



# समुद्री मात्स्यिकी सूचना सेवा MARINE FISHERIES INFORMATION SERVICE

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prawns towards shore and thus resulted in heavy catches.



Fig. 1. A view of the landing centre.

### 927 Bumper catches of *Metapenaeus dobsoni*

Heavy landing of *Metapenaeus dobsoni* was observed on 28th and 29th June, 1999, at the southern point of Ganguli Light house (Uduppi District) Karnataka State.

'Matu Bala' the gear used was operated from fibre and wooden country crafts fitted with out-board engine having 9.9, 15 or 25 Hp. Matu Bala is operated at a depth range of 10-14 m. engaging 10-14 men. Total number of units landed were 102 and 22 on 28th and 29th respectively. When compared with forenoon landings the afternoon landings were more. The average catch per unit has 900-1,000 kg.

The size of prawns ranged between 78 and 102 mm with a dominant size of 90-94 mm. The other fishes caught along with *M.dobsoni* were *Penaeus merguensis*, *Lactarius lactarius*, *Thryssa* sp., *Letognathus* sp., *Caranx* sp. and *Rastrelliger kanagurta*.

The sky was cloudy and slightly drizzling. The upwelling might have caused migration of



Fig. 2. The catch of *M. dobsoni* brought to shore.



Fig. 3. The catch is being transported to the trucks by women.



Fig. 4. A view of the hectic activity during the day of heavy prawn landing.

The landing centre Ganguli-Light house is situated at an advantageous position so that the fishing units of neighbouring centres viz. Ganguli, Byndoor, Kanchikodi, Tarapathi, Maravante and Navunda can land during monsoon periods.

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