

Cruise Report - SK 145A (19th To 21st May 99)

Area of operation: Bay of Bengal (Off Chennai)

Objectives:

1. To test the relocated Deep Sea Winch and newly procured 18 mm wire rope.
2. To test newly fabricated geological sampling equipment viz. Vanveen Grab, Spade Corer (Box Grab), Chain Bag Dredge and Gravity Corer at sea.
3. To attempt Piston Corer operation for a collection of 12 meter long core.

Name of the participants:

1. Dr. M. Sudhakar	Chief Scientist
2. Dr. R. Alagarsamy	N.I.O
3. V.V.S.S. Sarma	“
4. John Fernandes	“
5. Witty D'Souza	“
6. G.V.S. Sarma	Andhra University
7. Ansari Azra	Goa University
8. Bhosle Hema	“
9. Fernandes Sheryl	“
10. Furtado Ramila	“
11. Shashank Vishwanath	“
12. Naik Goankar Vinita	“
13. Sharon Sequeira	“
14. Solanki Shakila	“
15. Xavita Vaz	“
16. P.S. Sunil	Cochin University
17. C.P. Priju	“
18. Girish Gopinath	“
19. Ch.M. Rao	“
20. Mr. V.S. Rajaraman	Norinco Pvt. Ltd.
21. Razak M Ismail	“
22. Biju V. Nair	“
23. Jagdish Negali	“

a) Vanveen Grab - sediment recovered.

b) Spade Corer - - 30 cm long core recovered.

c) Gravity Corer - - 3.5 m core recovered.

Thus, all samplers performed satisfactorily.

Ship's compliment

1. Capt. T.S. Sodhi	Master
2. Arnab Ghosal	Chief Engineer
3. P. G. Prakash	Chief Officer
4. D. Bhattacharjee	2 nd Officer
5. Dhruv Singh	NWKO
6. Mohd L.A. Walge	Jr. Officer
7. S. Srinath	Radio Officer
8. H.V. Subrahmanya	Medical Officer
9. R.G. S. D'Silva	Pursur Officer
10. R. Chaudhury	2 nd Engineer
11. H.K. Jain	3 rd Engineer
12. M.N. Muralidharan	3 rd Engineer
13. Kuldeep Sengar	TME
14. A.R. D'Cruz	Electrical Officer
15. T.P. Gairola	Electronics Officer
16. L.M.F. Rodrigues	Catrg. Off.

Cruise Details

The vessel was scheduled for sailing on 19.5.1999 at 0700 hrs. Due to late arrival of Pilot, the vessel sailed from Chennai port at 1130 hrs.

Vessel reached deep waters around 2000 meters in the afternoon and dummy weights (about 300 kgs) operation for **winch testing** and performance was conducted. This was essentially done to check the hydraulics, friction and storage winch synchronization and **wire rope (18 mm)** winding since the wire rope was recently procured and wound at Goa and the Deep sea winch was relocated after last crawler expedition. The operation lasted for 3 hours and the performance of winch found satisfactory.

Chain Bag Dredge was operated through A frame in a known location of phosphorites occurrence. The dredge was lowered at around 250 meters and was dragged on the seafloor for more than half an hour. No sample was obtained.

On 20.5.2000, the following operations carried out sequentially between 200 – 300 m water depth. Interested groups (NIO, Andhra University & Goa University) collected the core samples.

- a) **Vanveen Grab** – sediment recovered.
- b) **Spade Corer** - ~ 30 cm long core recovered.
- c) **Gravity Corer** - ~ 3.5 m core recovered.

Thus, all samplers performed satisfactorily.

Piston Corer with 12 m long assembly was launched on 21.5.2000. While the operation was in progress, the lower 6m long G.I. pipe segment with core catcher assembly gave away into waters at 100 hrs while launching was in progress. The part of Piston assembly sheared and was lost with the above pipe, liner and core catcher. The operation was called off in the absence of spare Piston assembly and the upper 6 m long pipe with weights has been brought back on to the vessel.

The vessel reached Chennai Anchorage at 1530 hrs on 21.5.2000 and the participants Sl.Nos. 1, 20, 22 & 23 disembarked on 22.5.2000. Rest of the participants continued on the vessel for participating in the next Training / sampling cruise SK-145 B.

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1. Dr. M. Sudhakar	Chief Scientist
2. Dr. R. Alagarasamy	N.I.O.
3. V.V.S.S. Sarma	"
4. John Fernandes	"
5. Witty D'Souza	"
6. S.V. S. Sarma	Andhra University
7. Anand Azad	Gau University
8. Bhosle Herna	"
9. Fernandes Shreyi	"
10. Faruqo Ramila	"
11. Sheeshank Vishwanath	"
12. Nalk Geankar Vinita	"
13. Sharon Sequeira	"
14. Sobeni Shakila	"
15. Xavita Vaz	"
16. P.S. Sund	Cochin University
17. C.P. Priya	"
18. Ghish Gopinath	"
19. Ch.M. Rao	"
20. Mr. V.S. Rajaraman	Norinco Pvt. Ltd.
21. Razak M Ismail	"
22. Biju V. Nair	"
23. Jagdish Negali	"