

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

RAJYA SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO - 1983
ANSWERED ON 05/08/2026

POTENTIAL OF BLACK TIGER SHRIMP FROM WEST BENGAL

1983. SHRI BISWAJIT SINHA (RAHUL SINHA):

Will the MINISTER OF FISHERIES, ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING be pleased to state:

- (a) State-wise productivity per hectare of black tiger shrimp (*Penaeus monodon*) as per latest data, and whether West Bengal's ~0.38 MT/hectare/year is attributable to traditional extensive farming and inadequate Specific Pathogen Free (SPF) post-larvae availability;
- (b) Whether SPF broodstock infrastructure in eastern India is inadequate, forcing dependence on wild-caught broodstock carrying White Spot Syndrome Virus, and steps taken to address this;
- (c) Whether consignments from West Bengal have faced rejection in export markets including Japan and EU due to antibiotic residue; and
- (d) Funds allocated under PMMSY for West Bengal's Black Tiger Shrimp Sector, including pond productivity and cluster-level export certification support?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF FISHERIES, ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING

(SHRI RAJIV RANJAN SINGH ALIAS LALAN SINGH)

(a) As reported by Marine Products Export Development Authority (MPEDA), the productivity of *Penaeus monodon* varies across coastal States depending on farming practices, infrastructure and production systems. The State-wise productivity for 2024-25 is at **Annexure-I**. In West Bengal, the estimated productivity was 0.45 MT/Ha/Crop, reflecting the predominance of traditional extensive brackishwater farms (*bheries*) in the Sundarbans that operate at low stocking densities and depend on natural tidal exchange. The Department of Fisheries has not conducted any specific study to assess the productivity of *P monodon* in farming systems in West Bengal. Productivity is generally influenced by multiple parameters such as farming systems, seed quality, water management, health of the stock, biosecurity, adoption of scientific practices and environmental conditions. MPEDA, Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) Institutes and the State Government continue to promote scientific aquaculture and technical interventions to enhance productivity.

(b) The Government is implementing several interventions under Pradhan Mantri Matsya Sampada Yojana (PMMSY) for development of brackishwater aquaculture, including support for quality seed production, pond construction, biosecurity measures, disease diagnostics, feed, post-harvest infrastructure, value addition, market linkages and capacity building. MPEDA, through National Centre for Sustainable Aquaculture (NaCSA), promotes cluster-based aquaculture besides promoting Better Management Practices (BMPs), SHAPHARI certification, pre-harvest testing, farmer training, technical support and awareness on antimicrobial resistance to improve productivity, sustainability and export competitiveness.

(c) As per reports received from MPEDA, there have been two antibiotic residue-related seafood export rejections pertaining to processing units located in West Bengal during 2025.

(d) Under PMMSY, projects amounting to ₹546.38 crore have been approved for West Bengal during 2020-21 to 2025-26, with a Central share of ₹223.26 crore, against which ₹95.54 crore has been released. The approved projects cover freshwater hatcheries, brackishwater pond construction, biofloc units, fish feed mills, disease diagnostic and referral laboratories, cold chain infrastructure, value-addition enterprises, modernization of fishing harbours, wholesale fish markets and other post-harvest facilities supporting overall aquaculture development and seafood exports.

Annexure-I

Statement referred in reply to part (a) of Rajya Sabha Unstarred Question No. 1983 put in by Shri Biswajit Sinha (Rahul Sinha), Hon'ble Member of Parliament, Lok Sabha for answer on 05th August, 2026, regarding Potential of black tiger shrimp from West Bengal

State-wise Productivity of Black Tiger Shrimp (<i>Penaeus monodon</i>) during 2024–25			
State	Area under Culture (Ha)	Estimated Production (MT)	Productivity (MT/Ha/Crop)
Andhra Pradesh	1,050	9,724	4.63
Gujarat	7486	31997	4.27
Keralam	3037	1050	0.35
Karnataka & Goa	2,200	355	0.16
Maharashtra	172	278	1.62
Odisha	44	76	1.72
Tamil Nadu & Puducherry	133	449	3.38
West Bengal*	51,650	23,110	0.45

* Includes production from traditional brackishwater farms (bheries).

Source: MPEDA
