

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

**LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION No. 4098  
TO BE ANSWERED ON 17<sup>th</sup> MARCH, 2026

**Aquaculture Cluster**

**4098. Shri Maddila Gurumoorthy:**

Will the **Minister of Fisheries, Animal Husbandry and Dairying** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has any proposals to strengthen cold storage, processing and value-addition infrastructure in major aquaculture clusters like Vanakadu, Kota, Chillakuru and Guduru in Andhra Pradesh to mitigate the impact of export disruptions;
- (b) whether any steps are being taken by the Government to diversify prawn export markets beyond the United States to reduce dependency and stabilize prices; and
- (c) if so, the details of schemes, funding support, or export facilitation measures being planned under the Pradhan Mantri Matsya Sampada Yojana (PMMSY) or other initiatives to assist affected aqua farmers?

**ANSWER**

**THE MINISTER OF FISHERIES, ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING  
(SHRI RAJIV RANJAN SINGH ALIAS LALAN SINGH)**

(a) The Department of Fisheries (DoF), Ministry of Fisheries, Animal Husbandry and Dairying (MoFAH&D), Government of India (GoI) under Pradhan Mantri Matsya Sampada Yojana (PMMSY) has approved proposals of the Government of Andhra Pradesh at a total cost of Rs. 2416.92 crore with central share of Rs 569.86 crore for development of fisheries in the State, including the areas of Vanakadu, Kota, Chillakuru and Guduru. To strengthen fisheries and aquaculture infrastructure, PMMSY has sanctioned a wide range of activities, including (i) 17 units of cold storage plants (ii) 160 units of insulated vehicles (iii) 800 units of motorcycle with icebox (iv) 85 units of fish retails markets (v) 4215 units of fish kiosks (vi) 25 units of fish value addition enterprises units.

(b) and (c): The Government is cognizant of the challenges faced by the shrimp export sector arising from fluctuations in international market demand, price volatility, and rising input costs. Despite geopolitical uncertainties and tariff and non-tariff barriers imposed by importing countries, India's shrimp exports during April–January 2025–26 increased from 6,22,182 tonnes to 6,59,600 tonnes (Prov.) in quantity and from ₹36,029.38 crore to ₹41,018.30 crore (Prov.) in value, compared to the corresponding period of 2024–25.

The Government continues to engage closely with stakeholders to assess the evolving impact of U.S. tariff measures and is pursuing a comprehensive strategy to mitigate adverse effects on Indian exports. This includes intensive engagement with the U.S. Government towards a mutually beneficial India-U.S. Bilateral Trade Agreement; immediate relief through RBI's trade-related measures and the Credit Guarantee Scheme for Exporters; enhancement of domestic demand through next-generation GST reforms; and export-promotion initiatives such as the new Export Promotion Mission, which provides targeted support to exporters. The Government is also negotiating new Free Trade Agreements (FTAs) and working to improve utilisation of existing FTAs.

Further, the Department of Fisheries has undertaken extensive stakeholder consultations and strategic engagements, including Investors' Meets in Andaman & Nicobar Islands and Lakshadweep, the Coastal States Fisheries Meet, Inland Fisheries and Aquaculture Meet, Seafood Exporters Meet, and World Fisheries Day events, with a focus on strengthening value addition in seafood exports. A Round Table Conference with Ambassadors and High Commissioners from 39 countries was convened to promote seafood exports, deepen diplomatic engagement, foster collaboration on sustainable fisheries, and advance technology in fisheries and aquaculture. Bilateral engagements with major importing nations are also being pursued to enhance seafood market access.

To improve the sector's global competitiveness, the Government is facilitating ease of doing business by amending regulations and streamlining imports. The Union Budget has also enhanced the duty-free import limit of specified inputs used in seafood processing from 1% to 3% of the previous year's FOB export value to promote value-added exports. Further, sustainability and compliance initiatives include promoting the use of Turtle Excluder Devices (TEDs) in trawl nets, strengthening antibiotic residue controls, supporting marine mammal conservation, and launching a comprehensive traceability framework. The Sustainable Harnessing of Fisheries in the Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ) Rules, 2025, have also been notified to promote high-value, export-oriented fisheries in the Andaman & Nicobar and Lakshadweep Islands. As a result of sustained efforts, the number of fishery establishments approved for export to the EU, China, Russia, and Brazil has increased in recent months.

The Department of Fisheries, Ministry of Fisheries, Animal Husbandry and Dairying, Government of India, is implementing various schemes and programmes for the holistic development of the Fisheries Sector. Under the Pradhan Mantri Matsya Sampada Yojana (PMMSY). The Department of Fisheries, Government of India (GoI), during the last five years, has approved projects with a total outlay of Rs. 21274.13 crore with a central share of Rs. 9189.74 crore for the establishment of production and processing clusters, Aqua Park, establishment of fishing harbours, fish landing centres and development of domestic market infrastructure along with quality testing laboratories and traceability systems and value addition infrastructure. As a result of various well-thought-out policies and initiatives of the Government of India, India's seafood exports have more than doubled, from ₹30,213 crore in 2013-14 to ₹62,408 crore in 2024-25, and India has also secured comparability approval under the U.S. Marine Mammal Protection Act (MMPA), strengthening long-term access to the U.S. market.

Additionally, the Marine Products Export Development Authority (MPEDA) under the Department of Commerce continues to promote marine product exports through international seafood trade fairs and exhibitions, buyer-seller meets, branding and promotion of Indian shrimp, and export facilitation measures aimed at expanding market access and ensuring stable global demand for Indian shrimp products.

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