Unusual landing of ghol, *Protonibea diacanthus* by purse seine operation at Rewas-Bodni landing centre in Raigad District, Maharashtra

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On 2nd January 2013, about 20 tonnes of ghol, *Protonibea diacanthus* were landed by a purse seiner (99.27 HP) at Rewas-Bodni landing centre in Raigad District (Fig. 1a & b). It was a single day operation with 12 crew members. The fishing ground was at 30 – 40 m depth north-west off the landing centre. The catch comprised 1190 fishes in the weight range of 15 - 18 kg and length 120 – 150 cm. The catch was sold at Sassoon Docks, Mumbai and fetched ₹ 3.45 crores.

Heavy landing of *Sardinella longiceps* and *Sardinella fimbriata* at Rajiwada landing centre, Ratnagiri

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On 5th April 2011, bumper landings of *Sardinella longiceps* and *Sardinella fimbriata* were recorded at Rajiwada landing centre in Ratnagiri. The catch were landed by mini purse seines operated from two crafts with outboard engine (COB) (Fig. 1 and 2), which normally land around 25 – 200 kg of sardines. The details of catch landed by the two COB’s on 5th April 2011 are given in Table 1.
Table 1. Details of landings by the two vessels at Rajwada landing centre on 5th April 2011

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Species</th>
<th>COB 1 (overall length - 7.5 m)</th>
<th>COB 2 (overall length - 7.2 m)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Sardinella longiceps</td>
<td>1200</td>
<td>1300</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sardinella fimbriata</td>
<td>1000</td>
<td>800</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The vessels (COB 1 and 2) set out for fishing at 07 00 hrs and 07 30 hrs respectively, with 4 crew members each and operated 9 km north-west off Ratnagiri at 15 m depth. Actual fishing hours lasted for 4-5 h.

**Oilsardine (Sardinella longiceps) landings by mini purse seiners at Jiwna and Bharadkhol-Divegar landing centres in Raigad District, Maharashtra**

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During the months of October 2012 to February 2013, about 80 – 100 gillnetters (24 to 45 HP, 2 to 3 cylinder boats) were engaged in mini purse seine operation and landed bumper catches of the oilsardine, *Sardinella longiceps* at Jiwna and Bharadkhol-Divegar landing centres in Raigad District (Fig. 1). Around 3 to 5 t of oilsardine were landed in single day operations. The fishing ground was about 10 to 15 km north-west off Jiwna landing centre at 8 to 15 m depth. During this season (October-February) every year, when the catch in other gears is poor, fishermen engage in mini purse seine operation and earn fairly good income from this.

**Heavy landing of Trichiurus lepturus by gillnets (tyanijal) at Wairi landing centre in Sindhudurg District, Maharashtra**

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*Trichiurus lepturus* is one of the commercially important species caught by tyanijal (gillnet) along the coast of Sindhudurg District during the beginning of the fishing season *i.e.*, during September to