

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

RAJYA SABHA

STARRED QUESTION NO.105
TO BE ANSWERED ON 28TH JULY, 2023

Welfare schemes and new initiatives for fishing industry

105. Shri Prakash Javadekar:

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

- (a) the welfare schemes and new initiatives introduced for betterment of fishing industry and fishermen;
- (b) the details of the schemes and initiatives; and
- (c) the benefits received by fishermen of Kerala during the last three years?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF FISHERIES, ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING
(SHRI PARSHOTTAM RUPALA)

(a) to (c): A statement is placed on the Table of the House.

Statement referred to in reply to the Rajya Sabha Starred Question No.- 105 put in by Shri Prakash Javadekar, Hon'ble Member of Parliament due for answer on 28th July, 2023 regarding Welfare schemes and new initiatives for fishing industry.

(a) and (b): The Department of Fisheries, Ministry of Fisheries, Animal Husbandry and Dairying has been implementing various schemes for holistic development of fisheries in the country 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 implemented at a total central outlay of Rs 3000 crore 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 implemented 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) 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 several new initiatives like installation of artificial reefs along coast, sea ranching, marine cage culture, sea weed cultivation for creation of livelihood opportunities to fishers, installation of vessel communication and support systems in fishing vessels to ensure safety of fishers at sea. The other activities supported under the PMMSY for the benefit of fishermen and fishing industries includes procurement of boats and nets, 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 fish farming, development of fisheries post-harvest infrastructures like cold chain facilities, fish market. Further, PMMSY also provides (i) Livelihood and nutritional support for socio-economically backward active traditional fishers' families for conservation of fish resources during fishing ban/lean period, (ii) Insurance to Fishers and (iii) Insurance premium subvention for fishing vessels. Besides, development of fisheries infrastructures in the form of fishing harbours and fish landing centres are also supported under the PMMSY to create safe landing, berthing and post harvest facilities to fishers.

(c): The Department of Fisheries under PMMSY has approved various fisheries developmental proposals of Government of Kerala including welfare of fishermen at a total outlay of Rs. 799.28 crore with central share of Rs. 312.21 crore and released central funds of Rs. 238.86 crore during the last three years (2020-21 to 2022-23). The activities supported under PMMSY for the benefits of fishers in the State includes; construction of a fish brood-bank, hatcheries, new rearing ponds, bio-floc ponds for both freshwater and brackishwater aquaculture, development of ornamental fisheries like rearing and breeding units, integrated ornamental fish units, Installation of cages in reservoirs, bivalve cultivation units, Re-circulatory Aquaculture System (RAS), Bio-floc culture units and pen culture units, integrated development of Reservoirs, live fish vending units, fish feed mills, deep sea fishing vessels, Up-gradation of existing fishing vessels, construction of ice plants/cold storages, post-harvest transportation units (refrigerated vehicles, insulated vehicles, motorcycle with ice box, cycle with ice boxes, three wheeler with ice box, retail markets, fish kiosk), Aquatic Referral Lab, Establishment of artificial reef units along the Kerala coast, Extension and Support Services through Matsya Seva Kendras, deployment of Sagar Mitras in the coastal villages, boats and nets to traditional fishermen. Besides, the activities approved also include large infrastructural projects such as expansion of Kasaragod Fishing Harbour, Upgradation and modernization of Ponnani, Puthiyappa, Koyilandy and cochin fishing harbours and Maintenance dredging of existing seven fishing harbour namely Kayamkulam, Chettuva, Ponnani, Beypore, Puthiyappa and Koyilandy at a total cost of Rs. 330.28 crore. Further, 1,80,373 socio-economically backward active traditional fishers' families of Kerala were provided with livelihood and nutritional support during fishing ban/lean period annually. In addition, a total of 5861 Kisan Credit Cards (KCC) have been sanctioned to fishers and fish farmers of Kerala to help them meet their working capital requirements.
