

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

RAJYA SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1533
TO BE ANSWERED ON 15th DECEMBER, 2023

Challenges in aquaculture industry

1533. Shri Masthan Rao Beeda:

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

- (a) whether Government has made adequate efforts to revive aquaculture industry in the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor;
- (c) whether Government is aware that traditional pockets of aquaculture are facing huge challenges in capitalising the market opportunities;
- (d) whether Government is planning to initiate any strategy in promoting domestic as well as export-oriented market in aquaculture;
- (e) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor;
- (f) whether Government plans to set up a single-window clearance system for the shrimp hatcheries, struggling with losses and are on the edge of shutting down; and
- (g) if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF FISHERIES, ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING

(SHRI PARSHOTTAM RUPALA)

(a) & (b): The Government after careful consideration of the needs of the aquaculture sector in the Country has brought suitable amendments to the Coastal Aquaculture Authority Act, 2005 to promote sustainable coastal aquaculture, to facilitate the aquaculture farmers with ease of doing business through the provisions of online registration, condoning the delay for renewal of registration, permitting Nucleus Breeding Centres (NBCs), Broodstock Multiplication Centres (BMCs) and hatcheries in No Development Zone in Coastal Regulation Zones (CRZ), declaring coastal aquaculture activities as permissible activities under CRZ Notification and the removal of provision for imprisonment.

Considering the substantial revival of tiger shrimp farming in India in the recent years, in order to increase the availability of disease free and genetically improved Indian brood stock of the Tiger shrimp *Penaeus monodon*, Government of India sanctioned an amount of Rs. 6,75,50,000/- (Rupees Six Crore Seventy five lakhs and fifty thousands only) to MPEDA-RGCA under the PMMSY Scheme for the establishment of shrimp evaluation study unit (SEU) for *P. monodon* at Rajakkamangalam, Kanyakumari district of Tamil Nadu.

Further, Government of India sanctioned the Genetic Improvement Program of *Penaeus indicus* at a project cost of Rs.25.04 crore during the month of May, 2022 to the ICAR-CIBA for the Development of Indigenous Shrimp (Indian white shrimp) aquaculture in India as a potential alternate species to vannamei.

The Department of Fisheries, Ministry of Fisheries, Animal Husbandry and Dairying is implementing various schemes and programmes for holistic development of aquaculture including fresh water, brackish water, cold water and saline water aquaculture across the country. The schemes implemented by Department of Fisheries, MoFAH&D include; (i) Centrally Sponsored Scheme (CSS) on Blue Revolution: Integrated Development and Management of Fisheries at a total central outlay of Rs 3000 crore implemented 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 since 2018-19 for fish farming and fishing in estuary and sea, fish farming/mariculture activities in estuaries and open sea and any other State specific fisheries and allied activities (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.

In PMMSY, many activities were started in aquaculture sector such as (i) Production of quality seed through genetic improvement programme of candidate species in aquaculture such as scampi, common carp, trout, *Peneus indicus*, (ii) Establishment of 788 unit of finfish hatchery and 21 unit of shellfish hatchery (iii) Construction of 28486 hectare new area for aquaculture, (iv) Installation of 44,408 nos of cages and 543.7 hectares pens in reservoirs, (v) Installation of 1518 sea cages, (vi) Establishment of 11,940 unit of Recirculatory Aquaculture System (RAS), (vii) 3995 Biofloc units, (viii) Development of cold water fisheries by establishing 46 trout hatcheries, 5036 new raceway units and 58 units of RAS for coldwater fisheries, (x) 942 unit of fish feed mill/plants to supply fish feed to aquaculture sector.

(c): MPEDA under the Department of Commerce has been taking action to address and solve the market access issues for improving the marketing of marine products in the international market. Further many activities under PMMSY, have been initiated for promoting fish marketing across the country including traditional pockets of aquaculture area such as providing financial support for (i) 304 refrigerated vehicle (ii) 1261 insulated trucks (iii) 1048 Live Fish Vending Centres (iv) 3775 auto rickshaws (iv) 10397 motor cycles (v) 9282 bicycles (iv) 188 fish retail markets (v) 6545 fish kiosks and (vi) 108 value added enterprise units.

(d) & (e): To increase domestic fish marketing and fish consumption, various activities have been implemented under PMMSY such as organization of fish festivals and fish Melas, awareness Programme on importance of fish for human health. Further, MPEDA has been implementing various schemes to support the setting up of value addition infrastructure, training programmes for upskilling workforce on the production of value added products. The schemes aim to bring in more investment in value addition and also for establishment of appropriate facilities for export chilled and dried marine products having high unit value which help the exporters to build strong niche in International markets.

(f) & (g): The Coastal Aquaculture Authority (CAA) is registering all shrimp hatcheries in the country. The proposals received from hatchery operators are processed by CAA and issuing Certificate of Registration/Renewal of Registration upon compliance and approval of the Coastal Aquaculture Authority digitally through 'Single Window System'. Further, the CAA is also developing the software application to enable the hatchery operators to apply through online for Registration/Renewal of Registration of their shrimp hatcheries and also to get their certificate digitally.
