, six numbers of *M. birostris* (DW 420-450 cm) were landed by mechanised gillnet and these were auctioned for ₹ 1,00,000/-. *M. birostris* and *M. diabolus* were sold at a high price owing to the high value of the gillrakers.

upon their size. The dried gillrakers are exported and used for soup preparation and for medicinal purpose.



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sold at the rate of ₹ 2,500 – 5,000 per kg depending

Table 1. Details of size, weight and price particulars of *Manta birostris* landed at Chennai

Disc Width (cm)	Disc length (cm)	Sex	Weight (kg)	Price (₹)
560	255	Female	1000	22,600
532	244	Male	800	16,400
480	240	Male	600	10,200



Fig. 2. *Mobula diabolus* landed at Chennai