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

LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION No. 3801 TO BE ANSWERED ON 12th AUGUST, 2025

CRCFV and PMMSY in West Bengal

3801. Ms Sayani Ghosh:

Will the MINISTER OF FISHERIES, ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING be

pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government is aware of recent studies indicating that rising salinity and temperature in the Sundarbans estuarine region are adversely affecting fish reproduction, if so, the details thereof and the number of coastal villages affected across West Bengal;
- (b) the steps taken by the Government to support climate-resilient aquaculture practices in coastal areas of West Bengal;
- (c) the total number of Climate Resilient Coastal Fishermen Villages (CRCFV) selected on the West Bengal coastline under the Pradhan Mantri Matsya Sampada Yojana (PMMSY), along with the funds allocated and released to the State; and
- (d) whether the Ministry of Fisheries, Animal Husbandry and Dairying is working in coordination with the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change to incorporate fish biodiversity concerns into coastal climate adaptation plans, if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

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

(a) & (b) There is no specific report received in the Department of Fisheries, Ministry of Fisheries, Animal Husbandry and Dairying regarding rising salinity and temperature in the Sundarbans estuarine region affecting fish reproduction. The fisheries research institutes under the aegis of the Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR), Government of India has been conducting research regularly to understand the interactions between climatic parameters and fisheries to develop mitigation and adaptation strategies. The ICAR has informed that the studies under the National Innovation in Climate Resilient Agriculture (NICRA) indicates the climate change is affecting the fisheries with impacts on fish habitats, including the Sundarbans, physiology of fishes, fish distribution and breeding cycles.

To promote sustainable fisheries amid climate challenges, the Department of Fisheries under PMMSY is promoting climate resilient livelihood activities like aquaculture. Under the component, Climate Resilient Coastal Fishermen Villages (CRCFVs). 100 coastal fishermen villages located near India's coastline are identified for development as climate resilient coastal fishermen villages aimed at making these villages economically vibrant and resilient to climate change, thereby improving the lives of the fishermen and their communities. ICAR has assessed coastal aquaculture vulnerability in South 24 Parganas, West Bengal through stakeholder engagement and advocates adoption of strategies that include farming salinity-tolerant fishes for aquaculture and other aquaculture management practices. Additionally, the National Surveillance Programme on Aquatic Animal Diseases (NSPAAD), implemented by the Department of Fisheries, Government of India in collaboration with ICAR institutions across the country, aims to address disease risks in aquaculture systems including the climate-induced diseases.

(c) & (d) The Department of Fisheries, Ministry of Fisheries Animal Husbandry and Dairying in consultation with the Government of West Bengal has identified five coastal fishermen villages in West Bengal namely (i) Akshayanagar, (ii) Madanganj, (iii) Dera, (iv) Dakshin Kadua and (v) Tamliporiya - Purba Mukundapur (Maa Nayekali Matsya Khoti) for development as CRCFV. The development of CRCFV has been taken up under the Central Sector Scheme Component of PMMSY with a unit cost of Rs 200 lakh per fishing village, and the entire cost (100%) is met by the Government of India. Accordingly, Rs 10 crores is allocated to West Bengal for the five villages and the detailed project reports (DPR) are to be received from the State for fund release.

Department of Fisheries, Ministry of Fisheries, Animal Husbandry and Dairying, is a member of the National Steering Committee on Climate Change (NSCCC) constituted by Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change, Government of India. This committee is involved in the process of approving the State Action Plans on Climate Change (SAPCCs), which are integral to the National Action Plan on Climate Change (NAPCC) adaptation strategies, including those related to water and coastal zones.
