

4. Fix cod end mesh size at the recommended level.
5. Adopt yourself to the sustainable fishing method rather than someone enforcing it.
6. Compel and convince your fellow fishermen on the importance of avoiding juvenile fishing.
7. Today's Juvenile you leave behind is tomorrow's wealth.

#### Donts

1. Don't use diamond mesh that increase fuel cost and catch more juveniles.
2. Don't practice wild collection of juveniles.

3. Don't bring juvenile catch to the shore and release back to the sea.
4. Don't use mesh size smaller than what is legally permitted.
5. Don't set out for fishing without enough ice in the store.
6. Don't involve in fishmeal industry which is using juveniles
7. Don't delay in bringing the catch to the shore.
8. Don't operate fishing gear near protected and fish breeding areas.



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# JUVENILE FISHING



NETFISH



MPEDA

A large quantity of low value, smaller size fishes are landed during trawling. This low value, smaller size fishes are commonly termed as juveniles. They are also called by-catch as they are non-target fishes, caught extra in a fishing operation. Almost all of these by-catches are composed of various species of fishes. Juveniles of these varieties are caught before they attain maturity and this severely affects the fish population. As a consequence, the total size of the fish stock decreases year after year.

The current practice of landing juveniles and making dry fish out of them is widespread. Such practices not only lead to reduce the quality of fish but also make the fish low value. It is estimated that the total landing of the by-catch of fish is around 1.3 million tonnes. Had we allowed this quantity to escape and attain maturity sizes, you can get several times higher returns of fish. Nearly 232 non-targeted species are found killed and discarded in varying proportions. This affects the juvenile population and in the long run

may bring about a disaster in the fishing industry making it unsustainable and uneconomical.

#### **Dos**

1. Use square mesh panels in the upper panel of the trawl cod ends to allow juveniles to escape.
2. Use fishing gear that selectively target fishes, Eg. Gill net and long line etc.
3. Use low energy fishing gears, Eg. Gill net and long line

