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Opportunistic sighting of a Short-finned Pilot whale
***Globicephala macrorhynchus* Garu, 1846 in Lakshadweep waters**

A small pod of Short-finned pilot whale *Globicephala macrorhynchus* (Gray, 1846) was observed onboard FORV Sager Sampada on 12th February, 2024 while undertaking exploratory cruise to understand the biodiversity of Seamounts along the Lakshadweep archipelago as part of the Deep Ocean Mission project objectives. The pod was observed in the Southeast side of Andrott Islands (10° 72' 51'' N; 73° 47' 16'' E) and contained six large sized animals of approx. 3 m in length. The IUCN lists this species as data deficient in the Red List of threatened species (IUCN 2012). In India, all the cetaceans are listed under Schedule-1 of Wild Life (Protection) Act, 1972.



Fig 1: Short-finned Pilot whale *Globicephala macrorhynchus* Garu, 1846 in Lakshadweep waters



Fig 2: Small pod of Pilot whale at southeast side of Andrott Islands (Lakshdweep)