

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

**RAJYA SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.2649  
TO BE ANSWERED ON 11<sup>th</sup> AUGUST, 2023

**Identity cards and KCCs issued to coastal fishermen**

**2649. Shri G.V.L. Narasimha Rao:**

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

- (a) number of biometric identity cards and Quick Response (QR) coded Poly Vinyl Chloride (PVC) Aadhar cards issued to coastal fishermen in the country, State-wise;
- (b) funds released so far to different States since 2019 under the scheme for issuance of identity cards;
- (c) financial assistance and technical support available to coastal fishermen with identity card under schemes of Central Government;
- (d) requirements for individual fish farmers having identity cards for obtaining Kisan Credit Cards (KCC);
- (e) number of fishermen issued identity cards in Visakhapatnam district of Andhra Pradesh; and
- (f) number of fish farmers who have been issued KCCs and reasons for low coverage?

**ANSWER**

**THE MINISTER FOR FISHERIES, ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING**

**(SHRI PARSHOTTAM RUPALA)**

(a) to (c): The Department of Fisheries, Ministry of Fisheries, Animal Husbandry and Dairying, Government of India had launched a “Central Sector Scheme (CSS) on issuance of Biometric ID Cards to Marine Fishers” with total project cost of Rs. 72 crore. Out of total project cost, an amount of Rs. 8 crore had been released to the coastal States and Union Territories (UTs) and the remaining amount is released to the Consortium of Central Public Sector Undertakings (CPSUs), entrusted with the task of data digitization, capturing of biometric details and other works relating to design, production and issuance of Biometric ID Cards to marine fishers. Till date, the consortium of CPSUs have issued 19,21,329 Biometric ID Cards and 12,40,869 QR code enabled Aadhar cards have been issued to marine fishers by Unique Identification Authority of India (UIDAI). The state-wise details of Biometric ID cards and QR code enabled Aadhar cards issued to marine fishers is at Annexure-I.

Pradhan Mantri Matsya Sampada Yojana (PMMSY) is being implementing in all the States/UTs from financial year 2020-21 to 2024-25 provides for financial assistance to various beneficiaries, including coastal fishermen and fish farmers, for taking up activities relating replacement nets and boats for traditional fishermen, safety kits, transponders & communication devices, rafts and monoline for seaweed cultivation, bivalve cultivation, livelihood support during ban/lean period for traditional fishermen, insurance coverage for fishermen, etc.

(d) to (f): As per the RBI guidelines dated 4<sup>th</sup> February 2019, the eligibility criteria for Kisan Credit Cards (KCC) for fishers and fishermen is as under:

**A. Inland Fisheries and Aquaculture:**

Fishers, Fish Farmers (individual & groups/partners/share croppers/ tenant farmers), Self Help Groups, Joint Liability Groups and women groups.

The beneficiaries must own or lease any fisheries related assets such as pond, tank, open water bodies, raceway, hatchery, rearing units, boats, nets and such other fishing gear as the case may be and possess necessary authorization/certification as may be applicable in respective states for fish farming and fishing related activities and for any other State specific fisheries and allied activities.

**B. Marine Fisheries:**

Beneficiaries who own or lease registered fishing vessel /boat, possess necessary fishing license/permission for fishing in estuary and sea, fish fanning/mariculture activities in estuaries and open sea and any other State specific fisheries and allied activities.

Biometric cards issued to the fishers and fish farmers in Visakhapatnam district of Andhra Pradesh are 37,614. Till date, 1,47,423 KCC cards have been issued to fishers and fish farmers in all States/UTs. Further, to saturate eligible fishers and fish farmers with the KCC facility, nationwide campaigns have been launched in association with Department of Financial Services in all the States/UTs.

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**Annexure-I**

Statement referred to in reply to the Rajya Sabha Unstarred Question No. 2649 put in by Shri G.V.L. Narasimha Rao, Honourable Member of Parliament for answer on 11<sup>th</sup> August, 2023 regarding Identity cards and KCCs issued to coastal fishermen.

Sl.No.	Name of the State	Number of Biometric ID Cards distributed to marine fishers	Number of QR code enabled Aadhar cards distributed to marine fishers
(i)	(ii)	(iii)	(iv)
1	Tamil Nadu	349,744	2,24,879
2	Puducherry	34,037	13,354
3	Karnataka	82,216	39,482
4	Gujarat	171,480	1,30,294
5	Daman & Diu	8,170	14,635
6	Kerala	217,117	1,60,715
7	Lakshadweep	13,315	6,360
8	Maharashtra	180,936	75,369
9	West Bengal	258,696	1,16,103
10	Goa	12,396	10,084
11	Andhra Pradesh	270,284	1,33,417
12	Telangana	-	20,110
13	Odisha	306,050	2,88,841
14	Andaman & Nicobar	16,888	7,226
<b>Grand Total</b>		<b>19,21,329</b>	<b>12,40,869</b>

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