

WHAT WE CAN DO

WHAT WE HAVE LEARNT

1. By catching too many young Tiger Shrimp found near the shore we do not allow enough of them to grow big. Bigger shrimp provide a better income for us.
2. By catching too many mother shrimp in deep waters, as trawlers do, we do not leave enough in the sea to lay eggs and provide us with shrimp for the next season.
3. Pushnets, dragnets, scoopnets, and boat-seines are active gear with small meshes and these are destructive. They destroy our future by removing large quantities of young shrimp and fishes.
4. Trawl nets catch too many mother shrimp in deep waters and too many small ones in shallow waters because they are active and efficient gear with small meshes. This gear causes the greatest damage to our shrimp fishery.
5. Trammel nets used in deeper waters will be better for shrimp fishing as they are passive gear. Besides, they catch only the large sizes.
6. Too many craft and gear operating in one area means a smaller and smaller share of the catch for all of us and a reduction of our precious shrimp resources.
7. We can prevent damage to our shrimp fisheries only if all of us fisherfolk catching shrimp, at different stages in their lives, co-operate and act together to ensure that we will have something to fish tomorrow. We have to agree on what to do and make sure it gets done. The Fisheries Officers and the Government can help, but it is really something only we fisherfolk can do.

WHAT WE CAN DO

1. Fish in deeper waters using trammelnets. The big Tiger Shrimp are found there. And the money is there.



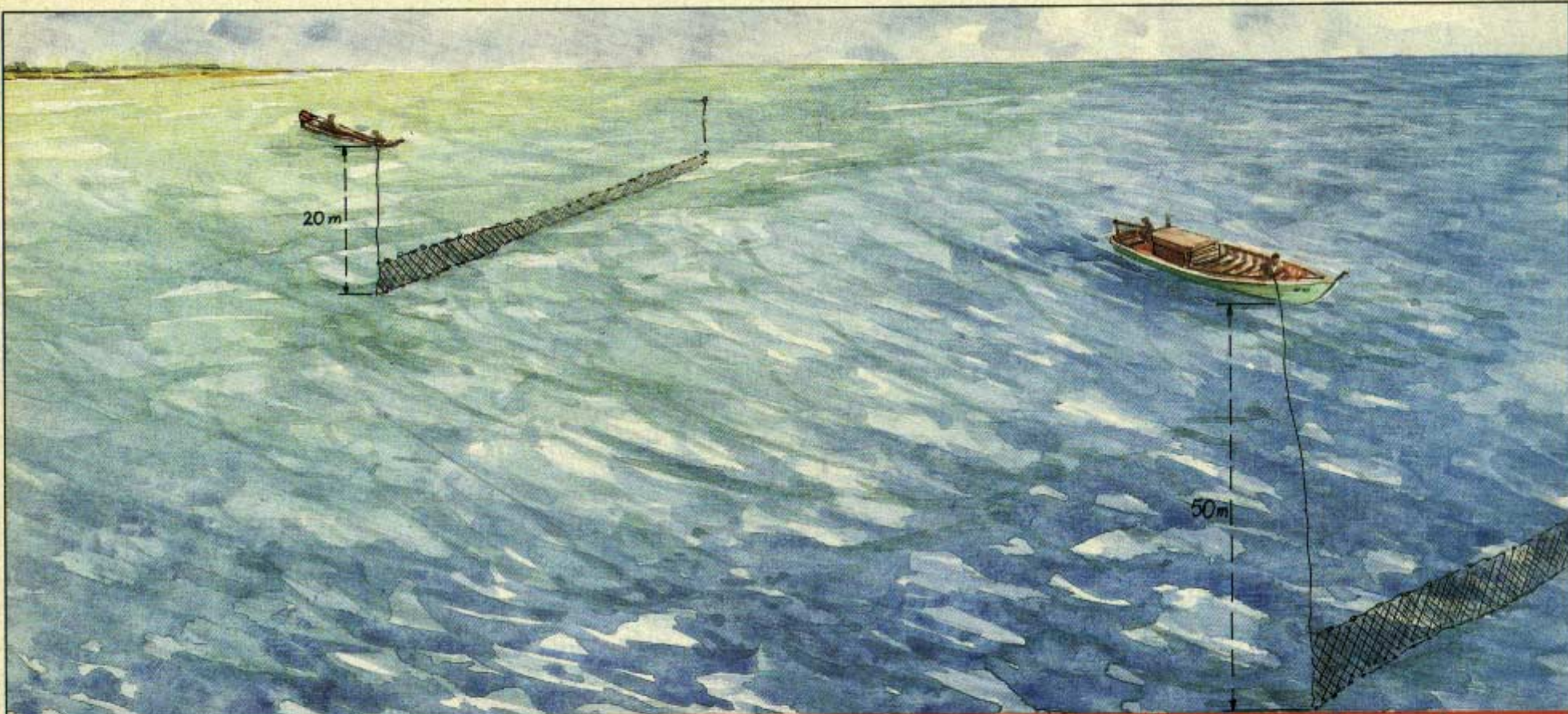
2. Try and reduce the use of pushnets, dragnets, scoopnets and boat-seines. Particularly from January to March and July to September when there is an abundance of young ones.



3. Work towards reducing the number of trawlers or fishing with trawlers for shrimp.



4. Discuss with Fisheries Officers and agree on certain seasons which can be closed to certain gear. This will let the shrimp reach adulthood and, thus, a larger size. Bigger shrimp not only weigh more, but also get higher prices, which means much more income. By taking adult shrimp, you will help to conserve our shrimp resources, as the shrimp will then get a chance to lay their eggs at least once before they are caught.
5. Make a beginning by coming together and discussing our problems and solutions amongst ourselves and with Fisheries Officers. Our future is in our hands.



Use trammelnets
in deeper waters
and catch
BIG tiger-shrimp.
This way, more of
us small-scale
fisherfolk can
make more money.