

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF FISHERIES, ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING
DEPARTMENT OF FISHERIES

RAJYA SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION No. 2826
TO BE ANSWERED ON 24TH MARCH, 2023

Unique fisherman ID card to all fishermen

2826. DR. KANIMOZHI NVN SOMU:

Will the Minister of **Fisheries, Animal Husbandry and Dairying** be pleased to state:

- (a) the effective steps taken by Government to provide Unique fisherman ID card to all fishermen to facilitate them to get adequate financial and technical support;
- (b) whether Government has chalked out any comprehensive welfare schemes for the development of fishermen community in the country, particularly in Tamil Nadu;
- (c) if so, the details thereof and funds allocated and disbursed in the last five years under various welfare schemes in Tamil Nadu; and
- (d) the steps taken by Government to provide adequate skill training, provision of latest technology gadgets for fishing and storage and for the creation of value added products?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF FISHERIES, ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING

(SHRI PARSHOTTAM RUPALA)

(a) Other than the issuance of biometric identity cards to coastal fishermen under the Central Sector Scheme of Government of India, the QR Coded PVC Aadhaar cards are also issued to fishermen to facilitate them to get financial and technical support under various schemes of Government of India as well as for identification of fishermen at sea by the coastal security agencies. Till date 19,16,781 fishermen have been issued biometric identity cards and 12,40,869 fishermen have been issued QR Coded PVC Aadhaar cards by the Government of India.

(b) to (d): The Department of Fisheries, Ministry of Fisheries, Animal Husbandry and Dairying has been implementing various schemes for development of fisheries in the country including in the State of Tamil Nadu and welfare of fishermen is at the core of the schemes. The schemes implemented include; (i) Centrally Sponsored Scheme on Blue Revolution: Integrated Development and Management of Fisheries for a period of 5 years from 2015-16 to 2019-20, (ii) Fisheries and Aquaculture Infrastructure Development Fund (FIDF) with a total fund size of Rs 7522.48 crore for a period of 5 years from 2018-19 to 2023-24 for providing concessional finance, (iii) issuance of Kisan Credit Cards (KCC) to fishers and fish farmers and (iv) Pradhan Mantri Matsya Sampada Yojana (PMMSY) under Atmanirbhar Bharat Abhiyan with an investment of Rs.20,050 crore for a period of 5 years from 2020-21 to 2024-25.

PMMSY *inter-alia* provides financial support for procurement of boats for better catch, nets, communication and tracking devices & safety kits to ensure safety of fishermen while at sea, post-harvest facilities, fish transport, value addition & marketing to improve value realization to fishers, construction of ponds, tanks, hatcheries and necessary inputs for undertaking fish farming, and development of fisheries infrastructure, cold chain facilities, fish market infrastructure and processing facilities and such other activities to improve price realization. All these components under the PMMSY Scheme, add to fishers income and for welfare of the fisher community. Further, PMMSY also provides livelihood and nutritional support for socio-economically backward active traditional fishers families for conservation of fish resources during fishing ban/lean period, insurance to fishers etc. The Government of India has approved project proposals to the tune of Rs. 897.55 crore and released central share of Rs. 252.74 crore to the Government of Tamil Nadu under various schemes for development of Fisheries in the State including fishermen welfare related activities during last five years from 2017-18 and 2021-22. In addition, fisheries infrastructure project proposals worth Rs. 1091.28 crore for providing admissible concessional finance have also been approved for Tamil Nadu under the Fisheries and Aquaculture Infrastructure Development Fund (FIDF).

Besides, PMMSY *inter-alia* lays special focus on training, skill development, skill upgradation and capacity building through trainings, awareness building programs and exposure visits to various stakeholders especially fishers, fish farmers, fish workers, fish vendors, entrepreneurs, officials, fisheries Cooperatives and members of Fish Farmer Producer Organizations for various fishing, aquaculture and post harvest related activities. The Training, Awareness, Exposure and Capacity Building programs are carried out through the National Fisheries Development Board, ICAR institutes, Krishi Vigyan Kendras (KVKs), other organizations and State/UT Fisheries Departments.
