

## HIGH LANDINGS OF PRAWN (*METAPENAEUS DOBSONI*) BY PURSE-SEINERS AT PANAJI, GOA\*

In Goa the purse-seiners are operated mostly in Panaji, Vasco-da-Gama, Baina, Colva, Cotbona, Betul and Talpona centres. Out of these, Panaji and Cotbona are the major purse-seine landing centres, where the number of purse-seiners exceeds 30 (30-60) and, all other centres have below 15 numbers. The area of fishing is northwest of Panaji-Calangute belt in 20-25m depth zone.

On 19th September, 1984 an unusually heavy catch of penaeid prawns exclusively *Metapenaeus dobsoni* was landed by purse-seiners. This trend continued till 24th

September, 1984 (Table). On an average 600-700 kg of prawns were landed by each boat/trip during six days of fishing. Details of catch are presented in Table below.

In the subsequent year also instances of heavy landings of *M. dobsoni* were observed for purse-seines on three occasions (Table).

Prawns were sold at the rate of Rs. 6-12 per kg and an estimated value of Rs. 6,94,016.10 was realised for the prawns caught during nine days of fishing by purse seines.

Date	No. of purse seines operated	<i>M. dobsoni</i> (kg)	CPUE (kg)	Estimated value in Rs.
19-9-1984	18	8,535.0	474.17	76,815.00
20-9-1984	22	12,100.0	550.00	1,08,900.00
21-9-1984	22	14,879.9	676.36	1,33,919.10
22-9-1984	24	21,360.0	890.00	1,92,240.00
23-9-1984	22	13,948.0	634.00	1,25,532.00
24-9-1984	18	3,970.0	220.00	35,730.00
6 days	126	74,792.9	593.59	6,73,136.10
16-5-1985	1	1,400.0	—	12,600.00
23-9-1985	1	320.0	—	2,800.00
1-11-1985	1	600.0	—	5,400.00
3 days	3	2,320.0	—	20,880.00

\*Reported by G. M. Kulkarni, T. S. Balasubramanian and S. Kemparaju, Field Centre of CMFRI, Goa.

