

# Indian Ocean humpback dolphin stranded at Arthunkal landing centre, Kerala.



On November 2, 2022, the carcass of a dead dolphin, *Sousa plumbea* (Indian Ocean Humpback Dolphin), was discovered at the Arthunkal landing centre in Alapuzha, Kerala (9°39'42.0"N 76°17'29.5"E). The Dolphin was found to have attained

its average size post maturity. The cause of death seems to be natural since there were no accident marks on the body and the carcass was in a decaying condition. Three days later, the body was buried in the shore of Areeparambu ward 22, with

the presence of ward member of Cherthala South Gram Panchayat.

The morphometric measurements of the body are given below.

Total length of body	: 300 cm
Diameter of the eye	: 3 cm
Tip of Snout to eye	: 49 cm
Tip of Snout to blow hole	: 43.5 cm
Tip of Snout to centre of anus	: 176 cm
Length of jaw	: 41 cm
Weight approximate	: 180 – 200 kg

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