

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

**LOKSABHA
STARRED QUESTION No.*316
TO BE ANSWERED ON 17TH DECEMBER, 2024**

Benefits to Sagarmitras under PMMSY

***316. Shri Shafi Parambil:**

Will the Minister of FISHERIES, ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING मत्स्यपालन, पशुपालन और डेयरीमंत्री be pleased to state:

- (a) the details and number of Sagarmitras recruited under the Pradhan Mantri Matsya Sampada Yojana (PMMSY) across the country, State-wise;
- (b) the details of employment, basic qualification, recruitment process, salary and other benefits provided to the Sagarmitras under PMMSY;
- (c) whether the Sagarmitras are remunerated with low salaries, if so, the details thereof; and
- (d) whether the Government has any plan to increase their salary and Travelling Allowance (TA), if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

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

(a) to (d): A Statement is placed on the Table of the House.

Statement referred to in reply to the Lok Sabha Starred Question No.316 due for answer on 17th December, 2024 put in by Shri Shafi Parambil, Hon'ble Member of Parliament, Lok Sabha regarding Benefits to Sagarmitras under PMMSY

(a) to (d) : The Department of Fisheries under the Ministry of Fisheries, Animal Husbandry and Dairying is implementing the flagship scheme Pradhan Mantri Matsya Sampada Yojana (PMMSY) for a period of 5 years from financial year 2020-21 to FY 2024-25 in all the States and Union Territories at a total outlay of Rs.20050 crore. The Department of Fisheries, Government of India during the last four financial years (FY 2020-21 to 2023-24) and current financial year (FY2024-25), has approved fisheries developmental proposals of various State Governments, Union Territories and other Implementing Agencies at a total cost of Rs.20864.29 crore with central share of Rs. 8871.45 crore under the PMMSY. The concerted efforts of the Governments, fishers, fish farmers and other fisheries stakeholders during the period of implementation of PMMSY has resulted in (i) increase of annual fish production in the country from 141.64 lakh tonne during 2019-20 to an all-time record of 175.45 lakh tonne in 2022-23, (ii) creation of direct and indirect employment opportunities to about 58 lakh persons in fishing and aquaculture related activities on account of the fisheries development projects, (iii) increase in fisheries export from Rs.46,663 crore in 2019-20 to Rs.60,525 crore in 2023-24, (iv) enhanced per capita fish consumption from 5-6 kg to 12-13 kg, (v) enhanced aquaculture productivity to 4.7 tonne per hectare, (vi) reduction of post harvest losses to 10-15% and increase in contribution of fisheries in National GVA from 0.98% (in 2019-20) to 1.12% (in 2022-23) (at constant prices), in Agriculture GVA from 6.52% in 2019-20 to 7.26% in 2022-23 (at constant prices).

The Pradhan Mantri Matsya Sampada Yojana (PMMSY) *inter-alia* envisaged engagement of a total of 3477 Sagar Mitras through outsourcing on contractual basis during the scheme period and deploy them at the rate of one Sagar Mitra per coastal fishing village in the maritime States/UTs. Their roles and responsibilities include:

- (i) to interface between the Government and fishers and act as first person of contact for any marine fisheries related demands/services of fishers
- (ii) to create awareness among the local fishers on various schemes and programmes of Central and State Government
- (iii) enforcement of fishing ban and monitoring of fishing crafts and colour coding.
- (iv) to assist the State/UT Fisheries Department in identification of eligible beneficiaries for various schemes of centre and state
- (v) dissemination of information on weather forecast, Potential Fishing Zone(PFZ) and natural calamities
- (vi) create awareness among the fishers about the hygienic handling of fish, personal hygiene, healthy living and working conditions

- (vii) sensitizing the fishers on sustainable utilisation of fisheries resources and relevant regulation including Code of Conduct for Responsible Fisheries(CCRF), importance of ocean and coastal ecosystem conservation, prevention of IUU fishing etc.
- (viii) to promote women empowerment through alternative livelihood, post harvest and marketing activities
- (ix) to compile information/data on daily fish production, fish price and marketing information, fishing vessels including their entry and exist at fishing harbours and fish landing centres and provide such data to the government
- (x) to mobilize fishers for training or impart training
- (xi) to report any unusual activities activity/incident in their jurisdiction
- (xii) mobilisation of fishermen for conduct of KCC camps, insurance and livelihood program
- (xiii) to assist the district administration during the cyclone/storm and other natural calamity and extension of relief and rehabilitation measures to fishermen
- (xiv) perform any other tasks as may be entrusted by Central and State/UT Governments.

Based on the proposals of States/UTs, the Department of Fisheries, Government of India has approved 2494 Sagar Mitras, and out of these a total of 2015 Sagar Mitras have been engaged. The State-wise details of the Sagar Mitras approved and Sagar Mitras engaged by States/UTs are furnished at **Annexure-I**.

Under the PMMSY initially it was envisaged that the Sagar Mitra shall be a fisheries professional possessing minimum Bachelor Degree in Fisheries Science/Marine Biology/Zoology. Subsequently, 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 Mitras is done by the respective State Governments and UTs based on adoption of an appropriate merit-based selection method only through the local fishers Cooperative Society of the village or direct engagement through interview or through outsourcing agency as per the local conditions. PMMSY provides to fix the incentive at Rs 15000/- per Sagar Mitra per month and an amount of Rs. 300/- per month per Sagar Mitra as mobile phone user allowance. In addition, candidates engaged as Sagar Mitras are provided intensive training on quarterly basis for 2 weeks duration. Presently there is no proposal under consideration of the Government to increase the incentive of Sagar Mitras.

Annexure-I

Statement referred to in reply to the Lok Sabha Starred Question No.316 regarding Benefits to Sagarmitras under PMMSY put in by Shri Shafi Parambil due for answer on 17th December, 2024

Sl. No.	Name of the State/UT	Number of Sagar Mitras Approved	Number of Sagar Mitras engaged as reported by States/UTs
1.	Andaman & Nicobar	70	54
2.	Andhra Pradesh	350	325
3.	Daman & Diu, Dadra & Nagar Haveli	06	00
4.	Goa	38	38
5.	Gujarat	260	114
6.	Karnataka	120	35
7.	Kerala	222	222
8.	Lakshadweep	10	00
9.	Maharashtra	173	162
10.	Odisha	600	486
11.	Puducherry	37	00
12.	Tamil Nadu	608	579
13.	West Bengal	0	0
	Total	2494	2015
