

## Calendar on Safety at Sea

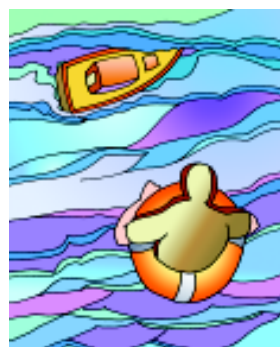
What are fishers up against when they venture out to sea? They dream of a jackpot harvest but may experience a nightmare – injury, permanent disability, physical, mental and emotional trauma, death. But they can prevent or minimize disaster by following the right precautions.

BOBP-IGO's 2008 calendar offers a slew of straight-forward messages for fishers everywhere. Plan your fishing trip. Carry your first-aid kit. Use navigation equipment and spares. Learn to signal that you are in trouble. Use protective gear. Conserve fresh water. Keep a lifebuoy. Make sure of course that the fishing boat is safe, has been built right. One useful non-fisheries tip, particularly aimed at migratory fishing communities: Use condoms!

The charm of the calendar lies in the illustrations: suggestive sketches rather than photographs, which show outlines of face and figure, and a breezy zig-zag line to indicate a wave. Says BOBP-IGO artist S Jayaraj, who received queries from even professional artists about his technique: "I did a line drawing of every situation, then used Photoshop to fill in with colour – as many as 256 colours of different tones and gradations."

"Useful calendar and very charming" was one reaction to the calendar – it is being distributed to fishers of the region at workshops and community meetings.

Research preceded the calendar, so did trial-and-error with various sketch options. Ask for the calendar if you don't have it – we have a few copies left.



*Bay of Bengal News* is a quarterly publication of the Bay of Bengal Programme Inter-Governmental Organisation (BOBP-IGO). The BOBP-IGO is a regional fisheries body, which presently covers four countries around the Bay of Bengal – Bangladesh, India, Maldives and Sri Lanka. The BOBP-IGO plays a catalytic and consultative role in developing coastal fisheries management in the Bay of Bengal to help improve the conditions of small-scale fisherfolk in the member-countries.

