

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

LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION No. 353
TO BE ANSWERED ON 5TH DECEMBER, 2023

Fish Processing Industries

353. SHRI DHANUSH M. KUMAR:

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

- (a) whether the Government has set up fish processing industries in the State of Tamil Nadu during each of the last three years and if so, the details thereof;
- (b) whether the Government has formulated robust export strategies to enhance the income of farmers through fish and fish products and if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Government is providing incentives for setting up a cold supply chain for fish and fish products;
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) whether Indian railway is currently operating refrigerated coaches for fish transportation and if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF FISHERIES, ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING

(SHRI PARSHOTTAM RUPALA)

- (a): The Department of Fisheries, Ministry of Fisheries, Animal Husbandry and Dairying is implementing flagship scheme namely “Pradhan Mantri Matsya Sampada Yojana (PMMSY)” with highest ever investment of ₹20050 crore in fisheries sector for a period of 5 years with effect from the financial year 2020-21 to FY 2024-25. PMMSY *inter-alia* supports creation of modern post-harvest cold chain infrastructures such as storages, ice plants and fish transportation vehicles including with ice flaking and ice crushing units etc. The Department of Fisheries, Government of India has approved proposals to the tune of Rs. 1368.10 crore for development of cold chain infrastructure under PMMSY including construction of 563 cold storages, modernization of 78 cold storages/ice plants and 25193 post-harvest transportation facilities. So far, Department of Fisheries, Government of India, under PMMSY during the last three financial years (FY 2020-21 to 2022-23), and current financial year (2023-24), has approved 38 ice plants/cold storages, 794 post-harvest transportation facilities, 3 fish retail markets, and 55 fish kiosks for marketing of fish, to the State of Tamil Nadu aimed at development of fish processing and post-harvest industry in the State. While the Government of Tamil Nadu has reported that during the last three years, they have not set up Fish Processing Industries in the State, the Marine Products Export Development Authority (MPEDA) has informed that three fish processing units have been registered in Tamil Nadu State during the last three years, as summarized below:

| Year | No. of Processing Units |
|--------------|--------------------------------|
| 2020-21 | 1 |
| 2021-22 | 2 |
| 2022-23 | Nil |
| Total | 3 |

(b): PMMSY *inter-alia* aims at enhancing contribution to Agriculture GVA and doubling of export income from the fisheries sector. PMMSY intends to address critical gaps in fish production, productivity, quality, technology, post-harvest infrastructure and management, modernization and strengthening of value chain, reduction of post-harvest losses, traceability etc. In order to enhance the global competitiveness of fisheries sector, PMMSY supports for quality fish production, species diversification, promotion of export-oriented species, branding, standards and certification, training and capacity building, creation of post-harvest infrastructure with emphasis on seamless cold chain and development of modern fishing harbours and fish landing centers, etc. Other than that, MPEDA is adopting the strategies to promote and enhance exports in the existing markets and for penetrating into new markets the strategies are adopted, viz. facilitating participation of exporters in International trade fairs, conducting buyer seller meets and also markets research. MPEDA is also supporting the farmers in various means to enhance the quality production for export by formation of clusters among small-scale farmers and promotion of Good Aquaculture Practices (GAP) among farmers through training and awareness programmes, testing of quality of the produce across the value chain through the ELISA labs and Quality Control (QC) labs, facilitating water and soil quality parameters through the Aqua One Centers.

(c) and (d): In addition to the financial assistance provided under PMMSY for development of cold chain infrastructure including construction of cold storages, modernization of cold storages/ice plants and post-harvest transportation facilities, MPEDA has been implementing financial assistance schemes for setting up of a cold supply chain for fish and fishery products. The schemes are not State-specific. The eligible seafood exporter can apply for financial assistance for setting up of a cold supply chain for fish and fishery products, especially for export purposes. The details of financial assistance released by MPEDA under various cold chain schemes for the past 3 years is given below:

| Cold Chain Development (CCD) Scheme | Physical units | Financial (Rs in Lakh) |
|--|-----------------------|-------------------------------|
| CCD Assistance for Large Cold Storage | 22 | 983.77 |
| CCD Assistance for conveyance | 1 | 7.89 |
| Total | 23 | 991.66 |

(e) : It is informed by the Ministry of Railways that, currently no refrigerated coaches are operated for fish transportation.
