



Killing of White-Sided Dolphins: Faroe Islands

Why in News

Recently, the **traditional annual killing of whales and dolphins** (grindadrap” hunt) in **North Atlantic islands that belong to Denmark** has sparked controversy.

- 1,428 **white-sided dolphins** were slaughtered at **Faroe Islands**.



Key Points

- **White-Sided Dolphins:**



- **Scientific Name:** Lagenorhynchus acutus
- **Characteristics:**

- Their **common name comes from the prominent white stripes** on their sides, which span from below the dorsal fin to their tail, where it turns into a yellow or amber color.
- Their **scientific name comes from** the Greek word lagenos (which means bottle), rhynchus (which means snout or nose), and acutus from Latin (which means sharp or pointed, referring to their sharply-pointed dorsal fins).

- **Habitat:**

- The distribution of the Atlantic white-sided dolphin is the **cool temperate and subarctic waters of the north Atlantic Ocean** from southern Greenland to Massachusetts, and from the British Isles to western Norway.
- It has also been reported as far as the southern Barents Sea, the Baltic Sea, the Azores, and the Adriatic Sea.

- **Conservation Status:**

- [IUCN](#): Least Concern
- [CITES](#): Appendix II

- **Dolphins in Indian Waters:**

- [Gangetic River Dolphin](#)
- [Irrawaddy Dolphins](#)

[Source: IE](#)