



Bleaching of Sea Anemone

[Source: TH](#)

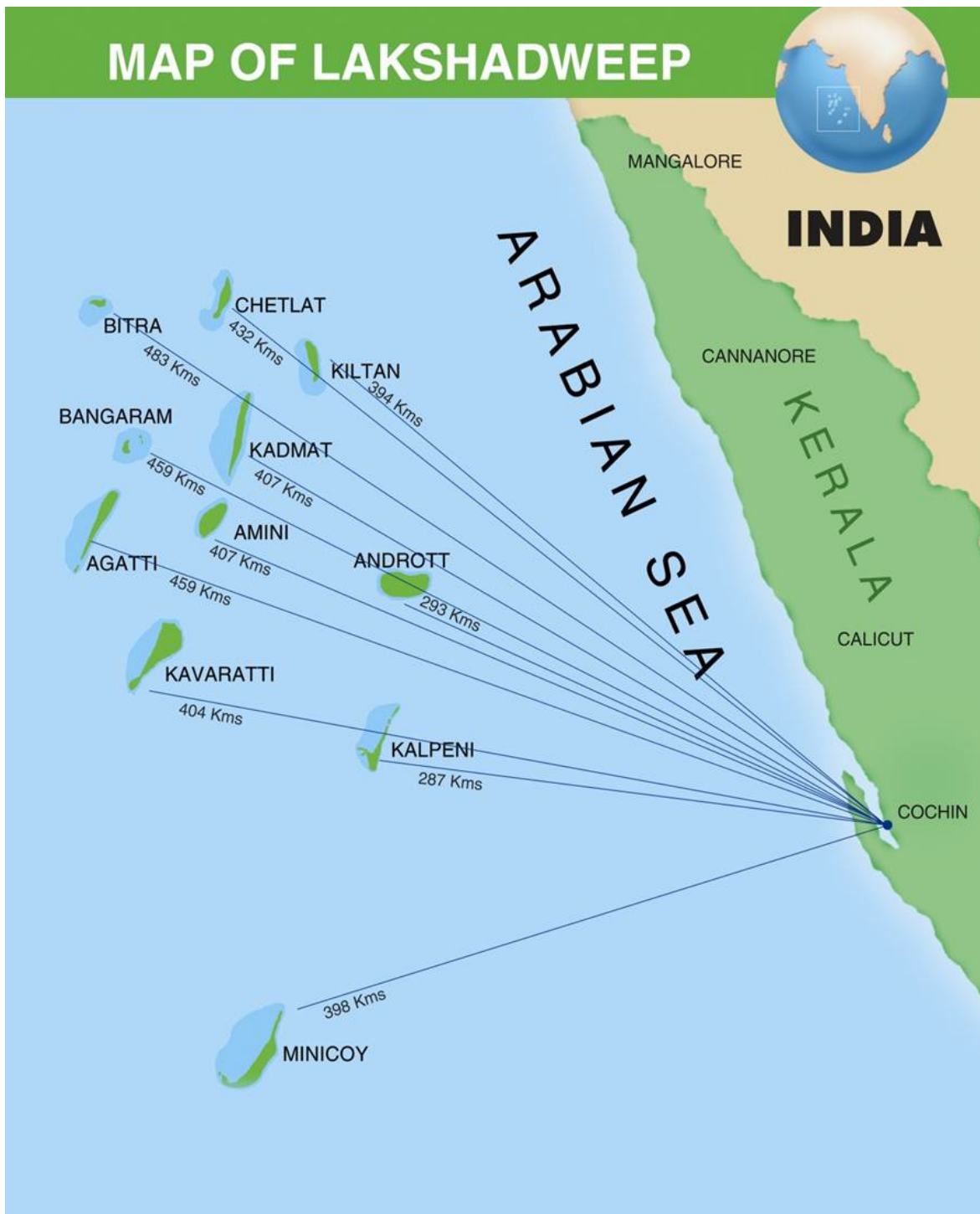
Researchers studying **Sea Anemones** (*Actiniaria*) in the [Lakshadweep](#) group of islands have observed a large-scale [bleaching](#) event among the anemones off **Agatti island**. Sea anemone bleaching has been observed in Lakshadweep islands for the first time.

- **Sea anemone bleaching** refers to the process in which sea anemones lose their vibrant colours and turn white or pale due to **loss of symbiotic photosynthetic algae** from them.
 - This can occur due to environmental stressors such as **rising water temperatures, pollution, or changes in ocean chemistry**.
 - Bleaching causes sea anemones to lose their primary source of energy, rendering them more susceptible to diseases and leading to higher mortality rates.



- **Sea anemone** is an aquatic animal marked by soft bodies and an ability to sting.
 - They are part of the Cnidaria phylum family and are found in ocean waters, particularly in **coastal tropical areas**.
 - They are close associates of corals and live rocks. They also form symbiotic bonds with **clownfish**, providing protection in exchange for food from the clownfish's meals.
 - Sea anemones play vital biogeochemical roles in **benthic ecosystems** (lowest ecological zone in a water body, and usually involves the sediments at the seafloor).
- **Agatti Island** is at a distance of 459 km (248 nautical miles) from Kochi (Kerala) and is located to the west of Kavaratti Island.

MAP OF LAKSHADWEEP



Read More: [Agatti Island of Lakshadweep](#)

PDF Refernece URL: <https://www.drishtiiias.com/printpdf/bleaching-of-sea-anemone>