



**STANDING COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE, ANIMAL
HUSBANDRY AND FOOD PROCESSING
(2024-25)**

EIGHTEENTH LOK SABHA

**MINISTRY OF FISHERIES, ANIMAL HUSBANDRY & DAIRYING
(DEPARTMENT OF FISHERIES)**

‘DEVELOPMENT & MODERNISATION OF FISHING HARBOURS’

TWENTIETH REPORT



**LOK SABHA SECRETARIAT
NEW DELHI**

August, 2025 / Shravana, 1947 (Saka)

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‘DEVELOPMENT & MODERNISATION OF FISHING HARBOURS’

Presented to Lok Sabha on

20.08.2025

Laid on the Table of Rajya Sabha on

20.08.2025



**LOK SABHA SECRETARIAT
NEW DELHI**

AUGUST, 2025 / SHRAVANA, 1947 (SAKA)

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**COMPOSITION OF THE STANDING COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE, ANIMAL
HUSBANDRY AND FOOD PROCESSING (2024-25)**

Shri Charanjit Singh Channi- Chairperson

MEMBERS

LOK SABHA

2. Shri Patel Umeshbhai Babubhai
3. Smt. Harsimrat Kaur Badal
4. Shri Rajkumar Chahar
5. Smt. Anita Nagarsingh Chouhan
6. Shri Kuldeep Indora
7. Shri Rajpalsinh Mahendrasinh Jadav
8. Md. Abu Taher Khan
9. Shri Rahul Singh Lodhi
10. Shri Sukanta Kumar Panigrahi
11. Shri Naresh Chandra Uttam Patel
12. Smt. Krishna Devi Shivshankar Patel
13. Shri Narayan Tatu Rane
14. Shri Murasoli S.
15. Shri Dharambir Singh
16. Shri Dushyant Singh
17. Shri Sudhakar Singh
18. Shri Kodikunnil Suresh
19. Shri Tejasvi Surya
20. Smt. Geniben Nagaji Thakor
21. Shri Bhausahab Rajaram Wakchaure

RAJYA SABHA

22. Smt. Ramilaben Becharbhai Bara
23. Shri Masthan Rao Yadav Beedha*
24. Dr. Anil Sukhdeorao Bonde
25. Shri Banshilal Gurjar
26. Shri S. Kalyanasundaram
27. Shri Nitin Laxmanrao Jadhav Patil
28. Shri Madan Rathore
29. Shri Ramji Lal Suman
30. Shri P.P. Suneer
31. Shri Randeep Singh Surjewala

Shri Krishan Lal Panwar, Member resigned from Rajya Sabha on 14.10.2024.

**Shri Masthan Rao Yadav Beedha, Member, Rajya Sabha has been nominated to the Standing Committee on Agriculture, Animal Husbandry and Food Processing w.e.f 8th August, 2025, vide Lok Sabha Bulletin Part-II, Para No. 3117 dated 13.08.2025.*

SECRETARIAT

- | | | | |
|----|----------------------------------|---|-----------------|
| 1. | Shri Srinivasulu Gunda | - | Joint Secretary |
| 2. | Shri Maheshwar | - | Director |
| 3. | Shri Ashwaghosh Bhaurao Lokhande | - | Under Secretary |

INTRODUCTION

I, the Chairperson, Standing Committee on Agriculture, Animal Husbandry and Food Processing (2024-25), having been authorized by the Committee to submit the Report on their behalf, present this Twentieth Report on the Subject 'Development & Modernisation of Fishing Harbours' pertaining to the Ministry of Fisheries, Animal Husbandry and Dairying (Department of Fisheries).

2. The Standing Committee on Agriculture, Animal Husbandry and Food Processing had selected the Subject for examination during 2024-25. Evidence on the Subject by the representatives of the Ministry of Fisheries, Animal Husbandry and Dairying (Department of Fisheries) was held at their Sitting on 3rd July, 2025.

3. The Report was considered and adopted by the Committee at their Sitting held on 18.08.2025.

4. For facility of reference and convenience, the Observations/Recommendations of the Committee have been printed in bold at Part-II of the Report.

5. The Committee wish to express their thanks to the representatives of the Ministry of Fisheries, Animal Husbandry and Dairying (Department of Fisheries) for appearing before the Committee and furnishing requisite information in connection with the examination of the Subject.

NEW DELHI;
18 August , 2025
27 Shravana, 1947 (Saka)

CHARANJIT SINGH CHANNI
Chairperson,
Standing Committee on Agriculture
Animal Husbandry and Food Processing

CHAPTER - I

INTRODUCTION

Fisheries and aquaculture in India are an important source of food, nutrition, employment and income which provides livelihood to about 28 million fishers and fish farmers directly and almost twice the number along the value chain. Globally the sector stands at number 1 in terms of Inland Capture Fish Production and is the 6th largest Marine Capture Fish Producer. Fisheries Sector in India is growing at a robust average annual growth rate of 9% and contributes 1.09% to National Gross Value Added (GVA) and 7.43% to Agriculture Gross Value Added. The growth of this sector is higher than that of agriculture and allied sector in the country. Marine Resources of the country include a Coast Length of 11099 Km along with 200 nautical miles of Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ) which has a potential yield of 53.106 lakh tons (per annum) including Deep Sea and Oceanic resources of 2.31 lakh tons.

1.2 To harvest the rich Marine fishery resources of the country, fishing vessels fleet along with Fishing Harbours and Fish landing Centres play an important role as they provide safe landing, berthing, loading and unloading facilities for fishing vessels. Thus, the development of Fishing Harbours (FH) and Fish Landing centres (FLCs) and modernization of existing Fishing Harbours is important for the post-harvest operations of the exploited fishery resources. Modernisation of fishing harbour infrastructure in the country would generate several benefits adding to the country's economy and the socio-economic wellbeing of the fisher community in particular and the fishing industry as a whole.

1.3 There are about 1,547 notified marine fishing centres/fish landing points in the country where fish is landed and marketed. Government of India has so far sanctioned for the development of infrastructure facilities of one kind or the other at about 379 marine fishing harbours and fish landing centres. In addition to this respective State Governments have also developed infrastructure facilities in few of the fishing centres.

1.4 In the country, at present, 2,44,401 fishing vessels of different categories are plying in nine coastal States and four Union Territories. This includes 129 Deep Sea fishing vessels, 1,33,264 Motorised Fishing Vessels, 65,582 Mechanised Fishing Vessels and 41,191 Non-Motorised Fishing Vessels. However, it is imperative to mention that, modern landing and berthing facilities exist only for 39,927 Mechanised

Fishing Vessels which in only 62.79% of existing Mechanised Fishing fleet of the Country, thus a substantial gap exists in the fishing harbour and fish landing centre infrastructure leading to overcrowding, congestion and hygiene issues. Further, with stringent imposition of International Standards like Hazard Analysis Critical Control Point (HACCP) and Euro norms by most of the importing countries, maintaining of cleaner fishing harbours becomes imperative.

1.5 Thus development of Fishing Harbours and Fish Landing Centres is one of the thrust areas supported under various schemes implemented by the Department of Fisheries as enumerated below:

i) Blue Revolution: Integrated Development and Management of Fisheries

Centrally Sponsored Scheme (CSS) from 2015-16 to 2019-20 under which approval was accorded to a total of thirteen fishing harbour/fish landing centre projects at a total cost of Rs.1463.63 crore for development in Maharashtra, Gujarat, Karnataka, Tamil Nadu, Odishha, Puducherry and Andhra Pradesh.

ii) Pradhan Mantri Matsya Sampada Yojana (PMMSY)

Flagship Scheme of the Department with an outlay of Rs.20,050 crore to be implemented over a period of five years from 2020-21 to 2024-25 envisaged for the Development of fishing harbours and fish landing centres as one of its important objectives. The Scheme has both components namely Central Sector Scheme (CS) and Centrally Sponsored Scheme (CSS). The scheme has been further extended for the period 2025-26 with no cost extension.

iii) Fisheries and Aquaculture Infrastructure Development Fund (FIDF)

FIDF was created with a total fund size of Rs 7522.48 crore and during the period from 2018-19 to 2022-23, approval was given to 121 infrastructure projects at a total cost of Rs.5588.63 crore with project cost restricted for interest subvention at Rs.3738.19 crore to various States/UTs and other implementing agencies.

iv) Pradhan Mantri Matsya Kisan Samridhi Sah Yojana (PM-MKSSY)

PM-MKSSY is a Central Sector Sub-scheme under Pradhan Mantri Matsya Sampada Yojana approved by Cabinet on 8th February 2024 with an outlay of Rs.6000 crore for a period of 4 years i.e. 2023-24 to 2026-27 in all States and UTs. The Scheme aims at formalization of fisheries sector, supporting micro enterprises, safety and quality assurance systems and access to institutional credit.

1.6 Further, Central Institute of Coastal Engineering for Fishery (CICEF) a subordinate office under the Department of Fisheries extends necessary technical assistance to the needy States/UTs in reconnaissance studies and conducting economic and technical studies to identify priority sites for the development of Fishing Harbours and Fish Landing Centres.

CHAPTER-II

DEVELOPMENT AND MODERNISATION OF FISHING HARBOURS AND FISH LANDING CENTERS

A. Existing Capacity of Fishing Harbours and Fish Landing Centers.

Government of India has approved projects proposals to the tune of Rs 9,832 crore for construction/ modernization/maintenance of 117 fishing harbors/fish landing centers in Coastal States/UTs under various schemes such as Blue Revolution, Fisheries and Aquaculture Infrastructure Development Fund (FIDF) and Pradhan Mantri Matsya Sampada Yojana (PMMSY) which would create safe landing & birthing facilities for about 48,000 fishing vessels.

2.1 The Committee inquired about the current capacity in terms of safe landing and berthing facilities which is available for fishing vessels operating in the country. The Department in their reply stated the following:

“The Marine Fisheries sector in India at present has 2.38 lakh fishing vessels including 63,582 Mechanized Fishing Vessels. The Department of Fisheries, Government of India has been supporting and supplementing the efforts of State Governments and UTs for creation of need based infrastructure facilities in the form of fishing harbours and fish landing centres. The landing and berthing facilities created so far can accommodate a total of about 1.48 lakh fishing vessels including 39,927 Mechanized Fishing Vessels. Further, the Department of Fisheries, Government of India envisions to provide finance assistance through various schemes to State Governments and Union Territories(UTs) for development of more fishing harbours and fish landing centres to cater to the operational fishing vessels in the country”.

2.2 On being asked, if the existing landing and berthing facility in the country is sufficient enough to accommodate the active fishing fleet of the Country and, if not, what measures are taken by the Department to prevent overcrowding and poor maintenance of fishing harbours The Department submitted the following reply:

“The Department of Fisheries, Government of India provides central financial assistance to the State Governments, Union Territories(UTs) and Central or State entities for creating of fishing harbours and fish landing centres. The Government of India, Department of Fisheries, since inception of the central schemes has supported for development 379 fishing harbours and fish landing centres and the landing and berthing facilities created at these fishing harbours and fish landing centres are inadequate to accommodate 2.38 lakh active fishing vessels operating in the country. Therefore, development of

fisheries infrastructure in the form of fishing harbours and fish landing centres has been one of the important areas envisaged and supported under various schemes implemented by the Department of Fisheries, Government of India to cater to the requirements of safe landing, berthing and allied facilities. Further, Government of India has accordingly envisioned development of more number of fishing harbours and fish landing centres by providing financial assistance to State Government/U.T.

In addition, the Department of Fisheries, Government of India while approving the projects inter-alia stipulates that concerned State/UT Government will ensure generation of adequate financial resources required for post construction management and operation of the Fishing Harbour/Fish Landing Centre on a self- sustainable and profitable manner. This includes efficient operational conditions of the Fishing Harbour/Fish Landing Centre in accordance with national/international hygienic standards/specifications in force from time-to-time”.

2.3 Acknowledging the huge gap between the existing safe landing and berthing facilities available for fishing vessels and the actual number of fishing vessels operating in the country, the Committee inquired about the measures taken by the Department to bridge the gap. In response, the Department submitted the following reply:

“The Marine Fisheries sector in India at present has 2.38 lakh fishing vessels and the existing landing and berthing facilities are adequate to accommodate about 1.48 lakh fishing vessels.

To address the requirement of safe landing and berthing facilities, the Department of Fisheries, Government of India has been supporting and supplementing the efforts of State Governments and UTs for creation of need based infrastructure facilities in the form of fishing harbours and fish landing centres.

The development of safe landing and berthing facilities for fishing vessels in form of fishing harbour and fish landing centres is one of the important areas envisaged and being supported under Pradhan Mantri Matsya Samapada Yojana (PMMSY). Such fisheries infrastructure projects are taken up on 60:40 cost sharing basis between the Central and the concerned State respectively. The concerned State/UT Governments are required to submit techno-financial viable proposals together with confirmation of availability of State share, necessary land and clearance required for implementation of the projects.

Besides, the Fisheries and Aquaculture Infrastructure Development Fund (FIDF) being implemented by the Department of Fisheries also provides concessional finance to the State Governments and UTs for development of fisheries related infrastructures. Under this scheme DoF provides interest

subvention up to 3% on the loan sanctioned for creation of such fisheries infrastructure facilities.

These schemes envisage to address the demand and supply gaps in safe landing and berthing facilities along with other land based facilities. The activities supported under the ongoing schemes are as under :-

- i). Development of New Fishing Harbour and Fish Landing Centes.*
- ii). Expansion of Existing Fishing Harbours.*
- iii). Modernisation and up-gradation of Existing Fishing Harbours*
- iv). Dredging of Existing Fishing Harbour.*

In addition, the Department of Fisheries, Government of India also provides need based technical assistance through CICEF to the needy State/UTs for identifying potential sites, conducting necessary engineering and economic investigations and formulation of Techno-Economic Feasibility Reports (TEFR). The Department of Fisheries, Government of India envisioned to develop more number of fishing harbours including modernization of existing fishing harbours and upgradation of existing fish landing centres to fishing harbours to address the gaps in infrastructure requirements.

It is worthwhile to mention that the Department of Fisheries, Government of India during the last 11 years has sanctioned the proposals of various Coastal State Governments and UTs for development of a total 117 fishing harbours/fish landing centres at a project cost of Rs 9832 crores under various Central schemes. It is estimated that these fishing harbours and fish landing centres will provide safe landing and berthing facilities to about 48,000 additional fishing vessels”.

2.4 The Committee further inquired about the status of all the 117 fishing harbours/fish landing centres that are to be developed/modernized by the Department of Fisheries and whether there is there any time frame for the completion of all the projects. The Department submitted the following reply as stated below:

“Out of the 117 Fishing Harbours and Fish Landing Centres projects taken up under various schemes of the Department of Fisheries, Government of India, 20 fishing harbour and fish landing centre projects are completed, 37 fishing harbour and fish landing centre projects have achieved more than 50% progress and 60 fishing harbour and fish landing centre projects are at mid level of completion. The average time period of about 2-3 years is stipulated for completion of a fishing harbour project and about 12-18 months for completion of smaller magnitude project like fish landing centre including maintenance dredging project”.

B. Smart and Integrated Fishing Harbours.

2.5 The Committee has been informed that three Smart and Integrated Fishing Harbours are being developed at Vanakbara in Diu, Karaikal in Puducherry and Jakhau in Gujarat. The Committee desire to know the status of development of the harbours and the probable completion date, and clarification, if any Central Monitoring Committee has been constituted by the Department to oversee their work. The Department submitted the following reply:

“The Department of Fisheries, Ministry of Fisheries, Animal Husbandry and Dairying in the recent past has envisaged to develop Smart & Integrated Fishing Harbours in line with Blue Port Initiative of Food and Agriculture Organisation (FAO). Accordingly, the Department of Fisheries, Government of India during the FY 2024-25 has sanctioned three Smart and Integrated Fishing Harbours namely Jakhau in Gujarat, Vanakbara in Diu and Karaikal in Puducherry at a total estimated cost of Rs 369.8 crore under Pradhan Mantri Matsya Sampada Yojana (PMMSY). While the cost of Jakhau Fishing Harbour is shared between the Government of India and Government of Gujarat at 60:40 basis, the cost of other two fishing harbours namely Karaikal and Vanakbara is fully met by the Government of India being the UT projects. This represents an innovative approach to modernize fishing infrastructure while prioritizing environmental sustainability, efficiency, and safety provisions by implementing smart technologies. The projects are being implemented by the respective States/UTs with a stipulated time period for completion of 18 months.

The present status of these three smart and Integrated fishing harbour projects are furnished below:

Sl No.	Name of the Project	Project Cost (Rs in crores)	Status
1.	Development of Smart and Integrated Fishing Harbour at Karaikal, Puducherry (U.T.)	119.94	The pre-tendering activities have been completed by the Government of Puducherry; tender has been floated and bids received are under scrutiny in the UT Government. It is expected that work order to the selected contractor will be issued by second week of July, 2025. Laying of foundation stone for the harbour civil infrastructure is also shortly planned. The probable date of completion is 18 months i.e. March, 2026.

Sl No.	Name of the Project	Project Cost (Rs in crores)	Status
2.	Development of Smart and Integrated Fishing Harbour at Vanakbara, Diu	128.86	The pre-tendering activities have been completed by UT Administration, tender for the project work has been floated. Since the lowest bid (L1) received was reported to be higher than the estimated cost, UT Administration has been advised for re-tendering of the work. At present, issuance of Revised Notice Inviting Tender (NIT) for all components of the integrated fishing harbour project is under process.
3.	Development of Smart and Integrated Fishing Harbour at Jakhau, Kutch, Gujarat	121.00	The pre-tendering activities have been completed by the Government of Gujarat, tender for the project works has been floated. Since the lowest bid (L1) received through the competitive bidding process was higher than the estimated cost, the Government of Gujarat presently in the process of finalizing the revised estimate.
Total		369.80	

..... “The PMMSY guidelines has provisions for a Project Monitoring Unit (PMU) comprising of domain experts under National Fisheries Development Board (NFDB) for monitoring the projects/activities of PMMSY on regular basis. Accordingly, the Project Monitoring Unit (PMU) comprising of domain experts and headed by the Chief Executive, National Fisheries Development Board (NFDB) has been constituted for monitoring the projects/activities of PMMSY on regular basis”

2.6 On being asked by the Committee, if the Department has any plans to develop Smart and Integrated Fishing Harbours in all the Coastal States of the Country, the Department submitted the following reply:

“The Department of Fisheries, Ministry of Fisheries, Animal Husbandry and Dairying in the recent past has studied various good practices/models with latest technologies globally available and after much deliberations have envisaged to develop Smart & Integrated Fishing Harbours in line with Blue Port Initiative of Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO). Accordingly, the Department of Fisheries, Government of India during the FY 2024-25 has sanctioned three Smart and Integrated Fishing Harbours namely Jakhau in Gujarat, Vanakbara in Diu and Karaikal in Puducherry at a total estimated cost of Rs 369.80 crore under Pradhan Mantri Matsya Sampada Yojana (PMMSY).

The Development of Smart and Integrated Fishing Harbour in India represents an innovative approach to modernizing fishing infrastructure while

prioritizing environmental sustainability, efficiency, and safety. Implementation of smart technologies in fishing harbour can revolutionize the industry by improving operations, enhancing safety measures, and promoting sustainable practices. The States/UTs has been advised to formulate all future techno-financial proposals of fishing harbour proposals incorporating Smart. Blue and Green components under PMMSY”.

C. Blue Port Initiative.

2.7 The Committee enquired about eco fishing ports and the Blue Port Initiative of Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) which is being implemented by the Government. The Department in their reply submitted the following:

“The concept of Eco Fishing Ports is quite similar to the Blue Port Initiative of FAO. The Eco-Fishing Ports are to implement a comprehensive set of interventions designed to modernize infrastructure, promote sustainability, and strengthen governance. Further, the eco fishing ports also envisioned to support the development of resilient, efficient, and environmentally responsible fishing harbours. The modern, environmentally sustainable fishing harbours presently designed and developed are to reduce the ecological impact of fishing activities and improve the overall sustainability of the fisheries sector. These ports are also integrated the environmental safeguards, responsible waste and fuel management, use of renewable energy, and modern infrastructure to promote sustainable fisheries and marine ecosystem conservation. The Department of Fisheries, Government of India in collaboration with French Development Bank (AFD) has conducted workshop on development of Eco-Fishing Port in May, 2025. Further, the Road Map to Blue Port Initiative of FAO is intended to assist fishing ports to implement a Blue Transformation approach at strategic and operational level through involvement of stakeholders, the implementation of projects and actions, and the measurement of impact. Most coastal communities are highly dependent on fishing activities. The value chain of the fisheries sector is specifically challenging in social, economic and environmental terms. Activities related to the fisheries value chain, such as catching, landing, processing and commercialization are strongly interrelated and dependent on other sectors, technology, support services, biotechnology, energy and others. The path to achieving the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) requires the involvement of different economic, social and environmental dimensions in addressing local developmental needs.

It is relevant to add that the Department of Fisheries, Ministry of Fisheries, Animal Husbandry and Dairying, Government of India has in March, 2025 signed an agreement of Technical Cooperation Programme with Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nation (FAO) for Strengthening of Blue Ports in India. The Government of India envisions development of more numbers of Smart and Integrated Fishing Harbours in conformity with the Blue Port Initiatives in future”.

D. Coastal and Marine Pollution.

2.8 The Committee were concerned about environmental pollution in coastal areas due to Modernisation of Fishing Harbours/Fish Landing Centres and Mechanization of fishing boats which would invariably lead to higher fuel consumption and thereby pollution. The Committee, therefore, asked the Department about the measures being taken in this regard, the Department submitted the following reply:

“The Government of India is focused on development of fishery harbours by deploying eco-friendly, green and blue components coupled with smart and integrated devices also smart sensors with AI driven decision making mechanisms. These components reduce the carbon foot print, reduce the pressure on fisheries resources and allow real-time monitoring of various parameters so as to keep pollution levels under check at the fishery harbour premises.

Further, the smart and integrated fishing harbour envisages system of close and real time monitoring of the environmental parameters, offer proper hygiene and support facilities to minimize post-harvest losses and eliminate the pollution around the fishing harbours. Besides, sanitation facilities supported with sewage treatment and effluent treatment plants are also provided at the fishing harbours and while discharge of sewage, parameters are closely monitored to maintain them under check.

The modern fishing harbours are provided facilities for management of solid and liquid waste and also facilities for segregation of the waste into organic and recyclable material. While the recyclable waste can be sent for recycling inhouse or outside, the organic waste can either be converted to fish-meals or compost as the case may be to create a circular economy. The modern harbours are going to use green energy, to supplement their power demand by promoting use of solar and wind energy to substantially reduce the carbon foot print of the asset.

The fishing harbours will also economize the fuel consumption of fishing vessels during their visit to the fishing harbour by providing efficient vessels management system to pre-allocate landing & berthing space, support facilities like mechanized loading and unloading services in tandem to reduce the turn-around time for the vessels. Such system also optimizing fuel consumption while on their trip to the fishing harbours.

The new fishing vessels are now encouraged to fit with more fuel-efficient engines to reduce the cost of catch per unit effort. The replacement for older boats was also provisioned, especially for the artisanal fishermen under PMMSY. The Department of Fisheries, Government of India has also encourages kerosene free fishing, promoted use of LPG kits in such boats. More recently

there are reports of battery boats available for artisanal fishermen that have a short range of about 50 to 70 kilometers”.

2.9 The Committee desire to know about the measures taken by the Department for promotion of green energy in fisheries sector, the Department submitted the following reply:

“The Department of Fisheries, Government of India envisions to transform fishery harbours by integrating green and blue infrastructure with advanced digital tools. These measures aim to shrink carbon emissions, conserve resources, and enable continuous pollution monitoring via digital technologies. Smart fishing harbours will harness IoT to track environmental metrics in real time, while enhancing hygiene and offering post-harvest support to curb organic pollution. They will include sewage and effluent treatment units whose outflows are closely managed and reused for irrigation or toilet flushing, edging the harbours toward zero discharge.

Renewable energy generated from solar panels and wind turbines will offset harbour power needs and cut the overall carbon footprint. Fishing operations will become more efficient through vessel management systems that allocate berths and mechanize loading, slashing turnaround times and fuel consumption. New boats will feature more efficient engines and trial alternative fuels such as hydrogen, while older vessels are being replaced under PMMSY and retired without polluting.

The Department of Fisheries has promoted kerosene-free fishing by installing LPG kits and has introduced battery-powered boats with a range of 50–70 km for artisanal fishermen”.

E. Central Institute of Coastal Engineering for Fishery (CICEF).

2.10 Central Institute of Coastal Engineering for Fishery is entrusted with extending necessary technical assistance to the needy States/UTs in conducting necessary economic and technical studies to identify priority sites for development of Fishing Harbours/Fish Landing Centres. It also prepares preliminary construction plans and supporting facilities etc. and monitors the progress of construction sanctioned under the Centrally Sponsored Scheme in association with the Ministry of Fisheries, Animal Husbandry and Dairying.

2.11 The Committee asked for details regarding the sites identified by CICEF during the last five years as potential sites for development of Fishing Harbours and Fish Landing Centres. The Department submitted the following reply:

“The CICEF during last 5 years has conducted the reconnaissance surveys and identified a total 87 potential sites for development as fishing harbours and fish landing centres. Year-wise details of the potential fishing harbours and fish landing centres sites identified by CICEF during the last five years in the maritime States/UTs for development as Fishing Harbours and fish landing centres are furnished below”

Sl. No.	Year	Sites identified		Total no. of sites Identified
		FH sites	FLC sites	
1.	2020-21	-	45	45
2.	2021-22	4	22	26
3.	2022-23	1	5	6
4.	2023-24	3	3	6
5.	2024-25	2	2	4
	Total	10	77	87

2.12 On being asked about if CICEF have experts who can deal with environmental and mathematical modal studies which complete projects reports, the Department submitted the following reply:

“CICEF focuses primarily on engineering aspects of fishery infrastructure planning and preparation of necessary Techno-Economic Feasibility Report (TEFR) of FH/FLC projects in the country. Environmental and Mathematical Model Studies aspects at present are not a part of the mandate of CICEF. It is relevant to add that the Central government organizations like CPWRS, under Ministry of Jalshakti, located at Pune and other academic institutions are dealing the aspects of mathematical model studies and environmental studies and they are also catering the requirements of such studies for FH/FLC projects”.

2.13 The Committee inquired about the measures taken by the Department to strengthen CICEF on the Budgeting, Infrastructure, Human Resources and Administrative fronts. The Department in their response submitted the following:

“The Central Institute of Coastal Engineering for Fishery(CICEF), formerly known as Pre-Investment Survey of Fishing Harbours (PISFH) established in January 1968, as a sub-ordinate office under the DoF, Government of India. The Institute’s average annual budget for the past five years is Rs. 5 crore and adequate budget is provided to the Institute to carry out its activities smoothly. The Institute has its own two-storey office building constructed in 2003 through the Central Public Works Department, Bengaluru. In order to fulfil its mandated work, the Institute is equipped with survey and sub-soil investigation equipment and four office vehicles. The Institute has been functioning with the sanctioned strength of 47 comprising technical and administrative personnel and out of such sanctioned post, 10 posts are vacant at present. In order to align with the Government of India’s plans to

develop smart and integrated fishery harbours in the country, CICEF is being strengthened to cater the demands of all Maritime States/UTs. Strengthening of CICEF is a multi-pronged strategy focused on budget, infrastructure and human resources. The framework for further strengthening of CICEF as envisaged by the Department of Fisheries, Government of India includes:

Budgetary Support Enhanced Allocation: *Increasing core budget under the Ministry's annual plan for training, exposure visits and infrastructure. Ensuring dedicated grants for specific missions like Blue Economy, Sagarmala etc.*

Project-Based Funding: *The TEFRs presently prepared by the Institute are incomplete for want of physical/mathematical model studies and EIA/EMP studies which are pre-requisites for project funding. The Institute needs to outsource these studies for which the Department of Fisheries is envisioning to provide necessary funds to CICEF to outsource these studies from the annual budget.*

Encourage inter-ministerial projects: *Department of Fisheries is allowing CICEF to take-up inter-ministerial projects (e.g., MEA).*

Infrastructure Enhancement: *To facilitate CICEF to build up the required Information Technology (IT) facilities and engineering capabilities, the Department of Fisheries is fully supporting the Institute to procure the need-based hardware, software, latest survey and subsoil equipment.*

Modernization of Facilities: *CICEF is upgrading the prerequisite engineering survey and subsoil investigations equipment with the modern advancements in the field.*

Human Resources Development: *The DoF is backing-up in recruiting experts in Civil/Coastal engineering fields by filling the posts on timely basis. With the assistance of DoF, capacity building programs through IITs, NIOT and related foreign institutions are envisaged. Exposure visits of the Institute officers to foreign FHs, involving study tour abroad/overseas learning programmes, to the growth of the organization in terms of quality and output is another aspect, where DoF is fully supporting.*

Collaboration with Academia: *The DoF is planning to promote internship in partnership with institutions like IIT, NIO, Central Universities and international smart fishery infrastructure institutes.*

Staff Retention and Incentives: *Through the concerned international aid/collaborations, the Department of Fisheries has envisioned to create opportunities for international training, and recognition awards".*

2.14 On being asked, if CICEF received any technical assistance from foreign organisations such as United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), Food and

Agriculture Organisation (FAO), Swedish International Development Cooperation Authority (SIDA) and United Nations for development of Fishing Harbours and Fish Landing Centres, the Department submitted the following reply:

“The Food and Agriculture Organisation (FAO) of United Nations (UN) rendered technical assistance to CICEF in the form of technical expertise and engineering equipment till January 1974. Thereafter, Swedish International Development Agency (SIDA) provided technical assistance to CICEF in the form of engineering survey and subsoil equipment and technical consultancy services for 2 years from 1974 to 1976. After cessation of the aforementioned technical assistance, the Institute on its own continued its activities with the support of Department of Fisheries, Government of India”.

2.15 On being asked about the current staff strength/technical staff strength in CICEF and if there has been any increase in the staff strength of CICEF in the last five years, the Department submitted the following reply:

“The CICEF has been functioning with the sanctioned staff strength of 47 comprising 29 technical and 18 are non-technical. The process of filling up 10 vacant posts in CICEF is underway with following due administrative procedures of DoPT. Since the sanctioned staff strength is adequate to cope with the mandated works assigned to CICEF, there has been no increase in the staff strength of CICEF in the last five years”.

F. International Standards of Hygiene and Traceability.

2.16 When asked about the number of fishing harbours/ fish landing centres operational in the country, which, adhere to, or are compliant with the International Standards like Hygiene and Hazard Analysis Critical Control Point (HACCP) and Euro norms, the Department submitted the following reply:

“The Fishing harbours and fish landing centres handling fish and fishery products intended for export are required to comply with hygiene, sanitary and traceability standards in accordance with the Government of India’s Notification S.O. 730(E) dated 21st August 1995, as amended. This provides the statutory framework for approval and monitoring of facilities including compliance with HACCP and importing country’s requirements such as EU norms. To this end, the Export Inspection Council (EIC) lists fishing harbours and landing centres on its website based on assessment and approval. List of Fishing Harbours / Fish Landing Centres handling the fish and fishery products intended for export is at Annexure I.

The approval process is initiated at the request of EIC-approved seafood processing establishments that source raw material from these harbours. Request for listing of these facilities has been submitted by the approved fishery export establishments, as they procure the raw materials from these Fishing Harbours / Fishing Landing centres.

Upon the request of export establishments (by approved technologist of establishment) who intend to procure their material from Fishing Harbours / Fishing Landing Centres, an Assessment Panel of Experts (APE) led by EIA consisting members from MPEDA and other members empaneled by the EIC, will take up the assessment. The APE will assess Fishing Harbours / Fishing Landing Centres and the APE will inform the non-conformities / suggestions for improvement, if any, to the respective facilities. Approval is granted based on compliance with hygiene requirements detailed in Appendix D and E of the Executive Instructions for Primary Production of Fish and Fishery Products (January 2016) issued by the EIC.

However, efforts are being made under the Pradhan Mantri Matsya Sampada Yojana (PMMSY) to improve infrastructure, as many fishing harbours require modernization and upgrading to meet these standards. MPEDA, through its society NETFISH, is actively supporting this by promoting best practices and implementing successful models like the Munambam Fishing Harbour Management Society (MFHMS). MPEDA has also deployed 100 Harbour Data Collectors (HDCs) across major fishing harbours to support traceability through daily fish landing data collection.

For transparency and export compliance, only those harbours and landing centres meeting international standard listed for export purposes by the EIC, facilitating traceability from the point of landing to the export destination”.

2.17 On being asked about the measures taken by the Department to maintain hygiene and sanitary conditions in Fishing Harbours and Fish Landing Centers, the Department submitted the following reply:

“Since, the management, maintenance and operation of Fishing Harbour/Fish Landing Centres are being carried out by the respective State/U.T. government as per their guidelines. The Maintenance, Management Societies in respective fishing harbour monitors the activities like cleaning, maintenance and utilization of facilities etc. and ensure proper hygienic standards. Society enforces all necessary steps towards responsible fishing practices.

Further, the Department of Fisheries, Government of India in the conditions of administrative approval of the project to State/UT stipulates that concerned the Concerned State/U,T, Government to ensure generation of adequate financial resources required for post construction management and operation

of the Fishing Harbour/Fish Landing Centre on a self- sustainable and profitable manner. The concerned State /UT Governments are to ensure efficient operational conditions of the Fishing Harbour/Fish Landing Centre in accordance with national/international hygienic standards/specifications in force from time-to-time”.

2.18 On being asked about the measures taken by the Department to spread awareness amongst the fishermen cooperatives with respect to HACCP and EU norms and modern technologies and whether the fish supply chain in the country is connected to digital tracking platform, the Department submitted the following reply:

“The Department of Fisheries has undertaken multiple initiatives to spread awareness among fishermen cooperatives and stakeholders regarding HACCP, EU norms, and modern technologies. Through MPEDA and its extension arm Network for Fish Quality Management and Sustainable Fishing (NETFISH), regular training programs, capacity-building workshops, and awareness campaigns are being conducted across coastal states to educate fishers on international standards, hygienic handling, traceability, and sustainable fishing practices.

As per the HACCP Training Calendar 2025–26, MPEDA has scheduled 10 structured training programs across key coastal hubs, including Kakinada, Mangalore, Porbandar, Visakhapatnam, Bhimavaram, Bhubaneswar, Vijayawada-Nellore, Kolkata, Mumbai, and Kochi, between June 2025 and March 2026. These sessions are aimed at building hands-on capacity among fishers, processors, and exporters on food safety compliance and export readiness.

To further empower stakeholders, the Department has formalized a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with the Open Network for Digital Commerce (ONDC) to create a dedicated digital e-marketplace, enabling all fisheries stakeholders to easily buy and sell their products, thus improving market access and transparency.

To support infrastructure and technological adoption, the Department, under Pradhan Mantri Matsya Sampada Yojana (PMMSY) and Fisheries and Aquaculture Infrastructure Development Fund (FIDF), provides central financial assistance for strengthening post-harvest infrastructure such as wholesale and retail fish markets, kiosks, ice plants, cold storages, and refrigerated vehicles for seamless cold chain management. These schemes also promote innovative technologies such as biofloc, Recirculatory Aquaculture Systems (RAS), pen and cage culture, and advanced fish breeding techniques, alongside data-driven digital tools for fish stock assessment and aquaculture management.

Additionally, 100 Harbour Data Collectors (HDCs) have been deployed by

MPEDA across major harbours to collect real-time fish landing data, facilitating digital traceability and linking the supply chain to modern tracking platforms. These integrated efforts aim to modernize the fisheries sector while ensuring quality, sustainability, and market competitiveness

National Fisheries Development Board (NFDB) being a nodal agency for implementation of Fishermen cooperatives is creating awareness during various outreach program to the fishers and fish farmers of cooperative societies on the safety issues that need to be taken care during culture, promoting certification traceability, standard that need to be maintained as a part of best management practices. While establishing infrastructure facilities as a post-harvest management i.e. facilities such as processing units, cold storage the norms of HACCP and EU are duly followed. Farmers are created awareness on banned antibiotics and safety regulations that need to be followed in hatcheries also”.

- 2.19 Net to Plate Concept is being used by major fish importing countries where fish sold is traceable to the country of origin, the waters it was fished from along with the entire Post Harvest Infrastructure which handled the exported product. On being asked if such a concept is being envisaged by the Department in the country also, the Department submitted the following reply:

“The Department of Fisheries is proactively working towards implementing the "Net to Plate" concept in India, aligning with international standards adopted by major seafood-importing countries. This approach ensures complete traceability of fish and fishery products from the country of origin and fishing grounds through every post-harvest stage to the consumer. The Pradhan Mantri Matsya Sampada Yojana (PMMSY) and the Pradhan Mantri Matsya Kisan Samridhi Sah-Yojana (PMMKSSY) aim to strengthen post-harvest infrastructure, promote digital traceability through the National Fisheries Digital Platform (NFDP), and enhance value realization and compliance with export requirements. Initiatives like the Tuna Cluster Development Programme in Andaman & Nicobar Island also promote traceable and sustainable harvest of high-value species. In addition, the Coastal Aquaculture Authority (CAA), under the Department of Fisheries, Government of India, plays a foundational role in strengthening traceability across the aquaculture value chain by ensuring that all aquaculture operations within coastal areas or areas under its jurisdiction are legally registered, environmentally compliant, and adhere to prescribed regulatory norms. In support of international traceability and food safety regulations, India has implemented Catch Certification Schemes for the EU and Japan through the Marine Products Export Development Authority (MPEDA), which validates catch certificates to ensure legality of fishing and prevent IUU (Illegal, Unreported, and Unregulated) practices. These are managed through digital systems and integration with the ReALCraft platform, along with field

data collection through Harbour Data Collectors. Further, residue monitoring plays a crucial role in assuring product quality and compliance. The National Residue Control Plan (NRCP), implemented by MPEDA on behalf of the Export Inspection Council (EIC), monitors residues in aquaculture products exported to the EU under EU regulations 2017/625 and 2022/1644. MPEDA operates NABL-accredited labs to test over 120 parameters including antibiotics, dyes, pesticides, PCBs, and heavy metals, drawing around 3,500–4,000 samples annually from hatcheries, farms, and feed mills. In addition, Pre-Harvest Testing (PHT) was introduced in 2009 to screen farmed shrimp at the pond level for banned antibiotics like Chloramphenicol and Nitrofurans, now mandatory for exports to the EU and UK, with 12,000–13,000 certificates issued annually through 14 ELISA labs. Complementing this, Pre-Export Testing (PET) is conducted for consignments ready for export to screen for food safety hazards. EIC is the competent authority for PET and issues health certificates for major markets like the EU, Japan, South Korea, Russia, and China, with MPEDA and accredited private labs supporting implementation. These integrated measures on catch documentation, residue control, and pre-export testing form a robust framework for ensuring traceability, food safety, and market compliance, strengthening India's position as a reliable seafood exporter under the "Net to Plate" vision".

2.20 The Committee inquired about the measures taken by the Department to address the issue of contamination and antibiotic /lead/mercury residue that is found in fish harvested in the Country. The Department submitted the following reply:

"To ensure the availability of safe and wholesome food to the consumers, regular surveillance, monitoring, inspection and random sampling of food products including fish and fishery products are being carried out by the officers of Food Safety Departments of the respective States/UTs to ensure compliance of the standards laid down under the Food Safety and Standards Act, 2006, and the Rules and Regulations made thereunder. The enforcement of FSSAI Act and its Rules and regulations primarily rests with State Governments and UTs. In this regard, the Ministry of Health & Family Welfare, Government of India is the Administrative Ministry for the implementation of FSSAI Act.

The Department of Fisheries, Ministry of Fisheries, Animal Husbandry and Dairying has taken up the matter of contamination of chemical formalin in preservation of fish with State Governments and UTs requesting to take necessary safety measures and regulatory actions in this regard. In order to tackle harmful use of formalin in fish and fishery products intended for human consumption the Department of Fisheries, Government of India has advised the State Governments/UTs and Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI) for setting up a task force including concerned States Departments/agencies for joint inspection and testing of chemical substances

like formalin content in fish using CIFT (ICAR-Central Institute of Fisheries Technology, Kochi) test kits named 'CIFTTest Kit' in respective States. Further, the Coastal Aquaculture Authority (CAA) under Department of Fisheries, Ministry of Fisheries, Animal Husbandry and Dairying regulates the hatcheries and farming of shrimp and have banned the use of 20 antibiotics and other pharmacologically active substances used in brackish water aquaculture. The CAA also issues certificates of compliance to aquaculture inputs that are free from adulterants and contaminants. In addition, Department has also advised the States/UTs to constitute a Task force for prevention of usage of banned antibiotics in Fisheries and aquaculture related activities. The Department is advising the States/UTs to encourage the farmers to attend the technical and demonstration workshops/training programs related to seed & feed, technology infusion, ornamental fisheries, hatchery technologies etc. on periodic basis in order to increase in productivity and quality of fishery produce”.

G. Export Inspection Council of India/Export Inspection Agency.

2.21 When asked about the role played by Export Inspection Council of India (EIC) and Export Inspection Agency (EIA) in the Development and Modernisation of fishing harbours/fish landing centers and whether approval of EIC of EIA is mandatory for all the fishing harbours and fish landing centres operating in the Country, the Department submitted the following reply:

“No, approval from the Export Inspection Council of India (EIC) or Export Inspection Agencies (EIAs) is not mandatory for all fishing harbours or fish landing centres operating in the country. Only those Fishing Harbours and Fish Landing Centres that handle fish and fishery products intended for export are required to obtain approval from EIC, in accordance with the Government of India Notification S.O. 730(E) dated 21st August 1995 and its subsequent amendments.

Facilities that cater solely to domestic/local consumption are not required to be approved by EIC. The list of EIC-approved Fishing Harbours/Fish Landing Centres is publicly available on the EIC website. This listing ensures that these facilities meet international hygiene, traceability, and food safety standards necessary for export trade. The list of EIC approved is furnished at Annexure-I”.

2.22 On being asked, whether, the standards/guidelines of major importing countries and Export Inspection Council of India are kept in mind while planning/constructing or modernization of Fishing Harbours/Fish Landing Centres in the Country, the Department submitted the following reply:

“Yes, proposals for upgradation, modernization, or establishment of new Fishing Harbours and Fish Landing Centres are formulated with due consideration to the standards and guidelines laid down by the Export Inspection Council of India (EIC) as well as the requirements of major importing countries, such as the European Union and others. These include compliance with HACCP principles, EU hygiene regulations, and traceability norms.

As per S.O. 730(E), approval from EIC is mandatory for harbours handling fishery products meant for export. To facilitate export trade and ensure traceability, EIC maintains a list of such approved facilities. Requests for listing are made by approved seafood processing establishments, which source raw material from these harbours. Upon such a request, an Assessment Panel of Experts (APE) comprising representatives from EIA, MPEDA, and other empaneled members conducts a thorough evaluation of the facilities.

During assessment, the APE examines compliance with hygiene and handling protocols. Non-conformities or suggestions for improvement are communicated to the respective facilities. Only those harbours that fulfill the stipulated requirements are listed by EIC for export purposes.

Furthermore, all such facilities must adhere to the standards laid down in Appendix D and E of the Executive Instructions for Primary Production of Fish and Fishery Products – January 2016, which outline the structural and operational hygiene requirements for harbours and landing centres. Continuous improvement is necessary to meet evolving requirements of importing countries and to ensure India’s seafood exports remain compliant and competitive”.

2.23 The Committee further desire information if there is any defined ‘code of conduct’ for responsible fishing to be carried out in the country, in response, the Department submitted the following reply:

“The Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO), United Nations, adopted the ‘Code of Conduct for Responsible Fisheries’ (CCRF) on 31st October, 1995, in order to ensure effective “conservation, management, and development of living aquatic resources”, the Code lays down ethical principles and international norms of conduct. The National Policy on Marine Fisheries, 2017 is in line with the principles of the ‘1995 FAO Code of Conduct for Responsible Fisheries’. Besides, the Marine Fishing Regulation Acts (MFRAs) and Policies of the States/UTs are also aligning with the principles of the Code for responsible fishing.

India has implemented the measures in line with the FAO ‘Code of Conduct for Responsible Fisheries’, aligned with the global standards. Reflecting these

principles, India's National Policy on Marine Fisheries (NPMF), 2017 serves as the national guidance for responsible marine fisheries. It emphasizes sustainable utilization of resources within India's Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ) through ecosystem-based approaches, Maximum Sustainable Yield (MSY), and precautionary principles. The policy promotes regulation of fishing effort, spatial and temporal closures, fleet and gear controls, and protection of ecologically sensitive areas. It further strengthens Monitoring, Control and Surveillance (MCS) mechanisms using vessel registration, modern satellite based vessel communication and support systems, and inter-agency coordination. The policy also supports responsible marine aquaculture and ensures compliance with international obligations to prevent illegal, unreported, and unregulated (IUU) fishing. In addition, various State/UT Marine Fishing Regulation Acts (MFRAs) and State/UT policies are also progressively aligning with the CCRF principles, collectively reinforcing India's commitment to responsible and sustainable fisheries”.

2.24 Fishing Harbours handling fishery products for exports require to adhere to certain operational and hygiene requirements and need mandatory approval of Export Inspection Agency (EIA) to remain competitive in International Market. When asked by the Committee on the possibility of making such requirements mandatory for other Fishing Harbours as well who cater to the Domestic Market so as to provide quality fish products for the domestic population as well, the Department submitted the following reply:

“Fishing Harbours handling fish and fishery products for exports are mandated to comply with hygiene and operational standards as per Government of India's Notification S.O. 730(E), and must obtain approval from the Export Inspection Agency (EIA) to meet international requirements such as HACCP and EU norms. These standards ensure food safety, traceability, and sanitary handling throughout the supply chain.

Recognizing the growing demand for safe and quality fish products within the domestic market, there is a strong case for extending similar hygiene and operational requirements to fishing harbours catering to domestic consumers. Ensuring compliance with food safety standards, aligned with the Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI), would help prevent contamination, improve public health outcomes, and build consumer confidence in seafood consumed locally.

While many domestic harbours currently lack the infrastructure to meet such standards, the Department is actively working through schemes like the Pradhan Mantri Matsya Sampada Yojana (PMMSY) to support modernization, capacity building, and hygiene improvements. A phased implementation approach—starting with high-landing volume harbours—could help transition towards nationwide adoption of uniform quality standards, ensuring that both export and domestic markets benefit from safe,

hygienically handled fishery products”.

H. Deep-Sea Resources in Exclusive Economic Zones.

2.25 On being asked, if the current fleet of Deep-Sea Fishing Vessels available in the country are sufficient to harness the Deep-Sea resources in India's Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ) and whether any assessment has been done by the Department in this regard, the Department submitted the following reply:

“India's EEZ covers an expansive area of over 22 lakh square kilometres (km²), rich in marine living resources. However, the vast deep-sea areas beyond the continental shelf remain largely unexplored and underutilized for fishing activities. The assessments made by the Committee of Experts including scientists from the Fishery Survey of India (FSI), Central Marine Fisheries Research Institution (CMFRI) and other research organizations have revealed the immense potential of deep-sea fishery resources, both within the EEZ and in international waters. The current fleet of Deep-Sea Fishing Vessels available in the country is not sufficient to harness the Deep-Sea Resources of the Country. India's deep sea fishing industry is still nascent, with significant untapped potential to be harnessed. The estimate for the overall EEZ potential for 2018 by Committee of Experts was 7.158 million tonnes, including conventional (74%) and non-conventional resources (26%). The potential of conventional resources was estimated at 5.31 million tonnes in 2018. The estimate for non-conventional resource potential was at 1.847 million tonnes. Out of the non-conventional resources, the resource potential for deep-sea myctophids was 1 million tonnes, followed by ocean squids (0.63 million tonnes), jellyfish (0.2 million tonnes), and marine algae (0.017 million tonnes), indicating the additional resources that could be tapped for deep-sea fishing.

Indian EEZ possesses significant untapped offshore/oceanic fisheries potential. According to the Expert Committee Report (2018), the total offshore/oceanic fisheries resource potential for the Indian EEZ, including the Andaman and Nicobar Islands, is estimated at 2,30,832 t. The highest potential is estimated for skipjack tuna (99,500 t), followed by yellowfin tuna (83,500 t) and pelagic sharks (25,000 t). The potential for oceanic squids too is estimated at 6,30,000 t, representing an underutilized resource. Considering the scope for harnessing of oceanic/deep-sea fisheries resources in EEZ and High seas and recommendations of the National Policy on Marine Fisheries, 2017, the support to traditional fishermen for acquisition of 918 Deep-Sea Fishing Vessels has been provided by Government of India under its Centrally Sponsored Scheme (CSS) on 'Blue Revolution: Integrated Development and Management of Fisheries'. Subsequently, the "Support for acquisition of Deep-Sea Fishing vessels for traditional fishermen" has also been continued under the 'Pradhan Mantri Matsya Sampada Yojana' (PMMSY), wherein project proposals for

acquisition of 470 deep-sea fishing vessels have been sanctioned so far. The Pradhan Mantri Matsya Sampada Yojana also supports “up-gradation of existing fishing vessels for export competencies”, and so far approvals have been accorded for up-gradation of 473 vessels for export competency in various States/UTs.

The Standard Operating Procedure (SoP) for procurement of Deep-Sea Fishing Vessels under PMMSY is also developed by the Ministry of Ports, Shipping and Waterways (MoPSW), Government of India to ensure quality and safety aspects of deep-sea fishing vessels.

In the Union Budget 2025-26 of the Government of India, it has been inter alia announced that the Government will bring in an enabling framework for sustainable harnessing of fisheries from Indian Exclusive Economic Zone and High Seas to unlock the untapped potential of the marine sector, with special focus on the Andaman & Nicobar and Lakshadweep Islands. Accordingly, the steps are being taken for implementation of the above-mentioned budget announcement”.

2.26 The Committee, desire to know the measures taken by the Department to harness the Deep-Sea Resources of the Country beyond 12 nautical miles in Exclusive Economic Zone, the Department submitted the following reply:

“Government of India introduced National Policy on Marine Fisheries in 2017 which inter-alia recommends for introduction of new scheme(s) for deep-sea fishing and introduction of indigenous deep-sea fishing vessels through fishermen cooperatives/self-help groups, on-board training and linkages to markets and export.

Considering the scope for harnessing of deep-sea fisheries resources in EEZ and High seas and the recommendations of the National Policy on Marine Fisheries, 2017, a new sub-component (scheme) was introduced in 2017 under the Centrally Sponsored Scheme (CSS) on Blue Revolution to support acquisition of deep-sea fishing vessels at unit cost of Rs.80 lakhs, and approved 918 Deep Sea fishing vessels at a total cost of Rs. 734.40 crore. Subsequently, w.e.f 2020-21 onward, the support for Deep Sea fishing vessels has been provided under the Pradhan Mantri Matsya Sampada Yojana (PMMSY) with enhanced unit cost of Rs.120 lakh with subsidy amount of Rs.48 lakh for general and Rs.72 lakh for SC/ST/Women. So far, 470 Deep Sea fishing vessels had been approved under the PMMSY at a total cost of Rs. 56.40 crore.

Government of India envisions to promote utilization of fishery resources in the EEZ and the High Seas by Indian fishing vessels in a sustainable manner. It is relevant to note that fishing in the High Seas is subject to compliance of relevant provisions in the International Agreements/Arrangements and to be undertaken with proper monitoring and communication mechanisms to safe guard coastal

security and safety of fishermen at sea. India is a member of Indian Ocean Tuna Commission (IOTC), Commission for the Conservation of Antarctic Marine Living Resources (CCAMLR), and has also recently joined the South Indian Ocean Fisheries Agreement (SIOFA) to enable fishing in the high seas under these Regional Fisheries Management Organizations (RFMOs).

Government of India, in its Budget announcement (Para No. 20) has inter alia announced that "...To unlock the untapped potential of the marine sector, our Government will bring in an enabling framework for sustainable harnessing of fisheries from Indian Exclusive Economic Zone and High Seas, with special focus on the Andaman & Nicobar and Lakshadweep Islands",

DoF, GoI is taking steps to bring in an enabling framework for sustainable harnessing of fisheries from Indian Exclusive Economic Zone and High Seas as per the above-mentioned Budget Announcement to harness the Deep-Sea Fishery Resources".

CHAPTER-III

MANAGEMENT OF FISHING HARBOURS AND FISH LANDING CENTERS

3.1 With respect to management of Fishing Harbours and Fish Landing Centers, the Committee inquired about the guidelines that are being followed for management of Fishing Harbours/Fish Landing Centers and whether there are any specific guidelines by the Centre in this regard or fishing harbours/fish landing centers are run according to the guidelines of the respective States/UTs. In response, the Department submitted the following reply:

“Fisheries and Fishing within the territorial waters is a state subject and the same is governed as per the provisions of the Marine Fishing Regulation Acts of the concerned coastal States/UTs and their State Policies. The coastal State Governments have the prime responsibility to develop infrastructure and post-harvest development in their respective States. The management of fishing harbour and fish landing centre is generally done by respective State/U.T as per their guidelines. Further, the Department of Fisheries, Government of India while approving the projects stipulates that concerned State/UT Government will be fully responsible for management, maintenance and operation of the Fishing Harbour in a professional and financially self-sustainable manner. It is also stipulated that the concerned State /UT Government shall devise a suitable levy structure so as to ensure adequate revenue realization out of various services provided in Fishing Harbour/Fish Landing Centre, value addition facilities created and lease rents or any other receipts etc. The revenue realized should be deposited in a separate account maintained in a local nationalized bank in the name of the Fishing Harbour/Fish Landing Centre management body to be set up by the Concerned State/UT Government. It has been suggested and advised to the State Governments/UTs that the revenue realized should be utilized for meeting various expenses on regular maintenance including dredging, management, operations and further modernization/up-gradation of the Fishing Harbour/Fish Landing Centre. The Concerned State/UT Government to ensure generation of adequate financial resources required for post construction management and operation of the Fishing Harbour/Fish Landing Centre on a self- sustainable and profitable manner. The concerned State /UT Government are also to ensure efficient operational conditions of the Fishing Harbour/Fish Landing Centre in accordance with national/international hygienic standards/specifications in force from time-to-time”.

3.2 The Committee further asked if Government bodies alone run fishing harbours or other stakeholders or people working in harbours are also given representation in the management bodies. The Department submitted the following reply:

“Generally, Government institution carry out the maintenance and management of the fishing harbours. The Fishing Harbour Management Societies consists of District collector as Chairman, Executive Engineer of the concerned division of the State Government as Vice-chairman, Deputy Director, Fisheries department as Member Secretary with representatives from different categories of beneficiaries, local self-Government bodies and trade unions. The composition of Management, Maintenance and Operation of Fishing Harbour vary from State to State. For example (i) In Kerala, the management society formed in each harbour of State Government of Kerala includes officials from various government departments, representatives from political parties, trade unions and fishermen. (ii) In Odisha, State Government is managing it's all Fishing Harbours and Fish Landing Centres by constituting Management Society FH&FLC with active participation of District Administration, Stake Holders, Police personnel, local representative with Fisheries Officials registered under certificate of Registration of Society Act, XXI of 1860 issued by the Concerned District Magistrate. (iii) In U.T. of Puducherry fishing Harbour Management Society' constituted for maintenance and management of the Fishing harbour in the U.T of Puducherry. The governing body of the society is governed by official and three non-official members (boat owners).(iv) In Karnataka, presently the management of fishing harbours and fish landing centres is being carried out by leasing out the maintenance rights to individuals / societies through tender cum auction. State Government of Karnataka has issued a government order to form Harbour Management Society for every harbour. The issued government order has made provision for forming Governing body with representation from boat owners, labourers and others along with Government representatives. (v) In UT of Daman, Diu & DNH, the Diu and Daman Fisheries Co-operative Federation Ltd has been registered for management and operation of the proposed Smart and Integrated Fishing Harbour at Vanakbara, Diu consisting of the Collector as Chairman, representatives of Department of Fisheries(UT), Dy. Collector & H.O. Fisheries, Members Fisheries Co-op. society Ltd, General Manager, Co-operative Bank Ltd. Diu , Asst. Registrar of Co-op. Societies, Co-operative Department, Daman etc. From the above it can be seen that the composition of Management, Maintenance and Operation of Fishing Harbour varies State to State/U.T”.

3.3 The Committee desire details about those Fishing Harbour Managements in the Country have the representation of other stakeholders/labourers also in their managing bodies. In response, the Department submitted the following reply:

“Since the management, maintenance and operation of Fishing Harbour/Fish Landing Centres are being carried out by the respective State/U.T. government as per their guidelines, the composition of such management societies/body vary from State to State/UT. Generally, all the State/UT Governments have provisions for representations from Stakeholders/ Fishermen in Fishing Harbour management society”.

3.4 On being asked, if the Department have taken any initiative for setting up of Cooperative-Management Societies to run Fishing Harbours/fish landing Centres, which would also include stakeholders along with government representatives, the Department submitted the following reply:

“The Department of Fisheries, Government of India has formed the management, maintenance and operation body In the Chennai Fishing Harbour owned by Government of India for efficient management, maintenance and operation. The composition of management, maintenance and operation body along with government representatives consists of stakeholders viz. representative of fiber/country boat operator, representative of mechanized boat operator, representative of fishing industry as member.

Marine Product Export Development Authority under Government of India is working closely with the Department of Fisheries of State/U,T. Government to promote improved harbour management practices through its society MPEDA-NETFISH. MPEDA has been actively promoting the Munambam Model of Fishing Harbour Management Society (MFHMS) as an effective model for the management of fishing harbours. This model encourages the formation of similar management societies and committees across fishing harbours in coastal states to ensure efficient and participatory governance. The MFHMS is an autonomous co-management society established in 2005, with the District Collector of Ernakulam serving as its Chairman. It includes representation from key stakeholders such as fishers, harbour workers, officials from the State Fisheries and Port Departments, MPEDA, and others. This ensures participatory decision-making and efficient day-to-day management of the harbour. The society is responsible for collecting revenue from various sources such as toll charges, user fees, and rents. These funds are utilized for daily operations, repair and maintenance, and the further development of harbour facilities. With strong support from stakeholders, MFHMS has successfully implemented good handling practices for fish and ice, maintained hygiene and sanitation, and enforced a code of conduct within the harbour. Munambam model of Co- management is a successful self-sustainable model and MPEDA promotes the same to the harbors of other states also through facilitating study tours and field visits. The success of the Munambam model has already led to its replication at Paradip Fishing Harbour in Odisha. This demonstrates significant potential

for adoption across other fishing harbours and landing centers in maritime states throughout the country”.

3.5 On being asked by the Committee, if, the Department has any plans to introduce or devise a uniform co-operative management system for fishing harbours/fish landing centres so as to give representation to fishers, fish labourers, boat owners, public representative and other stakeholders in the Harbour Management body, the Department submitted the following reply:

“Fisheries and Fishing within the territorial waters is a State subject and the same is governed as per the provisions of the Marine Fishing Regulation Acts of the concerned coastal States/UTs and their State Policies. The coastal State Governments have the prime responsibility to develop infrastructure and post-harvest development in their respective States. The post construction management of fishing harbour and fish landing centre is generally done by respective State/U.T. as per their guidelines. The composition of Management, Maintenance and Operation of Fishing Harbour vary from state to state. Generally, all the State/UT Government have provisions for representations from Stakeholders/Fishermen in Fishing Harbour Management Society.

Further, the Department of Fisheries from time to time envisions to issue need based advisory to States/UTs to put in place efficient and robust management systems for management of fishing harbours/fish landing centres.

The Department of Fisheries, Government of India has formed the management, maintenance and operation body In the Chennai Fishing Harbour owned by Government of India for efficient management, maintenance and operation. The composition of management, maintenance and operation body along with government representatives consists of stakeholders viz. representative of fibre/country boat operator, representative of mechanized boat operator, representative of fishing industry as member.

Department of Fisheries, Government of India envisions participatory system of management and the same has been enshrined in the administrative approvals accorded to the States/UTs, yet the role is restricted to advisory only and the operations and management of the finished infrastructure vests with respective States/ UTs. The States/UTs choose and implement the operations and management plan for the infrastructure constructed”.

3.6 On being asked, about the custodian of the revenue, that is collected from Fishing Harbours and Fish Landing Centres, and, whether, the revenue so collected is adequate to run the harbours, the Department submitted the following reply:

“The respective State/UTs are custodian of revenue collected from FH/FLC under jurisdiction of State/UT. The model of collection of revenue form FH/FLC varies from State to State. For example Model followed by Fishery harbours in Kerala collects different user charges viz. gate collection for vehicles entry into harbour, fishing boat landing charges, berthing charges, wharfage charges, renewal of different licenses for fish auction agents, merchants, women vendors/labourers, harbour workers, rents for repair yards and tourism as entry fee to breakwater. The revenue is credited in separate bank account and utilised for maintenance, operation and management.

Further, the Department of Fisheries, Government of India in the conditions of administrative approval of the project to State/UT stipulates that the Concerned State /U.T. Government shall devise a suitable levy structure so as to ensure adequate revenue realization out of various services provided in Fishing Harbour/Fish Landing Centre, value addition facilities created and lease rents or any other receipts etc. The Concerned State/U,T, Government to ensure generation of adequate financial resources required for post construction management and operation of the Fishing Harbour/Fish Landing Centre on a self- sustainable and profitable manner”.

3.7 The Committee further inquired if there is any provision from the Department to give additional revenue to Fishing Harbours and Fish Landing Centers who have very low revenue generation/collection, the Department submitted the following reply:

“As per PMMSY guidelines, the maintenance, management and operation post construction of fishing Harbours, fish landing centres are to be borne by respective State/UT. Thus, the Department of Fisheries, Government of India is not providing any additional revenue to FH/FLCs. Further, the Department of Fisheries, Government of India in the conditions of administrative approval of the project to State/UT stipulates that the Concerned State/UT Government to ensure generation of adequate financial resources required for post construction management and operation of the Fishing Harbour/Fish Landing Centre on a self- sustainable and profitable manner. The Concerned State/U.T. Government to provide additional funds required, if any, over and above the revenue realized on account of various charges and levies collected, for maintenance and operation of the Fishing Harbour/Fish Landing Centre”.

3.8 As stated by the Department, the Munambam (Kerala) model of Co-management is a successful and self-sustainable model. On being asked by the Committee about the measures taken by the Department to promote Munamban model in all the Coastal States, the Department submitted the following reply:

“The Department of Fisheries, Government of India while approving the projects stipulates that concerned State/UT Government will be fully

responsible for management, maintenance and operation of the Fishing Harbour in a professional and financially self-sustainable manner. It is also stipulated that the concerned State /UT Government shall devise a suitable levy structure so as to ensure adequate revenue realization out of various services provided in Fishing Harbour/Fish Landing Centre, value addition facilities created and lease rents or any other receipts etc. The Concerned State/UT Government to ensure generation of adequate financial resources required for post construction management and operation of the Fishing Harbour/Fish Landing Centre on a self- sustainable and profitable manner. The concerned State /UT Government are also to ensure efficient operational conditions of the Fishing Harbour/Fish Landing Centre in accordance with national/international hygienic standards/specifications in force from time-to time.

Further, the Department of Fisheries from time to time envisions to issue need based advisory to States/UTs for efficient and robust management system incorporating good practices/models for fishing harbours/fish landing centres”.

CHAPTER-IV

CENTRAL SCHEMES/FUNDS FOR DEVELOPMENT OF FISHING HARBOURS AND FISH LANDING CENTRES

Central financial assistance is provided for development of fishing harbours and fish landing centres to Coastal State Government's, Union Territories and Port Trusts with an objective to;

- i) provide infrastructure facilities for safe landing, berthing of fishing vessels;
- ii) create shelter basins for fishing vessels and fishermen; and
- iii) provide land-based facilities for post-harvest management.

4.1 The funding pattern for Development of Fishing Harbours and Fish Landing Centres under CSS Blue Revolution Scheme was 100% funding by Centre for UTs and Central Government Organisations and sharing in the ratio of 50:50 between the Centre and State with respect to other States. Under Pradhan Mantri Matsya Sampada Yojana (PMMSY) the ratio is 60:40 sharing between Centre and State for States and 100% Central funding for UTs.

A. CSS Blue Revolution Scheme (2015-16 to 2019-20)

4.2 During the tenure of CSS Blue Revolution Scheme, the Department of Fisheries approved a total of 13 fishing harbours/fish landing centre projects with a total cost of Rs.1463.63 crore. Further, Central Investment of Rs. 453 Cr under Blue Revolution (Department of Fisheries) and Rs. 254 Cr under Sagarmala (M/o Ports, Shipping and Waterways) (total 707 crores) was released to States during the scheme period by the Central Government.

4.3 The Committee, however, note that out of the approved 13 fishing harbours and fish landing centre projects, only 06 fishing harbours/fish landing centre projects have been completed and 06 are still in various stages of progress along with 01 project still in pre-tendering stage.

B. Pradhan Mantri Matsya Sampada Yojana (PMMSY)

4.4 PMMSY a flagship scheme is being implemented by the Central Government with an outlay of Rs. 20,050 crore over a period of five years i.e from 2020-21 to 2024-25. No cost extension is given to PMMSY for another period of one year i.e FY 2025-26. Development of fishing harbours and fish landing centres is one of the important thrust areas under the Scheme. A total of 58 projects for Modernisation and Development of fishing harbours and fish landing centres have been approved under both the components {i.e. Central Sector Scheme (CS) and Centrally Sponsored Scheme (CSS)} the Scheme with a total investment of Rs 3281.32 crore having Central share of Rs. 1,698.45 crores.

4.5 The Committee, however, note that out of the 58 projects approved under PMMSY for modernization/development of FH/FLS, only two (02) projects have been completed till date and 31 projects are under various stages of progress. Further, 21 projects are still under pre-tendering stage and project costs of 04 projects is being revised.

C. Fisheries and Aquaculture Infrastructure Development Fund (FIDF).

4.6 FIDF a dedicated fund with a corpus of Rs. 7522.48 was created during 2018-19 to address the infrastructure requirement and finance development of fisheries sector by the Department of Fisheries. Under the scheme, concessional finance is provided to the Eligible Entities (EEs), including State Governments/Union Territories for development of identified fisheries infrastructure facilities by the Nodal Lending Entities (NLEs) namely National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD), National Cooperatives Development Corporation (NCDC), and all Scheduled Banks by way of interest subvention up to 3% per annum by Government of India. The maximum repayment period for such loan is 12 years inclusive of moratorium of two years. The tenure of FIDF has been extended upto March 2026.

4.7 Under FIDF, Department of Fisheries has approved a total of 46 fishing harbours/fish landing centre projects at a total cost of Rs. 5087.97 crore restricting the project cost at Rs. 3318.82 crore for interest subvention under FIDF.

4.8 The Committee note that out of the 46 projects approved under FIDF, only 12 projects have been completed and 28 projects are in various stages of completion.

Further, 5 projects are still in pre-tendering stage and 01 project is pending due to court case.

4.9 The Committee has been informed that a total of 117 projects for Development and Modernization of fishing harbours and fish landing centres have been approved under various Schemes of the Department namely Blue Revolution, Pradhan Mantri Matsya Sampada Yojana and Fisheries and Aquaculture Infrastructure Development Fund. However, out of these approved projects, only 20 projects have been completed till date and 97 projects are in various stages of progress or pre-tendering stage. Thus, the percentage of completed projects is very low i.e. only 23%.

D. Release of Central Funds for Modernisation and Development of Fishing Harbours

4.10 The Committee desire to know the details of funds released till date by the Central Government for development/modernisation of Fishing Harbours and Fish Landing Centres under Blue Revolution, Pradhan Mantri Matsya Sampada Yojana (PMMSY) and Fisheries and Aquaculture Infrastructure Development Fund (FIDF). In response the Department submitted the following reply:

“The Department has accorded approvals to the proposal of various State Governments, UTs and other Central Government organizations for development of a total of 117 Fishing Harbour Fish Landing Centres including modernizations and maintenance dredging at a total cost of Rs 9735 crore under Blue Revolution, Pradhan Mantri Matsya Sampada Yojana (PMMSY) and Fisheries and Aquaculture Infrastructure Development Fund (FIDF). The funds to the tune of Rs 1069 crore has been released for development/modernization of Fishing Harbours and Fish Landing Centres under Blue Revolution and Pradhan Mantri Matsya Sampada Yojana (PMMSY). Further, loan to the tune of Rs1220 crore has been disbursed for development of fishing harbours and fish landing centres by NABARD under Fisheries and Aquaculture Infrastructure Development Fund (FIDF) Scheme. The department of Fisheries, Government of India has released a sum of Rs. 60 crores towards interest subvention under FIDF. In addition, during the current financial year, the Department of Fisheries, Government of India has issued mother sanctions as per SNA-SPRASH guidelines of Department of Expenditure, Ministry of Finance for implementation of the various fisheries development projects including Fishing Harbours and Fish landing centre approved under PMMSY”.

4.11 The Committee further inquired about the measures taken by the Department to address the issue of slow pace of release of Central Funds to Infrastructure projects such as Modernization and Development of fishing harbours. The Department submitted the following reply:

“The Central funds are released for development of fishing harbour/fish landing centre projects based on the submission of utilization certificate (UC) of the previously released central share, submission of physical & financial progress reports by the State/UT. The main reasons attributed for slow pace of release of central funds are (i) delay in completion of pre-tendering activities, (ii) slow progress of the projects, (iii) Litigations, (iv) fund absorbing capacity of project implementing agencies. The State Governments and UTs have been advised from time-to-time to resolve the bottlenecks and speed up the project implementation.

Further, the system of SNA-SPARSH has largely addressed the issue of timely availability of central funds for completion of the projects. During the current financial year, the Department of Fisheries has issued mother sanctions as per SNA-SPRASH guidelines of Department of Expenditure, Ministry of Finance and made available a bulk of amount for implementation of all the sanctioned activities including FH/FLC projects under the PMMSY. Accordingly, the States/UTs can channelize the funds towards fast progressing project activities”.

E. Notified Landing Centres Developed into Fishing Harbours and Fish Landing Centres under Central Sector and Centrally Sponsored Schemes.

4.12 On being asked by the Committee about the number of notified fish landing centers that have been developed/modernized into fishing harbours till date, the Department submitted the following reply:

“Based on advise of the Department of Fisheries, Government of India, the coastal State Governments/UTs have notified a total of 1547 fish landing centres under respective Marine Fisheries Regulation Act (MFRA). Out of 1547 fish landing centres, as of now 379 fish landing centres have been taken up for development as fishing harbours and fish landing centres along the country’s coastline. The selection of notified landing centres for development as fishing harbours and fish landing centres are done based on strategic considerations, including the number of fishing boats operating from the notified landing centre, number of fishermen involved in fishing and allied activities, volume of fish landings, proximity to major fish markets and fish processing centres and other existing infrastructure. The notified fish landing centres with higher magnitude of the aforementioned parameters and

economic potential are prioritized for development as fishing harbours and fish landing centres”.

State-wise details (as on June, 2025) of notified fishing harbours and fish landing centres completed/commissioned and under construction with the central assistance under the CSS during the period 1964 to 2014

Sl. No	Name of State/ Union Territory	Notified landing centres	Centres taken up for development under CSS	Fishing Harbours			Fish Landing Centres	
				Major fishing harbours Commissioned	Minor fishing harbours		Commissioned	Under Construction
					Commissioned	Under construction		
1.	West Bengal	66	22	2	7	-	13	-
2.	Odisha	73	36	1	4	2	28	1
3.	Andhra Pradesh	350	42	1	4	8	22*	7
4.	Tamil Nadu	301	65	1	15	5	24	20
5.	Puducherry	41	10	-	3	4	1	2
6.	Kerala	204	53	1	16	8	27	1
7.	Karnataka	115	28	-	10	5	13	-
8.	Goa	34	7	-	-	2	5	-
9.	Maharashtra	173	59	1	2	11	35	10
10.	Gujarat	107	32	-	6	5	21	-
11.	Daman & Diu	12	4	-	1	1	2	-
12.	Andaman & Nicobar Islands	51	18	-	1	-	17**	-
13.	Lakshadweep	20	3	-	-	-	3	-
	Total:	1,547	379	7	69	51	211	41

* 3 FLCs was developed under TRP.

** 4 FLCs approved under the Tsunami Rehabilitation Package (TRP). Besides, 13 FLCs under the UT plan.

Creation of infrastructure facilities at a total of **379** fishing centres against **1547** existing fishing centres in the Country has been taken up, which forms about **24.49%** coverage.

4.13 The Committee asked about the amount of funds that have been disbursed by the Centre for development of these notified landing centres till date, the Department submitted the following reply:

“The Government of India, Department of Fisheries since inception of the Central Schemes has provided the central funds to the tune of Rs 1860.62 crore for development of fishing harbours, fish landing centres including modernization and up-gradation of the existing one”.

CHAPTER-V

IMPORTANT ISSUES RELATED TO FISHERMEN AND TRADITIONAL FISHING COMMUNITIES RESIDING IN HARBOUR AREAS/LANDING CENTRES

The Department has stated that about 5 million fishermen are living in 3477 fishing villages in the country along its coast. Further, based on the advice of the Department of Fisheries, the Coastal State Governments and Union Territories have notified a total of 1547 fish landing centers under respective Marine Fisheries Regulation Act (MFRA). These notified fishing harbours and fish landing centers are catering to the 3477 fishing villages along the Coast.

A. Health, Education and Housing Facilities.

5.2 When the Committee asked about the details of fishermen population residing in the 1547 notified landing centres, individually, and the total population engaged in fisheries and fisheries activities in all the notified centres, the Department submitted the following reply:

“In coastal region, there are 1547 notified fish landing centre and it is assumed that these 1547 notified fish landing centre are catering to 3477 coastal fishing villages with about 50 lakh fishermen population engaged in fisheries and fisheries activities. However, the specific population at each fish landing centre is not available”.

5.3 The Committee further enquired about the mechanism/criteria of the Department while selecting notified landing centres for their development into fishing harbours, since the Department does not have specific population data with respect to each of the notified landing centres. The Department in their response submitted the following:

“About 5 million fishermen are living in 3477 fishing villages along the coast and the notified 1547 fishing harbours and fish landing centers are catering to these fishing villages. The selection of notified landing centres for development as fishing harbours and fish landing centres are based on site specific feasibility study that includes factors such as strategic considerations, number, size and type of fishing vessels operating from the notified fish landing centre, number of fishermen involved in fishing and allied activities, volume and value of fish landings, proximity to major fish markets and fish processing centres and other existing infrastructure including forward and backward linkages. The notified fish landing centres with higher magnitude of

the aforementioned parameters and economic potential are prioritized for development as fishing harbours and fish landing centres”.

5.4 The Committee inquired about the social security measures such as health, education, housing, Institutional credit and Insurance (life/equipment) facilities that are available to the fishermen population residing in the 1547 notified landing centres. The Department submitted the following reply:

“The Department of Fisheries, Gol, under PMMSY has been providing safety kits to the fishermen operating in traditional or motorized fishing vessels to ensure their safety and timely assistance in case of accidents. Financial provisions are made under PMMSY to provide livelihood and nutritional support during the ban period to the fishermen community. The Department of Fisheries, Gol has provisioned for insurance cover to fishers under PMMSY, in a cost sharing mechanism with the States and UTs. The insurance covered to the fishers include a cover of Rs. 5 Lakhs in case of death and Rs.2.5 lakhs in case of permanent disability. Insurance premium subvention is also provided for insurance of fishing vessels to safeguard the loss of property of the fishermen. The states are encouraged to provide Kisan Credit Cards for the fisheries sector, ensuring financial inclusion and support for livelihood activities. Besides, collateral free Mudra Loans is available to be availed by the fishermen for financing their business requirements. Further, Department of Fisheries, Government of India has been focusing on providing additional livelihood opportunities to the fishermen community residing at the coast. Preference is accorded to the traditional marine fisher youth as an alternative livelihood option in case of marine recreational fisheries.¹¹ modern coastal fishing villages were sanctioned under PMMSY at the cost of 7.5 Cr. each for Blue economy/Blue growth with an aim to maximize economic and social benefits to coastal fishers while minimizing environmental degradation through sustainable fishing practices. Fishers of these villages were envisioned to be empowered for securing their livelihoods and equal participation along the fisheries value chain. The Department of Fisheries, Gol has taken up development of 100 coastal fishing villages as Climate Resilient Coastal Fishermen Villages (CRCFV) under PMMSY with an outlay of Rs. 200 crore with 100% central funding for improving infrastructure and community welfare including fisheries economic activities. In addition, there are other schemes run by the respective state Governments that are beneficial to the fishermen, for example the State of Karnataka runs Matsya Ashraya scheme for housing for fishermen, Vidyaniidhi scheme for the education of the children of fishermen/ fish farmers”.

The fisher folks can avail facilities offered by other ministries like Ayushman Bharat for medical insurance cover, Pradhan Mantri Jeevan Jyoti Bima Yojana (PMJJBY) and Pradhan Mantri Suraksha Bima Yojana (PMSBY) for life and accident insurance including hospitalisation cover of Rs 25000”.

5.5 State of Karnataka through Matsya Ashraya Scheme and Vidyanidhi Scheme respectively provides Housing and Education for fishermen and children of fishermen. When asked by the Committee, whether the Department of Fisheries, GOI is implementing any such scheme or does it plan to implement any such central scheme in near future. The Department submitted the following reply:

“The Department of Fisheries, Gol, primarily focuses on development of the fisheries infrastructure along the fisheries value chain to facilitate fisher-folks to not only improve production as well as productivity of the fisheries sector but also contribute towards improving their socio-economic condition. Under PMMSY scheme the Department of Fisheries from FY 2021-22 has extended benefits of Group Insurance Scheme to 36.74 lakh fisher-folks annually.

The safety of the fishermen has been addressed by way of providing 2135 safety kits to the artisanal fishermen. While 14,300 communication and tracking devices have been sanctioned for smaller boats to ensure communication and tracking in case of a mishap. Under PMMSY, 1 lakh indigenously developed transponders at the total cost of Rs 364 Crore have been provisioned for all the mechanized boats in India and that 27894 of these transponders have already been installed till 1st of July 2025.

In addition to this Livelihood and nutritional support is provided to about 3 million fisher-folks during the ban period. Special efforts have been made by the department of fisheries to extend Kisan Credit Cards (KCCs) to the fisher folks providing financial inclusion.

There are other beneficial schemes run by respective ministries that are available to all the citizens of India, like PM AwasYojna, Pradhan Mantri Ujjwala Yojna, Ayushman Bharat Yojna, Pradhan Mantri Jeevan Jyoti Yojna and Swachh Bharat Abhiyaan.

Other than the schemes mentioned above, there are specific schemes run by various states as mentioned in the question. Some examples follow:

State of Uttarakhand provides subsidies on fish farming inputs, while State of Tamil Nadu provides subsidies for the purchase of equipment and sales tax on the diesel is reimbursed for the mechanized vessels, while other states provide facilities for training and capacity building”.

B. Compensation During Fish Ban/Lean Season.

5.6 When the Committee asked about the amount of compensation given to fishermen during the Fishing ban /lean season and whether the compensation granted

is enough for the fishermen families for their daily sustenance needs, the Department submitted the following reply:

“The Pradhan Mantri Matsya Sampada Yojana (PMMSY) implemented by the Department of Fisheries, Ministry of Fisheries, Animal Husbandry and Dairying, Government of India provides livelihood and nutritional support for socio-economically backward active traditional fisher’s families during the fishing ban/lean period. Under this scheme, the Governmental financial assistance of Rs. 3,000/- per annum is provided to each enrolled beneficiary and the enrolled beneficiary’s contribution is Rs. 1,500/- annually. Such accumulated amount of Rs. 4,500/- is disbursed to each enrolled beneficiary by the respective State/ Union Territory (UT) at the rate of Rs. 1,500/- per month during the fishing ban/lean period for three months annually. This is not a compensation but financial assistance provided to fishermen during fishing ban/lean period.

The Department of Fisheries, Ministry of Fisheries, Animal Fisheries Husbandry and Dairying is implementing Pradhan Mantri Matsya Sampada Yojana (PMMSY)- a scheme to bring about Blue Revolution through sustainable and responsible development of fisheries sector in India. PMMSY scheme has provision for income support component namely Livelihood and nutritional support for socio-economically backward active traditional fisher’s families for conservation of fish resources during during fishing ban/lean period. Under this component assistance is provided @Rs. 3000/- per fishers and beneficiaries’ own contribution of Rs. 1500/- for three months during fishing ban/lean periods in the ratio of 50:50 for general State, 80:20 for North Eastern States and Himalayan States while 100% for UTs. During the last five years (2020-21 to 2024-25) , 5.95 lakh fishers were provided livelihood and Nutritional support per annum at a Project outlay of Rs.1384.80 crore. The details of achievements under the activity is as under”.

(Rs. In lakhs)

Sl.N	Name of the States	Average Fishers provided Livelihood Support from 2020-21 to 2024-25 Annually		
		Physical (No.)	Proj. Cost	Gol Share
1	Andaman & Nicobar	250	45.00	30.00
2	Andhra Pradesh	110680	19922.40	6640.80
3	Assam	26000	4680.00	2496.00
4	Bihar	12500	2250.00	750.00
5	Chhattisgarh	11500	2070.00	690.00
6	Gujarat	7500	1350.00	450.00
7	Himachal Pradesh	4316	776.95	414.37
8	Jammu and Kashmir	20492	3688.56	2459.06

9	Karnataka	29095	5237.02	1745.68
10	Kerala	213791	36466.17	12459.37
11	Lakshadweep	625	112.50	75.00
12	Madhya Pradesh	14911	2684.04	894.69
13	Maharashtra	1000	180.00	60.00
14	Mizoram	4718	849.16	452.88
15	Odisha	11250	2520.00	839.97
16	Puducherry	33584	6045.04	4030.02
17	Rajasthan	576	102.09	34.11
18	Sikkim	174	31.28	16.68
19	Tamil Nadu	233778	48345.05	14026.69
20	Telangana	2500	450.00	150.00
21	Tripura	3634	620.49	348.84
22	Uttar Pradesh	250	45.00	15.00
22	Uttarakhand	50	9.00	4.80

5.7 During the evidence meeting held on 3rd July, 2025 on the subject “Development and Modernisation of Fishing Harbours’ several members expressed their concern about the amount of compensation that is being provided to fishermen during the fish ban/lean season and suggested that the compensation may be enhanced proportionately given the current economic conditions and Inflation.

C. Coastal Erosion, Construction of Resorts and Reduction of Land Meant for Traditional Fishing Activities.

5.8 Coastal regions of the country have been inhabited by many Traditional Fishing Communities and thus a traditional fishing system exists in such regions. In every State/UTs such regions are being used by traditional fishing communities for small scale fishing activities. One of such region in West Bengal is called “Khotis’ and they are know by different names in different States/UTs.

5.9 On being asked, whether, the Department has any study/assessment with respect to affect of climate change and coastal erosion on the reduction of land (khotis) meant for traditional fishing activities, the Department submitted the following reply:

“The construction of coastal protection works are not falling under the ambit of the fisheries development schemes implemented by the Ministry of Fisheries, Animal Husbandry and Dairying. Ministry of Fisheries, Animal

Husbandry and Dairying supports the coastal states and union Territories for development of fishing harbour and fish landing centres for creation of need based shelter basin, safe landing and berthing facilities and land based facilities for smooth conduct of fishers and fish relating activities. The fishing harbours and fish landing centres developed under the schemes, inter-alia, comprising of need based waterside and landside facilities like breakwaters, training walls and groynes primarily to create shelter and tranquil basin for smooth operations of fishery activities, protect the lives and assets of fishermen during the rough weather and natural calamities.

No such study with respect to affect of climate change and coastal erosion on the reduction of land (khotis) meant for traditional fishing activities has been conducted by the Department of Fisheries, Government of India”.

5.10 The Committee, further desire to know, if any exercise has been conducted by the Department to assess the affects of mechanized fishing activities/ use of bottom trawlers/ pollution from coastal resorts on the decrease in land originally earmarked for traditional fishermen to carry out fishing activities, the Department submitted the following reply:

“Fisheries and Fishing within the territorial waters is a state subject and the same is governed as per the provisions of the Marine Fishing Regulation Acts of the concerned coastal States/UTs and their State Policies. The fishermen in different coastal States/UTs are practicing different methods of fishing based on different fish stocks, local conditions and traditional practices. While methods like Bottom Trawling or Purse Seine is allowed in some States/UTs, the same is banned in the other States/UTs. The Department of Fisheries, Government of India has issued the National Policy on Marine Fisheries, 2017 to provide guiding principles to all coastal States/UTs to ensure sustainable fisheries. The fishing areas are reserved under the respective MFRAs by the concerned coastal States/UTs for their traditional fishermen in order to protect their livelihood interests and to prevent overexploitation of fishery resources”.

5.11 On being asked, if there are any guidelines/laws to regulate the construction of coastal resorts or any recorded instances of traditional fishing areas being sold off/allocated for construction of coastal resorts thereby depriving the traditional fishing communities of their livelihoods, the Department submitted the following reply:

“The construction of coastal resorts and related activities along the Indian coastline is regulated under the Coastal Regulation Zone (CRZ) Notification, 2011, issued by the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change (MoEF&CC), Government of India, under the provisions of the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986. Further, ‘Fisheries’ and ‘Fishing within the territorial waters’ i.e, up to 12 nautical miles is a state subject and the same is governed

as per the provisions of the Marine Fishing Regulation Acts of the concerned coastal States/UTs and their State Policies.

There is no such information received from State/U.T. regarding selling off or allocation of traditional fishing areas in their jurisdiction for the construction of coastal resorts, thereby depriving the local fishing communities of their livelihood”.

5.12 According to a Report by Central Marine Fisheries Research Institute (CMFRI), 2022, there has been a sharp decline in artisanal, non-mechanized fishing sector in annual fishing catch i.e. from 88% in 1960 to just 1% in 2022. On being asked about the measures taken by the Department to protect the interest of such artisanal/traditional fishermen, the Department submitted the following reply:

“Commencing as a purely traditional activity post-independence in 1950’s, fisheries have now transformed to a commercial enterprise. The pattern of marine fish landings in India during the past fifty years reveals that contribution by the artisanal sector to the total production was significant up to the sixties. Subsequently, the Government of India along with coastal States/UTs have been implementing the schemes and programs since decades for motorization and modernization of traditional crafts in order to empower the traditional fishers and to strengthen their livelihoods. This has resulted in conversion of non-motorized traditional fishing crafts into motorized fishing boats over a period of last five decades. Besides, the mechanized fishing vessels have also been increased in the country, which are also mostly operated by the fishermen community in the country. Due to the introduction of more number of both motorized and mechanized fishing vessels, as well as increased fishing activities, there was need to regulate the marine fisheries sector. Accordingly, based on the model Bill circulated by the Union Government in 1979, the Marine Fishing Regulation Acts (MFRAs) were enacted by the States/UTs in 1980’s. The MFRAs have earmarked the areas (through zonation), to protect the interests of the traditional fishers by reserving their fishing grounds. Various state MFRAs have designated areas starting from 5 kilometers from the shore as the no fishing zones for the bigger boats ensuring no loss of livelihood for artisanal fishermen. In addition, the Pradhan Mantri Matsya Sampada Yojana (PMMSY) provides financial assistance to traditional fishers for Up-gradation of non-mechanized boats (e.g., for safety gear, navigation), provision of life-saving appliances, communication and tracking devices, support for refrigerated transport, fish vending units for shore-side activities, etc. Under PMMSY, special focus has also been accorded for Training and Capacity building of fishermen, fish farmers, fish workers and other stakeholders. Development of coastal fish landing centres suitable for small-scale operations, focus on value addition, branding and marketing of artisanal catch are also supported under PMMSY and other schemes. These measures helps artisanal fishers with safety,

efficiency, and better market access. In addition, under PMMSY scheme, 937 units of artificial reefs were sanctioned with an outlay of 291.38 crore to improve fish stocks and biodiversity in the coastal areas as well as improvement of fish catch for the artisanal fishermen ensuring economic viability as well as mitigating the loss of livelihood in the region due to any man-made or natural reasons. The developed facilities in Fishing Harbour and Fish Landing Centre have dedicated facilities for artisanal fishermen, such as small craft landing areas, auction platforms, and ice storage facilities”.

D. Institutional Credit to Traditional Fishermen.

5.13 The Committee desire to know about the protective measures envisaged by the Department to protect the small and traditional fishermen from lenders/loan sharks who provide finance at a very exorbitant interest rates thereby putting the existence of small fishermen in jeopardy. The Department submitted the following reply:

*“The facility of Kisan Credit Card (KCC) has been **extended to 4.64 lakh** fishers/fish farmers that provides working capital and short-term loans at low interest rates, Collateral-free loans and interest subvention available for timely repayment. This helps in replace high-interest informal loans with affordable institutional credit. In addition, the **Fisheries and Aquaculture Infrastructure Development Fund (FIDF) scheme of the department** Offers long-term low-interest loans to individuals, cooperatives, and SHGs that helps in building infrastructure (boats, nets, cold storage), reducing reliance on informal financier providing finance at a very exorbitant interest rates.*

In addition, the Department of Fisheries, Ministry of Fisheries Animal Husbandry and Dairying is implementing a new Central Sector Sub-scheme namely the Pradhan Mantri Matsya Kisan Samridhi Sah-Yojana (PM-MKSSY) under the ongoing Pradhan Mantri Matsya Sampada Yojana (PMMSY) which will promote formalization of Fisheries Sector and envisages registration of 40 lakh stakeholders on National Fisheries Digital Platform (NFDP) with the Access to Institution Credit Support to 6.4 lakh micro-enterprises.

Further, The Pradhan Mantri MUDRA Yojana (PMMY), empowers small and micro-entrepreneurs across India fostering financial inclusion, PMMY provides easy collateral-free loans up to ₹10 lakh for non-corporate and non-farm income-generating activities. PMMY extends collateral-free loans to small enterprises that face significant challenges in accessing formal institutional credit”.

E. Extending Benefits Given to Agriculturist to Fishers and Fishermen.

5.14 The Committee desire to know if the Department has explored the possibility of extending the benefits as given under Kisan Samman Nidhi to Fishermen, the Department submitted the following reply:

“The Pradhan Mantri Kisan Samman Nidhi (PM-KISAN) implemented by the Ministry of Agriculture and Farmer Welfare aims at providing financial assistance to cultivable landholding farmer families across the country to enable them to take care of expenses related to agriculture and allied activities as well as domestic needs. Under the Scheme, an amount of Rs.6000/- per year is transferred in three instalments of Rs.2000/- directly into the bank accounts of the farmers. However, PMMSY scheme has provision for income support component namely Livelihood and nutritional support for socio-economically backward active traditional fisher’s families for conservation of fish resources during fishing ban/lean period. Under this component assistance is provided @Rs. 3000/- per fishers and beneficiaries’ own contribution of Rs. 1500/- for three months during fishing ban/lean periods in the ratio of 50:50 for general State, 80:20 for North Eastern States and Himalayan States while 100% for UTs. During the last five years (2020-21 to 2024-25) , 5.95 lakh fishers were provided livelihood and Nutritional support per annum at a Project outlay of Rs.1384.80 crore”.

5.15 The Committee, further asked if electricity can be provided free of cost to fishers and fish farmers as is being given to agriculturists, the Department submitted the following reply:

“Although fisheries is generally considered an activity allied to agriculture, only a few states provide free or subsidized electricity to the fish farmers. It is notable that electricity forms the major input for a fish farm and is used for running the water pumps, aeration units etc. and in addition to that filtration drums and ionizers in case of RAS units. Providing electricity free of cost for fisheries activities will help in reducing the cost of production and therefore enhance the income of the fish farmers improving their socio-economic condition. At present there is no provision to provide electricity for fisheries like agriculture”.

F. Fishery Expert in Krishi Vigyan Kendras (KVKs).

5.16 On being asked by the Committee, about the measures taken by the Department to set up Krishi Vigyan Kendras (KVKs) for Fishery Sector in the Country, the Department submitted the following reply:

“Krishi Vigyan Kendra’s (KVKs) are primarily agricultural extension centers established by the Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) under the Department of Agricultural Research and Education (DARE), Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare, Government of India. It focuses on technology assessment, refinement, and demonstration to improve agricultural practices and productivity at the local level. KVKs act as a bridge between research institutions and farmers, disseminating improved technologies and providing training to enhance agricultural practices. ICAR has so far established a total 736 KVKs across the country. Some of the KVKs provide expert advice on fisheries, while the rest do not have a fisheries expert available. While the Department of Fisheries envisions that a fisheries expert be available at all KVKs so that fisheries related information can be shared with fish farmers extensively, the mandate of hiring professionals at such KVKs rests with ICAR”.

5.17 During the evidence meeting on the subject held on 3rd July, 2025, several Members raised the issue for the need of Krishi Vigyan Kendra’s for Fishery Sector and suggested that there should be dedicated KVKs catering to the needs of fishery sector.

PART-II

OBSERVATIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

1. Development and Modernisation of Fishing Harbours (FHs) and Fish Landing Centres (FLCs) – Accelerating the Pace.

The Committee has been informed that there are a total of 1547 notified Fish Landing Centres (FLCs) in the Country where fish is landed, and, Government of India since 1964 has selected 379 of these notified centres for development as Fishing Harbours and Fish Landing Centres under various Schemes. Further, selection is done based on strategic considerations such as number of fishing boats operating from the landing centre, number of fishermen involved, volume of fish landings and proximity to major fish markets and fish processing centres.

The Committee, note that, since 1964, Government of India (GoI) has been implementing, both, Central Sector and Centrally Sponsored Schemes for the development of Fishing Harbours (FHs) and Fish Landing Centres (FLCs) for safe landing and berthing facilities of fishing vessels. From the period 2014 onwards, GoI has implemented Schemes such as Blue Revolution (BR), Fisheries and Aquaculture Infrastructure Development Fund (FIDF) and Pradhan Mantri Matsya Sampada Yojana (PMMSY) for development and modernization of FHs and FLCs. However, the Committee, observe that during the period i.e. from 1964 to June 2025, i.e. in a span of six decades, a total of only 287 landing centres out of 379 selected centres have been constructed/commissioned which include 07 major Fishing Harbours, 69 minor Fishing Harbours and 211 Fish Landing Centres.

The Committee are concerned that in a span of six decades only 379 landing centres out of 1547 notified landing centres have been selected for development into FHs and FLCs, which is a meagre 24%. Further, only 75% (287) of the selected landing centres have been completed till June 2025. The Department has also stated that the landing and berthing facilities available in these 379 FHs and FLCs is for 1.48 lakh fishing vessels which is inadequate to accommodate the 2.38 lakh active fishing vessels currently operating in the country.

Taking into account the huge potential of Fisheries Sector in the country and the deficit in the modern landing and berthing facilities, the Committee recommend that the Department should take concrete efforts and select more notified landing centres for modernization and development into Fishing Harbours and Fish Landing Centres and the Department may also consider to relax some of the strategic considerations while selecting these notified centres for development. The Committee understand that increased public funding in modernization of FHs and FLCs would create assets and infrastructure which would in turn effectuate the overall growth of Fisheries Sector and provide modern and hygienic amenities for the fishermen working in these harbours and landing centres. The Committee also recommend that the Department may take necessary measures and establish a Central Monitoring Committee to oversee and ensure that these projects are completed well within time to bridge the gap between the current fishing fleet of the country and the existing capacity of landing and berthing available at Fishing Harbours and Fish Landing Centres. The Committee would like to be apprised about the steps taken by the Department in this regard.

2. Development of Smart and Integrated Fishing Harbours.

The Committee, note that, the development of Smart and Integrated Fishing Harbours is an innovative approach to plan, design and develop modern infrastructure in line with Blue Port Initiative of Food and Agriculture Organisation which involves economic, social and environmental development of the Fishing Harbour Area. The Department during the FY 2024-25 has sanctioned three Smart and Integrated Fishing Harbours namely Jakhau in Gujarat, Vanakbara in Diu and Karaikal in Puducherry with a total estimated cost of Rs. 369.8 crore. Further, the projects are being implemented by the respective States/UTs with a stipulated time period of completion in 18 months.

The Committee, understand that rising awareness amongst the domestic consumers, and export requirements on food and safety, the Fishing Harbours in India need to be modernized so as to meet the parameters of hygiene, sanitation, bio-safety and cleanliness as accepted in International Markets. Thus, development of Smart and Integrated Fishing Harbours across the coastal regions becomes imperative, which in turn would improve operations, safety measures, environmental sustainability and socio-economic well-being of the fishermen working there. However, the Committee, is concerned, that the three Smart and Integrated Fishing Harbours which were sanctioned during the FY 2024-25, namely, in Jakhau, Vanakbara and Karaikal respectively are still in pre-tendering stage and their work has not started. The Committee, therefore, recommend that the Department should proactively investigate the issues which are causing delay in the work starting at Jakhau, Vanakbara and Karaikal and take concrete measures to address them. The Committee, further, recommend that the Department

should conduct a feasibility study, to assess, if Smart and Integrated Fishing Harbours can be established in all the coastal States/UTs which have substantial fishermen population and fishery resources. At least one Smart and Integrated Fishing Harbour in each Coastal State/UT may be developed by the Department, Government of India for speedy development of the Fishery Sector in India.

3. Strengthening of Central Institute of Coastal Engineering for Fishery (CICEF).

The Committee note that Central Institute of Coastal Engineering for Fishery (CICEF) is entrusted with extending necessary technical assistance to the needy States/UTs in conducting necessary economic and technical studies to identify priority sites for development of Fishing Harbours (FH) and Fish Landing Centres (FLC). Further, CICEF becomes even more important, given the country's plan to develop Smart and Integrated Fishery Harbours.

The Committee has been informed that, the Techno-Economic Feasibility Report (TEFR) prepared by CICEF are incomplete for want of physical/mathematical model studies, Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) and Environmental Management Plan (EMP) studies which are pre-requisites for project funding. However, at present Environmental and Mathematical Model Studies aspects are not part of CICEF mandate and the institute needs to outsource these studies for which the Department is envisioning to provide necessary funds from its annual budget.

Given the importance of physical/mathematical model studies and EIA/EMP studies, the Committee recommend that CICEF should

recruit experts who can deal with environmental and mathematical model studies to enable complete project reports. Further, the staff strength of CICEF should be reviewed and adequate measures should be taken to fill the vacancies in the institute. The Committee also recommend that CICEF staff should be given adequate international exposure through study tours and overseas learning programmes to enhance their skills and output. Accordingly, the budget of the Institute may be increased to meet such requirements.

4. Export Inspection Council of India (EIC).

The Committee has been informed that approval of Export Inspection Council of India (EIC) is mandatory for only those Fishing Harbours (FH) and Fish Landing Centres (FLC), which handle fish and fishery products, intended for export in accordance with the Government of India Notification S.O.730(E) dated 21st August, 1995 and its subsequent amendments. Harbours which handle exports must maintain certain standards and guidelines as mandated by EIC, such as compliance with Hazard Analysis Critical Control Point (HACCP) principles, European Union (EU) hygiene regulations and traceability norms. Furthermore, all such facilities have to adhere to the standards laid down in Appendix D and E of the Executive Instructions for Primary Production of Fish and Fishery Products – January 2016, which outline the structural and operational hygiene requirements for harbor and landing centres. Thus, the quality and hygiene requirements of importing countries are kept in mind to ensure that the country's seafood exports remain compliant and competitive.

The Department has also stated that proposals for upgradation, modernisation or establishment of new Fishing Harbours (FH) and

Fish Landing Centres (FLC) are formulated keeping in mind, the standards and guidelines laid down by the EIC as well as the requirements of major importing countries.

The Committee note that facilities that solely cater to domestic or local consumption do not require any mandatory approval from EIC, and therefore, not bound by their quality and hygiene standards to operate. The Committee, strongly feel that it is high time, that we as a country, should treat our domestic consumers at par with international consumers, when it comes to providing quality and hygienic fish and fishery products and maintain the highest structural and operational hygiene in conformity with international standards. The Committee, therefore, recommend that the guidelines and quality standards of Export Inspection Council of India (EIC) should be applied to Fishing Harbours and Fish Landing Centres catering to domestic consumers as well and necessary infrastructure modernization and development of FH and FLC should be done on priority basis. This would ensure food safety, public health, contain contamination, traceability and sanitary hygiene throughout the supply chain and maintain uniformity in quality standards both in domestic as well as international markets. The Committee would like to be further apprised on the matter.

5. Co-operative Management Structure for Fishing Harbours/Fish Landing Centres in the Country.

The Committee observe that effective management of Fishing Harbours is an important aspect in addition to development and modernization of harbours. However, many Fishing Harbours and Fish Landing Centres operating in the country do not have proper management structures and are run with meager resources lacking

basic health, hygiene and sanitary amenities. The Committee has been informed that the management of Fishing Harbour and Fish Landing Centres is generally done by respective State/UTs as per their guidelines, however, Department of Fisheries, Government of India while approving the projects stipulates that concerned State/UT Government will be responsible for management, maintenance and operation of the Fishing Harbour in a professional and financially self-sustainable manner.

The Committee has also been informed that Marine Product Development Authority (MPEDA) under Government of India along with Department of Fisheries of States/UTs is working towards improving harbour management practices through its society MPEDA- NETFISH. MPEDA has been promoting the Munambam (Kerala) Model of Fishing Harbour Management Society (MFHMS) as an effective model for management of fishing harbours to ensure efficient and participatory governance which includes representation from key stakeholders such as fishers, harbour workers, officials from the State Fisheries and Port Departments, MPEDA and the District Collector serving as its Chairman. The model ensures participatory decision making and efficient day to day management of harbours thereby promoting good handling practices for fish and ice, hygiene and sanitation, and enforce a code of conduct within the harbour.

The Committee, therefore, recommend that co-operative management societies with active participation from the government agencies and stakeholders such as fishers, harbour workers, boat owners and women/public representatives should be ideal for running Fishing Harbors and Fish Landing Centres and thus the Department should make efforts and pursue State/UT Governments

to either implement the “Munamban Model” in all their Fishing Harbours/Fish Landing Centres, ‘or’ the Department may themselves develop a model co-operative management system, which may function as a guiding force to be implemented by all Coastal States/UTs voluntarily. The Department may also explore the possibility of linking the release of central funds to State/UTs (for development and modernization of Fishing Harbours/Fish Landing Centers) to the establishment of a co-operative harbour management system, so as to ensure and pursue States/UTs to set up Co-operative Management Systems with participatory decision making in their respective Fishing Harbours and Fish Landing Centres.

6. Release of Central Funds for Development and Modernisation of Fishing Harbours/Fish Landing Centres.

The Committee have been informed that since inception of the Central Schemes, Government of India has provided funds to the tune of Rs 1860.62 crore for development of Fishing Harbours (FH), Fish Landing Centres (FLC) including modernization and up-gradation of the existing ones. Further, approval have been accorded for 117 FH, FLC proposals of various States/UTs to the tune of Rs. 9735 crore under Blue Revolution, Pradhan Mantri Matsya Sampada Yojana (PMMSY) and Fisheries and Aquaculture Infrastructure Development Fund (FIDF). However, funds have been released to the tune of Rs 1069 crore for development/ modernization of Fishing Harbours and Fish Landing Centres under Blue Revolution and Pradhan Mantri Matsya Sampada Yojana (PMMSY) and a loan to the tune of Rs1220 crore has been disbursed for development of Fishing Harbours and Fish Landing Centres by NABARD under Fisheries and

Aquaculture Infrastructure Development Fund (FIDF) Scheme along with release of Rs. 60 crores towards interest subvention under FIDF.

The Committee are concern about the slow pace of release of Central Funds to infrastructure projects such as Modernization and Development of fishing harbours and were informed that funds are released based on the submission of utilization certificate (UC) of the previously released central share and submission of physical and financial progress reports by the State/UT. The Department also submitted that the main reasons for slow pace of release of central funds are due to delay in completion of pre-tendering activities, slow progress of the projects, litigations and fund absorbing capacity of the project implementing agencies.

The Committee observe that timely release of Central Funds meant for Development and Modernisation of Fishing Harbours and Fish Landing Centres is very crucial if these projects are to see the light of the day. The Committee, therefore, recommend that the Department may coordinate with States/UTs and streamline the issues such as submission of Utilisation Certificates and completion of pre-tendering activities and if possible, set up a Central Monitoring Committee to even out any such obstacles in the release of Central Funds and ensure that the projects are completed well withing the time frame.

7. Social Security Measures, Housing and Education Facilities for Fishermen working in Fishing Harbours/Fish Landing Centres.

The Committee have been informed that under Pradhan Mantri Matsya Sampada Yojana (PMMSY) fishermen are provided safety kits to ensure their safety at sea, livelihood and nutritional support during fish ban period, accidental insurance cover in a cost sharing

mechanism with the States/UTs and insurance premium subvention for insurance of fishing vessels. The Committee has also been informed that fishermen can avail facilities offered by other ministries under several ongoing welfare schemes, such as, Ayushman Bharat for medical insurance cover, Pradhan Mantri Jeevan Jyoti Bima Yojana (PMJJBY) and Pradhan Mantri Suraksha Bima Yojana (PMSBY) for life and accident insurance including hospitalization cover of Rs. 25000.

The Committee, however, note that to address the specific housing, and education needs of the fishermen, there are no targeted schemes of the Department at present. Previously, the Department implemented the ‘Blue Revolution: Integrated Development and Management of Fisheries’ scheme, which included the ‘National Scheme of Welfare of Fishermen a centrally sponsored initiative which was designed to provide financial assistance and support to fishermen in India. One of the aims of the scheme was to empower fishermen by facilitating the construction of houses.

The Committee, recommend that the Department may take measures to assess the housing and educational requirements of fishermen in coastal areas and examine if in the current scheme i.e. PMMSY, specific components for housing and educational needs such as educational loans and scholarships for fishermen/fishermen families can be included. The Department may also explore the possibility if, in Pradhan Mantri Awaas Yojana (Gramin), some percentage in housing allotment selection can be reserved specifically for fishermen communities. The Committee would like to be apprised further in the matter.

8. Compensation During Lean Fishing Season to be Substantial.

The Committee have been informed that under Pradhan Mantri Matsya Sampada Yojana (PMMSY), Government of India provides livelihood and nutritional support for socio-economically backward active traditional fishermen families during the fishing ban/lean period for three months. Under the scheme financial assistance of Rs.3000 per annum is provided to each enrolled beneficiary and the enrolled beneficiary's contribution is Rs 1500 annually. Thus, an amount of Rs 4500 is disbursed to each enrolled beneficiary by the respective State/UT annually. The Committee note that during the last five years i.e. from 2020-21 to 2024-25, only 5.95 lakh fishers were provided livelihood and nutritional support per annum with a project outlay of Rs. 1384.80 cores.

According to the data of the Department of Fisheries, there are about 2.8 crore fishermen in all the Coastal States and Union Territories of the country. The Committee are concerned that in the last five years i.e. 2020 onwards the Department has disbursed livelihood and nutritional support to only 5.95 lakh fishermen annually which is a meager 2.1% of the fishermen population. The Department was unable to distribute financial assistance to all the fishermen even in a span of five years is very disheartening and a matter of concern. The Committee also do not accept the argument that most of the fishermen are not registered and hence unable to take benefit of the said scheme of the Department.

The Committee strongly recommend that the Department should take immediate measures to address the dismally low performance of the scheme meant to provide livelihood and nutritional support to fishermen during the fish ban period. The

Committee also recommend that considering the current economic parameters and inflation, the Department should make efforts to increase the financial assistance provided during the fish ban period to at least ten thousand rupees per fishermen annually without any annual contribution from the fishermen.

9. Safeguarding the Interests of Small and Traditional Fishermen against High Interest Loans from Private Lenders.

The Committee are concern about the plight of small and traditional fishermen who bear the brunt of paying exorbitant interest rates on the loans taken by them from private lenders to carry out fishing activities. The Department has informed the Committee that Kisan Credit Card (KCC) facility, that has been extended to 4.78 lakh fishers/fish farmers provides them with working capital and short-term loans at low interest rates. Further Fisheries and Aquaculture Infrastructure Development Fund (FIDF) scheme offers long-term low interest loans to individuals, cooperatives and Self-Help Groups. The Committee has also been informed that the sub scheme under PMMSY, viz Pradhan Mantri Matsya Kisan Samridhi Sah-Yojana (PM-MKSSY) promotes formalization of fisheries sector and also aims at registration on 40 lakh stakeholders on National Fisheries Digital Platform (NFDP) which will give them access to Institutional credit support.

The Committee, observe that there are about 2.8 crore fishers and fish farmers engaged in fisheries sector in the country, however only 4.64 lakh fishers/fish farmers have been provided with KCC which is a meagre 1.6%. Further, under PM-MKSSY, 25.48 lakh stakeholders are being registered on NFDP.

The Committee are concerned about the low performance of the KCC scheme and understand that formalization of Fisheries Sector is very important to ensure targeted implementation of the Schemes of the Department so that the intended benefits of the Schemes are reaped by the Fishermen well withing time. The Committee, therefore, recommend that the Department may take concrete measures to expand the reach of KCC to fishermen and ensure that more and more fishers/fish farmers are registered to promote formalization of fisheries sector, so that they have ready access to the institutional credit provided under various schemes and thus get protected against private lenders and dependence on informal borrowing methods having exorbitant interest rates.

10. Protecting the Traditional Fishing Systems and Securing the Livelihoods of Traditional/Artisanal Fishermen.

The Committee note that the Traditional Fishing Systems which include traditional Fish Landing sites and small-scale fish vending zones exists in various coastal villages across coastal regions of the country and are being used by Traditional/Artisanal Fishermen since decades for their livelihood needs. The Committee observe that these systems are facing existential threats, and the coastal land earmarked for them to carry out fishing activities is being reduced due to various issues such as climate change, coastal erosion, mechanized fishing activities, pollution and construction of coastal resorts etc.

The Committee were concern about the plight of these Traditional Fishing System across coastal regions and the well-being of the fishermen working in them. The Committee have been

informed by the Department that all these issues come under the ambit of either the Marine Fishing Regulation Acts (MFRA) of the concerned States/UTs and their State Policies or the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change (MoEF&CC).

The Committee, understand that, even though these issues come under the ambit of State/UTs or other Ministries, the Department of Fisheries, Government of India cannot ignore their role in protecting and securing the rights of Traditional/ Artisanal Fishermen working in these Traditional Fishing Systems. Climate change and its affects directly affect the fishermen population of the country and corrective measures need to be taken to mitigate the effects of climate change and coastal erosion. The Committee, therefore, recommend that the Department may undertake a study, and assess, the effects of climate change and coastal erosion on the reduction in land meant for Traditional Fishing Systems where traditional fishing activities are carried out since decades by traditional/artisanal fishermen for their livelihood and survival needs.

11. Extending Benefits Given to Agriculturists to Fishers/ Fishermen.

The Committee feel that the benefits given to Agriculturists under the Pradhan Mantri Kisan Samman Nidhi (PM-KISAN) and the facility of Free of cost Electricity, may also be extended to the fishers and fish farmers of the country, given that, fisheries is an allied activity of agriculture and such benefits would no doubt help them swim over the tide of economic hardships and thereby development of the Fisheries Sector in general.

The Department has informed the Committee, that under Pradhan Mantri Matsya Sampada Yojana (PMMSY) component of income support, namely, Livelihood and Nutritional support for socio-economically backward active traditional fisher's families, during fish ban period, an amount of Rs. 4500 is provided annually.

The Committee understand that electricity forms a major input for a fish farm and is necessary for running water pumps, aeration units etc. in addition to filtration drums and ionizers in case of Recirculatory Aquaculture Systems (RAS). The Department has also informed the Committee, that providing electricity free of cost for fisheries activities will help in reducing the cost of production and enhance the income of the fish farmers improving their socio-economic condition. The Committee, therefore, recommend that the Department may explore the possibility of providing free electricity to fishers/fish farmers and pursue with States/UTs to extend such a benefit to fishers either by making a provision in their Central Scheme components or incentivizing States/UTs to provide the same. The Committee would like to be apprised further on the matter.

12. Fishery Expert in Krishi Vigyan Kendras (KVKs).

The Committee have been informed that PMMSY lays inter-alia special focus on training, skill development, skill upgradation and capacity building through trainings, awareness programmes and exposure visits to various stakeholders in the fishery sector value chain for various fishing technology, aquaculture and post-harvest related activities. Further, the training, awareness, exposure and capacity building programmes are carried out through the National Fisheries Development Board (NFDB), ICAR institutes, Krishi

Vigyan Kendras (KVKs), other organizations and State/UT Fisheries Departments.

The Committee observe that the scope and range of Krishi Vigyan Kendras covers a wider area and a total of 736 KVSs have been established by Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) in the country which act as a bridge between research institutions and farmers, disseminating improved technologies and providing training to enhance agricultural practices. However, with regard to fisheries, the Department has stated that some of the KVKs provide expert advice on fisheries while the rest do not have fishery expert.

The Committee, feel that, Kisan Vigyan Kendras can play an important role for the disseminating of information with respect to various fishing technology, aquaculture, post-harvest related activities and the research done by fishery institutes and universities. The Committee, therefore, recommend that the Department may take necessary measures and pursue with ICAR, so as to ensure that fishery experts are appointed/deputed in the KVKs, especially in the coastal areas or areas where fishing activities are substantial.

13. Deep Sea Fishing- Acquisition of Deep-Sea Fishing Vessels to Harness the Potential of the Country's Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ)

The Committee note that India has an expansive Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ) covering an area of 22 lakh square kilometres, rich in marine living resources, which remain largely unexplored and underutilized for fishing activities. The Committee have been

informed that the potential yield of Fisheries within EEZ (tons per annum) is 5.31 million tons including Deep-Sea and Oceanic resources of 2.31 lakh tons. However, the current fleet of Deep-Sea Fishing Vessels available in the country are not sufficient to harness the Deep-Sea Resources of the Country.

The Committee have been informed that under the Centrally Sponsored Scheme (CSS) on Blue Revolution, acquisition of 918 Deep-Sea fishing vessels at unit cost of Rs.80 lakhs was approved with a total cost of Rs. 734.40 crore. Further, under the Pradhan Mantri Matsya Sampada Yojana (PMMSY) the unit cost was increased to Rs.120 lakh with subsidy amount of Rs.48 lakh for general and Rs.72 lakh for SC/ST/Women, and, so far, 470 Deep Sea fishing vessels had been approved under the PMMSY at a total cost of Rs. 56.40 crore. The Committee, however, note that the current fleet of Deep-Sea Fishing Vessels in the country is only 129 vessels.

In the Union Budget 2025-26 of the Government of India has announced that the Government will bring in an enabling framework for sustainable harnessing of fisheries from Indian Exclusive Economic Zone and High Seas with special focus on the Andaman & Nicobar and Lakshadweep Islands.

The Committee observe that under the Blue Revolution Scheme and PMMSY, a total of 1338 Deep-Sea fishing vessels have been approved, however, the Deep-Sea fishing fleet of the country is only 129 vessels which is inadequate to harness the potential of India's EEZ. The Committee, therefore, recommend that the Department may take pro-active steps to acquire/increase the fleet of Deep Sea Vessels so that the true potential of Deep-Sea resources in India's EEZ can be harnessed and the gap between the existing

and required fleet of Deep- Sea fishing vessels can be bridged. Further, the Fishing Harbours may also be modernised to accommodate such fishing vessels.

**New Delhi
18 August, 2025
27 Shravana, 1947 (Saka)**

**CHAIRPERSON
Standing Committee on Agriculture,
Animal Husbandry and Food Processing**

List of Fishing Harbours / Fish Landing Centres handling the fish and fishery products intended for export approved by EIC (Reply in reference to Q11 (a))

S.no.	Name of the Fishing/Fish Landing Centre.	S.no.	Name of the Fishing/Fish Landing Centre.	S.no.	Name of the Fishing/Fish Landing Centre	S.no.	Name of the Fishing/Fish Landing Centre.
1	Adimalathurs	28	Honnawara	53	Mopla Bay	78	Sasoon Dock
2	AlibagKoliwada	29	Idintha Karai	54	Munambam	79	Satpati
3	Arnala	30	Jaigad	55	Munnakkadavu	80	Soula
4	Ambalapuzha	31	Jakhau	56	Muthalapozhy	81	Sultanpur
5	Arthungal	32	Kakinada	57	Muttom JEPPIER	82	Tadri
6	Azheekal	33	Kanyakumari	58	Nagapattinam	83	Tharuvaikulam
7	Beyore	34	Karwar	59	Nate	84	Thengapattanam
8	Baindur	35	Kaupu	60	Navunda	85	Thoothur
9	Balarmgadi	36	Kayamkulam	61	Neendakara	86	Thppumpady
10	Belekeri	37	Kochi	62	Nizampatnam	87	Thottappaly
11	Bhatkal	38	Kodiyakarai	63	Okha	88	Tuticorin
12	Chennai	39	Kolachel	64	Onni Bhatti Dabhol	89	Uttan
13	Cheruvathur	40	Kootapuli	65	Pampan	90	Vallavilai
14	Chettuva	41	Kota	66	Pradeep	91	Vanakbara
15	Chilka Lake	42	Kottaipattinam	67	Pazhayar	92	Vasai
16	ChinnaMuttam	43	Koyilandi	68	Petuaghat Deshpran	93	Vellapatti
17	Colachel	44	Kumta	69	Ponnani	94	Vengurla
18	Cuddalore	45	Kurumpanai	70	Porbandar	95	Veraval
19	Devgad	46	Machilipatnam	71	Pune	96	Versova
20	Digha Sankarpur	47	Malim Goa	72	Punnapra	97	Vishakapatnam
21	DighaSankarpur	48	Malpe	73	Puthiyappa	98	Vizhizham
22	Diu	49	Malvan	74	Rajpara	99	Vypin
25	Hangarakatta	50	Mandabam	75	Rameshwaram		
26	Harne	51	Mangalore	76	Ratnagiri		
27	Hejamadi	52	Mangrol	77	Sakthikulangara		

Annexure-II

Status of approved 117 Fishing Harbour (FH)/Fish Landing Centre (FLC) under Pradhan Mantri Matsya Sampada Yojana (PMMSY)/ Blue Revolution (BR)/Fisheries and Aquaculture Infrastructure Development Fund (FIDF)

S. No	Name of the State	Scheme	FH/FLC	Name of the project	Cost (Rs. in crore)	Status as on May, 2025
(i)	(ii)	(iii)	(iv)	(v)	(vi)	(vii)
1	West Bengal	PMMSY	FH	1. Modernisation and upgradation of Petuaghat Fishing Harbour	43.17	Physical Progress of about 67% is achieved and Work is in progress.
		PMMSY	FH	2. Modernisation and upgradation of Shankarpur Fishing Harbour	44.70	Physical Progress of about 62% is achieved and Work is in progress
		PMMSY	FH	3. Modernisation and upgradation of Frasergunj Fishing Harbour	7.05	Physical Progress of about 82% is achieved and Work is in progress
		PMMSY	FH	4. Modernisation and upgradation of Kakdwip Fishing Harbour	14.50	Physical Progress of about 77% is achieved and Work is in progress
2	Odisha	PMMSY	FH	1. Modernization of Paradip Fishing Harbour	108.91	Physical Progress of about 49% is achieved and Work is in progress
		PMMSY	FH	2. Development of Stage-II Fishing Harbour at Nuagarh (Astranga)	179.90	The project cost is revised by State Government and project is under pre-tendering stage.
		BR	FH	3. Construction of Chandipur Fishing Harbour	49.94	Physical Progress of about 65% is achieved and Work is in progress.
		FIDF	FLC	4. Establishment of Fish Landing centre at Sorana in Khordha	9.29	Physical Progress of about 50% is achieved and Work is in progress
		FIDF	FLC	5. Establishment of Fish Landing centre at Kalupahaghat in Khorda	7.56	Physical Progress of about 50% is achieved and Work is in progress
		FIDF	FLC	6. Establishment of Fish Landing centre at at Kasia in Badruk	7.85	Physical Progress of about 50% is achieved and Work is in progress
3	Andhra Pradesh	PMMSY	FH	1. Modernization of Visakhapatnam Fishing Harbour	178.51	Physical Progress of about 29.6% is achieved and Work is in progress
		PMMSY	FH	2. Development of Pudimadaka Fishing Harbour	387.00	State Government of Andhra Pradesh is preparing revised proposal based on low cost model of fishing harbour
		PMMSY	FH	3. Development of Budugatlapalem Fishing Harbour	386.20	State Government of Andhra Pradesh is preparing revised proposal based on low cost model of fishing harbour
		PMMSY	FH	4. Development of Kothapatnam Fishing Harbour	364.00	State Government of Andhra Pradesh is preparing revised proposal based on low cost model of fishing harbour.
		PMMSY	FLC	5. Development of Bheemili Fish Landing Centre	24.86	Work is under tendering stage.
		PMMSY	FLC	6. Development of Chintapalli Fish Landing Centre	23.74	Work is under tendering stage.
		PMMSY	FLC	7. Development of Rajayyapeta Fish Landing Centre	24.77	Work is under tendering stage.
		PMMSY	FLC	8. Development of Rayadaruvu Fish Landing Centre	23.90	Work is under tendering stage.

S. No	Name of the State	Scheme	FH/FLC	Name of the project	Cost (Rs. in crore)	Status as on May, 2025
(i)	(ii)	(iii)	(iv)	(v)	(vi)	(vii)
		PMMSY	FLC	9. Development of Dondavaka Fish Landing Centre	23.90	Work is under tendering stage.
		PMMSY	FLC	10. Development of Uppalanka Fish Landing Centre	5.74	Work is under tendering stage.
		BR	FLC	11. Biyyaputhippa FLC	13.58	Previously, GoAP is planning to develop it as Fishing Harbour. Now, it is informed that the State will take up as FLC.. The work is under pre-tendering stage.
		BR	FH	12. Construction of Juvvaladinne FH	288.8	Work Completed.
		FIDF	FH	13. Construction of Fishing harbour at Uppada in East Godavari	289.4	59% Physical Progress of Work is achieved.
		FIDF	FH	14. Construction of Fishing harbour at Vodarevu in Prakasham	409.22	Work is under pre-tendering stage.
		FIDF	FH	15. Construction of Fishing harbour at Machilipattinam in Krishna	252	56% Physical Progress of Work is achieved.
		FIDF	FH	16. Construction of Fishing harbour at Nizampattinam in Guntur	340.78	62% Physical Progress of Work is achieved.
4	Tamil Nadu	PMMSY	FH	1. Modernization of Chennai Fishing Harbour	97.95	Physical Progress of about 55% is achieved and Work is in progress
		PMMSY	FH	2. Up-gradation of Pazhayar Fishing Harbour	26.26	Physical Progress of about 58% is achieved and Work is in progress
		PMMSY	FH	3. Maintenance Dredging of Colachel Fishing Harbour	4.94	Physical Progress of about 47% is achieved and Work is in progress
		PMMSY	FLC	4. Development of Nettukuppam Fish Landing Centre	15.70	Physical Progress of about 8% is achieved and Work is in progress
		PMMSY	FLC	5. Development of Thazankuppam Fish Landing Centre	3.92	Physical Progress of about 8% is achieved and Work is in progress
		PMMSY	FLC	6. Development of Arangankuppam Fish Landing Centre	3.40	Physical Progress of about 17% is achieved and Work is in progress
		PMMSY	FLC	7. Development of Goonankuppam Fish Landing Centre	3.40	Physical Progress of about 16% is achieved and Work is in progress
		BR	FH	8. Constructio of Mookaiyur FH	113.9	Work completed
		BR	FLC	9. Construction of Kunthukal FLC	74	Work completed
		FIDF	FH	10. Construction of Fishing harbour at Tharangampadi in Nagapattinam	120	Work completed
		FIDF	FH	11. Construction of Fishing harbour at ThiruvottriyurKuppam in Tiruvallur District	200	99% Physical Progress achieved and work in progress
		FIDF	FH	12. Development of existing Fishing Harbour at Mudhunagar in Cuddalore	100	Work completed
		FIDF	FH	13. Development of Fishing Harbour at Arcottuthurai in Nagapattinam District	150	Physical Progress of 91% achieved.

S. No	Name of the State	Scheme	FH/FLC	Name of the project	Cost (Rs. in crore)	Status as on May, 2025
(i)	(ii)	(iii)	(iv)	(v)	(vi)	(vii)
		FIDF	FH	14. Construction of Fishing harbour at Azhagankuppam in Villupuram District	235	work held up due to court case.
		FIDF	FH	15. Development of Fishing Harbour at Vellapallam in Nagapattinam District	100	Physical Progress of 79% achieved.
		FIDF	FH	16. Expansion and Modernization of Thengapattinam Fishing Harbour	253	Physical Progress of 66% achieved.
		FIDF	FLC	17. Extension of T-Jetty at Tharuvaikulam in Thoothukudi District	10	Work completed
		FIDF	FLC	18. Construction of Fish Landing Centre at Mandapam (North) in Ramanathapuram District.	10	Work completed
		FIDF	FLC	19. Construction of Fish Landing Centre at Mandapam (South) at in Ramanathapuram District.	10	Work completed
		FIDF	FLC	20. Construction of Fish Landing Centre at Kottaipattinam, Pudukottai	3.05	Work completed
		FIDF	FLC	21. Construction of Fish Landing Centre at Vadakkamapattinam, Pudukottai	1.55	Work completed
		FIDF	FLC	22. Construction of Fish Landing Centre at Puthukudi	1.4	Work completed
		FIDF	FLC	23. Providing additional facilities to Fish Landing Centre at Portonovo-Annankovil at Cuddalore District	10	Physical Progress of 98% achieved.
		FIDF	FLC	24. Providing additional Infrastructure facilities to Fish Landing Centre at Mudasalodai Village at Cuddalore District	9.5	Physical Progress of 98% achieved.
		FIDF	FLC	25. Construction of Fish Landing Centre at Chandrapadi Village in Nagapattinam District.	10	Physical Progress of 96% achieved.
		FIDF	FLC	26. Construction of Fish Landing Centre at Vanagiri Village in Nagapattinam District.	8	Work completed
		FIDF	FLC	27. Construction of Fish Landing Centre Keezhathottam in Thanjavur	8	Work completed
		FIDF	FLC	28. Construction of Fish Landing Centre at Kellamundhal in Ramanathapuram District	10	Work completed

S. No	Name of the State	Scheme	FH/FLC	Name of the project	Cost (Rs. in crore)	Status as on May, 2025
(i)	(ii)	(iii)	(iv)	(v)	(vi)	(vii)
		FIDF	FLC	29. Construction of Fish Landing Centre at Aruvikarai Village in Tirunelveli District	10	Work completed
		FIDF	FLC	30. Establishment of fish landing centre at Sothikuppam and Rasapettai village in Cuddalore District	8.5	Physical Progress of 77% achieved.
		FIDF	FLC	31. Establishment of Fish Landing Centre at Mudhaliyarkuppam and Chettynagar Villages in Villupuram District	7	Physical Progress of 95% achieved.
		FIDF	FLC	32. Establishment of Fish landing centre at Chithiraipettai and Nanjalampettai villages in Cuddalore District	7.5	Physical Progress of 91% achieved.
		FIDF	FLC	33. Establishment of Fish Landing Centre at Pudhukuppam and Anichankuppam Villages in Villupuram District	7	Physical Progress of 77% achieved.
		FIDF	FLC	34. Establishment of fish landing centre at Tsunami Nagar and Akkaraigori village in Cuddalore District	4.5	Physical Progress of 87% achieved.
		FIDF	FLC	35. Establishment of fish landing centre at Sonankuppam village in Cuddalore District	5.5	Physical Progress of 40% achieved.
		FIDF	FLC	36. Construction of Fish Landing Centre at Sattankuppam in Thiruvallur District.	8	Physical Progress of 25% achieved.
		FIDF	FLC	37. Construction of Fish Landing Centre at Sunnambukulamin Thiruvallur District.	8	Physical Progress of 92% achieved.
5	Puducherry	PMMSY	FH	1. Development of Fishing Harbour at Thengaithittu	53.39	Physical Progress of about 20% is achieved and Work is in progress
		PMMSY	FH	2. Development of Smart and Integrated Fishing Harbour at Karaikal, Puducherry	119.94	Work is under tendering stage.
		PMMSY	FLC	3. Development of Periakalpet Fish Landing Centre	20.14	Work awarded to Contractor.
		PMMSY	FLC	4. Development of Nallavadu Fish Landing Centre	18.94	Physical Progress of about 50% is achieved and Work is in progress.
		BR	FH	5. Up-gratation of Puducherry FH	15.63	Physical Progress of about 90% is achieved and Work is in progress
6	Kerala	PMMSY	FH	1. Modernization of Cochin Fishing Harbour	169.17	Physical Progress of about 51% is achieved and Work is in progress
		PMMSY	FH	2. Expansion of Kasargod Fishing Harbour	70.53	Physical Progress of about 37% is achieved and Work is in progress

S. No	Name of the State	Scheme	FH/FLC	Name of the project	Cost (Rs. in crore)	Status as on May, 2025
(i)	(ii)	(iii)	(iv)	(v)	(vi)	(vii)
		PMMSY	FH	3. Expansion of Muthalapozhy Fishing FH	177.00	Work awarded to contractor and is in progress
		PMMSY	FH	4. Modernisation & Upgradation of PonnaniFH	18.73	Physical Progress of about 57% is achieved and Work is in progress
		PMMSY	FH	5. Modernisation & Upgradation of Puthiyappa FH	16.06	Physical Progress of about 71% is achieved and Work is in progress
		PMMSY	FH	6. Modernisation & Upgradation of KoyilandyFH	20.90	Physical Progress of about 67% is achieved and Work is in progress
		PMMSY	FH	7. Maintenance dredging of existing KayakulamFH	5.53	Work is in tendering stage
		PMMSY	FH	8. Maintenance dredging of existing ChettuvaFH	5.53	Work awarded to contractor and is in progress.
		PMMSY	FH	9. Maintenance dredging of existingPonnaniFH	6.37	Physical Progress of about 65% is achieved and Work is in progress
		PMMSY	FH	10. Maintenance dredging of existing Beypore FH	5.94	Physical Progress of about 20% is achieved and Work is in progress
		PMMSY	FH	11. Maintenance dredging of existing Puthiyappa FH	5.64	Work completed
		PMMSY	FH	12. Maintenance dredging of existing Koyilandy FH	5.88	Work Completed
		FIDF	FH	13. Development of Arthungal Fishing Harbor(Balancework)-Kerala	161	Work of part component under progress and part component under pre-tendering stage
7	Maharashtra	PMMSY	FH	1. Development of Mallet Bunder Mazgaon	96.60	Physical Progress of about 52% is achieved and Work is in progress
		PMMSY	FLC	2. Development of Shiroda Fish Ladning Centre	15.24	Work is in pre-tendering stage
		PMMSY	FLC	3. Development of Dandi Makrebag FLC	4.52	Work is in pre-tendering stage
		PMMSY	FLC	4. Development of Taramumbri FLC	7.76	Physical Progress of about 80% is achieved and Work is in progress
		PMMSY	FLC	5. Development of Dabhol FLC	9.39	Physical Progress of about 20% is achieved and Work is in progress
		PMMSY	FLC	6. Development of Korlai FLC	7.65	Work is in progress
		PMMSY	FLC	7. Development of Palshet FLC	8.34	Physical Progress of about 30% is achieved and Work is in progress
		PMMSY	FLC	8. Development of Revdanda FLC	45.96	Work is in pre-tendering stage
		PMMSY	FLC	9. Development of Asgoli FLC	8.83	Work is in pre-tendering stage
		PMMSY	FLC	10. Development of Budhal FLC	6.57	Work is in pre-tendering stage
		BR	FH	11. Modernisation of Sassoon Dock FH	92.52	Physical Progress of about 45% is achieved and Work is in progress
		BR	FH	12. Construction of Karanja FH	149.80	Work Completed.
		BR	FH	13. Construction of Anandwadi FH	88.44	Physical Progress of about 65% is achieved and Work is in progress
		FIDF	FH	14. Construction of Fisheries Harbour at Jeevana, Taluka Shrivardhan, District Raigad	185.48	Physical Progress of about 50% is achieved and Work is in progress

S. No	Name of the State	Scheme	FH/FLC	Name of the project	Cost (Rs. in crore)	Status as on May, 2025
(i)	(ii)	(iii)	(iv)	(v)	(vi)	(vii)
		FIDF	FH	15. Construction of Fisheries Harbour at Bharadkhol, Near Shrivardham, District Raigad	119.64	Work is under pre-tendering stage.
		FIDF	FH	16. Construction of Fisheries Harbour at Harnai Taluka Dapoli District Ratnagiri	221.34	Physical Progress of about 20% is achieved and Work is in progress
		FIDF	FH	17. Construction of Fisheries Harbour at Sakhari Nate Taluka Rajapur District Ratnagiri	146.9	Physical Progress of about 20% is achieved and Work is in progress
		FIDF	FH	18. Development of Fishing Harbour at Satpati Near Palghar, Palghar District	267.12	Work is under pre-tendering stage
8	Karnataka	PMMSY	FH	1. Modernisation & upgradation of Mangalore FH	37.47	Work is in tendering stage
		PMMSY	FH	2. Modernisation of Malpe FH	12.52	Work is in tendering stage
		PMMSY	FH	3. Modernisation of Gangoli FH	22.18	Work is in tendering stage
		PMMSY	FH	4. Maintenance dredging at Amadalli FH	5.61	Work is in tendering stage
		PMMSY	FH	5. Dredging work at Tadari FH	2.65	Work is in tendering stage
		PMMSY	FLC	6. Maintenance dredging at Harwada & Belekeri FLC	4.14	Work is in tendering stage
		BR	FH	7. Construction of Kulai Fishing Harbour	196.51	Physical Progress of about 12% is achieved and Work is in progress
		BR	FH	8. Construction of Hejmadi Kodi Fishing Harbour	138.6	Physical Progress of about 67% is achieved and Work is in progress
		BR	FLC	9. Taining walls at Alvekodi and Tenginagundi FLC	86.08	Work Completed.
9	Assam	PMMSY	FLC	1. Development of Chunari FLC	19.91	Work is in progress.
10	Gujarat	PMMSY	FH	1. Development of Smart and Integrated Fishing Harbour at Jakhau, Kutch	121.00	Work is in tendering stage
		BR	FH	2. Development of 3rd Stage of Mangarol FH	155.83	Work completed.
		FIDF	FH	3. Development of Fishery Harbour at Navabandar	295.85	Physical Progress of about 92% is achieved and Work is in progress
		FIDF	FH	4. Development of Fishery harbour at Madhwad	175.07	Physical Progress of about 17% is achieved and Work is in progress
		FIDF	FH	5. Development of Fishery Harbour at Veraval – Phase 2	260	Physical Progress of about 54% is achieved and Work is in progress
		FIDF	FH	6. Development of Fishery Harbour Porbandar –Phase 2	392	Project is under pre-tendering stage.
		FIDF	FH	7. Development of Fishery Harbour at Sutrapada	232	Physical Progress of about 39% is achieved and Work is in progress
11	U.T. of Dadra Nagar Haveli & Daman and Diu.	PMMSY	FH	1. Development of Smart and Integrated Fishing Harbour at Vanakbara, Diu	128.86	Work is in tendering stage.

MINUTES OF THE THIRTIETH SITTING OF THE STANDING COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE, ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND FOOD PROCESSING (2024-25)

The Committee sat on Thursday, the 3rd July, 2025, from 1100 hours to 1330 hours in Committee Room '3', Block-A, Extension to Parliament House Annexe (EPHA), New Delhi.

PRESENT

CHARANJIT SINGH CHANNI - CHAIRPERSON

Members

Lok Sabha

2. Shri Patel Umeshbhai Babubhai
3. Shri Rajkumar Chahar
4. Shri Rajpalsinh Mahendrasinh Jadav
5. Md. Abu Taher Khan
6. Shri Rahul Singh Lodhi
7. Shri Sukanta Kumar Panigrahi
8. Smt. Krishna Devi Shivshankar Patel
9. Shri Naresh Chandra Uttam Patel
10. Shri Dharambir Singh
11. Shri Dushyant Singh
12. Shri Sudhakar Singh
13. Smt. Geniben Nagaji Thakor

Rajya Sabha

14. Smt. Ramilaben Becharbhai Bara
15. Shri Madan Rathore
16. Shri Ramji Lal Suman
17. Shri P. P. Suneer

Secretariat

- | | | | |
|----|--------------------------|---|------------------|
| 1. | Shri Srinivasulu Gunda | - | Joint Secretary |
| 2. | Shri Maheshwar | - | Director |
| 3. | Shri Prem Ranjan | - | Deputy Secretary |
| 4. | Shri Anil Kumar Sanwaria | - | Deputy Secretary |

LIST OF WITNESSES

MINISTRY OF FISHERIES, ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING **(DEPARTMENT OF FISHERIES)**

Sl No.	Name	Designation
1	Ms. Neetu Kumari Prasad	Joint Secretary (Marine Fisheries)
2	Shri Sagar Mehra	Joint Secretary (Inland Fisheries)
3	Shri Ajay Srivastava	Economic Advisor
4	Shri N. Ravi Sankar	Director (CICEF)

2. At the outset, the Chairperson welcomed the Members of the Committee to the sitting convened in connection with the examination of the Subject '**Development and Modernization of Fishing Harbours**' pertaining to the Ministry of Fisheries, Animal Husbandry and Dairying (Department of Fisheries). Thereafter, the representatives of the Department of Fisheries were called in. The Chairperson welcomed the representatives to the sitting of the Committee and apprised them of the provisions of Directions 55(1) of the Directions by the Speaker, Lok Sabha, regarding confidentiality of the proceedings.

3. After the introduction by the witnesses, a power-point presentation was made by the representative(s) of the Department of Fisheries. The Presentation inter-alia covered the following points:

- a) Achievements of the Indian Fisheries Sector.
- b) Marine Fisheries Resources and its Governance.
- c) Investment in Fisheries Sector.
- d) Pradhan Mantri Matsya Sampada Yojana (PMMSY).
- e) Pradhan Mantri Matsya Kisan Samridhi Sah-Yojana (PMMKSSY).
- f) Central Schemes for Development of Fishing Harbours and Fish Landing Centres.
- g) Innovative Concepts of Fishing Harbours.
- h) Smart and Integrated Fishing Harbours.

- i) Social Security and Safety Net for Fishermen.
- j) Women led Development.
- k) Kisan Credit Card for Fishermen.
- l) Blue Ports Initiative of FAO.
- m) Central Institute of Coastal Engineering for Fishery (CICEF), Bangalore.

4. The Chairperson and Members of the Committee raised several issues/points as briefly mentioned below and sought clarifications from the Department. The points raised included, inter-alia:

- a) Harnessing the Deep-Sea Resources of the Country in the Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ) beyond 12 Nautical Miles.
- b) Funding of fisheries projects through Public Private Partnership (PPP) model or through Bidding.
- c) Development of Inland waterways through dredging and promotion of Green Energy and Cage Fishing in Fisheries.
- d) Housing schemes for fishermen.
- e) Monitoring of fisheries projects implemented by States/UTs and fixing of responsibility for delay in execution of projects.
- f) Welfare schemes for Traditional Fishermen residing besides Rivers and Dams.
- g) Dissemination of information amongst the fishermen population regarding Schemes of the Department meant for the betterment.
- h) Identification of fishermen and increasing the corpus of accidental insurance given to fishermen.
- i) To develop a mechanism for monitoring of the spending of funds allocated to States by the Central Government and establishing a Coordination Committee to oversee time bound completion of projects by States/UTs.
- j) Issues related to Amrut Sarovars and their drying and measures to be taken in this direction.
- k) To ensure that benefits of increasing exports of fishery products reach the actual fish farmers/fishers instead of middlemen.
- l) To address the issues of environmental pollution in fisheries sector.

- m) Issues regarding tendering of Smart and Integrated Fishing Harbours should be addressed and a Central Monitoring Committee should be constituted to oversee the same.
- n) Setting up of Climate Resilient Coastal Villages in the country to be fast tracked.
- o) Fast tracking the disbursement of compensation to fishers affected by cyclone Tauktae.
- p) To address the livelihood and compensation issues of families of fishermen who are lodged in foreign jails due to straying into international waters during fishing.
- q) Banning of illegal fishing activities such as LED fishing, Bull Trawling and encroachment of fishing waters by mafia.
- r) Cooperative Management Bodies to manage Fishing Harbours/Fish Landing Centres should have representation from all stakeholders along with public representative.
- s) Addressing the issues of Zhingra farming in Gujarat and its promotion.
- t) Setting up of fishery Universities/Colleges.
- u) Development of Brood Banks in the Country particularly in the State of Bihar and devising a scheme for rejuvenating the water bodies.
- v) Exploring the possibility of giving enforcement/punishment powers to district fisheries officers to address the issues such as encroachment of water bodies, contamination etc.
- w) To increase the reach and disbursement of Kisan Credit Card (KCC).
- x) To explore the possibility to extending benefits to fishermen on the lines of PM Kisan Samman Nidhi.
- y) To explore the possibility of transferring ownership of land in the names of fishermen who have been living on it for generations.
- z) Enhancing of financial benefits extended to fishermen during the fish ban season.

5. The representatives of the Department responded to most of the queries raised by the Members.

6. The Chairperson, thereafter, thanked the witnesses for sharing valuable information with the Committee on the Subject and directed them to furnish the

requisite information in writing on the points/items, which were not readily available with them to the Secretariat by **10th July, 2025**, positively.

The Committee then adjourned.

(A copy of the verbatim proceedings of the Sitting has been kept separately.)

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MINUTES OF THE THIRTY FIFTH SITTING OF THE COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE, ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND FOOD PROCESSING (2024-25)

The Committee sat on Monday, 18th August, 2025 from 1500 hours to 1530 hours in Committee Room No. 3, Extension to Parliament House Annexe, New Delhi.

Present

Shri Charanjit Singh Channi – Chairperson

Members

Lok Sabha

2. Shri Umeshbhai Babubhai Patel
3. Shri Rajkumar Chahar
4. Smt. Anita Nagarsingh Chouhan
5. Shri Rajpalsinh Mahendrasinh Jadav
6. Md. Abu Taher Khan
7. Shri Sukanta Kumar Panigrahi
8. Smt. Krishna Devi Shivshankar Patel
9. Shri Naresh Chandra Uttam Patel
10. Shri Murasoli S.
11. Shri Dharambir Singh
12. Shri Sudhakar Singh
13. Shri Kodikunnil Suresh
14. Smt. Geniben Nagaji Thakor
15. Shri Bhausahab Rajaram Wakchaure

Rajya Sabha

16. Smt. Ramlaben Becharbhai Bara
17. Shri Masthan Rao Yadav Beedha
18. Shri Banshilal Gurjar
19. Shri Nitin Laxmanrao Jadhav Patil
20. Shri Madan Rathore
21. Shri Ramji Lal Suman
22. Shri P.P. Suneer

Secretariat

- | | | | |
|----|-------------------|---|------------------|
| 1. | Shri Dhiraj Kumar | – | Joint Secretary |
| 2. | Shri Maheshwar | – | Director |
| 3. | Shri Prem Ranjan | - | Deputy Secretary |

2. At the outset, the Chairperson welcomed the Members to the Sitting of the Committee and expressed condolences on passing away of Shri Srinivasulu Gunda, Joint Secretary attached to the Committee. Thereafter, the Committee took up for consideration and adoption the following Reports:

- | | | | | | |
|--------|---|------|------|------|------|
| (i) | *xxxx | xxxx | xxxx | xxxx | xxxx |
| (ii) | Draft Report on the subject “ Development and Modernization of Fishing Harbours ”, pertaining to the Ministry of Fisheries, Animal Husbandry and Dairying (Department of Fisheries); | | | | |
| (iii) | xxxx | xxxx | xxxx | xxxx | xxxx |
| (iv) | xxxx | xxxx | xxxx | xxxx | xxxx |
| (v) | xxxx | xxxx | xxxx | xxxx | xxxx |
| (vi) | xxxx | xxxx | xxxx | xxxx | xxxx |
| (vii) | xxxx | xxxx | xxxx | xxxx | xxxx |
| (viii) | xxxx | xxxx | xxxx | xxxx | xxxx |

3. After some deliberations, the Committee adopted the Draft Report without any modifications and the Committee authorized the Chairperson to finalize and present the Report to Parliament.

The Committee then adjourned.

*Matter not related to this Report