

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

LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.2017
TO BE ANSWERED ON 1ST AUGUST, 2023

National Fish Farmers Day Meet-2023

2017. SHRI BIDYUT BARAN MAHATO:

Will the Minister of **FISHERIES, ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING**
मत्स्यपालन, पशुपालन और डेयरी मंत्री be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has recently celebrated the National Fish Farmers Day Meet-2023;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the main highlights of the said meet;
- (c) whether Department of Fisheries has launched the Fisheries Startup Grand Challenge in partnership with Startup India hub and DPIIT to identify, reward and recognize start-ups creating impact in the fisheries ecosystem; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof and the number of startups selected thereunder?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER FOR FISHERIES, ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING

(SHRI PARSHOTTAM RUPALA)

(a) and (b): Yes, Sir. Department of Fisheries, Ministry of Fisheries, Animal Husbandry and Dairying (FAHD), Government of India, celebrated the National Fish Farmer Day Meet-2023 on 10th -11th July 2023 at Mahabalipuram, Tamil Nadu with the aim to review the progress of various programs and schemes, with a special focus on PMMSY, and also to deliberate and plan a way forward to harness the potential of fisheries resources available across the country. The Honourable Minister of State for FAHD, the State Honourable Minister incharge of Fisheries, alongwith the senior officers from the States/UTs were present during the Meet.

During the Meet, 176 Fisheries Projects covering 20 States/UTs across the country worth of Rs. 138.13 crores were virtually inaugurated, followed by interactions with the beneficiaries from various states and UTs to discuss the issues and challenges. The projects inaugurated included fish hatcheries, shrimp hatcheries, biofloc units, fish feed mills, ornamental fish units, fish value-added enterprises, brood banks, recreational fisheries, cage culture units, the RAS system, insulated fish transport vehicles, fish retail kiosks, etc. These projects had an impact on around 15,000 beneficiaries at the grass-roots level, covering 20 states/UTs. Beneficiaries from different States/UTs shared their field-level experiences, highlighted their issues, and applauded the tremendous contribution that the PMMSY scheme and KCC have made to the lives of fishermen and fish farmers. The launch of the Report Fish Disease App (RFD) application was also highlighted, which allows farmers to report disease incidences in their fish farms and seek scientific advice from field-level officers and fish disease experts. The meet also featured the inauguration of the Exhibition on Fisheries Start-Ups/Fish FPOs / Fish cooperatives. Around 50 stalls were exhibited during the event, covering various aspects of fish farming, aquaculture, and related technologies.

Around 23,000 stakeholders, including fishermen, fish farmers, scholars, scientists, and officials, attended the event virtually across 33 States/UTs from 260 locations on National Fish Farmers Day Meet 2023.

(c) and (d): Yes, Sir. The Department of Fisheries, Ministry of Fisheries, Animal Husbandry and Dairying, Government of India in association with Startup India, Ministry of Commerce and Industry has launched the “Fisheries Startup Grand Challenge” to identify, reward and recognize startups creating impact in the fisheries ecosystem.

The Challenge is aimed to foster start-up culture within the sector and to establish a strong foundation of the entrepreneurial model. The selected 12 winners of the challenge are awarded a cash grant of Rs 2.00 lakh each. Further, the incubated startups will be assisted with a grant up to Rs 20.00 lakh (general category) and Rs 30.00 Lakh (SC/ST/woman) each to develop their products in incubation.
