

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF COMMERCE & INDUSTRY  
(DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE)

**LOK SABHA**  
**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 483**  
**TO BE ANSWERED ON 16<sup>th</sup> SEPTEMBER, 2020**

**PROMOTION OF AQUACULTURE**

483. SHRI BALASHOWRY VALLABHANENI:

Will the Minister of **COMMERCE & INDUSTRY** (वाणिज्य एवं उद्योग मंत्री) be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government is planning to promote aquaculture in the country with particular reference to Andhra Pradesh;
- (b) if so, whether there are any plans to develop clusters for better development of aquaculture in the country;
- (c) if so, the details thereof;
- (d) the details of the efforts being made by the Marine Products Exports Development Authority (MPEDA) to promote and push aquaculture production in the country and achieve, at least, a minimum of 15% growth every year; and
- (e) the impact of COVID-19 on aquaculture exports and how Ministry is going to address this along with helping aqua farmers, particularly in Andhra Pradesh?

**ANSWER**

वाणिज्य एवं उद्योग मंत्री ( श्री पीयूष गोयल )  
THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY  
(SHRI PIYUSH GOYAL)

(a), (b) & (C): Yes Sir. Pradhan Mantri Matsya Sampada Yojana (PMMSY) has been launched by Government of India, to harness the full potential of the fisheries sector in a sustainable manner, with a focus on 'Cluster or Area based approaches' and creation of Fisheries Clusters, with backward and forward linkages for convergence with other schemes and programs of Central/UT Governments. The scheme also envisages addressing the critical gaps in the value chain, infrastructure, modernization, traceability, production, post-harvest management and quality control. MPEDA, through its society, the National Centre for Sustainable Aquaculture (NaCSA), is supporting the initiative through formation of village based societies to augment aquaculture and its productivity.

(d): MPEDA has also taken many other steps to promote aquaculture production in the country, like increasing the area under coastal aquaculture in coordination with state governments, increase in productivity by enabling adoption of advanced technologies by aqua-farmers, diversification of species, transferring good practices through demonstration programs, addressing quality and

traceability issues through a certification scheme, etc. MPEDA is working in close coordination with Deptt of Fisheries, to promote aquaculture production in the country.

(e): The export of marine products has been adversely impacted during COVID-19 period. Deptt. of Fisheries and MPEDA have taken measures to support aqua-farmers including those in Andhra Pradesh. MPEDA has assisted aqua-farmers in obtaining logistic clearances during lock down, pre-harvest testing for antibiotics residues, facility for online filing processes and issuance of certificates, extended timelines for compulsory returns, early resumption of export of marine products, virtual buyer-seller meets / webinars, etc.

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