

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

RAJYA SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION No. 94
TO BE ANSWERED ON 02nd FEBRUARY, 2024

Support to shrimp farmers in Andhra Pradesh

94. Shri Beedha Masthan Rao Yadav:

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

- (a) whether it is a fact that shrimp farmers in Andhra Pradesh have been hit hard by the rising cost of feed, and power tariff amid stiff competition from their counterparts from Ecuador and other countries;
- (b) if so, whether Government plans to take proactive steps to create a conducive atmosphere for shrimp farmers through extending loan support to farmers;
- (c) whether Government plans to set up a single-window clearance system for the shrimp hatcheries that are currently struggling with losses and on the edge of shutting down; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF FISHERIES, ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING

(SHRI PARSHOTTAM RUPALA)

(a) and (b): The shrimp production in India has reached a record high of 11.84 lakh tonne during 2022-23 from the level 0.75 lakh tonne during 2008-09 in spite of various factors such as international market fluctuation, changing operational cost and production related issues. The seafood export of India have been growing at an average annual growth rate of 15% in the last ten years and fisheries export increased from Rs.30213 crore during 2013-14 to Rs.63690 crore during 2022-23. The Government of Andhra Pradesh has reported that various steps has been taken to create conducive atmosphere for shrimp farmers such as (i) an Empowering Committee constituted by Government of Andhra Pradesh to look into feed supply, feed rate and other related issues of the aquaculture sector, (ii) Minimum Shrimp procurement prices were fixed by Government of Andhra Pradesh in consultation with the stakeholders to ensure to avoid the distress sale by the farmers, (iii) Due to the intervention of the Empowering Committee, feed prices remained frozen since October, 2022 to till date, (iv) Established Rythu Bharosa Kendra's (RBKs) at Village level and extending extension services to the aquaculture farmers such as supply of certified aquaculture inputs like feed, conducting training programs on innovative and advanced technologies through dedicated Village Fishery Assistant. Besides the Government of India is extending Kisan Credit Cards (KCC) to aquaculture farmers to get for accessing the credit from the Banks for their working capital to take up their aquaculture farming without depending on the money lenders.

(c) and (d): 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.
