

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

**RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION No. 2943
TO BE ANSWERED ON 26TH MARCH, 2025**

Gender mainstreaming in Fisheries Sector

2943 Shri K.R. Suresh Reddy:

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

- (a) the funds allocated and utilized for women-specific components under the Pradhan Mantri Matsya Sampada Yojana in the last three years, State-wise;
- (b) whether the women's Self-Help Groups (SHGs) in the fisheries sector are receiving financial and technical support, if so, the details and the outcomes achieved;
- (c) whether Government has assessed challenges faced by fisherwomen in market access, credit facilities, and social security; and
- (d) the steps taken to implement gender equity measures from the National Fisheries Policy and recognize fisherwomen's contributions?

ANSWER

**THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR FISHERIES, ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING
(SHRI GEORGE KURIAN)**

(a) to (d) : The Pradhan Mantri Matsya Sampada Yojana (PMMSY) by the Department of Fisheries, Ministry of Fisheries, Animal Husbandry and Dairying, Government of India in all States and Union Territories *inter-alia* provides inclusive development with higher financial assistance of 60 percent to Scheduled Caste, Scheduled Tribes and Women beneficiaries to bring them in the main stream of fisheries developmental activities. The Department of Fisheries, Ministry of Fisheries, Animal Husbandry and Dairying during the last four years (2020-21 to 2023-24) and current year (2024-25) has accorded approvals fisheries development proposals of various State Governments, Union Territories amounting to Rs.3973.14 crore with central share of Rs.1504.83 crore for the benefit of women beneficiaries and women Self Help Groups.

To provide credit facilities to fishers, fish farmers including women and the Government of India with effect from Financial Year 2018-19 has extended facilities of Kisan Credit Card (KCC) to the fishers and fish farmers including fisher women to meet their working capital requirement. A total of 4,61,246 KCCs have been sanctioned so far to fishers and fish farmers including women with a loan amount of Rs.2930.87 crore. To provide social-security net to fishers, the Department of Fisheries, Ministry of Fisheries, Animal Husbandry and Dairying under PMMSY provides insurance to fishers including women and the insurance provided includes (i) Rs.5.00 lakh against accidental death or permanent total disability, (ii) Rs. 2.50 lakh against accidental permanent partial disability and (iii) Rs. 25,000 against accidental hospitalization. Under PMMSY, central funds of Rs.64.50 crore has been released for insurance coverage of 131.30 lakh fishers with an average of 32.82 lakh fishers including eligible women annually. PMMSY *inter-alia* provides livelihood and nutritional support for socio-economically backward active traditional fisher's families for conservation of fish resources during fishing ban/lean period. During the last four years (2020-21 to 2023-24) and current financial year (2024-25), an average 5.95 lakh fishers including women per annum with total investment of Rs. 1384.80 crore have been provided livelihood and nutritional support.

To provide better market access to fishers, fish farmers including fisher women, the Department of Fisheries, Government of India through the National Fisheries Development Board (NFDB) since 2019 has been implementing a Fish Market Price Information System (FMPIS) with an objective to obtain the daily market prices of commercially important fish species and disseminate real time price information through web platform. The Smartphone based APP designed by NFDB enables recording of the fish price information from 65 selected retail fish markets and 44 wholesale fish markets of major cities and towns in 25 States and 4 Union Territories for the benefits of fishers, fish farmers and women fish vendors. FMPIS serves as a decision support system for different stakeholders like fishers, wholesalers, retailers including women fish vendors to locate fish markets, to obtain better prices thereby facilitating better marketing efficiency and affordability for consumers. In addition, fishers, fish farmers, fish vendors, retailers and wholesalers including women are encouraged and facilitated for onboarding on ONDC platform to make them economically viable and connect them to e-platform marketing system for better price realisation of their fisheries products. Hence, the fisheries developmental schemes and programmes implemented by the Department of Fisheries, Ministry of Fisheries, Animal Husbandry and Dairying, Government of India *inter-alia* promote gender equality.
