

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

LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2271
TO BE ANSWERED ON 14TH MARCH, 2023

Sagar Mitras

2271. SHRI PRATAP CHANDRA SARANGI:

Will the Minister of **FISHERIES, ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING** मत्स्य पालन, पशु पालन और डेयरी मंत्री be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has data on number of Sagar Mitras to be appointed;
- (b) the details of their qualifications, salaries and recruitment procedure;
- (c) whether the Government is aware about the recruiting agencies asking bribes from the candidates;
- (d) if so, whether the Government plans to take any action against such recruiters; and
- (e) if not, the reasons there for?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF FISHERIES, ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING

(SHRI PARSHOTTAM RUPALA)

(a) and (b): The Pradhan Mantri Matsya Sampada Yojana (PMMSY) presently implemented by the Department of Fisheries, Ministry of Fisheries, Animal Husbandry and Dairying envisages engagement of a total of 3477 Sagar Mitras and deploy them at the rate of one Sagar Mitra per coastal fishing village in the maritime States/UTs. Initially it was envisaged that the Sagar Mitra shall be a fisheries professional possessing minimum Bachelor degree in Fisheries Science/Marine Biology/Zoology. Based on the requests received from the coastal State Governments and Union Territories(UTs), the qualification of Sagar Mitra is now fixed at 12th pass in Science stream with the preference to those candidates (i) having higher qualification, (ii) persons from local fisher communities and also (iii) women candidates. Further, PMMSY stipulates that engagement of Sagar Mitra will be done by the respective State Governments and UTs based on adoption of an appropriate merit-based selection method and through the local fishers Cooperative Society of the village/direct engagement/through outsourcing agency as per the local conditions. The incentive/honorarium of Rs 15000/-per Sagar Mitra per month is fixed under the PMMSY. Besides, PMMSY allow to pay (i) an amount of Rs. 300/- per month per Sagar Mitra as mobile phone user allowance over and above the fixed honorarium, (ii) agency charges as service charges at the rate of up to one percent per candidate, (iii) Central and State GST as applicable and (iv) payment towards deductions made against EPF and ESI contribution/payments.

(c) (d) and (e): The Department of Fisheries, Ministry of Fisheries, Animal Husbandry has not come across any such report.
