

The sea bottom was rich with crawling and swimming and growing things. The brown algae waved in the gentle currents and the green eel grass swayed and little sea horses clung to its stems. Spotted botete, the poison fish, lay on the bottom in the eel-grass beds, and the bright-coloured swimming crabs scampered over them.

On the beach the hungry dogs and the hungry pigs of the town searched endlessly for any dead fish or sea bird that may have floated in on a rising tide.

—from *The Pearl* by John Steinbeck

ICSF is an international NGO working on issues that concern fishworkers the world over. It is in status with the Economic and Social Council of the UN and is on ILO's Special List of Non-Governmental International Organizations. It also has Liaison Status with FAO. Registered in Geneva, ICSF has offices in Chennai, India and Brussels, Belgium. As a global network of community organizers, teachers, technicians, researchers and scientists, ICSF's activities encompass monitoring and research, exchange and training, campaigns and action, as well as communications. SAMUDRA REPORT invites contributions and responses. Correspondence should be addressed to the Chennai office.

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SAMUDRA REPORT can now be accessed on ICSF's home page on the World Wide Web at <http://www.icsf.net> or <http://www.icsf.org>

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Cover
A painting from Éditions Clouet, Droits Réservés

Photographs courtesy of
Rolf Willmann, Cornelia Quist, Chandrika Sharma, Sebastian Mathew, Nalini Nayak
KG Kumar, Brian O'Riordan, Maria Cristina Maneschky, S.Kumaran, SIFFS

News courtesy of
AllAfrica.com, Intrafish.com, Minda news
FIS.com, ILO, abs-cbnnews.com

Printed at
Nagaraj and Company Pvt. Ltd., Chennai

SAMUDRA REPORT No. 36 November 2003
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