Stegostoma fasciatum (Hermann, 1783)

English Name: **Zebra** shark, Variegated shark
Local Name: Faana niiyaru
Size: To 3.5 m or more

Family: STEGOSTOMATIDAE
Order: Orectolobitormes

l)istinctive Characters: Long caudal fin, about half the total length. Small barbels on either side of small mouth. First dorsal set well back and much larger than second. Prominent ridges on sides of body.

Colour: Adults pale brown with dark spots. Juveniles dark brown with vertical yellow stripes.

Habitat **and** Biology: Found on coral reefs. A rather sluggish shark. Strictly nocturnal; feeds on molluscs. sea snakes, crustaceans and fish. Oviparous.

I)istribution: Indo-West Pacific.

Remarks: *Stegostoma lasciatum* is not a very common shark in Maldives. but is occasionally seen resting on the bottom by div ers. This shark is unaggressive when approached under water. Several individuals were taken by longline froni R.V. 'Farumas' (Anderson and Ahmed, 1993. p.55). Previously recorded as S. *varium* in the Catalogue of Fishes of the Maldives Vol. 3, page 342.

ؤُسَرِحِمَرُ

ؤِمِ ؤِمَرُمُوُ ؤُوَمُوَمُوُ ؤُمُرِمُرُ ؤُرُرِسُرُ ؤِمَرُمُوُ، ؤِؤِمَرُمُ ؤُؤُرُؤُوُمُوَمِ ؤُرُمُ ؤُمُرُمُوَسُوُ ؤَسُوُمُوُمِ ؤُرُمُرُرُمُوَمُوُ، ؤِمِ ؤِرُؤُسُرُ ؤِسُرُمِرُ ؤُرُؤُؤُ ؤِمَرُمُؤُمُرُمُوُ، سُرُرُؤُسُ ؤِسُرُؤُ سُسُؤُمُ ؤُسُرُؤُمُ ؤُرُؤُمُ سُؤُسُرُمُؤُرُمِ ؤِمُؤُمُوُ ؤِمَرُمُ ؤُسُسُؤُمُرُمُ ؤُمُرُمُرُسُؤُمُؤُمُوُ، ؤَسُوُمِ ؤُرُمُرُؤُمُرُمِ، ؤُسُرُمُرُؤُمُ مُرُمِ ؤُمُؤُمُ ؤُرُسُرُ ؤُرُمُرُمِ ؤُسُرُ ؤُؤُؤُسُؤُرُمِ ؤُسُرُؤِمَرُمُ ؤُسُرُمُوُ، ؤِؤِمَرُمُوُ ؤُمُؤُمُ ؤُسُرُمُرُمِ ؤُسُسُرُؤُمُوُ سُسُؤُرُمِ، ؤَسُوُ سُرُؤُرُمِ، ؤُؤُؤُمِ ؤُسُرِؤُسُوُ، ؤُؤُرُؤُسُسُرُ 3.5 ؤِرِؤُسُرُ ؤِؤِمَرُمُ ؤُؤُؤُسُسُرُ ؤُرُمُوُ.

ؤِمَرُمُوُ ؤَسُوُ ؤُسُؤُرُمِ ؤَسُوُ ؤُسُرُسُرِ ؤِسُرُ ؤِمَرُمِ ؤِرُؤُرُسُرُ ؤُرُؤُ ؤُمُرُسُرُ ؤُرُمُرُ ؤُؤُسُرُ ؤُرُؤُ ؤُؤُؤُسُرُ ؤُرُسُرُؤُسُوُمُوُ، ؤِمَرُمُوُ ؤِمَرُمُوُ ؤِرُؤُ ؤُؤُؤُ ؤُسُؤُمُوُ ؤُمُؤُمُرُسُرُ ؤُرُؤُ. ؤِ ؤِمَرُمُوُمِ ؤُمُرُسُرُ ؤُؤُؤُسُرُ ؤُرُؤُرُؤُسُؤُرُ ؤُؤُؤُسُرُ ؤُرُؤِ ؤُسُؤُمُوُمِ ؤُمُؤُمُوُسُرُ ؤُؤُؤُسُرُ، ؤِمَرُمُوُ ؤُؤُؤُ ؤُؤِمَرُمُوُمِ ؤُسُرُسُرُ ؤُسُؤُؤُسُؤُمُؤُمُرُ ؤُرُؤُ، ؤِمَرُسُ ؤُؤُؤُسُرُ ؤُسُؤُؤُسُرُ ؤُسُؤُؤُسُؤُ ؤُسُرُؤُؤُمُ ؤُسُؤُ ؤُؤُؤُمُؤُسُرُ ؤُمُؤُؤُسُرُ، ؤَسُوُؤُسُرُؤُسُرُ ؤُسُرُسُرِ ؤُسُؤُسُؤُمُوُ، ؤِمَرُمُوُ ؤِمَرُمُوُ ؤُؤُؤُسُ ؤُسُؤُؤُ ؤُؤُؤُسُؤُمُؤُ، ؤِمَرُمُ ؤُؤُؤُسُؤُ ؤُؤُؤُسُؤُ ؤُؤُؤُسُؤ