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## BUMPER CATCH OF SILVER POMFRET *PAMPUS ARGENTEUS* AT SATPATI BOMBAY\*

Heavy catches of silver pomfret *Pampus argenteus* were landed within a span of four days at Satpati, a fishing village in Thane District in Maharashtra (about 100 km north of Bombay). Normally the duration of fishing trip is about 4-5 days depending upon the catch of fish and stock of ice. A crew of 15 operate 5-6 gill net hauls each of 12 hours duration in each trip.

From 7th to 10th September, 1987 the surface gill net boats landed bumper catches of silver pomfret totalling 87 tonnes. The catch details (based on

**Table 1.** *Details of silver pomfret catch from 7th to 10th September, 1987*

Date	Catch (kg)	cpue (kg)
7-9-1987	12,709	529.54
8-9-1987	30,166	603.32
9-9-1987	27,460	686.50
10-9-1987	16,681	667.24
<b>Total</b>	<b>87,016</b>	<b>Average 626.01</b>

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Machimar Society and Sarvodaya Society) are given in Table 1.

At the factories of the said societies the pomfrets were graded, based on individual weight. Their percentage and price are given in Table 2.

**Table 2.** *Details of grade, weight, percentage and price of the silver pomfret*

Grade	Range in wt. (gm)	%	Price/kg (Rs.)
Super	600 and above	47.96	30.00
No. 1	350-590	25.93	25.00
No. 2	250-340	11.01	21.00
No. 3	200-240	2.82	20.00
No. 4	190 and less	3.30	15.00
Cut & soft	—	8.95	—

Silver pomfrets ranged in length from 170 to 320 mm (fork length). It is interesting to note that the catches of pomfrets by the bottom gill nets during this period was very poor.

