

Unusual landings of Crimson jobfish and Yellowfin tuna along Odisha coast

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The crimson jobfish *Pristipomoides filamentosus* belongs to the family Lutjanidae (Snappers) is highly valued due to its white quality meat. Usually only a few numbers, mostly of small size are landed along with other fishes in trawl and longline catches. Recently, on 5 November 2019 about one tonne of mostly large sized crimson jobfish caught by single day operation longliner unit landed at Chandravaga Landing Centre (19°51'57.1572"N, 86°6'42.8508"E) (Fig. 1). Out-board fibre glass boat (9.6 m OAL) with 4 units (baskets) of longlines each having 250-400 number hooks (hook size: No. 9) and six crew members were involved in

fishing of this species. The fishes locally called as *gulubinda* (in Telugu), were caught at a depth of about 65 m off Astarang Gangadevi river mouth, Puri. *Rastrelliger kanagurta* was used as the bait for fishing. The fishes measured 22-45 cm fork length and each were weighing 200 to 2300 g. The big sized fishes were auctioned at the price of ₹120 per kg and sent to Digha, Chennai and Kolkata in iced condition by road and a few small sized ones reached local markets for fresh consumption. Other fishes caught were kawakawa *Euthynnus affinis* and blacktip sea catfish *Plicofollis dussumieri*.



Fig. 1. Unusual landings of crimson jobfish *Pristipomoides filamentosus*



Fig. 2. Unusual landings of yellowfin tuna

On 6 December 2019, about 700 kg of yellowfin tuna caught in drift longlines (single day operations) were landed at Chandravaga Landing Centre (19°51'57.1572"N, 86°6'42.8508"E). Out-board fibre glass boats (9.6 m OAL) with 3-4 units (baskets) of longlines each having 250-400 number hooks (hook size: No.6-7) and six crew members were involved in fishing. The fishes locally called as *soora* (in Telugu),

were caught using *Rastrelliger kanagurta* and *Sardinella longiceps* as the preferred bait. As there was no local demand for yellowfin tuna, the fishes were auctioned at a price of ₹90-100 per kg and sent to Kolkata, Bengaluru and Digha in iced condition by road. The fishes were measuring 51 - 91 cm fork length and weighing 2.7 - 11.6 kg each.