

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

RAJYA SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 378
TO BE ANSWERED ON 3rd December, 2025

Deep-sea fishing and blue economy initiative

378 # Shri Amar Pal Maurya:

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

- (a) the objectives of the initiative to promote deep-sea fishing with cooperative leadership and the institutional arrangements that have been made for its implementation;
- (b) the role of the Ministry of Cooperation and the Department of Fisheries in facilitating this program through cooperatives and Fish Farmer Producer Organizations (FFPOs); and
- (c) the details of the assistance being given for the development of marine infrastructure under schemes such as the Pradhan Mantri Matsya Sampada Yojana (PMMSY) and the Fisheries and Aquaculture Infrastructure Development Fund (FIDF)?

ANSWER

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

(a) and (b) : The Department of Fisheries, Government of India is implementing a flagship scheme *Pradhan Mantri Matsya Sampada Yojana* (PMMSY) which aims to enhance the overall growth of the fisheries sector and wellbeing of the fishers and fish farmers. One of the key objectives of PMMSY is to empower the traditional and small-scale fishers to undertake deep-sea fishing. Under PMMSY, financial support is provided to traditional fishers for acquisition of deep-sea fishing vessels (DSFVs) as well as upgradation of existing fishing vessels for export competency.

Adopting the “whole of Government approach”, the Department of Fisheries, Gol is collaborating with the Ministry of Cooperation through a Joint Working Group (JWG), to promote small-scale fishermen’s participation in deep-sea fishing, value-chain development, processing and exports. The Ministry of Cooperation supports this initiative by strengthening cooperative institutions and facilitating access to cooperative credit through National Cooperative Development Corporation (NCDC). In Maharashtra, 14 DSFVs have been supported by NCDC with a total project cost of ₹20.30 crore, including NCDC loan assistance of ₹11.55 crore, PMMSY assistance of ₹6.72 crore, and society contribution of ₹2.03 crore. Adopting this model two societies of fishermen of Mumbai city

have recently received 02 DSFVs under PMMSY on 27.10.2025. This initiative is a model example of cooperative-led development in the fisheries sector empowering traditional fishermen to reach to deeper waters, and ensuring that India moves towards more sustainable and economically rewarding marine harvesting practices. This mechanism is strengthening the efforts of the Government to facilitate credit support, new technology, training and insurance to the small sector fishermen, societies and cooperatives to acquire and operate modern DSFVs and setting up of processing facilities.

(c): The Pradhan Mantri Matsya Sampada Yojana (PMMSY) is implemented with a highest ever investment of Rs. 20,050 crore with effect from Financial Year 2020-21 for holistic development of fisheries and wellbeing of fishermen and fish farmers. The Department of Fisheries, Government of India, is also implementing the Fisheries and Aquaculture Infrastructure Development Fund (FIDF) with a total fund size of Rs 7522.48 crore since 2018-19. The Government of India has, *inter alia*, approved for providing credit guarantee facility under the FIDF while it was extended for a period of 3 years (FY 2023-24 to FY 2025-26).

The PMMSY *inter-alia* envisages support towards livelihood strengthening activities such as providing boats and nets to traditional fishermen, support for communication and tracking devices, providing sea-safety kits, insurance cover to fishers, support for acquisition of deep-sea fishing vessels, alternative/additional livelihood activities like seaweed cultivation & bivalve culture, training & skill development, support towards cold-chain and marketing facilities, etc. Besides, the scheme also envisages construction of Fishing Harbours and Fish Landing Centres ensuring safe landing and berthing of fishing boats/vessels. Whereas, FIDF *inter-alia* provides concessional finance for development of various fisheries and aquaculture infrastructure facilities to the Eligible Entities (EEs), including State Governments/Union Territories and State entities for development of identified fisheries infrastructure facilities including construction of Fishing Harbours and Fish Landing Centres, Deep Sea Fishing Vessels, Cold chain facilities, Fish Markets and Mariculture Units and its allied activities for supporting coastal livelihood empowerment, fish export growth and sustainable resource management.
