

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

LOK SABHA

**UNSTARRED QUESTION No. 3946
TO BE ANSWERED ON 25th March 2025**

Aquaculture and Marine Export

3946. Shri Balashowry Vallabhaneni:

Will the MINISTER OF FISHERIES, ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of projects aimed at promoting sustainability in aquaculture and marine exports did Marine Products Exports Development Authority (MPEDA) implement during the last year;
- (b) the details of these projects and their outcomes, project-wise; and
- (c) the measures MPEDA has taken to ensure environmentally sustainable practices in shrimp farming and seaweed cultivation?

ANSWER

**MINISTER OF STATE FOR FISHERIES, ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING
(SHRI GEORGE KURIAN)**

(a) to (b) 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. MPEDA, through its field offices in maritime States and registered societies like NaCSA (National Centre for Sustainable Aquaculture), NETFISH (Network for Fish Quality Management & Sustainable Fishing) and RGCA (Rajiv Gandhi Centre for Aquaculture) is taking various activities to promote sustainable aquaculture and marine exports. In aquaculture, MPEDA focused on capacity building for better management practices, antibiotic reduction through initiatives like "SHAPHARI" certification and ELISA labs, and disease control through Aqua One Centres and mobile labs. MPEDA also supported sustainable shrimp farming through NaCSA and operated seven technology transfer projects via RGCA. In the marine sector, MPEDA, primarily through NETFISH, conducted workshops and trials for Turtle Excluder Device (TED) implementation, supported marine mammal stock assessments for US Marine Mammal Protection Act (MMPA) compliance, promoted eco-friendly fishing gear like square mesh cod ends, and organized numerous coastal clean-up drives and plastic collection projects and hands-on training programs and meets. The details of these projects and their outcomes, project-wise is furnished as Annexure-I and II.

(c) MPEDA has implemented several measures to promote environmentally sustainable shrimp farming by encouraging eco-friendly practices, responsible resource management, and disease prevention strategies. MPEDA also ensure quality and traceability through farm/hatchery enrollment and SHAPHARI certification programs, which include geographical mapping and unique identification numbers. MPEDA supports infrastructure development by providing financial assistance for nursery-rearing units and shrimp handling centers, all aimed at enhancing sustainable practices and ensuring high-quality, safe shrimp production for export. Additionally, through various training programs, MPEDA promote sustainable shrimp farming. With regard to seaweed cultivation, MPEDA-RGCA signed MoU with Department of Fisheries and Fisheries Welfare, Government of Tamil Nadu for supplying the quality germplasm of seaweeds and technical consultant for establishment of Multipurpose Seaweed Aqua Park under *Pradhan Mantri Matsya Sampda Yojana* (PMMSY) assistance.

Statement referred to in reply of part-(a and b) of Lok Sabha unstarred Question No.3946 put in by Shri Balashowry Vallabhaneni, Hon'ble Members of Parliament, Lok Sabha for answer on 25th March, 2025 regarding Aquaculture and Marine Export.

Sl.No.	Name of the project	Name of the produce/ services	No. of Beneficiaries	Quantity supplied
1	Asian Seabass Hatchery, Thoduvai, Tamil Nadu	Seabass fingerlings (nos.)	4300	49.8 million
2	Mud crab Hatchery, Thoduvai, Tamil Nadu	Crab instar (nos.)	919	11.27 million
3	GIFT Tilapia Hatchery Vijayawada, Andra Pradesh	GIFT seed (nos.)	581	50.48 million
		GIFT brood-fry (nos.)	50	84,295
4	Marine Finfish Hatchery, Pozhiyoor, Kerala	Cobia fingerlings (nos.)	95	1,25,091
		Pompano (nos)	115	5,02,250
5	Aquatic Quarantine Facilities for <i>L. vannamei</i> , Chennai, Tamil Nadu	<i>L. vannamei</i> Broodstocks (nos.) quarantined	4,175	25,26,607
		<i>P. monodon</i> broodstocks (nos.) quarantined		28,128
		<i>P. monodon</i> PPLs (nos.) quarantined		1,84,077
		<i>L. vannamei</i> PPLs (nos.)		9,19,431
6	Artemia Demo Farm at Tharuvaikulam&Uppoor, Tamil Nadu	Artemia biomass (kg)	725	9400
		Artemia cyst (tins)		4,673
7	Multispecies Aquaculture Complex (MAC) Vallarpadam, Kerala	GIFT Seed (nos.)	8,704	15.68 million
		Seabass fingerlings (nos.)	1,484	14,12,018
		<i>Etroplus suratensis</i> seed (nos.)	690	12,12,425
		<i>P. monodon</i> seed (nos.)	185	89,69,455
Contribution from RGCA Central Laboratories				
S.No	Laboratory	Testing (by samples)	Samples (Nos)	No. of Beneficiaries
1	Mobile Aquaculture Disease Diagnosis Laboratory	Molecular diseases diagnosis (PCR)	4,570	1,094
		Microbiology & water parameters		
2	Central Aquaculture Pathology Laboratory	Molecular diseases diagnosis (PCR), Microbiology & water parameters, Histology Disease surveillance / NSPAAD, Seed health, PCR-based species identification, Sequencing-based species identification	30,635	4,532
3	Central Aquaculture Genetics Laboratory		24,897	555

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Sl.No.	Hands on Training Program/ Meets	No. of Trainings/ Events	No. of Beneficiaries
1	Best Management Practices of nursery, grow-out and cage culture in earthen ponds for Asian Seabass	95	1,814
2	Best Management Practices of nursery, grow-out and Softshell culture of Mangrove Mud crab	106	1,909
3	Breeding, Seed Production and Grow – out farming of Genetically Improved Farmed Tilapia (GIFT)	79	1,165
4	Artificial Insemination Technique used for SPF Black Tiger Shrimp, <i>Penaeus monodon</i> with special reference to Broodstock Management, Maturation and Seed Production	4	22
5	Hatchery Production of Marine Finfish	2	3
6	Artemia Production & Processing of Cyst and Biomass	8	265
7	PCR and its Application in Aquaculture Pathology	44	945
8	PCR and its Application in Aquaculture Genetics Research	37	773
9	RAS (Re-circulatory Aquaculture System)	1	23
10	Training at MAC, Vallarpadam	13	203
11	Farmers Meet/ Program for SC/ST beneficiaries: on Diversified Aquaculture/	558	17563