First record of *Pontocaris lacazei* from deep sea off Chennai coast

A single female specimen of a rare crangonid shrimp, *Pontocaris lacazei* commonly known as 'hardshell shrimp' was obtained on 26-10-2006 from trawlers which operated off Chennai in the depth range of 150-200m.

The specimen measured 36mm in total length and 12mm in carapace length. The salient morphological characters observed are: rostrum rounded; three rows of spines on carapace; 4 spines on lateral border of carapace; first and second abdominal segments with sharp ridge ending in a spine anteriorly; third and fourth segments with a sharp ridge; fifth and sixth segments with two ridges; telson pointed, a little shorter than uropods. This is first record of the species from Chennai coast. Earlier it was recorded from Marquesas (French Polynesia) from a depth of 300 metres.

S. Lakshmi Pillai and P. Thirmilu,
Madras Research Centre of Central Marine Fisheries Research Institute, Chennai

Bumper landing of Dolphin fish (*Coryphaena hippurus*) by gill netters at Sassoon Dock, Mumbai

On 15-11-06, an unprecedented catch of *Coryphaena hippurus* was landed at Sassoon Dock landing center by gill-netters. The catch was made by 3 gill netters on a four day voyage, operating surface drift nets of mesh size of 80-120 mm at a depth of 40-50 m off Jangira - Murud, about 60-70 km south of Mumbai. There were no juveniles in the catch. The entire catch was auctioned for Rs. 3,53,520/-.

Mohanan A.N., C.J. Josekuty, Sujit Sundram and D.G. Jadhav,
Central Marine Fisheries Research Institute, Kochi, M.R.C. of Central Marine Fisheries Research Institute, Mumbai