Unusual landings of Bullseye, *Priacanthus hamrur* (Forsskål, 1775) at Chennai Fisheries Harbour

A total catch of 8 tonnes and 3 tonnes of Bullseye *Priacanthus hamrur* landed by multiday thangal trawlers at Chennai Fisheries Harbour for the months of June and July 2009 respectively. Being in spoiled condition, it was used for fish meal.

Unusual heavy landings of Jellyfish, *Crambionella stuhlmanni* (Chun) at Pulicat landing centre, Chennai

An estimated catch of 387.5 tonnes of Jellyfish landed at Pulicat landing centre, near Chennai by scoopnet. In 2003, there was a heavy landing of jellyfish around Tamilnadu coast. After tsunami, the jellyfish fishery completely washed out. After a long break, the jellyfish fishery was exploited on 7th August 2009 from northern Chennai coast of Andhra Pradesh. The jellyfish catch started from 10.8.09 to 20.8.09 and the heavy catch on 18.8.09 was 60 tonnes landed at Pulicat landing centre. Nearly 11 fishing village people were involved in this fishery. The fishermen sold tentacles of the jellyfish for Rs.500/- per gunny bag (60 kg). Agents collect the tentacles and keep in separate processing plant for long preservation processes. The dried jellyfish is used for export purpose.

The first occurrence of Pompano dolphinfish, *Coryphaena equiselis* (Linnaeus, 1758) at Chennai coast in Bay of Bengal

On 5.9.09, the first occurrence of Pompano dolphinfish, *Coryphaena equiselis* was noticed at Chennai.
fisheries harbour by mechanized gillnet. The mechanized gillnet was operated from a depth of 30-50 meters at a distance of 30-40 km north Chennai towards Andhra. Normally, dolphinfish, Coryphaena hippurus was landed regularly in east coast of Chennai.

Landings of Whelks from Kasimedu and Cuddalore fishing harbour

Babylonia spirata commonly known as whelks, are landed as bycatch in shrimp trawlers in Kasimedu Fishing harbour and Cuddalore Fishing Harbour, Tamilnadu. They were traditionally exploited for use in shell-craft industry in Tamilnadu. However, in early 90s the whelk fishery gained significance because of the export demand for whelk meat in Japan, Singapore, Hong Kong, Thailand, UAE, Maldives and Sri Lanka for pharmaceutical industries.

(Chennai Research Centre of CMFRI)

Heavy landings of Cephalopods by trawlers at Veraval & Porbander

There was a heavy landing of cephalopods (Sepia pharaonis & S. aculeata) to the tune of > 2 t/trawler immediately after commencement of fishing in the first week of September following the monsoon ban.

(Veraval Regional Centre of CMFRI)