

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

**LOK SABHA**

**STARRED QUESTION NO. 355  
TO BE ANSWERED ON 25<sup>th</sup> March, 2025**

**Growth in Fisheries Sector**

**\*355. Dr. D. Purandeswari:**

Will the Minister of FISHERIES, ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of factors contributing to the growth of India's fisheries sector and its rising contribution of approximately 8% to global fish production;
- (b) the details of initiatives, policy interventions and technological advancements that have facilitated this expansion and improved productivity in the fisheries industry particularly in Andhra Pradesh;
- (c) the significance of sustainable fishing practices and marine resource management in ensuring long-term sectoral growth while maintaining ecological balance; and
- (d) the steps taken to enhance India's fisheries exports, strengthen its global market position and improve competitiveness in international trade?

**ANSWER**

**THE MINISTER FOR 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. 355 regarding 'Growth in Fisheries Sector' put in by Dr. D. Purandeswari due for answer on 25<sup>th</sup> March, 2025**

(a) and (b) India's fisheries sector is experiencing significant growth, achieving a record production of 184.02 lakh tons and contributing approximately 8% to global fish production. During last 10 years, the Government of India has stepped up investments in fisheries and aquaculture sector with a cumulative investment to the tune of Rs 38,572 crore through various programmes and initiatives namely Blue Revolution Scheme, Fisheries and Aquaculture Infrastructure Development Fund (FIDF), Pradhan Mantri Matsya Sampada Yojana, Pradhan Mantri Matsya Kisan Samridhi Sah-Yojana (PMMKSSY). The BR Scheme with its multi-dimensional activities implemented for 5 years from 2015-16 to 2019-20 infused an investment of about Rs. 5000 crore into the fisheries sector. The FIDF launched in 2018-19 with a fund size of Rs 7,522.48 crore, provides concessional financing for fisheries-related projects. A total of 141 proposals, including fishing harbours, fish landing centers, and processing units, worth Rs 5,915.54 crore, have been approved under this scheme. The PMMSY, in operation from 2020-2025 with an estimated investment of Rs 20,050 crore, focuses on bridging critical gaps in production, technology, post-harvest infrastructure, value chain modernization, fisheries management, and fisher welfare. To date, Rs 20,990.79 crore worth of projects have been approved, with a central share of Rs 8,926.29 crore. The Pradhan Mantri Matsya Kisan Samridhi Sah-Yojana (PMMKSSY) aims to formalize the fisheries sector, incentivize aquaculture insurance, improve value chains for micro and small enterprises, and ensure safe fish production, with an investment of Rs 6,000 crore. Further, since 2018-19, the government has extended the Kisan Credit Card (KCC) facility to fishers and fish farmers, sanctioning loan amount of Rs 2,982.58 crore through 4.63 lakh KCCs to support their working capital needs.

The schemes of the Department have emphasized expansion of aquaculture through adoption of advanced aquaculture technologies such as biofloc, Recirculatory Aquaculture System (RAS), raceways, and cage culture units. These interventions have helped improving the productivity and reducing production costs. In the marine fisheries sector, upgradation of fishing vessels for export competency, introduction of deep sea fishing vessels and the establishment of smart and integrated fishing harbors have contributed to sustaining the production growth.

An investment of Rs 2887.05 crores have been made in Andhra Pradesh under the Blue Revolution and PMMSY schemes since 2015-16. Under the PMMSY, the DoF, MoFAH&D, Government of India has approved the proposals received from the Government of Andhra Pradesh for 39 activities (32 beneficiary components and 7 non-beneficiary components) at a total cost of Rs. 2398.72 crore, with a central share of Rs. 559.10 crore. Under FIDF, ten infrastructure projects worth Rs 1396.83 crore were approved for the Andhra Pradesh state. The Government of Andhra Pradesh has informed that the regulatory framework brought in by the state for development of aquaculture together with the schematic interventions have helped the development of the fisheries and aquaculture in the State leading to an increase in fish production from 20.18 Lakh tonnes in 2013-14 to 51.58 lakh tonnes in 2023-24.

(c) To ensure the long-term growth and ecological balance of Indian fisheries sector, the Government of India has notified the 'National Policy on Marine Fisheries, 2017' to guide responsible and sustainable marine fishing in the country. The DoF, GoI, in consultation with scientific institutions advises the coastal States/UTs to take steps for optimizing fishing efforts and implementing measures to ensure sustainable fisheries. Destructive practices like paired bottom trawling and LED light fishing are banned in the Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ), and a uniform 61-day seasonal fishing ban is enforced to protect breeding stocks. Juvenile fishing is also discouraged. Further, under the flagship scheme of the Department "Pradhan Mantri Matsya Sampada Yojana (PMMSY)", assistance is provided for activities such as sea ranching, mariculture, installation of Artificial Reefs and Seaweed Cultivation, etc. for enhancing the fish stocks, habitat restoration, promoting additional livelihood for fishers and coastal communities to alleviate fishing pressure in the inshore areas; and for overall enhancement of marine fish production in a sustainable manner. Coastal states/UTs manage territorial waters through Marine Fishing Regulation Acts (MFRAs) including reserving zones for traditional fishers who are using non-motorized and motorized fishing boats. The status of stocks is periodically reviewed by the research institutes ICAR-Central Marine Fisheries Research Institute (CMFRI) and the Fishery Survey of India periodically. As per the latest report, 91.1% of the 135 fish stocks in different regions are in healthy and sustainable state.

(d) The Pradhan Mantri Matsya Sampada Yojana (PMMSY), a flagship scheme implemented for overall development of fisheries and aquaculture sector in the country, inter-alia envisages to enhance fisheries exports to Rs 1.0 lakh crores by 2024-25. In order to enhance India's export competitiveness and higher price realization, the PMMSY supports a basket of interventions/activities along the fisheries value chain including quality fish production, expansion, diversification and intensification of brackish water aquaculture, promotion of export-oriented species, infusion of technology, robust disease management and traceability, training and capacity building, creation of modern postharvest infrastructure with seamless cold chain, development of modern fishing harbours and fish landing centres, etc. The seafood exports of India have more than doubled since FY 2013-14. While the seafood exports stood at Rs 30,213 crore in 2013-14, the same has increased to Rs. 60,523.89 crore during FY 2023-24.

The Government of India, Ministry of Commerce and Industry has established the Marine Products Export Development Authority (MPEDA) as a dedicated agency to facilitate export of seafood. The MPEDA promotes Indian fisheries products through brand promotion, exporter enrolment, and importer liaison. It enhances industry capacity via training, awareness campaigns, workshops, and *chintan shivirs*. To explore new markets, MPEDA participates in international trade fairs, organizes Buyer-Seller Meets (BSMs) and Reverse Buyer Seller Meets (RBSMs), and collaborates with Indian Missions abroad. To ensure quality meeting international standards, the Export Inspection Council (EIC), Department of Commerce conducts periodic awareness and training programs for relevant stakeholders across the value chain. The Government also conducts bilateral meetings with major importers (U.S., EU, China, Japan) to boost seafood exports. To strengthen India's seafood sector globally, the government is facilitating ease of business by amending regulations, streamlining imports and reducing import duties on key aquafeed ingredients, aquaculture inputs, and fish processing ingredients .

\*\*\*