

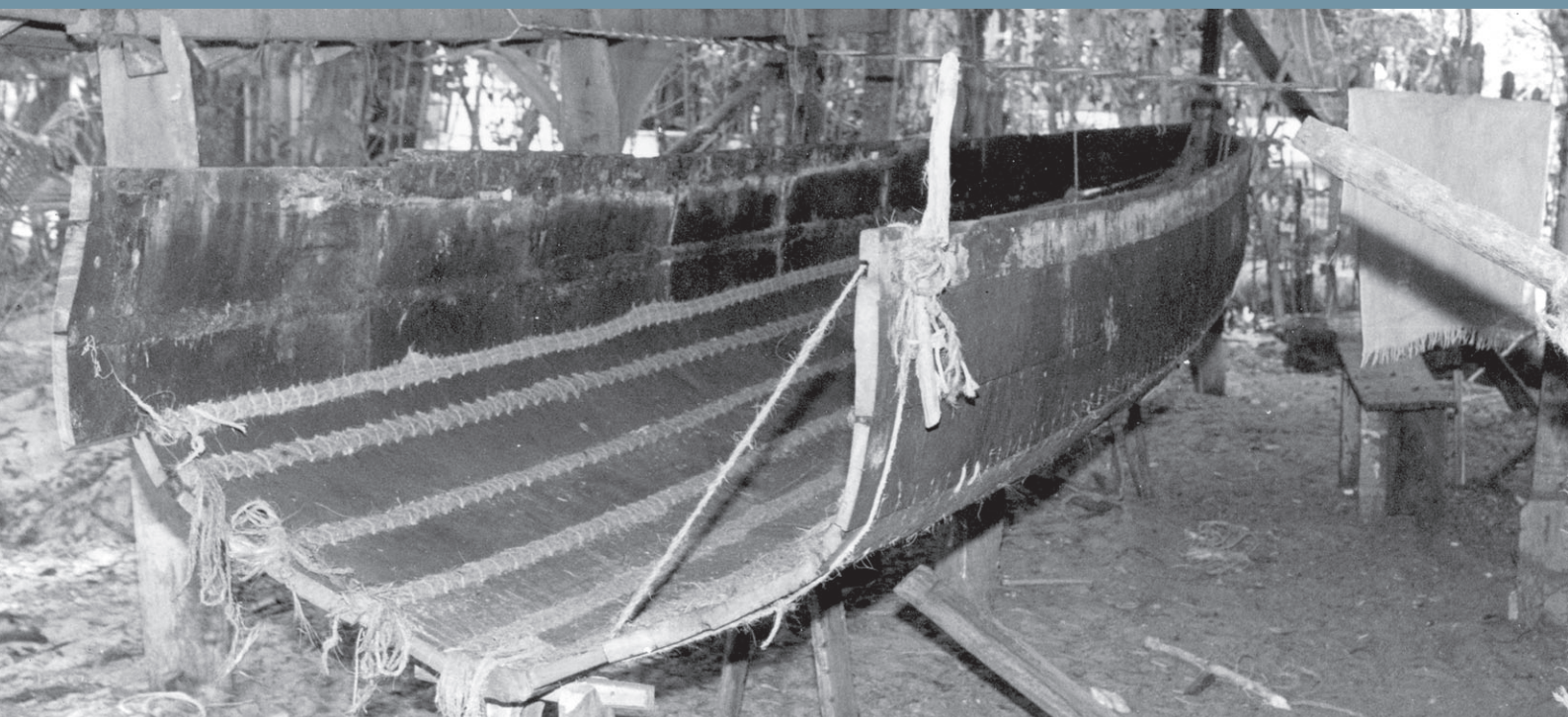
ISSN 0254-380 X



MARINE FISHERIES INFORMATION SERVICE

No. 181

July, August, September, 2004



TECHNICAL AND EXTENSION SERIES

CENTRAL MARINE FISHERIES RESEARCH INSTITUTE

COCHIN, INDIA

(INDIAN COUNCIL OF AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH)

Unusual landing of “Koth” *Otolithoides biauritus* by mini trawler at Versova, Mumbai.

Versova is one of the major landing centers in Mumbai where 90% of the fishery is contributed by regular trawlers and mini trawlers. Till 15 years ago, Versova landing center was known for the traditional dol net fishery mainly for Bombay duck (*Harpadon nehereus*). Presently the dol net fishery has become economically unviable due to escalation of operational expenses. This has led fishermen to convert almost 90% of mechanised dol netters into mechanised trawlers. Economically weak dolnet owners preferred to convert the crafts to mini trawlers of 8-10 OAL with 15-40 HP engine instead of regular trawlers. During peak season 3 hauls are taken per day from depths of 15-20 meters. The fish catch usually comprises of *Harpadon nehereus*, non-penaeid prawns, penaeid prawns, *Coilia dussumieri*,

sciaenids, catfishes, sharks and sardine.

On 07/01/2004 a mini trawler landed an unusual catch of 103 numbers of “Koth” in the size range 770-1050 mm each weighing between 2.5 to 5.0kg from a depth of 30 meters, at a distance of 25km off Mumbai, around the fishing grounds of Dahanu and Satpati. The total catch was estimated to be 285kg with the catch per hour at 19kg. The entire catch was sold at the rate of Rs.175/- per piece and realised a total income of Rs.18,025/- The total expenditure incurred towards diesel, ice and food for the crewmembers amounted to Rs.4,673/- fetching a net profit of Rs.13,352/-

Prepared by : B.B.Chavan, A.D.Sawant, and K.B.Waghmare,
Mumbai Research Centre of C.M.F.R.I., Mumbai.