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

LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION No. 2340 TO BE ANSWERED ON 10TH DECEMBER, 2024

Fishermen and Aquaculture Farmer

2340. Shri Malaiyarasan D:

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

- (a) the details of the Pradhan Mantri Matsya Kisan Samridhi Yojana (PMMKSY) and the specific benefits it provides to fishermen and aquaculture farmers in the country;
- (b) the details of funds allocated and disbursed under PMMKSY within Tamil Nadu for the past three years;
- (c) the steps being taken to ensure that fishermen and aquaculture farmers, particularly in remote areas, have easy access to the financial assistance and technical support provided under PMMKSY;
- (d) the measures being implemented to increase fish production, enhance sustainable fishing practices, and improve market access for the products of small and medium fishermen under this scheme; and
- (e) whether the Government plans to introduce any reforms or expansion of the PMMKSY, if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

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

(a) The Department of Fisheries, Ministry of Fisheries Animal Husbandry and Dairying is implementing a new Central Sector Sub-scheme namely the Pradhan Mantri Matsya Kisan Samridhi Sah-Yojana (PM-MKSSY) under the ongoing Pradhan Mantri Matsya Sampada Yojana (PMMSY) for a period of four years from FY 2023-24 to FY 2026-27 at an estimated outlay of ₹6000 crore comprising of ₹3,000 crore the public finance and the remaining ₹3,000 crore corresponding private investment. The targeted beneficiaries under the PM-MKSSY *inter alia* include Fishermen, aquaculture farmers, fish workers, fish vendors, fisheries micro and small enterprises, Cooperatives, Federations, Village Level Organizations like Self Help Groups (SHGs), Fish Farmers Producer Organizations (FFPOs), Farmers Producer Organizations (FPOs), Startups, etc.

The Sub-scheme has four components such as Component 1-A: Formalization of fisheries sector and facilitating access of fisheries microenterprises to Government of India programs for working capital financing, Component 1-B: Facilitating adoption of aquaculture insurance, Component 2: Supporting microenterprises to improve fisheries sector value chain efficiencies, Component 3: Adoption and expansion of fish and fishery product safety and quality assurance systems, and Component 4: Project management, monitoring and reporting.

Under these components, the Sub-scheme provides support for: (i) formalization of the unorganized part of fisheries sector through National Fisheries Digital Platform and its Apps (ii) facilitating access to institutional credit, (iii) adoption of aquaculture insurance by providing 'one-time incentive' to the farmers by providing 40% of the premium (up to ₹25,000 per hectare, or ₹1 lakh per farmer for 4 hectares, SC/ST and women beneficiaries get an additional 10% incentive (iv) improvement of fisheries value-chain efficiencies and establishment of supply chains of safe fish products to consumers under Component 2&3 through Performance grant for a Microenterprise i.e. 25% of the total investment or Rs.35 lakhs, whichever is lower, for General Category and 35% of total investment or Rs.45 lakhs, whichever is lower, for SC, ST and Women owned microenterprises. In addition, Performance Grant for Village Level Organizations and Federations of SHGs, FFPOs and Cooperatives shall not exceed 35% of total investment or Rs.15,000 per year for creation and maintenance of jobs for a men and woman respectively subject to the limit of 50% of total eligible grant.

(b) The PM-MKSSY is a Central Sector Sub-scheme and no funds has been allocated to the State Government under this Sub-scheme as such. Under the PMMSY, the Department of Fisheries, Government of India during the last four years (2020-21 to 2023-24) and current year (2024-25) has sanctioned projects to the tune of Rs.1152.85 crore to Government of Tamil Nadu with central share of Rs. 445.36 crore and released Rs 136.31 crore so far. The major projects include establishment of multipurpose seaweed park, development of harbours and fish landing centres, installation of artificial reefs, development of brood banks, area expansion in fresh and brackishwater aquaculture, seaweed culture rafts and monoline culture, ornamental breeding and rearing units, biofloc, recirculatory aquaculture systems, Livelihood and nutritional support during annual fishing ban period etc.

(c) For facilitating easy access to benefit available under PMMKSSY including financial and technical support, the entire process of application by the intended beneficiaries has been made available online.

(d) The Sub-scheme aims to undertake training and capacity building in the form of financial literacy, facilitating project preparation and documentation, besides dissemination of information related to new technology, adoption of Good Management Practices and Best Management Practices, Sustainable Fisheries Management etc. through outreach programs. These measures contribute in increasing fish production, enhancing sustainable fishing practices, and improving market access for the products of small and medium fishermen under this scheme.

(e) The Sub-scheme has new concept of incentivisation in terms of performance grant to enhance production and productivity and adoption of quality assurance systems, enhancing of value chain efficiency and risk mitigation provision.
