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, *Penaes 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 *Penaes 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. macropterus, 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.
The area of operation was about 5 km. off the coast and 20 km. south of Cuddalore port at a depth of about 30 m. The water was clear and the current was moving towards northern direction. Three boats which moved slightly beyond the shore caught large size carangids.

The duration of fishing was only for 2 hrs. On reaching the fishing harbour the fishes were packed in plastic tubs with ice for transportation. The length ranged between 72 to 90 cm with a dominant size group of 86-87 cm. Average weight of a fish was 10.6 kg. The fish were transported to the interior processing plants in Kerala. The total weight of the fish was 5,247 kg and sold at a price of Rs. 27 per kg. The total revenue realized was Rs. 1,41,669/-. 

The occurrence of carangid shoals appear to be related the occurrence of oil sardine shoals along the coastal regions of Cuddalore.

Reported by: V. Rajendran and R. Thangavelu, Madras Research Centre of CMFRI, Chennai.

1077 Unusual landing of silver pomfret, *Pampus argenteus* by karli dol net at Bassein Kolliwada (Vasai) landing centre, Thane district, Maharashtra

Post monsoon fishing from 10th June to 15th August is a very important period for the silver pomfret *Pampus argenteus* in traditional Karli dol net fishery at Bassein Kolliwada landing centre in Thane district, Maharashtra. Major fishery of August to November is concentrated on pomfret as it fetches good returns.

Three dol netters landed unusual catch of silver pomfret from a depth of 40m at Bassein Kolliwada on 27-8-2003. Mesh size of net was 60-80 mm. The major catch was silver pomfret (89.51%) followed by *P. chinensis*, *Parastromateus niger*, seerfish, sharks, *Chirocentrus dorab*, catfish and Kati (*Pellona* spp.) which constituted 8-10% of the total landings. The total catch of silver pomfret was estimated at 7915 kg and generated a total income of Rs. 11 lakhs. The size *P. argenteus* ranged from 80-309 mm with modes at 185,245mm.

Price of pomfrets varies according to the grades based on weight. The following were the prices prevailing for different grades at the centre during August 2003.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sr.No.</th>
<th>Grades</th>
<th>Weight range (gms.)</th>
<th>Price / kg.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1.</td>
<td>Super Pomfret</td>
<td>Above 510</td>
<td>Rs. 350/-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.</td>
<td>No.1 Pomfret</td>
<td>410-509</td>
<td>Rs. 250/-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.</td>
<td>No.2 Pomfret</td>
<td>310-409</td>
<td>Rs. 215/-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4.</td>
<td>No.3 Pomfret</td>
<td>210-309</td>
<td>Rs. 150/-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5.</td>
<td>No.4 Pomfret</td>
<td>110-209</td>
<td>Rs. 80/-</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The fishermen concentrate more on the super pomfret as it fetches good income and has international demand.