

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

RAJYA SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION No.887
TO BE ANSWERED ON 09thFEBRUARY, 2024

Initiatives to increase seaweed cultivation

887. Dr. Prashanta Nanda:

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

- (a) Government's initiatives to increase seaweed cultivation in the country;
- (b) whether Government has identified Chilka Lake of Odisha as a potential location for seaweed cultivation;
- (c) if so, Government's effort in this regard; and
- (d) the total fund allocated and utilized during the last five years till date?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF FISHERIES, ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING

(SHRI PARSHOTTAM RUPALA)

- (a): The Department of Fisheries, Ministry of Fisheries, Animal Husbandry & Dairying, Government of India is implementing Pradhan Mantri Matsya Sampada Yojana (PMMSY) for a period of five years from 2020-21 to 2024-25. Seaweed cultivation is one of the priority activities under PMMSY to provide alternate and additional income to the fishers and coastal communities. Under PMMSY, various activities have been taken up for promotion of seaweed cultivation in coastal States and Union Territories such as training, awareness and capacity building programmes, pre-feasibility studies, financial assistance provided to coastal States/Union Territories for cultivation of seaweed in rafts and monoline, establishment of Multipurpose Seaweed Park, Seaweed Brood Bank and other activities to promote seaweed cultivation.
- (b) & (c): Government of Odisha has informed that a preliminary feasibility study and pilot scale seaweed farming demonstration on exploring the possibilities for seaweed cultivation along the Odisha coast was conducted by ICAR- Central Marine Fisheries Research Institute during 2020-21. It is also informed that potential location for seaweed cultivation in Chilka Lake has not been identified as it is an ecologically sensitive and protected wetland included under the 'Ramsar sites'.
- (d): During last five years, various activities have been approved at the cost of Rs.197.40 crore to coastal States/Union Territories and Research Institutions for promotion of Seaweed cultivation in the Country. The approved projects include (i) Establishment of Multipurpose Seaweed Park in Tamil Nadu at a cost of Rs.127.71 crore (ii) Establishment of Seaweed Brood Bank in Daman and Diu (iii) 46,095 rafts and 65,330 Monolines for Seaweed cultivation (iv) Pre-feasibility studies on Seaweed cultivation in Gujarat, Tamil Nadu, Maharashtra, Andaman and Nicobar. Besides, a separate pilot study on seaweed cultivation has been taken up in Kori Creek, Kutch, Gujarat under PMMSY.
