

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY
DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
RAJYA SABHA
STARRED QUESTION NO.*146
ANSWERED ON 12/12/2025

FOREIGN EXCHANGE EARNINGS FROM EXPORT OF MARINE PRODUCTS

*146. SHRI PAKA VENKATA SATYANARAYANA:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state :-

- (a) the net foreign exchange earnings generated from the export of marine products, specifically prawns and shrimps, during last three financial years, and year-on-year growth rate recorded;
- (b) specific export promotion schemes or incentives currently being provided to prawn farmers and Farmer Producer Organisations (FPOs) to enhance global competitiveness and quality assurance of Indian shrimp exports;
- (c) average per capita income increase recorded for registered prawn farmers since the launch of major Government schemes promoting aquaculture exports; and
- (d) Whether Government plans to reduce import duties on critical inputs like high quality broodstock and feed to lower the production cost for farmers?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER FOR COMMERCE & INDUSTRY
(SHRI PIYUSH GOYAL)

(a) to (d): A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO RAJYA SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. *146 FOR 12.12.2025 REGARDING “FOREIGN EXCHANGE EARNINGS FROM EXPORT OF MARINE PRODUCTS BY SHRI PAKA VENKATA SATYANARAYANA:

(a) The data on foreign exchange with respect to the export, import and the net value of marine products during last three financial years and year-on-year growth rate recorded, are given as **Annexure 1**.

(b) Marine Products Export Development authority (MPEDA), a statutory organization under the administrative control of Department of Commerce entrusted with the responsibility of promotion of export of marine products, is operating various financial assistance schemes for export oriented aquaculture to ensure quality seeds, reduce disease outbreaks, increase farm productivity, better hygiene, minimize the chances of pathogenic contamination, preserve the quality of harvested shrimp, promote species diversification etc. (Scheme details are given as **Annexure 2**). MPEDA also trains aquaculture farm and hatchery technicians to tackle the export rejections caused by the misuse of prohibited inputs in shrimp farms and hatcheries. This initiative is aimed to enhance awareness on food safety, traceability, trade regulations and emerging technologies.

Further, National Framework on Traceability in fisheries and aquaculture has been launched by Department of Fisheries which provides end-to-end digital traceability, compliance with international market standards, unique identification and geo-tagging of farms, hatcheries, etc. which has a direct benefit for prawn farmers and Fish Farmers Producer Organizations (FFPOs) by improving market access and enabling premium pricing for traceable products and support for sustainability and resource management.

(c) Independent third-party surveys have shown that prawn farmers have reported improvements in their income and productivity. They have also reported reduced disease incidence due to adoption of better pond management & nursery adoption, better product quality fetching them higher prices. Considering that the income of farmers comes from multiple sources, it is difficult to maintain data on average per capita income increase of prawn farmers.

(d) Government of India has announced in Union Budget 2025-26 to reduce the Basic Custom Duty (BCD) from 15% to 5% on fish hydrolysate for manufacture of fish and shrimp feeds. Also, Government announced reducing the Basic Custom Duty (BCD) on certain broodstock, polychaete worms, shrimp and fish feed to 5 per cent and exempting customs duty on various inputs used for the manufacture of shrimp and fish feed during 2024–25 as given below:

S.No	Commodity	Custom Duty (%)	
		Earlier	Present
1.	Prawn and Shrimps feed	15	5
2.	Fish feed	15	5

3.	Following inputs for manufacture of Prawn and Shrimps feed or fish feed: (i) Mineral & vitamin pre mixes (ii) Krill Meal (iii) Fish lipid oil (iv) Crude fish oil (v) Algal prime (flour) (vi) Algal oil	30/15/5	Nil
4.	Artemia	5	Nil
5.	Artemia cysts	5	Nil
6.	SPF Polychaete worms	30	5
7.	Live SPF Vannamei shrimp (<i>Litopenaeus vannamei</i>) broodstock & Live Black tiger shrimp (<i>Penaeus monodon</i>) broodstock	10	5
8.	Insect Meal for use in R&D for aquatic feed manufacturing	15	5
9.	Single Cell Protein from Natural Gas for use in R&D for aquatic feed manufacturing	15	5

Source: MPEDA

Annexure as mentioned in Part (a) in answer to the Rajya Sabha starred Question No. *146 for 12th December, 2025

Annexure 1

The data on foreign exchange with respect to the Export, Import and the Net value of marine products during last three financial years and year-on-year growth rate is as follows:

PRODUCT/ ITEM	Financial Years					Year on Year Growth Rate (%)		
	2022- 23	2023- 24	2024- 25	2024-25 (upto Sept. 24)	2025-26 (upto Sept. 25)	2023- 24 over 2022-23	2024- 25 over 2023- 24	2025-26 (upto Sept. 25) over 2024-25 (upto Sept. 24)
	Value of Export of Marine Products (in Million USD)							
Shrimp & Prawns	5483	4838	5142	2477	2945	-11.8	6.3	18.9
MARINE PRODUCTS	8078	7372	7405	3386	3975	-8.7	0.4	17.4
	Value of Import of Marine Products (in Million USD)							
Shrimp & Prawns	52	34	23	10	15	-34.6	-32.4	50.0
MARINE PRODUCTS	247	251	309	131	152	1.6	23.1	16.0
	Net value (Export-Import) of Marine Products (in Million USD)							
Shrimp & Prawns	5431	4804	5119	2467	2930	-11.5	6.6	18.8
MARINE PRODUCTS	7831	7121	7096	3255	3823	-9.1	-0.3	17.5

* Figures of 2025-26 (Upto Sept. 25) are Provisional and subject to change
Source: DGCIS

Annexure as mentioned in Part (b) in answer to the Rajya Sabha starred Question No. *146 for 12th December, 2025

Annexure 2

Name of the scheme	Objective of Scheme /details	Pattern of Financial Assistance	Impact of scheme
Establishment of nurseries for rearing seeds in the farm premises	Rearing post-larvae in a bio-secure nursery environment is crucial for shrimp aquaculture as it ensures quality seeds, reduces disease outbreaks, increases farm productivity, shortens the culture period and lowers labor and recurring costs.	50% of the admissible cost incurred subject to maximum financial assistance of Rs. 6,00,000/- whichever is less for farmers under General Category. Proposed assistance to SC/ST Beneficiary is: 75 % of the admissible cost incurred subject to maximum financial assistance of Rs. 9,00,000/- whichever is less.	An amount of Rs. 47.825 lakhs have been released 8 nursery rearing units in the past three years.
Establishment of shrimp handling facilities in farms for improved food safety premises	Improving handling infrastructure from harvest to storage and providing bio-toilets on farms can enhance quality and reduce contamination risks. These measures ensure better hygiene, minimizing the chances of pathogenic contamination and preserving the quality of harvested shrimp.	50% of the admissible cost incurred subject to maximum financial assistance of Rs. 10,00,000/- per Ha Water Spread Area of aqua farm owned by farmer, whichever is less. Proposed assistance to SC/ST Beneficiary will be: 75% of the admissible cost incurred subject to maximum financial assistance of Rs. 15,00,000/- per Ha Water Spread Area of aqua farm owned by farmer, whichever is less.	An amount of Rs. 81.6 lakhs has been released to 9 shrimp handling centres in the past three years.
Establishment of aquafarms for diversified aquaculture of Scampi/Mud Crab/ GIFT/Sea bass	Shrimp, particularly L. Vannamei, dominates India's aquaculture sector but diversifying production is crucial for sustainable growth. MPEDA's Export Strategy highlights promoting species like	50% of the admissible cost incurred subject to maximum financial assistance of Rs. 5,00,000/- per ha, whichever is less & eligible up to 2.0 Ha.	An amount of Rs. 31.45 lakhs has been released to 6 diversified Aquafarms in the past three years

	GIFT (Tilapia), Seabass, Mud Crab and Scampi, supported by Rajiv Gandhi Centre for Aquaculture's seed production technology. To boost exports, MPEDA proposes financial support for farmers investing in farming these species, covering components like earthwork, pumps, aerators, biosecurity measures, seeds and feed.	WSA per farmer. Proposed assistance to SC/ST Beneficiary shall be: 75% of the total project Cost or up to maximum Rs. 7.5 lakh / 1 Ha whichever is less will be provided & eligible up to 2.0 Ha. WSA per farmer.	
Establishment of hatcheries for diversified species having export demand	Seed and feed are critical inputs for promoting the culture of diversified species like Seabass, Cobia, Pompano, Crab, GIFT and Grouper. To ensure quality seed production, more hatcheries equipped with state-of-the-art technology, biosecurity systems, diagnostic labs, and effluent treatment systems must be established, adopting Better Management Practices. The proposed scheme supports establishing such hatcheries for diversified species, including Seabass, Crab, and GIFT, to boost aquaculture growth.	For Sea bass and Mud crab species- 50% of capital cost or up to Rs. 1.0 crore whichever is less will be provided. For GIFT - 50% of the capital cost or Rs. 25 lakhs whichever is less will be provided. Proposed assistance to SC/ST Beneficiary: 75% of the Capital Cost up to Rs.1.5 crore for seabass and Mud crab 75% capital cost up to Rs. 37.5 lakhs for GIFT Hatchery	An amount of Rs. 114. 55 lakh has been released to 2 diversified hatcheries (GIFT & Seabass) the past three years
Shaphari Certification of farms and hatcheries	Shaphari is an aquaculture certification program aligning with FAO guidelines to ensure disease-free, antibiotic-free shrimp seed and promote better management practices. Certified hatcheries and farms enhance the credibility of shrimp exports with exporters using the certification as a trusted document in trade.	50% of the Audit & Testing cost will be borne MPEDA for hatcheries & there is no audit/testing fee to be borne by farmer.	Currently, 16 hatcheries and 344.21 hectares of farm area are certified under Shaphari, supporting high-health shrimp production in India.

Source: MPEDA
