single haul. The length of the fishes varied between 38-52 cm and the weight of each specimen was in the range 1-2 kgs. The price of each panam was around Rs. 600/- and the entire catch was sold for Rs. 107400/-. This was a rare phenomenon at this landing centre.

Reported by : S.V. Subba Rao, Gopalpur Field Centre of CMFRI, Gopalpur.

1074 Unusual heavy landing of white prawn, *Penaeus indicus* by purseseiners at Gangoli Fisheries Harbour, Udupi District, Karnataka

On 28-4-2004 four purseseine units operating at a depth of 18-20 m, along the Gangoli coast of Udupi district of Karnataka captured shoals of *Penaeus indicus* totalling 13,950 kg. The boats individually landed 4000, 3000, 3500 and 3450 kg. They fetched a market price of Rs. 230 per kg. Heavy landing of white prawns of this magnitude by purse seine units is unusual along this coast. Its length range was 140-150 mm (males) and 165-170 mm (females). The average weight of the shrimp was 25-30 g. Majority of the females were in spent condition.

Reported by : Udaya V. Aargekar, Bhatkal Field Centre of CMFRI, Bhatkal

1075 Heavy landings of catfishes and sciaenids by trawl nets at Bhairavapalem

On 27.3.2004, 114 trawl units operating at Bhairavapalem landed a bumper catch of 138 tonnes of fishes out of which 42 tonnes were sciaenids and 20 tonnes were *Arius tenuispinis*. Cat fishes were caught from a depth range 28-36 metres towards southwest direction and sciaenid were from the depth zone of 18-20 metres towards northeast direction. The species of sciaenids caught were *Johnius carutta*, *Otolithes ruber*, *J. macraptorus*, *J. belangerii*, *Nibea soldado Kathala axillaris* and *Decapterus russelli*. Size range of *A. tenuispinis* was 220-420 mm and the dominant group was between 310-350 mm. *Size of J. carutta* ranged between 140-220 mm and that of *O. ruber* was 190-240 mm. Trawl units which got cat fishes, operated 2 hauls and the units for sciaenids made only single haul. *A. tenuispinis* fetched a price range of Rs. 12/- to Rs. 16/- per Kg at the local markets. The price of the sciaenids ranged between Rs. 12/- to Rs. 18/- per kg and they were sent to internal markets like Rajahmundry, Mandapeta, Ramachandra- puram and Rampachodavaram.

Reported by : P. Venkataramana, Kakkinada Research Centre of CMFRI, Kakkinada.

1076 Unusual heavy landings of *Caranx carangus* along Cuddalore Coast

An unusual bumper catch of *Caranx carangus* was observed in Cuddalore fishing harbour on 26.03.2004. Three fibreglass boats fitted with 9HPoutboard engine of 9 m length and 2 m width landed a heavy catch of 5.2 tonnes of fish.

The gear used was a monofilament drift gill net *Surukku vallai* with a mesh size varying from 80 to 90 mm. The length of the net was 300 m and width 30 m. The head rope and foot rope were provided with floats and sinkers respectively.