

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

RAJYA SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1172
TO BE ANSWERED ON 10TH DECEMBER, 2025

National Framework on Traceability in Fisheries and Aquaculture

1172 Shri Ashokrao Shankarrao Chavan:

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

- (a) whether Government has recently unveiled the 'National Framework on Traceability in Fisheries and Aquaculture 2025' on the occasion of World Fisheries Day;
- (b) if so, details thereof along with aims and objective of framework;
- (c) whether Government has introduced any mechanism for implementing digital traceability systems across fishing vessels, aquaculture farms, processing units and supply chains, if so, details thereof;
- (d) whether Government has initiated any pilot projects or collaborations with States/UTs for the rollout of framework, if so, details thereof; and
- (e) the steps/measures taken/being taken by Government to support fishermen, aquaculture farmers and related stakeholders in adopting this new system?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF FISHERIES, ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING
(SHRI RAJIV RANJAN SINGH ALIAS LALAN SINGH)

(a) to (c): The Department of Fisheries, Ministry of Fisheries, Animal Husbandry and Dairying, Government of India has recently released the National Framework on Traceability in Fisheries and Aquaculture 2025 on the occasion of World Fisheries Day celebrated on 21st November, 2025. The framework provides for establishment of a national digital traceability system for fisheries and aquaculture to ensure compliance with domestic and international regulations, promote food safety, enhance sustainability, and improve market access. The framework is a transformative initiative to modernize India's fisheries and aquaculture sector, ensuring sustainability, food safety, and global competitiveness. The objectives of the framework are given below:

- i.) Establish a unified national digital traceability system for fisheries and aquaculture.
- ii.) Ensure compliance with domestic and international regulations on fish and fishery products.
- iii.) Promote food safety, hygiene and quality assurance through transparent digital documentation system.

- iv.) Enhance sustainability and resource management by discouraging IUU fishing, supporting ecosystem-based management.
- v.) Bring transparency, accountability, and enhancing consumer confidence in the fisheries and aquaculture value chains.
- vi.) Empower regulators with digital tools for licensing, inspections, certifications, and risk management.
- vii.) Facilitate participation of small-scale fishers and farmers in domestic and international trade of fish and fishery products.
- viii.) Support data-driven decision-making for fisheries governance and ease of doing business.

The National Traceability system envisages implementation of traceability across the entire fisheries and aquaculture value chains, covering all production sources, post-harvest activities, and market segments including fishing vessels, aquaculture farms, processing units and supply chains by mapping the fisheries and aquaculture value Chains and addressing domestic and export market requirements. The framework provides for phased, inclusive, and technology-driven approach to ensure that both small-scale operators and large commercial enterprises can comply without disruption.

(d) to (e): As the framework has been launched recently on 21.11.2025, the Department of Fisheries, Ministry of Fisheries, Animal Husbandry and Dairying, Government of India has not undertaken any pilot projects on traceability so far. The framework provides for a National Level Governance Committee (NLGC) as an apex body providing strategic oversight, inter-agency coordination, and policy guidance to ensure the effective implementation of the framework. It also provides for an Adoption Committee under the overall guidance of NLGC to recommend mechanism for adoption of IT based national traceability in fisheries and aquaculture by different stakeholders including fishermen, aquaculture farmers and related stakeholders. Further, it also provides for training, capacity building and orientation to these stakeholders for better understanding, implementation and adoption.
