

Investigation on penaeid shrimp resources of Indian coast

- Estimated All-India average penaeid shrimp catch (2002-04) was 1,96,920 t.
- *Metapenaeus dobsoni*, *Parapenaeopsis stylifera*, *Solenocera crassicornis*, *Fenneropenaeus indicus*, *M. monoceros*, *Penaeus semisulcatus*, *S. choprai*, *M. affinis*, *F. merguensis* and *Trachypenaeus curvirostris* are the major species contributing to the landings. Contribution by deepsea shrimp from Sakthikulangara and Cochin was an average 16,206 t during the period. The pandalid shrimps *Heterocarpus* spp. and *Plesionika* sp. formed 2/3 of the catch and the rest was by penaeids (*Aristeus alcocki*, *Metapenaeopsis andamanensis* and *Penaeopsis jerryi*). *A. alcocki*, *P. jerryi* and *S. hextii* are the important penaeid species contributing to about 20-40% of deepsea shrimp landing along the southwest coast. Peak fishery is from October-March.

Species-wise distribution of penaeid shrimps:

Veraval	<i>S. crassicornis</i> , <i>S. choprai</i> , <i>M. kutchensis</i>
Mumbai	<i>P. stylifera</i> , <i>S. crassicornis</i> , <i>Metapenaeopsis stridulans</i> , <i>M. affinis</i> , <i>M. monoceros</i> , <i>F. merguensis</i>
Karwar	<i>P. stylifera</i> , <i>M. dobsoni</i> , <i>M. affinis</i>
Mangalore	<i>M. monoceros</i> , <i>S. choprai</i> , <i>M. dobsoni</i> , <i>P. stylifera</i>
Calicut	<i>M. dobsoni</i> , <i>M. monoceros</i> , <i>F. indicus</i> , <i>P. stylifera</i>
Cochin	<i>M. dobsoni</i> , <i>P. stylifera</i> , <i>Heterocarpus</i> spp., <i>M. andamanensis</i> , <i>P. spinipes</i>
Sakthikulangara/Neendakara	<i>P. stylifera</i> , <i>M. dobsoni</i> , <i>Melicertus canaliculatus</i> , <i>Heterocarpus</i> spp., <i>M. andamanensis</i> , <i>P. jerryi</i>
Tuticorin	<i>P. semisulcatus</i> , <i>M. stridulans</i>
Mandapam	<i>P. semisulcatus</i> , <i>M. stridulans</i>
Chennai	<i>F. indicus</i> , <i>M. dobsoni</i> , <i>M. monoceros</i>
Kakinada	<i>M. monoceros</i> , <i>M. dobsoni</i>
Visakhapatnam	<i>M. monoceros</i> , <i>M. brevicornis</i> , <i>M. dobsoni</i> , <i>P. stylifera</i> , <i>M. barbata</i> , <i>S. crassicornis</i>

- Most of the species were overexploited. Further increase in effort is not economically beneficial. Increasing urbanisation and consequent loss of nursery areas and pollution of coastal waters will seriously affect the shrimp stocks.
- Management measures suggested are: increase in cod-end mesh-size of trawlnets to 35 mm; ban on inshore operating gears such as dol nets, minitrawls, 'thalluvalai' and 'thallumadi' and stakenets; closed season for trawling, limiting the number of boats to optimum levels. Ban on monsoon trawling is invogue in maritime states of Kerala, Karnataka and Maharashtra. Closure of fishing is also practiced by eastcoast states.

State-wise penaeid shrimp landings (tonnes)

States	Year				
	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005
Gujarat	22532	21760	31617	23674	24093
Maharashtra	51301	66834	73154	56758	45023
Goa	2161	2628	3039	1896	1541
Karnataka	8928	17701	12040	9122	21507
Kerala	45864	42217	42862	30577	31516
Pondicherry	154	653	84	315	90
Tamilnadu	16202	21246	15711	14912	14413
Andhra Pradesh	16221	16391	17911	17128	13487
Orissa	4105	4947	5641	9769	13148
West Bengal	8780	9434	12705	7480	7281