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

LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION No. 3979 TO BE ANSWERED ON 25th March 2025

Control Aquatic Animal Diseases

3979. Shri Godam Nagesh:

Shri Rajkumar Chahar:

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

- (a) the preventive measures are being implemented to control aquatic animal diseases:
- (b) whether there are any upcoming policies or schemes focused on aquatic animal health and welfare, if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) (c) the extent to which Ministry collaborating with research institutions and international bodies on this issue?

ANSWER

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

to (c) The Department of Fisheries, Ministry of Fisheries Animal Husbandry and (a) Dairying, Government of India has established a robust framework for early detection, reporting and control of aquatic animal diseases. Under the central sector component of Pradhan Mantri Matsya Sampada Yojana (PMMSY), Department of Fisheries is implementing the National Surveillance Programme for Aquatic Animal Diseases (NSPAAD) through ICAR-National Bureau of Fish Genetic Resources, Lucknow with total outlay of ₹ 33.78 crore. NSPAAD involves systematic surveillance across all the States/UTs in the country to identify disease risk, improve disease management and promote healthy aquatic ecosystem. This is a pan-India program, being implemented in collaboration with 54 partner institutions, includes ICAR fisheries research institutes, namely ICAR- Central Institute of Fisheries Education, Mumbai; ICAR- Central Institute of Brackishwater Aquaculture, Chennai; ICAR-Central Inland Fisheries Research Institute, Barrackpore; ICAR-Central Institute of Freshwater Aquaculture, Bhubaneswar; ICAR-Central Marine Fisheries Research Institute, Kochi; ICAR-Directorate of Coldwater Fisheries Research, Bhimtal; ICAR- Central Institute of Fisheries Technology, Cochin; fisheries colleges /universities and state governments. The programme supports fish farmers by generating awareness, issuing advisories and capacity building campaigns. Under the National Surveillance Programme for Aguatic Animal Diseases (NSPAAD), the Department of Fisheries has also launched an android-based mobile app known as "Report Fish Disease". The app provide a central platform for connecting and integrating fish farmers, field-level officers and fish health experts seamlessly. In addition, the Coastal Aquaculture Authority (CAA) under the Department of Fisheries, Govt. of India promotes biosecurity and disease prevention through farm management guidelines.

To strengthen aquatic health and disease management across the country, the Department of Fisheries under the Pradhan Mantri Matsya Sampda Yojana (PMMSY) has developed a network of 19 disease diagnostic centre and quality testing labs, 31 mobile centres and testing labs and 6 Aquatic referral labs. Additionally, the Department of Fisheries, Govt. of India is actively engaged with World Organization for Animal Health (WOAH), Paris, France and Network of Aquaculture Centres in Asia-Pacific (NACA), Bangkok, Thailand to improve aquatic animal health in India.
