



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

EIGHTEENTH LOK SABHA

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

**DEMANDS FOR GRANTS (2024-25)
(DEMAND NO. 43)**

THIRD REPORT



**LOK SABHA SECRETARIAT
NEW DELHI
17 DECEMBER, 2024/ 26 AGRAHAYANA 1946 (SAKA)**

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FOOD PROCESSING**

(2024-25)

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(DEPARTMENT OF FISHERIES)**

**DEMANDS FOR GRANTS (2024-25)
(DEMAND NO. 43)**

Presented to Lok Sabha on 17.12.2024

Laid on the Table of Rajya Sabha on 17.12.2024



**LOK SABHA SECRETARIAT
NEW DELHI
17 DECEMBER, 2024/ 26 AGRAHAYANA 1946 (SAKA)**

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**COMPOSITION OF THE STANDING COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE, ANIMAL
HUSBANDRY AND FOOD PROCESSING**

18th Lok Sabha (2024-25)

SHRI CHARANJIT SINGH CHANNI – CHAIRPERSON

MEMBERS

LOK SABHA

2. Shri Patel Umeshbhai Babubhai
3. Smt. Harsimrat Kaur Badal
4. Shri Raj kumar 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. Smt. Krishna Devi Shivshankar Patel
12. Shri Naresh Chandra Uttam 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
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20. Smt. Geniben Nagaji Thakor
21. Shri Bhausahab Rajaram Wakchaure

RAJYA SABHA

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

** Vacant vice Shri Krishan Lal Panwar resigned from Rajya Sabha on 14.10.2024.*

SECRETARIAT

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

INTRODUCTION

I, the Chairperson, Standing Committee on Agriculture, Animal Husbandry and Food Processing, having been authorized by the Committee to submit the Report on their behalf, present this Third Report on the Demands for Grants (2024-25) of the Ministry of Fisheries, Animal Husbandry and Dairying (Department of Fisheries).

2. The Committee under Rule 331E.(1)(a) of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in Lok Sabha considered the Demands for Grants (2024-25) of the Ministry of Fisheries, Animal Husbandry and Dairying (Department of Fisheries), which were laid on the table of the House on 30th July, 2024. The Committee took evidence of the representatives of the Ministry of Fisheries, Animal Husbandry and Dairying (Department of Fisheries) at their Sitting held on 22nd November, 2024. The Report was considered and adopted by the Committee at their Sitting held on 14th December, 2024.

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

4. The Committee wish to express their thanks to the Officials of the Ministry of Fisheries, Animal Husbandry and Dairying (Department of Fisheries) for appearing before the Committee and furnishing the information that they desired in connection with the examination of Demands for Grants of the Department.

5. The Committee would also like to place on record their deep sense of appreciation for the invaluable assistance rendered to them by the Officials of Lok Sabha Secretariat attached to the Committee.

**New Delhi;
14 December, 2024
23 Agrahayana, 1946 (Saka)**

**Charanjit Singh Channi
Chairperson
Standing Committee on Agriculture
Animal Husbandry and Food Processing**

ABBREVIATIONS

| | |
|---------------|---|
| AE | Actual Expenditure |
| A & N Islands | Andaman and Nicobar Islands |
| ANB | Atmanirbhar Bharat |
| BE | Budget Estimates |
| CSS | Central Sector Scheme |
| CIFA | Central Institute of Freshwater Aquaculture |
| DoF | Department of Fisheries |
| EEs | Eligible Entities |
| FIDF | Fisheries and Aquaculture Infrastructure Development Fund |
| FSI | Fishery Survey of India |
| FFA | Forum Fisheries Agency |
| GVA | Gross Value Added |
| KCC | Kisan Credit Card |
| MEP | Monthly Expenditure Plan |
| MT | Metric Tonne |
| MMD | Mercantile Marine Department |
| NABARD | National Bank on Agriculture and Rural Development |
| NFDB | National Fisheries Development Board |
| NLEs | Nodal Loaning Entities |
| PMMSY | Pradhan Mantri Matsya Sampada Yojana |
| PMMKSSY | Pradhan Mantri Matsya Kisan Samridhi Sah-Yojana |
| QEP | Quarterly Expenditure Plan |
| RE | Revised Estimates |
| SNA | Single Nodal Agency |
| SCSP | Scheduled Caste Sub Plan |
| TSP | Tribal Sub-Plan |
| UC | Utilization Certificate |

PART – I
CHAPTER – I

A. INTRODUCTION

The Department of fisheries was carved out of the Fishery Division from the erstwhile Department of Animal Husbandry, Dairying and Fisheries in June, 2019 with a vision to achieve “ecologically healthy, economically viable and socially inclusive fisheries that contributes towards doubling fishers and fish farmers’ incomes and economic prosperity in a sustainable, responsible and equitable manner”. The main objectives of the Department are to enhance fish production and productivity on an environmentally sustainable and socially equitable basis, tap the hitherto untapped potential of the Indian fisheries, conservation of aquatic resources and genetic diversity, preservation of health of ecosystems, strengthening of infrastructure in harvest, post-harvest, value-addition & marketing and upliftment of fishers and aqua-farmers communities with gainful employment opportunities and capacity strengthening.

1.2 The Department is responsible for matters relating to formulation of policies and schemes pertaining to Development of Inland, Marine and Coastal Fisheries and Fishery Institutes which includes four subordinate institutions and two autonomous bodies *viz*:

Subordinate Institutions

- a) **Fishery Survey of India (FSI), Mumbai.**
- b) **Central Institute of Fisheries, Nautical and Engineering Training (CIFNET), Kochi.**
- c) **National Institute of Fisheries Post Harvest Technology & Training (NIFPHATT), Kochi.**
- d) **Central Institute of Coastal Engineering for Fisheries (CICEF), Bengaluru.**

Autonomous Bodies

- a) **National Fisheries Development Board (NFDB), Hyderabad.**
- b) **Coastal Aquaculture Authority, Chennai.**

1.3 Currently, India is the second largest fish producing country in the world accounting for 8% of the global production and growing at an average annual growth rate of 8.81%. The Fishery sector in India contributed around 1.09% percent to the National Gross Value Added (GVA) and 6.72% to the Agriculture Gross Value Added (GVA) during the FY 2023-24. The total fish production during the FY 2022-23 in the country is estimated at 17.54 Million Metric Ton (MMT) with a contribution of 13.11 MMT from Inland sector and 4.43 MMT from Marine sector. The Sector also plays a major role in foreign exchange earnings where the exports of marine products stood at 1.78 MMT, valued at Rs. 60,524 during the FY 2023-24. Shrimps being the major component of Indian Fishery exports stands at Rs 40,013 Crores during the FY 2023-24 and shrimp variety *i.e.* L. Vannamei contributed around 86 % of total shrimp exports from the country.

1.4 The Pradhan Mantri Matsya Sampada Yojana (PMMSY) is the flagship scheme implemented from 2020-21 and is also a part of Aatmanirbhar Bharat Package. PMMSY intends to bring about Blue Revolution through sustainable development of fisheries sector with a total investment of Rs.20,050 Crore comprising of central share of Rs. 9,407 Crore and State share of Rs 4,880 Crore and Beneficiary contribution of Rs. 5,763 Crore for a period of 5 years from FY 2020-21 to FY 2024-25 in all States/Union territories. The Scheme aims to address the critical gaps in fish production and productivity, quality, technology, post-harvest infrastructure and management framework and fishers' welfare. It also intends to address issues like low productivity in Inland aquaculture, disease, sustainability of marine fisheries, sanitary and Phyto-sanitary matters that impact the competitiveness of India's exports. From the FY 2023-24, a sub scheme under PMMSY namely Pradhan Mantri Matsya Kisan Samridhi Sah-Yojana (PM-MKSSY) is being implemented, for a period of 4 years *i.e.* from 2023-24 to 2026-27, with an outlay of Rs. 6000 crore.

1.5 The Fisheries and Aquaculture Infrastructure Development Fund (FIDF) was launched in 2018-19 up to 2022-23. Recently, the Implementation period of FIDF has been extended for another 3 years *i.e.* from 2023-24 to 2025-26. FIDF intends to

address the gaps in fisheries infrastructure with a total corpus of Rs. 7522.48 crore by providing concessional finance/loans to the Eligible Entities (EEs), including State Governments/UT Administrations and State entities for development of identified fisheries infrastructure facilities. Interest subvention of up to 3% p.a is also provided under FIDF and the repayment period spans to 12 years including moratorium of 2 years. The concessional finance under FIDF is provided by the Nodal Lending Entities (NLEs) namely.

- a) National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD)
- b) National Cooperatives Development Corporation (NCDC) and
- c) All Scheduled Banks.

CHAPTER – II

A. ANALYSIS OF DEMAND NO. 43

(i) Allocations and Expenditure

The data on allocations proposed by the Dept., Actually allocated by the Ministry of Finance (MoF), Revised Estimates (REs) and actual expenditure incurred by the Dept. since 2020-21 as furnished by the Department of Fisheries is as follows:

(Rs. In crore)

| Year | Allocation proposed by the Dept | Allocation by the M/o Finance at BE | Percentage increase at BE stage over the previous FY | Allocation by the M/o Finance at RE | Expenditure made by the Dept | Shortfall |
|---------|---------------------------------|-------------------------------------|--|-------------------------------------|------------------------------|-----------|
| 2020-21 | 3050.25 | 825.00 | | 910.42 | 883.84 | 26.58 |
| 2021-22 | 2581.63 | 1220.84 | 47% | 1407.29 | 1361.14 | 46.15 |
| 2022-23 | 2186.73 | 2118.47 | 73% | 1624.18 | 1365.24 | 258.94 |
| 2023-24 | 2688.47 | 2248.77 | 6% | 1701.00 | 1336.18 | 364.82 |
| 2024-25 | 2755.03 | 2616.44 | 16% | | | 424.02* |

N.B. Funds sanctioned on 09.10.24

2.2 Referring to 16 % increase in allocation at BE stage (2024-25) *vis-a-vis* BE 2023-24, the Committee sought whether the higher allocation is to meet the revenue expenditure or capital expenditure, the Department in a written reply stated the following:

“A total budgetary allocation of Rs. 2616.44 crore has been made to the Department of Fisheries, Government of India for the year 2024-25 including an amount of Rs 2352 crore for Pradhan Mantri Matsya Sampada Yojana (PMMSY) and Rs. 30.00 crore to Fisheries and Aquaculture Infrastructure Development Fund (FIDF). Further, the budget allocated to the Department during the FY 2024-25 has allocation for both the components such as an amount of Rs. 2597.45 crore for revenue expenditure and an amount of Rs. 18.99 crore capital expenditure and as such the enhanced allocation was made during 2024-25 primarily for meeting the revenue expenditure”.

2.3 In written reply to a query why higher budgetary allocations (BE) were made for the years 2022-23 and 2023-24 even when the actual expenditure during the previous year's 2021-22 and 2022-23 fell short of the reduced RE, Dept. submitted the following reply:

“Department of Fisheries has been allocated total budgetary support of Rs. 1701.00 crore for the financial year 2023-24 in the revised estimate

including allocations to scheme and non- scheme components. The overall allocation for the financial year 2023-24 has increased by about 5% in comparison to the allocation made during the year 2022-23 (RE). Further, out of total budgetary support, the allocation in respect of Pradhan Mantri Matsya Sampada Yojana (PMMSY) Scheme for the year 2023-24 has been increased by 6% in comparison to the allocation made for 2022-23. The scheme and non-scheme allocation for the financial year 2024-25 (BE) has also increased by 16% in compare with the allocation made for the year 2023-24 (BE).

It is informed that the Department of Fisheries, Government of India accorded approval to proposals worth of Rs.11,295.23 crore with Central share of Rs. 4982.99 crore during last 2 years 2022-23 and 2023-24 under PMMSY. Out of the total central share approved, an amount of Rs. 2230.85 crore was released to all the States/UTs and other IAs by the end of FY 2022-23. Since the many approved projects under PMMSY were progressing well during the FY 2023-24 and expecting the demands from the States/UTs for such ongoing projects and keeping in view of the approved outlay as per the Cabinet Note, the enhanced Budget budgetary allocation for the FY 2023-24 was made to meet liability of ongoing projects and take up new activities/projects under the PMMSY”.

2.4 Furnishing specific reasons for incurring far lower actual expenditure even compared to reduced RE since 2020-21 and its impact on the outcomes of the schemes, the Dept. in a written reply stated that:

“The Department had achieved expenditure target to the tune of 99 per cent and 97 per cent for FY 2020-21 and FY 2021-22, respectively. However, after implementation of the revised procedure of release of fund from 31st July,2021 by Department of Expenditure, Ministry of Finance and compliance of such procedures by the States/UTs, the speed funds flow to the State/UTs for implementation of PMMSY projects was slightly reduced during the financial year 2022-23 & 2023-24. Some of the important points that were caused hindrance for smooth utilization of funds are as below:

- (a) The Department of Expenditure, Ministry of Finance has on 23rd March, 2021 issued a revised procedure for release of funds to the States for implementation of the Centrally Sponsored Schemes and for monitoring utilization of funds released.*
- (b) As per the new procedure, each State were required to notify a Single Nodal Agency (SNA), open a separate SNA account as well as child accounts for channelizing of the funds in implementation of PMMSY.*
- (c) The revised procedure of Finance Ministry, amongst the others, also stipulates that the center funds should be released in equal four installments (25% each installment). It further stipulates that*

release of subsequent installment will be subject to utilization of available funds in SNA account up to the level of 75%.

- (d) The State Governments have taken time to notify their SNA, in opening of individual SNA accounts and child accounts, and in transfer of Central and State funds to SNA account and such processes in the state is the major obstruction in the way of smooth utilization of central funds.*
- (e) It is to be added that to comply with the revised procedure, the States took some time for preparedness, adaptability of new procedure and dislocation with the revised financial procedure.*
- (f) The conditions stipulated for release of central funds in four equal installments, utilization of available funds up to the level of 75% in addition to factors mentioned in (c) above; delayed release of funds to the States.*
- (g) The other factors attributed for low utilisation of allocated fund under PMMSY was delay in contributing the state matching share by the State Governments.*
- (h) Most of the potential states are in SNA-SPARSH. Non-compliance of the Guidelines in time by the States are one of the major point for slow expenditure.”*

2.5 When asked about the measures envisaged by the Department to address lower spending as compared to the Revised Estimates, the Department stated the following:

“The Department of Fisheries has planned and approved the annual action plan of 2024-25 for the States/UTs by June 2024 and a relaxation in this regard has also been issued to all the States/UTs to utilize the unspent funds against all the approved activities since inception of the scheme. This will increase the expenditure and as such more central funds will be released at a time. As per information, all states / UTs have now complied with the SNA guidelines and have more understanding on SNA-SPARSH module. Moreover, the Department has been working in a close coordination with the States and these issues have been addressed from time to time. As such, better performance in the upcoming days is expected”.

2.6 During the current financial year, the spending by the Department till 9th, October, 2024 has been Rs. 424.02 crore. When asked about the steps taken/being taken by the Department to adhere to the Monthly/Quarterly expenditure plan, the Department submitted that:

“The Ministry of Finance for the year 2024-25 has not issued any cash management for Monthly Expenditure Plan/Quarterly Expenditure Plan. However, in the Detailed Demands for Grants, expenditure of 25% in each quarter has been indicated. The reasons for slow pace of utilization of funds as explained in reply to point-2 (ii) above are still prevailing. However, in order to speed up pace of expenditure during remaining period of FY 2024-25 under the PMMSY, the Department of Fisheries has been working in a close coordination with the States and UTs and advising them for early compliance of the guidelines of the Ministry of Finance, expediting the project activities and timely contribution of the State share etc.”

(ii) Pradhan Mantri Matsya Sampada Yojana (PMMSY)

2.7 The data on BE, RE and actual expenditure since 2020-21 as furnished by the Dept. is as follows:

(Rs. In crore)

| Year | Allocations proposed | Allocations given by M/o Finance | | Actual expenditure incurred by the Ministry | Short fall in actuals vis- a- vis RE | Utilisation in percent terms w.r.t RE |
|---------|----------------------|----------------------------------|---------|---|--------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| | | BE | RE | Actuals | | |
| 2020-21 | 2000.00 | 560.00 | 700.00 | 699.72 | 0.28 | 99.96 |
| 2021-22 | 2196.00 | 1000.00 | 1200.00 | 1169.14 | 30.86 | 97.42 |
| 2022-23 | 1879.00 | 1879.00 | 1410.00 | 1169.86 | 240.14 | 82.96 |
| 2023-24 | 2357.00 | 2000.00 | 1500.00 | 1148.88 | 351.12 | 76.59 |
| 2024-25 | 2362.00 | 2352.00 | | 418 | | |

2.8 In written reply to a query why the allocations are reduced at RE during 2022-23 and 2023-24, the Dept. submitted stated that:-

“The reduction of funds at RE stage under Pradhan Mantri Matsya Sampada Yojana mainly due to slow progress of expenditure by the State Governments, UTs and other implementing agencies for implementation of the scheme and availability of unspent balance with states in their SNA accounts”.

2.9 The Department was further asked if the lower actual expenditure incurred by the Department *vis-à-vis* the Revised Estimates during the Financial Years from 2021-22 to 2023-24 and its adverse impact on the output and outcomes of the Pradhan Mantri Matsya Sampada Yojana (PMMSY), the Department stated that:

“The lower actuals under PMMSY for Department of Fisheries is directly related to the pace of funds utilization and implementation of the scheme by all the States/UTs. It accumulates the central liability and the slower the output of the activities undertaken by the States/UTs”.

2.10 In a written reply to a query about the detailed plan of the Department to utilize the enhanced allocation of Rs. 2352 crore to PMMSY during the FY 2024-25 which is more than double the actual expenditure of 2023-24 i.e. Rs 1148.88 crore, the Department submitted as follows :

“The Department of Fisheries, Government of India accorded approval of Proposals worth of Rs.18680 crore with Central share of Rs. 7725.00 crore during last 4 years 2020-21to 2023-24 under PMMSY. Out of the total central share approved an amount of Rs. 3853.00 crore has been released to all the States/UTs and other IAs. Looking the central committed liability and approved outlay as per the Cabinet Note, the Budget Estimates was proposed. All the States are being sensitized through review meetings at various levels and have been requested to ensure release of State matching share in time and to expedite the fund utilization for smooth implementation of the scheme in respective states. The Department has planned and approved the annual action plan of 2024-25 for the states/UTs by June 2024 and a relaxation in this regard has also been issued to all the States/UTs to utilize the unspent funds against all the approved activities since inception of the scheme. This will increase the pace of expenditure and as such more central funds will be released at a time”.

(iii) PMMSY- Advertising and Publicity

2.11 The data on Budget Estimates, Revised Estimates and Actual Expenditure for the detailed head ‘Advertising and Publicity’ under Pradhan Manti Matsya Sampada Yojana for the financial years i.e. from 2020-21 up to 2023, as furnished by the Department is as under:

| Year | BE | RE | Actuals |
|---------|--------------|-------------|-------------|
| 2020-21 | 5,00,00,000 | 1,00,00,000 | 1,00,00,000 |
| 2021-22 | 2,00,00,000 | 2,40,00,000 | 2,40,00,000 |
| 2022-23 | 8,00,00,000 | 66,00,000 | 46,37,000 |
| 2023-24 | 8,51,00,000 | 6,00,00,000 | 50,00,000 |
| 2024-25 | 10,00,00,000 | | |

2.12. When asked about the mechanism/programmes/exhibitions/awareness camps undertaken by the Department to disseminate information with respect to all the Schemes of the Department to the general public and the needy fishermen in particular, the Department submitted the following reply:

“Under PMMSY, National Fisheries Development Board (NFDB) is the Nodal Agency for Implementing the activities on Training, Awareness, Exposure & Capacity building programme in collaboration with Central Institutes, fisheries organizations, State Fisheries Departments, KVKs, relevant private organizations & networks and international organizations on PMMSY, PMMKSSY and FIDF scheme through awareness campaigns. Further, conducted various workshops, conferences, webinars, expert meetings and consultations on various subjects and activities to bring in concepts and latest technologies into the sector available under PMMSY. These programs are being implemented by state/UT fisheries departments, Quasi-government organizations involved in fisheries sector, selected National and Regional level institutions, ICAR Fisheries institutes, ICAR-KVKs, ASCI, MPEDA, FISHCOPEED, FSI, and various Fisheries Universities. Farmers Training Centres (FTCs), Universities, Colleges of Fisheries, SAUs/ATICs/Coop. Societies/Academic institutions in the Fisheries etc.

NFDB is implementing activities such as orientation training to the enumerators covered under FMPIS, orientation training to state officials on GAIS, awareness campaigns on River Ranching & orientation & training programs on FIDF, Cooperatives. NFDB also organized various state & National level fish festivals to create awareness on schemes, new technologies and to increase the domestic fish consumption. Under PMMSY, since inception, 1323 No of programmes/exhibitions/awareness campaigns were organized covering 206901 public/stakeholders along with 34 Nos of fish festivals.

Department of Fisheries in coordination with NFDB has organized various outreach activities to popularize PMMSY scheme and Domestic fish consumption through various digital platforms such as short news apps/google/face book etc., campaign in railway stations, airports, audio-video publicity in the form of Jingles/video films and printing /publicity (Magazines and Newspapers), installing Hoardings etc. Various outreach activities such as outdoor campaigns, Digital Campaigns, mass media campaigns, Publicity through electronic media announcement in railways,

digital display in airports and creation of jingles and broadcasted in States & UTs on the schemes in vernacular languages”.

(iv) Assistance to Fisheries Institutes

2.13 The data on BE, RE and actuals incurred since 2020-21 under the scheme Assistance to fisheries as furnished by the Dept. is as under:

(Rs. In crore)

| Year | Allocations proposed | Allocations given by M/o Finance | | Actual expenditure incurred by the Ministry (Actual) | Short fall in actuals vis-a- vis RE | Utilisation in percent terms w.r.t RE |
|---------|----------------------|----------------------------------|--------|--|-------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| | | BE | RE | | | |
| 2020-21 | 272.92 | 149.00 | 143.14 | 121.08 | 22.06 | 84.58 |
| 2021-22 | 296.52 | 149.77 | 125.77 | 112.94 | 12.83 | 89.79 |
| 2022-23 | 230.60 | 175.34 | 160.58 | 144.06 | 16.52 | 89.71 |
| 2023-24 | 248.93 | 169.24 | 125.08 | 112.46 | 12.62 | 89.91 |
| 2024-25 | 281.33 | 143.02 | | | | |

2.14 The actual expenditure of the Department under assistance to fisheries institutes fell short of more than 10% during the financial years 2021-22 to 2023-24. When asked about the reasons for this underutilization of funds and the steps taken in this regard, the Department stated that:

“The expenditure under ‘Assistance to Fisheries Institutes during FY 2021-22 to FY 2023-24 was 89% of the Revised Expenditure. The funds allocated to fisheries institutes are establishment in nature and the expenditure accrued as per the actuals requirement/demand. More than 55% of the funds allocated to one of the institute namely Fisheries Survey of India. The reasons for under utilisation of funds are as below”:

- *Most of the vessels are above 30 years old, resulting in Long dry-docking period and delay in under water steel plate renewals.*
- *Break in voyages due to inclement weather condition.*
- *Breakdown repairs and delay in getting LSA/FFA clearance from Mercantile Marine Department (MMD) of Director General, Shipping.”*

(v) Allocation and Utilisation of Funds under Central Sector, Centrally Sponsored and Non Scheme Components.

2.15 Data on BE, RE and actuals incurred under various ‘schemes and non schemes’ since 2020-21 to 2024-25 as furnished by the Department is as follows:

| Name of scheme/Est | 2020-21 | | | | 2021-22 | | | | 2022-23 | | | | 2023-24 | | | | 2024-25 | | | |
|--------------------|---------|--------|--------|--------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|----|--------|
| | P | BE | RE | AE | P | BE | RE | AE | P | BE | RE | AE | P | BE | RE | AE | P | BE | RE | AE |
| CS | 15.00 | 10.00 | 10.00 | 9.50 | | 15.00 | 10.00 | 10.00 | | 12.00 | 12.00 | 12.00 | | 25.00 | 25.00 | 24.40 | | 30.00 | | 0.00 |
| CSS | 2000.00 | 560.00 | 700.00 | 699.72 | | 1000.00 | 1200.00 | 1191.45 | | 1879.00 | 1410.00 | 1290.00 | | 2000.00 | 1500.00 | 1196.50 | | 2352.00 | | 484.02 |
| Non Scheme Est | 280.92 | 255.00 | 200.42 | 174.62 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |

B. BUDGET AND CASH MANAGEMENT SCHEME

2.16 Data on quarter wise spending of the funds allocated since 2020-21 to 2024-25, (both in absolute and percentage terms) submitted by the Department is as follows:

(Rs. In crore)

| Financial Year | Quarters | % w.r.t. RE | Amount | Actual Expenditure |
|----------------|--------------|-------------|----------------|--------------------|
| 2020-21 | Q1 | 20 | 182.08 | 31.98 |
| | Q2 | 30 | 273.12 | 304.46 |
| | Q3 | 25 | 227.61 | 159.17 |
| | Q4 | 25 | 227.61 | 388.23 |
| | Total | 100 | 910.42 | 883.84 |
| 2021-22 | Q1 | 30 | 422.187 | 109.50 |
| | Q2 | 30 | 422.187 | 428.28 |
| | Q3 | 20 | 281.46 | 260.58 |
| | Q4 | 20 | 281.46 | 370.83 |
| | Total | 100 | 1407.29 | 1169.36 |
| 2022-23 | Q1 | 25 | 374.02 | 38.69 |
| | Q2 | 25 | 374.02 | 99.66 |
| | Q3 | 25 | 374.02 | 221.79 |
| | Q4 | 25 | 374.02 | 14005.10 |
| | Total | 100 | 1496.09 | 1365.24 |
| 2023-24 | Q1 | 25 | 425.25 | 18.39 |
| | Q2 | 25 | 425.25 | 333.37 |
| | Q3 | 25 | 425.25 | 419.06 |
| | Q4 | 25 | 425.25 | 565.36 |
| | Total | 100 | 1701.00 | 1336.18 |
| 2024-25 | Q1 | 25 | 654.11 | 44.99 |
| | Q2 | 25 | 654.11 | 524.74 |
| | Q3 | 25 | 654.11 | |
| | Q4 | 25 | 654.11 | |
| | Total | 100 | 2616.44 | 569.73* |

*Expenditure as on 11.11.2024

2.17. In written response to a query whether such quarter wise spending as shown above is in accordance with the guidelines of the Ministry of Finance, the Department submitted the following:

“The quarterly release of funds to the States/UTs and other implementing agencies are subject to the compliance of the SNA and other related criteria like GFR by the States/UTs. The reasons for slow pace of utilization of funds since 2020-21 have been explained in reply to point-2 (ii) above and (para 2.4 above).”

C. REVENUE RECEIPTS

2.18 In written reply to a query about internal sources of revenue, the dept submitted the following sources of internal revenue including the amounts received from subordinate institutes since 2020-21:

(Rs. in lakhs)

| S. No | Name of the Institute | Source of revenue | 2020-21 | 2021-22 | 2022-23 | 2023-24 |
|-------|---|--|---------|---------|---------|---------|
| 1 | Central Institute of Fisheries Nautical and Engineering Training (CIFNET) | Hostel rent fee from trainees, RTI application fees, sale of books, fish, guest house charges, short term course fees, sale of unserviceable items, etc. | 44.76 | 144.73 | 90.13 | 123.08 |
| 2 | National Institute of Fisheries Post-harvest Technology and Training (NIFPHATT) | Sale of fish & fisheries products, rent, other receipts, etc. | 206.45 | 210.79 | 203.27 | 196.55 |
| 3 | Central Institute of Coastal Engineering for Fishery (CICEF) | Guest House charges | 0.041 | 0.05 | 0.068 | 0.00 |
| 4 | Fishery Survey of India (FSI) | Hauling of private vessels/ Servicing of ILR, Jetty charges and rent for utility yard space at MED, Kochi, Disposal of fish catch, revenue from guest house, serving of life raft, disposal of condemned stores, slipway docking, rental freshwater etc. | 105.62 | 94.36 | 74.57 | 107.34 |
| 5 | Coastal Aquaculture Authority (CAA) | Registration of shrimp farms, Registration fee of LV Farms, Registration fee of Hatchery, Registration fee for Aquaculture inputs Products, 30% fees received from DLC from farm registration etc. | 181.81 | 130.87 | 119.06 | 182.34 |
| 6 | National Fisheries Development Board (NFDB) | Sale of Brooder/ Genetically improved fish Seed, Application fee/ Guest house/ processing fee, Interest Earned, (FDR& Saving A/c), Licence fee/ Quarter Rent etc. | 61.41 | 131.87 | 166.09 | 90.92 |
| | Total | | 600.091 | 712.67 | 653.188 | 700.23 |

D. STATUS OF UTILISATION CERTIFICATE

2.19 With regard to the data on pendency of Utilisation Certificates under PMMSY for the financial years 2020-21 to 2023-24, the reasons for such pendency which has seen sharp increase in 2023-24 *vis-a-vis* 2022-23, and the steps taken to address this issue, the Department submitted the following reply:

(Rs. in crore)

| S. No. | Status of Utilization under PMMSY- States/UTs | Pending Certificates All | PMMSY | | | |
|--------|---|--------------------------|---------|---------|---------|---------|
| | | | 2020-21 | 2021-22 | 2022-23 | 2023-24 |
| | | | 25.68 | 79.63 | 316.17 | 574.03 |

“As stated earlier, the pace of utilization of funds got slowed down because of changes in accounts procedure and funds release procedures, delay in transfer of funds from treasury to SNA account and non-release of state share in time. The matter has been taken up at various levels including the Chief Ministers, Chief Secretaries of States/UTs for release of State share; for ensuring SNA compliance and for expediting the utilization of available funds. Further, States are also being monitored on daily basis for timely release of central and state shares to SNA from treasury and immediate distribution of such funds to beneficiaries through child account. This is to expedite the implementation of the scheme and to minimize the pendency of un-utilized funds.

Further, Department of Fisheries approved the State Annual Action Plan (AAP) so that states can utilize part of unspent balance for projects approved under AAP under PMMSY as well.

Further, such efforts taken by the Department of Fisheries helped in expediting the utilization of funds by the States and the unspent balance available with States has come down to Rs. 737.58 crore. The Department is continuing its efforts through periodic review meetings at different levels for speedy utilization of the central and state funds”.

E. ALLOCATIONS TO NORTH EASTERN STATES

2.20 Data on budget allocation and expenditure *w.r.t.* north eastern states since 2020-21 as furnished by the Department is as below:

| State/UT | 2020-21 | | | 2021-22 | | | 2022-23 | | | 2023-24 | | | 2024-25 |
|------------|---------|-------|-------|---------|--------|--------|---------|--------|--------|---------|--------|--------|---------|
| | BE | RE | AE | BE | RE | AE | BE | RE | AE | BE | RE | AE | BE |
| NER States | 56.00 | 82.00 | 81.99 | 106.00 | 122.00 | 122.00 | 188.50 | 146.45 | 101.54 | 200.66 | 150.55 | 201.66 | 235.97 |

F. TRIBAL SUB PLAN (TSP)

2.21 Data on fund allocation under Tribal Sub Plan and expenditure incurred since 2020-21 to 2024-25, the Department submitted the following:

(Rs in crore)

| Tribal Sub Plan | Financial year | Total Budget Allocation | Funds Earmarked (BE) for TSP | % of total Budget Allocation | Funds Earmarked (RE) for TSP | % of total RE Allocation | Actual Expenditure | Funds Surrendered |
|-----------------|----------------|-------------------------|------------------------------|------------------------------|------------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------|-------------------|
| | 2020-21 | 560.00 | 53.00 | 9.46 | 63.00 | 11.25 | 62.38 | 0.62 |
| | 2021-22 | 1000.00 | 90.00 | 9.00 | 110.00 | 9.16 | 108.48 | 1.52 |
| | 2022-23 | 1879.00 | 171.50 | 9.12 | 127.78 | 9.06 | 103.19 | 24.59 |
| | 2023-24 | 2000.00 | 182.56 | 9.12 | 136.42 | 9.09 | 133.91 | 2.51 |
| | 2024-25 | 2352.00 | 214.69 | 9.13 | - | - | | |

2.22. About the reasons for surrender of funds under Tribal Sub Plan during the financial years 2020-21 to 2023-24, the Department submitted the following reply:

“There is no significant surrender of funds under the TSP head of PMMSY since 2020-21 except the FY 2022-23 due to non-receipt of TSP proposals from the States/UTs”

2.23 The data on and details of the financial performance of Tribal Sub Plan under the schemes such as PMMSY and Fisheries and Aquaculture Infrastructure Development Fund (FIDF) since 2020-21 as furnished by the Department submitted the following reply:

| Tribal Sub Plan (TSP) | Year | PMMSY (RE) | BE | RE | Actual Expenditure | Funds Surrendered | FIDF (RE) | BE | RE | Actual Expenditure | Funds Surrendered |
|-----------------------|---------|--------------|--------|--------|--------------------|-------------------|------------|------|------|--------------------|-------------------|
| | 2020-21 | 700.00 | 53.00 | 63.00 | 62.38 | 0.62 | 10.00 | 0.60 | 0.60 | 0.60 | 0.00 |
| | 2021-22 | 1200.00 | 90.00 | 110.00 | 108.48 | 1.52 | 10.00 | 1.50 | 0.90 | 0.90 | 0.00 |
| | 2022-23 | 1410.00 | 171.50 | 127.78 | 103.19 | 24.59 | 12.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 |
| | 2023-24 | 1500.00 | 182.56 | 136.42 | 133.91 | 2.51 | 25.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 |
| | 2024-25 | 2352.00 (BE) | 214.69 | - | 103.45 | - | 30.00 (BE) | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 |

2.24 The details and data on State/UT wise allocations under Tribal Sub Plan component for PMMSY and FIDF schemes since 2020-21 as submitted by the Dept. is as under :

“Under the FIDF, the Department of Fisheries releases funds to NABARD to meet the inter subvention. Whereas under PMMSY, the Department of Fisheries releases the funds to the state Governments and UT under the appropriate head of accounts maintained in the budget including TSP. State/UT-wise details of funds approved under TSP component under PMMSY being implemented by the Department of Fisheries for the financial years 2020-21 up to 2024-25 are furnished below :

| Rs. In Lakh | | | | | | |
|--------------------|-----------------------------|----------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|
| S. No. | Name of the State/UT | PMMSY | | | | |
| | | 2020-21 | 2021-22 | 2022-23 | 2023-24 | 2024-25 |
| 1 | A & N Islands | 40.00 | 21.80 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 |
| 2 | Andhra Pradesh | 655.38 | 27.29 | 0.00 | 205.00 | 0.00 |
| 3 | Arunachal Pradesh | 230.24 | 0.00 | 2442.38 | 1237.50 | 1621.14 |
| 4 | Assam | 219.88 | 653.95 | 471.52 | 793.2935 | 750.00 |
| 5 | Bihar | 203.78 | 32.00 | 0.00 | 173.74 | 0.00 |
| 6 | Chhattisgarh | 623.02 | 727.35 | 1242.32 | 1865.41 | 1500.00 |
| 7 | Daman & Diu | 19.90 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 |
| 8 | Delhi | 55.15 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 |
| 9 | Goa | 8.78 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 |
| 10 | Gujarat | 71.69 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 |
| 11 | Haryana | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 |
| 12 | Himachal Pradesh | 169.03 | 78.21 | 149.28 | 46.76 | 0.00 |
| 13 | Jammu & Kashmir | 344.85 | 149.08 | 38.62 | 18.88 | 0.00 |
| 14 | Jharkhand | 227.61 | 454.22 | 372.98 | 549.46 | 1000.00 |
| 15 | Karnataka | 251.51 | 1008.86 | 300.00 | 881.82 | 1000.00 |
| 16 | Kerala | 68.80 | 95.90 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 |
| 17 | Lakshadweep | 325.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 |
| 18 | Madhya Pradesh | 417.03 | 1379.64 | 235.78 | 1139.02 | 483.90 |
| 19 | Maharashtra | 200.00 | 0.00 | 300.00 | 714.62 | 0.00 |
| 20 | Manipur | 38.86 | 601.50 | 269.28 | 1000.00 | 0.00 |
| 21 | Meghalaya | 311.55 | 485.84 | 659.07 | 1172.00 | 0.00 |
| 22 | Mizoram | 546.86 | 1329.81 | 694.93 | 717.76 | 1130.94 |
| 23 | Nagaland | 0.00 | 1340.22 | 1227.80 | 1665.63 | 1668.74 |
| 24 | Odisha | 244.35 | 396.05 | 200.00 | 69.89 | 300.00 |
| 25 | Puducherry | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 |
| 26 | Punjab | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 |
| 27 | Rajasthan | 12.32 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 100.00 |
| 28 | Sikkim | 152.55 | 223.43 | 522.52 | 0.00 | 0.00 |
| 29 | Tamil Nadu | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 |
| 30 | Telangana | 67.50 | 217.29 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 300.00 |
| 31 | Tripura | 0.00 | 864.66 | 455.95 | 455.95 | 0.00 |
| 32 | Uttar Pradesh | 0.61 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 |
| 33 | Uttarakhand | 78.48 | 283.09 | 307.97 | 339.97 | 0.00 |
| 34 | West Bengal | 0.00 | 0.00 | 208.22 | 0.00 | 0.00 |
| 35 | Ladakh | 37.50 | 108.00 | 218.55 | 162.50 | 490.44 |
| 36 | NFDB | 616.60 | 370.18 | 0.00 | 7.50 | 0.00 |
| | Total | 6238.83 | 10848.37 | 10319.89 | 13391.35 | 10345.16 |

2.25 In written reply to a query whether any funds allocated to Tribal Sub Plan were diverted to other heads and if so, the data and details thereof since 2020-21, the Department submitted that :

“No funds allocated under TSP under PMMSY since 2020-21 has been diverted and spent under other heads”.

G. SCHEDULED CASTES SUB-PLAN (SCSP)

2.26 The data on fund allocation under Scheduled Castes Sub Plan (SCSP) and expenditure incurred since 2020-21 as submitted by the Department is as under:

| Scheduled Castes Sub Plan (SCSP) | Financial year | Total Budget Allocation (BE) | Funds Earmarked (BE) for SCSP | % of total Budget Allocation | Funds Earmarked (RE) for SCSP | % of total Budget Allocation | Actual Expenditure | Funds Surrendered |
|----------------------------------|----------------|------------------------------|-------------------------------|------------------------------|-------------------------------|------------------------------|--------------------|-------------------|
| | 2020-21 | 560.00 | 107.09 | 19.12 | 116.99 | 16.71 | 116.99 | 0.00 |
| | 2021-22 | 1000.00 | 167.00 | 16.70 | 200.40 | 16.7 | 179.65 | 20.35 |
| | 2022-23 | 1879.00 | 313.00 | 16.65 | 236.81 | 16.8 | 189.83 | 46.98 |
| | 2023-24 | 2000.00 | 336.16 | 16.80 | 251.95 | 16.79 | 185.8 | 66.15 |
| | 2024-25 | 2352.00 | 395.32 | 16.80 | | | | |

2.27 when asked about the reasons for surrender of funds under Scheduled Castes Sub Plan (SCSP) continuously since 2021-22, the Department submitted the following reply:

“The surrender of funds under the SCSP head of PMMSY since 2021-22 to 2023-24 was due to non-receipt of proposals from the States/UTs under SCSP”.

2.28 The data on BE, RE and actuals incurred by Scheduled Castes Sub Plan (SCSP) under the schemes PMMSY and Fisheries and Aquaculture Infrastructure Development Fund (FIDF) since 2020-21 as furnished by the Department is as follows :

(Rs. In crore)

| Scheduled Castes Sub Plan (SCSP) | Year | PMMSY (BE) | BE | RE | Actual Expenditure | Funds Surrendered | FIDF | BE | RE | Actual Expenditure | Funds Surrendered |
|----------------------------------|---------|------------|--------|--------|--------------------|-------------------|-------|------|------|--------------------|-------------------|
| | 2020-21 | 560.00 | 107.09 | 117.00 | 116.99 | 0.00 | 10.00 | 1.09 | 1.09 | 1.09 | 0.00 |
| | 2021-22 | 1000.00 | 167.00 | 200.40 | 179.65 | 20.75 | 10.00 | 2.8 | 1.7 | 1.7 | 0.00 |
| | 2022-23 | 1879.00 | 313.00 | 233.81 | 189.83 | 43.98 | 12.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 |
| | 2023-24 | 2000.00 | 336.16 | 210.40 | 185.17 | 24.60 | 25.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 |
| | 2024-25 | 2352.00 | 395.32 | | | | 30.00 | 0.00 | | | |

2.29 Data and details on state wise allocations under Scheduled Castes Sub Plan (SCSP) component for PMMSY and FIDF schemes since 2020-21 furnished by the Department *inter is alia* as under:

| | | (Rs. in lakhs) | | | |
|--------|----------------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|
| S. No. | Name of the State/UT | PMMSY | | | |
| | | 2020-21 | 2021-22 | 2022-23 | 2023-24 |
| 1 | Andaman & Nicobar | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 |
| 2 | Andhra Pradesh | 1223.10 | 5555.19 | 6000.00 | 2095.00 |
| 3 | Arunachal Pradesh | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 |
| 4 | Assam | 513.40 | 591.21 | 442.31 | 2959.13 |
| 5 | Bihar | 426.73 | 88.00 | 0.00 | 643.49 |
| 6 | Chhattisgarh | 1126.50 | 238.39 | 284.67 | 439.29 |
| 7 | Daman & Diu | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 |
| 8 | Delhi | 45.25 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 |
| 9 | Goa | 17.19 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 |
| 10 | Gujarat | 121.37 | 772.38 | 0.00 | 0.00 |
| 11 | Haryana | 200.16 | 171.70 | 622.85 | 2289.50 |
| 12 | Himachal Pradesh | 325.89 | 155.87 | 250.70 | 125.33 |
| 13 | Jammu & Kashmir | 754.75 | 127.55 | 100.00 | 79.39 |
| 14 | Jharkhand | 236.19 | 323.68 | 159.00 | 929.47 |
| 15 | Karnataka | 2777.09 | 2147.29 | 500.00 | 832.82 |
| 16 | Kerala | 132.80 | 338.50 | 1859.11 | 901.34 |
| 17 | Lakshadweep | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 |
| 18 | Madhya Pradesh | 268.76 | 452.14 | 154.49 | 778.54 |
| 19 | Maharashtra | 400.00 | 1020.74 | 2284.40 | 2096.46 |
| 20 | Manipur | 63.43 | 157.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 |
| 21 | Meghalaya | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 |
| 22 | Mizoram | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 |
| 23 | Nagaland | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 |
| 24 | Odisha | 973.39 | 1716.94 | 1800.00 | 29.08 |
| 25 | Puducherry | 0.00 | 272.45 | 0.00 | 0.00 |
| 26 | Punjab | 0.00 | 0.00 | 134.96 | 52.48 |
| 27 | Rajasthan | 14.28 | 11.35 | 0.00 | 0.00 |
| 28 | Sikkim | 0.81 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 33.96 |
| 29 | Tamil Nadu | 155.24 | 393.00 | 0.00 | 1252.00 |
| 30 | Telangana | 129.37 | 393.17 | 0.00 | 0.00 |
| 31 | Tripura | 122.35 | 451.78 | 201.74 | 1252.80 |
| 32 | Uttar Pradesh | 690.44 | 1483.67 | 273.72 | 432.38 |
| 33 | Uttarakhand | 151.49 | 602.94 | 1233.62 | 295.20 |
| 34 | West Bengal | 0.00 | 0.00 | 1350.64 | 0.00 |
| 37 | NFDB+CS | 830.00 | 500.00 | 1000.00 | 1000.00 |
| | Total | 11699.98 | 17964.94 | 18652.21 | 18517.66 |

2.30 In written reply to a query whether any funds allocated to Scheduled Castes Sub Plan (SCSP) were diverted to other heads since 2020-21, the Department submitted the following:

“No funds allocated under SCSP under PMMSY since 2020-21 has been diverted and spent under other heads”.

H. EMPOWERMENT OF WOMEN

2.31 The Department has stated that it is advising States/UTs implementing Agencies for utilizing around 30 percent of allocated funds towards women beneficiaries under the existing centrally sponsored/Central Sector schemes being implemented by the Department. In response to a query whether all the States have complied with the above stipulation while disbursing funds under the two schemes viz. PMMSY and Fisheries Infrastructure Development Fund (FIDF), the Department submitted the following reply:

“Central funds to various State/UTs are released by the Department of Fisheries, government of India based on the head-wise budgetary allocation earmarked by Ministry of Finance. There is no specific head of account exclusively for women beneficiaries, however, the Department encourages State/UTs to ensure that the benefits available under PMMSY is disseminated among all the intended beneficiaries especially SC, ST and Women. Details of Women Beneficiaries covered under PMMSY since 2020-21 to 2024-25 (as on date) are furnished below”:

| <i>(Rs. In lakh)</i> | | | | |
|----------------------|-------------------|------------------------------|--------------------|---------------------|
| Sl. No. | State/UT | Total Beneficiaries (in No.) | Total Project Cost | Total Central Share |
| 1 | Andhra Pradesh | 511 | 4532.50 | 1818.00 |
| 2 | Andaman & Nicobar | 413 | 722.95 | 433.29 |
| 3 | Arunachal Pradesh | 2 | 80.00 | 43.20 |
| 4 | Assam | 7652 | 13743.28 | 7421.19 |
| 5 | Bihar | 3893 | 9685.73 | 3514.45 |
| 6 | Chhattisgarh | 2066 | 12990.25 | 4613.40 |
| 7 | Daman & Diu | 2 | 72.00 | 43.20 |
| 8 | Delhi | 8 | 186.00 | 111.60 |
| 9 | Goa | 255 | 2120.50 | 762.30 |
| 10 | Gujarat | 5171 | 8732.00 | 3143.52 |
| 11 | Haryana | 1803 | 28251.50 | 10470.54 |
| 12 | Himachal Pradesh | 846 | 3816.41 | 2056.54 |
| 13 | Jammu & Kashmir | 35 | 404.40 | 242.64 |
| 14 | Jharkhand | 1837 | 19776.70 | 7004.13 |
| 15 | Karnataka | 9859 | 29698.80 | 10336.56 |
| 16 | Kerala | 636 | 3439.00 | 1238.04 |
| 17 | Ladakh | 4 | 25.80 | 15.48 |
| 18 | Lakshadweep | 182 | 1414.00 | 848.40 |
| 19 | Madhya Pradesh | 3244 | 27680.55 | 10065.91 |
| 20 | Maharashtra | 2661 | 35995.09 | 13286.37 |
| 21 | Manipur | 618 | 3820.00 | 2062.80 |
| 22 | Meghalaya | 297 | 991.11 | 535.20 |
| 23 | Mizoram | 3289 | 1337.50 | 722.05 |
| 24 | Nagaland | 152 | 747.40 | 355.00 |
| 25 | Odisha | 1854 | 17678.25 | 6299.19 |
| 26 | Puducherry | 281 | 2078.25 | 1250.55 |
| 27 | Punjab | 355 | 4366.20 | 1571.83 |
| 28 | Rajasthan | 265 | 2695.00 | 981.30 |

| | | | | |
|----|---------------|--------------|------------------|------------------|
| 29 | Sikkim | 10 | 30.00 | 16.20 |
| 30 | Tamil Nadu | 825 | 6594.48 | 2374.01 |
| 31 | Telangana | 394 | 3202.00 | 1152.72 |
| 32 | Tripura | 1019 | 4110.84 | 2219.18 |
| 33 | Uttar Pradesh | 6106 | 41612.70 | 15042.57 |
| 34 | Uttarakhand | 305 | 5450.03 | 2586.62 |
| 35 | West Bengal | 580 | 6910.00 | 2499.59 |
| | Total | 56850 | 304991.22 | 117137.57 |

CHAPTER – III

A) SCHEME WISE ANALYSIS

(i) PRADHAN MANTRI MATSYA SAMPADA YOJANA (PMMSY)

Scheme-wise details of Achievement of physical targets during last three years as furnished by the Department of Fisheries are as follows:

| Sl. No. | Schemes | Name of the Component | Unit | 2021-22 (PMMSY) | | | 2022-23 (PMMSY) | | | 2023-24 (PMMSY) | | | 2024-25 | | |
|--------------------------------|--------------------------------------|---|----------------|--|-------------|--|-----------------|-------------|--|--------------------|-------------|---|-------------------------------|-------------|--|
| | | | | Target | Achievement | Short -fall/ Excess, if any, with reasons | Target | Achievement | Short -fall/ Excess, if any, with reasons | Target | Achievement | Short -fall/ Excess, if any, with reasons | Target | Achievement | |
| 1 | Pradham Mantri Matsya Sampada Yojana | Development of Freshwater Aquaculture | Ha. | 3000 | 3363 | | 4500 | 6293.94 | | 50000 | 13194.24 | | 10000 | 2097.45 | |
| | | Development of Brackishwater Aquaculture | Ha. | 1000 | 1181 | | 1300 | 52 | | | | | | | |
| | | Development of Waterlogged Areas | Ha. | 140 | 0 | | 200 | 176 | | | | | | | |
| | | Establishing fish feed mills/plants | No. | 124 | 152 | | 40 | 198 | | | | | | | |
| | | Installation of cages/pens in reservoir and other open water bodies | No. | 7200 | 10990 | | 2900 | 7357 | | 4500 | 13938 | | 500 | 1617 | |
| | | Installation of Recirculatory Aquaculture Systems (RAS) | No. | 400 | 1323 | | 1000 | 2231 | | | | | | | |
| | | Safety of Fishermen at Sea | No. | 1500 | 126 | Due to less proposals received from the States/UTs | 1500 | 322 | Due to less proposals received from the States/UTs | Components dropped | | | Compo nents dropp ed | | |
| | | Assistance to Traditional/Artisanal fishermen | No. | 1500 | 1074 | | 1500 | | | | | | | | |
| | | Promotion of Mariculture | No. | 15000 | 16469 | | 79650 | 64000 | | 15000 | 2851 | | 5000 | 2125 | |
| | | New fishing harbours/fish landing centres | No. of Project | 2 | 0 | | 7 | 0 | | 10 | 3 | | 10 | 3 | |
| | | Group Accident Insurance for Active Fishermen | No. in Lakhs | 35 | 29.12 | GAIS Component under PMMSY started grounding from 2 nd Year due to finalisation of Bid process. | 35 | 33.21 | | 35 | 34.54 | | 36 | 36.28 | |
| Saving-cum-Relief | No. in Lakhs | 6 | 1.25 | | 6 | 6.4 | | 6 | 6.0 | | 6 | 5.75 | | | |
| Training and Capacity Building | No | 45000 | 69818 | No. sanctioned however, achieved 13 lakh through outreach programe | 45000 | | | 70000 | 58 lakh (including outreach program) | | 40000 | 48175 | | | |

3.2 On being asked about the reasons for (i) not taking up development of water logged areas at all in 2021-22; (ii) for merging three components i.e. Development of Freshwater, Brackish water and Waterlogged Areas in 2023-24; and, (iii) the achievement of the three merged components in 2023-24 is 13194.24 which is about 1/4th of the target i.e. 50,000. , the Department submitted the following reply to the above three points:

- (i) *“During the year 2021-22, Department of Fisheries was not received any viable proposals for development of water logged area under PMMSY from the States/UTs.*
- (ii) *To strengthen 'outcomes' monitoring of central sector (CS) and centrally sponsored schemes (CSS), the Development Monitoring and Evaluation Office (DMEO), an attached office of NITI Aayog, has developed output-outcome monitoring framework (OOMF). DMEO in consultation with the concerned Department developed key output and outcome indicators for all the schemes. The concerned Ministry/Department sets annual targets against each output and outcome indicators. The two schemes i.e. PMMSY and FIDF of Department of Fisheries are listed in the OOMF dashboard.*

Hon'ble Member, NITI Aayog chaired a meeting on 9th November, 2022 suggested to reduce the number of output and outcome indicators focusing the development of sector. Accordingly, the Development of Freshwater, Brackishwater and Waterlogged Areas have been merged since 2023-24 under PMMSY.

- (iii) *The under aquaculture in development of freshwater aquaculture has been targeted keeping in view that in addition to the activities approved by Department under PMMSY few components also be added by the State Government and intended beneficiaries”.*

3.3. In response to a query about reasons for dropping the components 'Safety of Fishermen at Sea' and 'Assistance to Traditional/Artisanal Fishermen' from Pradhan Mantri Matsya Sampada Yojana during the financial years 2023-24 and 2024-25, the Department gave the following reply:

“Support for providing safety kits for fishermen of Traditional and motorized fishing vessels is an active component under Pradhan Mantri Matsya Sampada Yojana. As suggested by Hon'ble Member, NITI Aayog chaired a meeting on 9th November, 2022, the said component has been dropped and indicators having tangible outcomes has been flagged”.

3.4 The targets for Promotion of mariculture set under PMMSY during the FY 2023-24 was 15,000tonnes. The achievement, however, was only 2,851 tonnes. When asked about the reasons for this under achievement, the Department submitted the following:

“The shortfall in mariculture targets under the PMMSY across coastal states and UTs for FY 2023-24, with an actual production of only 2,851 tons against a 15,000-ton target, is attributed due to the following factors:

- a. The enabling regulatory frameworks for mariculture has already been introduced under the Coastal Aquaculture (Amendment) Act, 2023 and the Coastal Aquaculture Rules, 2024 along with the necessary Guidelines for Hatcheries, Farms, Operation of NBCs and NBCs, etc. Guidelines for allowing Import of Seaweed have also been issued recently. Besides, Guidelines for Seaweed Cultivation, Marine Cage Culture, other Mariculture activities are prepared through Expert Committee and in consultation with the States.*
- b. However, expansion of mariculture and its commercial scale of production in the country requires marine special / zonation plans, supporting leasing policies and ‘single window’ clearances by the concerned coastal States/UTs for attracting investments and achieving desired growth. Entrepreneurs are facing challenges in area allotment and clearances from States / UTs in setting up of cage culture units, seaweed cultivation etc. restricting the establishment and scaling of mariculture units and seaweed cultivation.*
- c. Most coastal states and UTs lack essential mariculture pre-production facilities/infrastructure, such as hatcheries for quality seed production. This gap also restrictive in growth and scalability of mariculture. Additionally, limited number of high-quality species for seaweed cultivation, as well as cold chain facilities has restricted the expansion and scalability of mariculture.*
- d. Coastal regions experienced unpredictable weather patterns, such as cyclones and temperature fluctuations, which adversely impacted mariculture operations. States like Tamil Nadu, Andhra Pradesh, and Odisha, are vulnerable to cyclones, faced significant setbacks as these conditions affected the health and survival rates of stock, particularly in open-sea cages and ponds.*

Addressing these gaps with targeted interventions will improve the mariculture production in the country.”

3.5 The achievement under the component “New fishing harbours/fish landing centers during the Financial years 21-22 and 22-23 has been nil and during the Financial year 2023-24 the achievement was only 3 compared to the target which was set at 10. On being asked about the reasons for the same, the Department gave the following reply:

“The Department of Fisheries, Ministry of Fisheries, Animal Husbandry and Dairying during FY 2021-22 approved a total of 14 new fishing harbour/fish landing projects and 15 nos during 2022-23 to various State government/project implementation agencies under PMMSY. Hence, the Department of Fisheries achieved more than the targets set in terms of physical number of projects for both the financial years 2021-22 and 2022-23”.

3.6 When asked about the current status (whether complete, incomplete or discontinued) of the five fishing harbours proposals approved under Budget Announcement of 2021-22 under Central sector scheme component of PMMSY, the Department submitted the following reply:

“The Department of Fisheries has accorded approval to Five (5) nos. fishing harbours proposals including modernization of 4 Major Fishing Harbours namely Kochi, Chennai, Visakhapatnam, Paradip under the PMMSY. Further, the development of fishing harbour at Mallet Bunder has also sanctioned under Central Sector Scheme Component of PMMSY. All the aforesaid five projects are under implementation stage. The details along with present status of the aforesaid projects are as under:-

- i) Development of Mallet Bunder Fishing Harbour- The work is in progress and being implemented by Mumbai Port Authority under Central Sector Component of PMMSY. It is reported that physical progress of Mallet Bunder Fishing Harbour of 25% is achieved and it is expected to be completed by December, 2025.*
- ii) Modernisation of Paradip Fishing Harbour - The work is in progress and being implemented by Paradip Port Authority under Central Sector Component of PMMSY. It is reported that physical progress of Paradip Fishing Harbour of 35% is achieved and it is expected to be completed by June, 2025.*
- iii) Modernisation of Chennai Fishing Harbour - The work is in progress and project is being implemented by Chennai Port Authority under Central Sector Component of PMMSY. It is reported that physical progress of Chennai Fishing Harbour of 20% is achieved and it is expected to be completed by July, 2025.*

- iv) *Modernisation of Cochin Fishing Harbour - The work is in progress and project is being implemented by Cochin Port Authority under central sector component of PMMSY. It is reported that physical progress of Cochin Fishing Harbour of 21% is achieved and it is expected to be completed by August, 2025.*
- v) *Modernisation of Visakhapatnam Fishing Harbour - The work is in progress and project is being implemented by Visakhapatnam Port Authority under central sector component of PMMSY. It is reported that physical progress of Visakhapatnam Fishing Harbour of 25% is achieved and it is expected to be completed by November, 2025.”*

3.7 With regard to the details of employment generated along with the physical targets and achievement w.r.t employment generation under PMMSY since its inception, the Department stated the following:

PMMSY aims to generate about 55 lakhs direct and indirect employment opportunities along the supply and value chain. The Department of Fisheries, Ministry of Fisheries, Animal Husbandry and Dairying under “Pradhan Mantri Matsya Sampada Yojana (PMMSY)” during the last four financial years (2020-21 to 2023-24) and CFY has accorded approvals to the proposals of 35 States/Union Territories and other Implementing agencies amounting to Rs. 20864.29 crores with central share of Rs. 8871.45 crore, releasing central funds of Rs. 4670.79 crore released to various States/UTs and other implementing agencies. As a result of these efforts, 58 lakh direct and indirect employment opportunities have been created since 2020 through impactful projects entailing more than 100 fisheries’ activities. Details of Year-wise employment opportunities generated against the overall target under PMMSY are furnished below:

(in lakhs)

| Year-wise Employment Generation (Direct+Indirect) under PMMSY (in Numbers) | | | | | | |
|---|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|
| Target Employment | 2020-21 | 2021-22 | 2022-23 | 2023-24 | 2024-25 | Total |
| 5501803 | 2750089 | 902247 | 887243 | 852311 | 401999 | 5793889 |

(ii) PM-MKSSY (A sub component of PMMSY)

3.8 With respect to physical targets set and their achievements under Pradhan Mantri Matsya Kisan Samridhi Sah-Yojana (PM-MKSSY) for the FY 2023-24 and 2024-25, the Department submitted the following:

“The Pradhan Mantri Matsya Kisan Samridhi Sah-Yojana (PM-MKSSY), a Central Sector Sub-scheme under the Pradhan Mantri Matsya Sampada Yojana (PMMSY) approved by the Union Cabinet for four years from 2023-24 to 2026-27 with an estimated outlay of Rs. 6,000 crore with Rs.3,000 crore coming from the Government of India and the remaining Rs.3,000 crore is anticipated beneficiaries/private sector contribution.

The targeted beneficiaries under the Sub-scheme are fishermen, aquaculture farmers, fish workers, fish vendors, fisheries micro and small enterprises, Cooperatives, Federations, Village Level Organizations like Self Help Groups (SHGs), Fish Farmers Producer Organizations (FFPOs), Farmers Producer Organizations (FPOs), Startups, etc.

The Sub-scheme has four components. Under these components, it aims at formalization of fisheries sector, facilitating access institutional credit, supporting fisheries cooperatives, providing onetime incentive for purchase of aquaculture insurance, incentivizing investments made for enhancing value chain efficiencies and for adoption of safety and quality assurance systems in fish and fishery products, creation and maintenance of jobs through performance grants to fisheries micro and small enterprises. The targets of the Sub-scheme inter-alia include the following:

- a) Gradual formalization of fisheries sector by creating a National Fisheries Digital Platform (NFDP) and related Mobile Apps wherein all fisheries stakeholders i.e. fishermen, fish farmers, fish workers, fisheries enterprises will be mobilized to register on it and provided with work based identity. It is envisaged to register at least 40 lakh stakeholders.*
- b) Enhanced access to institutional credit. Supporting 5500 fisheries cooperatives to function as FFPOs.*
- c) Address issues of aquaculture crop losses due to disease through insurance coverage for aquaculture to strengthen production, productivity.*
- d) Gradual shift from conventional subsidies to performance based incentives in fisheries.*
- e) To improve value chain efficiency and ensuring safe, quality fish by supporting micro and small enterprises through performance grants,*
- f) Facilitating growth of businesses, creation of jobs and creation of business opportunities.*
- g) Women empowerment through creation of jobs.*
- h) To inculcate global best practices such as integrated value chains, good aquaculture practices, traceability, quality assurance and safe fisheries products.*

Under PM-MKSSY, the Operational Guidelines have been issued. The National Fisheries Digital Platform (NFDP) has been launched on 11th September, 2024 to create a registry of the fish producers and other supporting actors such as fish workers, vendors and processors including micro and small enterprises working in the sector at the national level. The development of other related modules is at nearly completion and become live soon. As on date more than 7.07 lakh registrations have been done on the NFDP portal wherein 7.04 lakh individual registrations and 3058 Organization registrations.”

(iii) FISHERIES AND AQUACULTURE INFRASTRUCTURE DEVELOPMENT FUND (FIDF)

3.9 The implementation period for FIDF have been extended for another 3 years i.e. from 2023-24 to 2025-26. When asked about the targets set by the Department for this extended period, the Department gave the following reply:

“The Union Cabinet approved extension of Fisheries Infrastructure Development Fund (FIDF) for another 3 years upto 2025-26 within the already approved fund size of Rs. 7522.48 crore. The extended form of FIDF is focusing towards Private Sector investment. 90% of the remaining target will go to private investors and balance 10% to State Governments. The Government of India also provides credit guarantee facility to the projects of entrepreneurs, individual farmers and cooperatives from the existing credit guarantee fund of Infrastructure Development Fund of Department of Animal Husbandry and Dairying. Further, the extended tenure also aims to create additional Employment opportunities of about 2.2 lakh fishers/fishermen/ fisherfolk and other entrepreneurs in fishing and allied activities”.

B. FISHERY SURVEY OF INDIA

3.10 The data targets and their achievement under the scheme ‘Fishery Survey of India’ since 2021-22 as furnished by the Dept is as under:

| Scheme | Component | 2021-22 | | | 2022-23 | | | 2023-24 | | | 2024-25 | |
|-------------------------|------------------------|---------|-------------|-----------------|---------|-------------|-----------------|---------|-------------|-----------|---------|-------------|
| | | target | achievement | shortfall | target | achievement | shortfall | target | achievement | shortfall | target | achievement |
| Fishery survey of India | Days out during cruise | 2250 | 1017 | Old age vessels | 2250 | 1288 | Old age vessels | 2180 | 490 | | 2180 | 100 |

3.11 Under the component 'Days out during cruise' there has been a consistent decrease in target achievement from the financial year 2021-22 up to 2024-25 and the reason stated for the same is 'old age of vessels. On being asked about the measures taken by the Department to overcome this difficulty, the Department submitted the following:

During the year 2020-21 to 2024-25, the reasons for shortfall in terms of Days out during cruise' are furnished below:

- a. Old age of vessels: Most of the vessels are above 30 years old. Resulting in:*
- b. Long dry-docking period and delay in under water steel plate renewals.*
- c. Break in voyages due to inclement weather condition and disembarkation of sick crew due to COVID-19 during 2020-21 and 2021-22.*
- d. Breakdown repairs and delay in getting LSA/FFA clearance from Mercantile Marine Department (MMD) of Director General, Shipping.*
- e. Acquiring/procurement of new Fishery Research and Survey Vessels are in active consideration by the Department."*

3.12 In response to the Committee's request to place before them any suggestions for improving the fisheries sector in view of the huge employment potential, the Department furnished the following :

"The significant intervention the Department proposes to make in FY 2024-25, the following:

- a. Extension of Pradhan Mantri Matsya Sampada Yojana for another five years (2025-26 to FY2029-30).*
- b. Under the PMMSY the Department of Fisheries proposes to continue the implementation of the interventions list below:*
 - i. Species Diversification and focus on local species in Aquaculture*
 - ii. Development & Management of Marine Fisheries in EEZ & High Seas*
 - iii. Enhancing Fisheries Exports*
 - iv. Technology Infusion & Strategy for Productive Utilization of Resources*
 - v. Development of Post-harvest Infrastructure".*

CHAPTER – IV

OTHR POLICY ISSUES

A. STANDARDISATION, CERTIFICATION, FISH HEALTH AND DISEASES.

4.1 In written reply to query as to the organization responsible for dealing with certification, standards, fish health and treatment, funding and finance and the main problems faced by the Department, the Department submitted the following reply:

“Department of Fisheries, Govt. has set up a Standardisation Cell in the Department to coordinate the development, promotion, and adoption of fisheries standardisation association with Bureau of Indian Standards(BIS) for fish seed, fish feed and Best Aquaculture Practices and Best Management Practices etc.

The National Fisheries Development Board (NFDB) has been designated to oversee the implementation of the certification of fish hatchery/fish Farm/brood banks/feed mill under PMMSY on pilot basis in 6 states viz; Andhra Pradesh, Assam, Chhattisgarh, Gujarat, Karnataka and Tamil Nadu. The project covers about 3040 beneficiaries both individuals and groups targeting 1711 units of various hatcheries, feed mills and fish farms under certification scheme with a total budget outlay of Rs.4.52 crore.

Besides, the Coastal Aquaculture Authority(CAA) is responsible for regulating the activities connected with coastal aquaculture in coastal areas and related matters. CAA regulates the development of coastal aquaculture by prescribing guidelines for coastal aquaculture farms and hatcheries, to ensure that coastal aquaculture does not cause any detriment to the coastal environment and the concept of responsible coastal aquaculture contained in the guidelines issued by CAA is followed to protect the livelihood of various sections of people living in the coastal areas.

In order to address the fish health related issues, the Department of Fisheries, Govt. of India through ICAR-National Bureau of Fish Genetics and Resources (ICAR-NBFGR), Lucknow has been implementing National Surveillance Programme on Aquatic Animal Diseases (NSPAAD) since 2013. Standard protocols for precautions and control of diseases are already in place and it is disseminated from time to time to fish/shrimp farmers. Currently, the programme is being implemented through 59 centres including all the State Fisheries Departments and all the NSPAAD collaborating centres comprising of ICAR research institutes, Colleges of Fisheries (CoFs) under State/Central Fisheries/Agricultural/Veterinary Universities, besides the OIE Reference Laboratory Abdul Hakeem College, Melvisharam, Tamil Nadu. Further, a research programme has been taken up by the fisheries research institutes of ICAR for developing better diagnostics, vaccines and therapeutics for improving disease resilience.

Additionally, ICAR-NBFGR, Lucknow under the NSPAAD-Phase-II has developed a "Report Fish Disease (RFD) a mobile based application for strengthening farmer-based disease reporting. ICAR-Central Institute of Freshwater Aquaculture (ICAR-CIFA) has launched an interactive mobile app "Treat My Fish" for providing specific advisory services to the farmers for different fish diseases of freshwater aquaculture.

The main challenges faced by the Department of Fisheries and its associated institutions in addressing certification, standards, and fish health management issues are trained technical manpower and dissemination of information and awareness amongst fish farmers and other stakeholders".

B. REGISTRATION OF FISHERS

4.2 Furnishing the data on fisherman and details of the policies affecting the when fishermen, the Department submitted the following:

"As per the report furnished by the States/UTs, 2.8 crore fishers, fish farmers and other fish value chain stakeholders are engaged in fisheries sector. In order to formalize the sector and provide a variety of fisheries related services to the fisheries stakeholder, the Department of Fisheries has developed a dedicated National Fisheries Digital Platform (NFDP) under the Pradhan Mantri Matsya Kisan Samridhi Sah-Yojana (PM-MKSSY) to register and provide work-based identity to all the fishers and fish farmers and other value chain stakeholders.

NFDP encompasses a variety of features, including registration of fishers and fish farms, data management, and different modules for aquaculture insurance, credit and performance grant to avail access to different government schemes. It is also expected to provide information on e-auctioning of fish catches and marketing of fish products.

Fishers, fish farmers, fish vendors, fish workers etc. are being incentivized for self-registering on the NFDP. Presently registration of fishers, fish farmers and other fisheries stakeholders under NDFP is being carried out across the country and till date a total of 8.60 lakh fisheries stakeholders including 8.56 lakh individuals and 3393 organizations have been registered under this online platform."

C. ENVIRONMENTAL CONCERNS & SUSTAINABLE FISHING

4.3 When asked about the environmental concerns and sustainability issues which arise due to increased fish production and the mechanism to regulate fishing in deep seas and inland areas, the Department submitted the following reply:

“While marine fish landings have witnessed marginal increase, the major share in total fish production in the country is contributed by the aquaculture sector. The increase in fish production has been achieved with adoption of improved aquaculture practices, technology infusion, improved quality of seed and feed as well as area expansion and intensification etc.

The aims and objectives of the fisheries development schemes being implemented by the Government has been to provide due importance for harnessing of fisheries resources in sustainable manner, maintaining environmental integrity, conservations measures, eco-friendly fishing practices, promoting of mariculture, stock enhancement through activities like, sea ranching and river ranching, setting up of artificial reefs, regulation of fisheries activities including mess size regulations amongst many other activities of fisheries resources management.

The DoF, Gol, through an Expert Committees constituted for the purpose also revalidate the marine fishery resources from time-to-time to ensure sustainable management of marine fisheries resources.

The recent revalidation of marine fishery resources was done during 2019 through the Expert Committee. This Expert Committee estimated the annual fishery potential of 53.1 lakh metric tons in the Indian EEZ including 2.31 lakh tons of tuna and tuna like oceanic resources. Against this potential, the harvest of tuna species was reported around 1.5 to 1.8 lakh tons.

The Deep-Sea Fishing is promoted under the PMMSY taking into consideration the untapped oceanic resources of tuna and tuna like species in the Indian EEZ, especially around the Island territories viz. Andaman & Nicobar and Lakshadweep Islands. Besides, tuna and other deep-sea resources are also available in the High Seas, beyond the Indian EEZ. There is ample scope of further promotion of deep-sea fishing and required capacity development in the country”.

D. AVAILABILITY OF QUALITY SEEDS AND FEED

4.4 With regard to the availability or otherwise of the quality seeds and fish feed in the country, the Department submitted the following:

“The Department of Fisheries, Gol has also taken several initiatives for quality seed production in freshwater, brackish water aquaculture and mariculture sectors. Under various schemes and programmes, financial assistance provided for establishment of Nucleus Breeding Centre (NBCs),

Brood Banks, Broodstock Multiplication Centres (BMCs) & Hatcheries for quality seed production.

Indian Major Carps (IMC) is the backbone of Indian Aquaculture. This species is cultured in all the States of India except few pockets such as hilly regions having water temperature less than 12° C. Seed production technology for IMC is well developed, therefore, all the States have established IMC hatcheries.

At present, India is self-sufficient in IMC seed production. However, few States are still importing IMC seed from other States as in the case of Assam supplying IMC seeds to other NER States. At present 5331 crore seeds are produced in the freshwater aquaculture sector.

Shrimp farming is another major aquaculture activity, significantly contributing to the fisheries exports from India. At present there are nearly 400 Specific Pathogen Free (SPF) shrimp hatcheries and 113 Nauplii Rearing units exist in coastal states and producing 13000 crore seed (post larvae (PL) which fulfil requirements of farmers.

India possesses substantial installed capacity for both shrimp and fish feed production. Shrimp feed mills, with a capacity of 3.5 million tonnes, currently operate at a utilization rate of approximately 45.71%, producing 1.6 million tonnes annually. Fish feed mills, on the other hand, have an installed capacity of 4 million tonnes but produce only 1.4 lakh tonnes per year, resulting in a low utilization rate of around 35%. Despite the underutilization of fish feed mills, India's overall feed production capacity is sufficient to meet the demands of its shrimp and fish farming industries.

To further enhance the quality and standards of fish feed, the Bureau of Indian Standards (BIS) has developed voluntary standards for various fish species, including catfish (Magur & Shighi), pangasius, tilapia, marine carnivorous fish, marine shrimp, freshwater prawn, and carp. The Department of Fisheries is actively engaging with industry stakeholders and State/UT governments to promote the adoption of these standards to ensure that fish farmers get quality feed for healthier and enhanced fish production and ultimately higher incomes. Under PMMSY Department of Fisheries accorded approval of 1091 number feed mills at a total outlay of Rs. 794.44 crore with central share of Rs. 267.47 crore having production potential of 13610 tons of feed per day”.

E. INTEGRATED FARMING SYSTEMS (IFS)

4.5 With respect to the steps taken by the Department for promotion of regional Integrated Farming Systems for promotion of circular bio-economy with minimal waste generation and high reutilisation, the Department submitted the following reply:

“Integrated fish farming is a system of producing fish in combination with other agricultural/livestock farming operations centered around the fish pond. The Department of Fisheries, Gol supports the adoption of integrated farming systems as a key strategy for enhancing fish production.

The promotion of integrated fish farming in the North-Eastern states is another cornerstone of the PMMSY strategy. The scheme component encourages multi-species farming and the integration of aquaculture with agriculture and livestock.

PMMSY aims to provide input support to develop 2000 hectares area for Integrated fish farming in the North-Eastern region with an investment of Rs. 20 crore. The governmental assistance is provided to (a) a maximum of 2 hectares per individual beneficiary (b) in case of groups of fishers and fish farmers i.e. fisher SHGs/Joint Liability Groups (JLGs)/Fisher Cooperatives etc., the governmental assistance will be limited to 2 times the number of members of such group with a ceiling of 20 hectares per group

The Department of Fisheries, Gol under PMMSY has accorded approvals for development of 5063.11 hectare area expansion for integrated fish farming (paddy cum fish cultivation, livestock cum fish, etc.) at a total Project outlay of Rs. 50.63 crore in North-Eastern States”.

F. KISAN CREDIT CARDS

4.6 When asked about the meagre number of Kisan Credit Cards being sanctioned out of the 50 lac applications received by the Department and the reasons for the same, the Department submitted the following reply:

“In the year 2018-19, the Government of India extended KCC facility to Fish farmers/ Fishers to their working capital requirements. The Reserve Bank of India, vide, circular FIDD.CO.FSD. BC.12/05.05.010/2018-19 dated February 04, 2019 issued the operational guidelines for the KCC facility for fisheries.

The Department of Fisheries, Gol had been pursuing with all the State Governments/UTs and State Level Bankers Committee (SLBC) to sensitize and disseminate information amongst the fishers and fish farmers about KCC through special camps and other modes of communications. They were also requested to make a plan of action with annual targets for issuance of KCC to fishers and fish farmers in their respective States/ UTs.

The Department of Fisheries is continuously working with States/UTs to ensure (i) sourcing of the applications of fishers and fish farmers along with all relevant documents, (ii) to put in place the Scale of Finance (SoF) for deciding the working capital limit for fisheries related activities.

In order to provide Kisan Credit Card facility to all eligible Fishery Farmers and Animal Husbandry Farmers, Ministry of Fisheries, Animal Husbandry

and Dairying in association with Department of Financial Services organized a "Nationwide AHDF KCC Campaign from 15th November 2021 to 31st July 2022. During this Campaign, District Level KCC camps were organized weekly by KCC Coordination Committee coordinated by Lead District Manager (LDM) for on the spot scrutiny of applications sourced. "Nationwide AHDF KCC Campaign" again held from 15.09.2022 to 15.03.2023.

A revised KCC saturation drive, i.e., Ghar Ghar KCC Abhiyan" was launched with a special focus to saturate the maximum number of farmers' beneficiaries during the period of 1st October 2023 to 31st December 2023.

Thereafter, a Nationwide Rural Awareness Campaign has been launched, namely "Viksit Bharat Sankalp Yatra" from 15.11.2023 to 26.01.2024, wherein, a customized mobile "Rath/Van" will be deployed for disseminating information, raising awareness and extending services, etc. at each Gram Panchayat. The Yatra was organized to create social awareness, reach out to the rural poor, create awareness of various schemes, and encourage farmers to improve their livelihood opportunities. The KCC scheme for fish farmers is one of the 18 schemes chosen for the "Viksit Bharat Sankalp Yatra" to expand its coverage, provide on-spot services to the fishers and fish farmers disseminate information, and create awareness amongst the fishermen.

In order to extend the actual benefit of the KCC to all the eligible fishers and fish farmers, the Department of Fisheries (DoF) has been pursuing with the Department of Financial Services (DFS), M/o Finance for inclusion of the Fisheries Sector in the 'Jan Samarth' portal (www.jansamarth.in), which was successfully on-boarded on 15th March 2024.

Further, a 'Kisan Rin Portal' was launched by the Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare, Government of India for digitizing the manual KCC data collected from Gram Panchayats level by the bankers.

'Nationwide AHDF KCC Campaign for the year 2024-25 has been resumed from 15th September, 2024 to 31st March 2025, for saturating all the eligible fishers and fish farmers. During this campaign, Gram Panchayat-level KCC Camps are being organized by the State/UT Fisheries Departments along with the SLBCs for on-the-spot scrutiny of applications sourced in both modes (offline and online)".

G. FISHERY COOPERATIVES

4.7 when asked about the cooperative movement in fishery sector and steps taken by the Department to promote community and cooperative engagement amongst the fishermen, the Department submitted the following reply:

“Under PMMSY being implemented by Department of Fisheries, GoI, Fisheries Co-operative Societies and Federations are also one of the intended beneficiaries to avail financial support under the Scheme wherein there is provision to provide 40% financial assistance as a subsidy. Under the aforesaid scheme, a total of 52,058 Reservoir cages at a Project outlay of Rs. 1,537.03crore have been sanctioned to ensure income and welfare gains to Fisheries Co-operative Society. Several initiatives are being undertaken by the Government for encouraging private participation in the fisheries sector like entrepreneurship model under PMMSY and Fisheries and Aquaculture Infrastructure Development Funds (FIDF). Under PMMSY and FIDF, total private investment of Rs. 6636.64 crore has been mobilized through various activities and projects as beneficiary share”.

4.8 On being asked about the guidelines issued by the Department for the regulation of Fishery Cooperatives and the measures undertaken to ensure that small fish farmers get representation in the Fishery Cooperatives, the Department submitted the following:

“Department of Fisheries is giving thrust on strengthening of fisheries cooperatives with the objective of making these as economically vibrant entities in fisheries and aquaculture sector. Towards this, DoF has been extending assistance for all activities in fisheries and aquaculture including production, post-production, processing and marketing. Under PMMSY, the government financial assistance for cooperatives is limited to 40% for general category cooperatives and 60% for SC/ST/Women cooperatives. Loan with credit guarantee facility under Fisheries and Aquaculture Infrastructure Development Fund is also available for fisheries cooperatives. In this regard, Robust network of 28,144 fisheries cooperatives with 39,66,593 members reported to be existing at present and registered under Respective State Cooperative Acts.

In this regard, The Department has formulated action plan to form 12,000 fisheries co-operatives in uncovered panchayats/villages with large water bodies/coastal areas over a period of ten years from the year 2023-24 to 2032-33 in two phases i.e. 6000 from 2023-24 to 2027-28 & 6000 from 2028-29 to 2032-33.

Additionally, under Pradhan Mantri Matsya Kisan Samridhi Sah Yojana (PM-MKSSY), 5500 fisheries cooperatives are being focused to function as FFPOs. Moreover, with the aim to develop them as economically vibrant entities, Department of Fisheries has earmarked an investment of Rs. 110 crore for supporting 5500 fisheries cooperatives with Rs. 2 lakh each cooperative for business plan development, computers, office furniture, administrative expenses, etc.”

H. WELFARE SCHEMES, INSURANCE, HEALTH AND EDUCATION TO FISHERMEN

4.9 With regard to the welfare schemes run by the Department to address the health, education, subsistence needs of the fishermen and uplifting the living standards of the fishers, the Department submitted the following reply:

“Fisheries is a State subject. Government of India supplements the efforts of States/UTs through various schemes and programme for development of fisheries and aquaculture. Marine Fisheries Census is being carried out by Department of Fisheries in every five years. The last Marine Fisheries Census were conducted in the year 2016 covering all maritime states/UTs. The survey provides the information on village wise population, number of active fishermen and different types of fishing units, number of mechanized and indigenous fishing crafts and gears for each maritime states, marine fishing villages, marine fish landing centers, etc.

Further, under PMMSY, Integrated modern coastal fishing villages (IMCV) are being developed to leverage Blue economy/Blue growth with an aim to maximize economic and social benefits to coastal fishers while minimizing environmental degradation through sustainable fishing practices. Through IMCV, Fishers of these villages are empowered for securing their livelihoods and equal participation along the fisheries value chain. Requisite gap filling infrastructure, modern amenities, disaster resilient houses, cyclone and tsunami shelters, post-harvest amenities, etc. So far under PMMSY 11 IMCV's have been sanctioned at a total investment of Rs. 77.56 crore. Further, this Department under PMMSY has approved development of 100 Climate Resilient Fishing Villages in the country at a total outlay of Rs. 200.00 crores”.

4.10 when asked, whether, the welfare schemes implemented by the Department for the fishermen also include their family members, the Department submitted the following:

“The Department of Fisheries, Ministry of Fisheries, Animal Husbandry and Dairying, Government of India under Pradhan Mantri Matsya Sampada Yojana (PMMSY) provides accidental insurance coverage to fishers families. The insurance coverage provided under the PMMSY includes (i) Rs.5,00,000/- against accidental death or permanent total disability, (ii) Rs.2,50,000/- for permanent partial disability and (iii) hospitalization expenses in the event of accident for a sum of Rs. 25,000/-. Till date, 131.13 lakhs fishers have been covered through an insurance support of Rs 64.50 crore and as such claim settlement benefit is provided to his family in case of causality.

Further, PMMSY scheme has provision for income support component namely Livelihood and nutritional support for socio-economically backward

active traditional fishers' families during fishing ban/lean period. Under this component Governmental financial assistance of @Rs. 3000/- to each enrolled fishers and beneficiaries' own contribution of Rs. 1500/- totaling to Rs. 4500 /- per enrolled fishers is provided for three months during fishing ban/lean annually. The afore-said Governmental assistance of Rs.3000 per beneficiary is shared in the ratio of 50:50 for general State, 80:20 for North Eastern States and Himalayan States while 100% for UTs. The Department of Fisheries, GOI has received good response since its implementation under the said activity and has annually supported 5.94 lakh Fisher families at a total outlay of Rs. 1384.79 crore under the component”.

I. SAFETY AND SECURITY OF FISHERMEN AT SEA

4.11 On being asked about the subsidies provided by the Department to poor fishermen for acquiring boats/fishing nets/refrigeration and safety equipment such wireless systems and GPS, the Department submitted the following reply:

“The Department of Fisheries, Ministry of Fisheries, Animal Husbandry and Dairying, Government of India under the Pradhan Mantri Matsya Sampada Yojana (PMMSY), provides financial assistance to traditional fishermen at a unit cost of Rs. 5.00 lakhs for acquisition of boats and nets. The Department of Fisheries under PMMSY has approved proposals of various States/UTs for supply of 6706 boats and nets for traditional fishermen during the last four financial years (2020-21 to 2023-24) and CFY (2024-25) at a total outlay of Rs. 25242.00 lakhs’.

‘To develop and manage a robust Monitoring, Control and Surveillance (MCS) regime, the PMMSY supports comprehensive Vessel Monitoring System (VMS) equipped with requisite communication and safety devices/appliances for traditional and motorized fishing vessels. The Department under PMMSY has approved 14300 Communication and /or Tracking Devices for traditional and motorised vessel during the last four financial years (2020-21 to 2023-24) and CFY (2024-25) at a total outlay of Rs. 5005.00 lakhs. Further, the Department of Fisheries, Government of India has sanctioned a project for installation of ISRO developed satellite-based Vessel Communication and Support System (transponders) on one lakh fishing vessels with an investment of Rs 364 crore. These transponders will be installed ‘free of cost’ in fishing vessels. These devices will ensure safety and security of fishermen at sea, enabling them to stay connected with security agencies, their families and seek assistance during natural calamities, weather changes, etc’.

‘Under PMMSY the Department further provides facilities for onboard refrigeration under the component “Up gradation of existing fishing vessels for export Competency” with unit cost of Rs. 15.00 lakhs per vessel. Under this component vessels can be equipped with Insulated Fish boxes, Slurry ice making machine/Refrigerated Sea Water (RSW), etc. helping onboard refrigeration and handling of catch for fishers. The Department under

PMMSY has approved upgradation of 1338 vessels for export competency during the last four financial years (2020-21 to 2023-24) and CFY (2024-25) at a total outlay of Rs. 19364.63 lakhs’.

‘The Department of Fisheries, under the PMMSY, has approved a project on National Rollout Plan for Vessel Communication and Support System in about one lakh marine fishing vessels including mechanized and motorized vessels across 9 coastal states and 4 union territories with an outlay of Rs.364 Crores. This system will provide two-way communication system to fishermen and also enable real-time tracking of fishing vessels including onboard crew, and monitoring of fishing harbours and fish landing centres across the country through mobile based ‘National Fisheries App’.

4.12 Depositing before the Committee on 22nd November, 2024, the representative of the Dept of Fisheries submitted the following data / information on the projects approved and Central Funds released for the financial years 2020-21 upto 22.11.2024 under Pradhan Mantri Matsya Sampada Yojana (PMMSY):

(Rs. In lakh)

| S.No. | Component | Total Project Cost | Central Share | Funds Released |
|-------|--------------------------------|--------------------|---------------|---------------------------------------|
| 1 | Others (Transponders, etc.) | 36400.00 | 21840.00 | 5400 (secretary corrected the fig) |

J. POST HARVEST LOSSES

4.13 When asked about the evaluation mechanism of the Department to compute the Post Harvest Losses in Fishery Sector, the Department submitted the following reply:

“A study to assess the post-harvest losses in fisheries sector is being carried out through the National Productivity Council (NPC), Department for Promotion of Industry & Internal Trade, Ministry of Commerce and Industry. According to the preliminary findings of the study, the present post-harvest losses in inland fisheries is reported at 5.71 % and in marine fisheries it is at 14.8% and as such the average post-harvest losses in fisheries is at about 10.30%. The study at present is underway and the firmed up quantum of post-harvest losses in fisheries by 2024-25 will be arrived at once the study taken up through NPC is completed”.

PART – II

OBSERVATIONS/ RECOMMENDATIONS

1. Decline in Actual Expenditure.

As there have been cases of underutilization of allocated resources for various schemes/ projects under Central Sector (CS) and Centrally Sponsored schemes (CCS), the Committee in their Recommendation at SI no. 1 contained in the 53rd Report on DFG (2023-24), had recommended that the Department should devise a mechanism to remove the difficulties faced by States/UTs while adhering to the guidelines of the new financial system and Single Nodal Agency (SNA) Account to maximize the Expenditure and also to reduce the pendency of Utilization Certificates with States/UTs. The Committee notes that the revised procedure for release of funds to the States was issued on 23rd March, 2021 and it's been more than three years since this new procedure was introduced.

The Committee note that the reason for underutilization during the Financial Year 2023-24, again, was attributed to new financial system and the release of Central Funds to States/UTs, opening of SNA and Child Accounts by States/UTs. Delay in Contribution of State matching share is the other reason for decline in Actual Expenditure by the States/UTs during the Financial Year 2023-24. The Department in their Action Taken Reply to the above referred Recommendation had assured of strict compliance of the Recommendation of the Committee along with various measures to streamline the procedure of Single Nodal Agency (SNA).

The Committee observe that it has been more than three years since the new financial system is put in place by the Ministry of Finance. The desired results, however, have not been achieved as envisaged by the Department and the reasons for under utilization continue to remain the same. The Committee, therefore, recommend that, the Department should make serious efforts and proactively liaise with its counterparts in the States/UTs and State Fisheries Departments to address this issue for positive results. For the

Socio-Economic upliftment of the Fishermen in general and traditional fishermen in particular, targeted and effective implementation of the Schemes of the Department becomes imperative. It, therefore, becomes all the more necessary that the Budget allocation for various Schemes of the Department is utilized in full. The Committee, would like to be apprised of the steps taken by the Department and progress achieved in this regard.

2. PMMSY- Advertising and Publicity

The Committee note that Pradhan Mantri Matsya Sampada Yojana (PMMSY), with a view to create awareness about the features and benefits of scheme and its sub components, among the stake holders such as fish farmers, fishermen, entrepreneurs, fishermen cooperative societies, have been allocating funds since the launch of the scheme in 2020-21 for advertisement and Publicity of the scheme. The allocations of Rs. 1crore and 2.4 crore for the purpose at RE stage of 2020-21 and 2021-22 respectively were fully spent. The funds given in the years 2022-23 & 2023-24, however, could not be spent fully. For instance, the allocation of Rs. 8 crore for 2022-23 at BE was reduced to Rs. 66 lakh and the actual spending amounted to Rs. 46.37 lakh. Such downward revision of BE can be seen in 2023-24 also, wherein BE of Rs. 8.51 crore was reduced to Rs. 6 crore at RE and actual utilization stood at Rs. 50 lakh only, which is a meager 8.3 % of the RE.

The Committee note that under PMMSY, National Fisheries Development Board (NFDB) is the nodal agency for implementing the activities such as training, awareness, exposure and capacity building programme for fishermen. NFDB is also active in organizing various State/National level fish festivals to create awareness on schemes, new technologies and also to increase domestic fish consumption using digital means, campaigns, audio-video publicity, print media and hoardings.

The Committee take a very serious note of the trend of downward revisions of BE at RE stage and large scale underutilization of these RE funds during the last two years. The Committee are of the view that without dissemination of features, benefits, eligibility criteria, etc., of the PMMSY, the achievement of the objectives of the scheme may have been compromised.

The Committee, therefore, while seeking the specific reasons for reduction in allocations at RE stage of 2022-23 and 2023-24 and also the difficulties faced, if any, in utilizing the funds, suggest that suitable steps be taken to utilize the allocated funds in future to have maximum impact on the targeted beneficiaries of PMMSY. The Committee also recommend that to achieve the target of attaining 12 kg per capita domestic consumption of fish under PMMSY, which is a cheap source of protein, proactive measures using Advertising and Publicity should be actively resorted to.

The Committee while appreciating (i) ICAR- National Bureau of Fish Genetics and Resources (ICAR- NBFGR), Lucknow for implementing National Surveillance Programme on Aquatic Animal Diseases (NSPAAD) and NSPAAD-phase-II for control of diseases and dissemination of information to fish/shrimp farmers through mobile based applications such as “Report Fish Disease (RFD), a mobile based application for strengthening farmer based disease reporting; and, (ii) ICAR- Central Institute of Freshwater Aquaculture (ICAR-CIFA) for launching an interactive mobile app “Treat My Fish” for providing specific advisory services to the farmers for different fish diseases of freshwater aquaculture, they would like to be apprised of (i) the number of fishermen and other stakeholders who downloaded the app both in absolute and percentage of the total no of stakeholders (approx.); and , (ii) whether the assessment of impact of the app was carried out to ascertain the achievement or otherwise of intended objectives.

3. Utilization of Funds under centrally Sponsored Schemes (CSS)

The Committee observe that the Actual Expenditure under the Centrally Sponsored Scheme (CSS) component of the Department showed a declining trend from 2021-22 onwards *vis-a-vis* the Revised estimates. Rs. 1200, 1410 and Rs.1500 crore were allocated at RE stage during 2021-22, 2022-23 and 2023-24 respectively. The actuals, amounted to Rs. 1191.45, 1290 and 1196.50 crore respectively resulting in underutilization of Rs. 8.55, 120 and 303.5 crore during 2021-22, 2022-23 and 2023-24 respectively. Further, the budgetary allocations at BE stage were reduced by Rs.469 and Rs. 500 crore at RE stage during 2022-23 and 2023-24 respectively. But the actual amounts spent fell far

short of reduced revised estimates as mentioned above. This spending pattern of the department for the last four years appears to recur again in 2024-25 also as against BE of Rs. 2,352 crore, only Rs. 484 crore was spent till November, 2024. The Committee are concerned to note that repeated underutilization of the amounts allocated even at Revised Estimates (RE) stage, year after year, shows lack of proper planning, assessment of the fund requirement, failure to take into account ground realities while making proposals for fund requirements even at RE stage. The repeated surrendering of the funds, the Committee are of the view, might have impacted adversely affecting the outcomes output envisaged under PMMSY. The Committee, therefore urge the Department to take proactive measures in this regard and ensure that the hurdles faced due to the implementation of the new financial system such as Single Nodal Agency (SNA) Account are overcome so as to ensure that the funds allocated for schemes are utilized in full.

4. Status of Utilisation Certificates (UCs)

As there are pending utilization certificates involving huge amount of funds disbursed, this Committee in their Recommendation at Sl.no 5 contained in the 53rd Third Report on Demands for Grants (23-24) had recommended the Department to take concrete steps by pursuing with the States/UTs at regular intervals to liquidate the Utilization Certificates (UCs) so that the pending liability on account of already approved Projects also gets reduced and the Schemes/Projects are completed well in time. The Dept in their action take replies informed that they had taken up the matter at the highest levels of the state Govt *inter alia* for expediting the utilization of available funds. Further, the States are also being monitored on daily basis for timely release of central and state shares to SNA from treasury and immediate distribution of such funds to beneficiaries through child account to expedite the implementation of the scheme and to minimize the pendency of un-utilized funds. The Committee while appreciating the efforts taken by the Department, note that despite their best efforts, Utilisation certificates are pending involving huge amount of Rs 584 crore. The Committee, therefore, recommend the Department to explore the possibility of developing a rating system for states based on their performance in utilizing funds and furnishing UCs on

time and offer non-financial incentives to better performing states in this regard. The Committee believe that such a rating and awarding non-financial incentives will spur competition among the states in utilising funds and in furnishing UCs on time. The concrete action taken in this regard be intimated to the Committee.

5. Scheduled Castes Sub Plan (SCSP)

The Committee observe that during the financial years 2021-22, 2022-23 and 2023-24, the Department has surrendered funds earmarked for Scheduled Castes Sub Plan (SCSP) to the tune of Rs 20.35, 46.98 and 66.15 crore respectively. The funds surrendered during the financial year 2021-22, 2022-23 and 2023-24 in percentage terms amounts to 10.15%, 19.84% & 26.25 % respectively of the funds earmarked at revised estimates stage for SCSP. The Committee has been informed that the reason for surrender of funds under the SCSP head of PMMSY was due to non-receipt of proposals from the States/UTs under SCSP. The Committee has also been informed that for fishery related projects, land and investment is required, however, due to weak financial status of most of the Scheduled Castes population of the country, they are unable to provide bank collateral, and therefore, even sanctioned projects, are unable to take off in real, on the ground.

In this context, the Committee would like to draw the attention of the department to recommendation at SI no. 6 contained in the 53rd report on DFG (23-24) where in they had urged the Department to encourage/pursue and incentivize States/UTs to send proposals under the SCSP so that the vision/mission of the scheme is achieved and the benefits reach the Scheduled Caste Population of the Country.

The Committee while expressing serious concern at the declining trend of utilisation of funds under SCSP for the last three years, suggest suitable measures be taken to arrest this trend. They also recommend the Department to analyze the reasons for non-receipt of the proposals from the state Govts and initiate suitable action including review of features, terms & conditions, eligibility criteria, etc. and tweaking of these, if necessary, to ensure the

receipt of proposals from the state/ UT Governments for optimal utilization of the funds be taken.

6. Integrated Farming Systems

The Committee note that Integrated fish farming is a system of producing fish in combination with other agricultural/livestock farming operations centered around the fish pond. They also note that promotion of integrated fish farming in the North-Eastern States is cornerstone of the Pradhan Mantri Matsya Sampada Yojana (PMMSY) strategy.

The Committee observe that there are many wet lands and water bodies in the country which can be focused upon and developed into Integrated Fish Farms. In the North-East region, they note, around five thousand hectares of land are being developed for Integrated Fish Farming. The Committee observe that states namely Bihar and West Bengal have vast area of wet lands which can also be developed under Integrated fish farming as is being done in the North East. The Committee, therefore, recommend that the Department should devise a plan/policy to utilise wet lands and water bodies available in States/UTs other than North Eastern regions for the development of Integrated Farming Systems. This would in turn give a push to the economic well being of the fishers of the Country in general and also promote inland fisheries as part of Bio-Economy which would ascertain minimal scope for wastage and high reutilization on the farm along with increase in fish production and other livestock.

7. Kisan Credit Card (KCC)

The Committee acknowledges the measures taken by the Department such as Ghar Ghar KCC Abhiyan” and nationwide rural awareness campaign namely “Viksit Bharat Sankalp Yatra” for disseminating information, raising awareness and extending services at each Gram Panchayat. The Committee note that KCC scheme for fish farmers is one of the 18 schemes chosen for the “Viksit Bharat Sankalp Yatra” to expand its coverage, provide on-spot services to the fishers, fish farmers and to disseminate information, and create awareness amongst the fishermen. Further, the Department of Fisheries (DoF)

has been pursuing with the Department of Financial Services (DFS), M/o Finance for inclusion of the Fisheries Sector in the 'Jan Samarth' portal (www.jansamarth.in), which was on-boarded on 15th March 2024.

The Committee while appreciating the measures taken by the Department in making KCC a success, suggest the department to address the challenges reflected in the vast gap between the receipt of applications for issue of KCC and sanctions as 4.33 lakhs KCCs only for fishermen were sanctioned as against 50 lakh applications received. They also suggest identifying the reasons for such a huge gap and take appropriate measures including undertaking a special drive to improve the sanctioning of KCCs to more Fishermen.

8. Welfare Schemes, Insurance, Health and Education to Fishers

The Committee note that under PMMSY, Integrated Modern Coastal Fishing Villages (IMCV) are being developed with the aim to maximize economic and social benefits to coastal fishers while minimizing environmental degradation through sustainable fishing practices. Further, through IMCV, fishers of these villages are empowered for securing their livelihoods along with modern amenities, disaster resilient houses, cyclone and tsunami shelters, post-harvest amenities, etc. The Committee notes that under PMMSY 11 IMCV's have been sanctioned at a total investment of Rs. 77.56 crore.

The Committee has also been informed that Marine Fisheries Census which is being carried out by Department of Fisheries every five years was carried out the last time in the year 2016 covering all maritime states/UTs. The survey provides the information on village wise population, number of active fishermen and different types of fishing units, number of mechanized and indigenous fishing crafts and gears for each maritime states, marine fishing villages, marine fish landing centers, etc. They note more than five years have elapsed since the last fish census, carried out in 2016, they would like to be informed of whether the next marine Fisheries census has commenced and if

so the details thereof . In case, it is not commenced, they suggest the same may be undertaken without any delay as the PMMSY initiated in 2020-21, may have used the data of 2016 census. As eight years have passed since then, the Committee feel that it is imperative to have updated data on the fisheries sector to have maximum reach under PMMSY.

The Committee also recommend that the Department should take substantive measures to increase the number of IMCV's in the country so that the welfare measures including health and education needs of the fishermen are taken care of and would like to be apprised of the status of implementation of 11 sanctioned Integrated Model Coastal Fishing Villages (IMCVs) with a budget of Rs. 77.56 crore.

9. Safety and Security of Fishermen at Sea

The Committee observe that PMMSY supports comprehensive Vessel Monitoring System (VMS) equipped with requisite communication and safety devices/appliances for traditional and motorized fishing vessels. Further, the Department of Fisheries, has sanctioned a project for installation of ISRO developed satellite-based Vessel Communication and Support System (transponders) on one lakh fishing vessels with an investment of Rs 364 crore. These transponders will be installed 'free of cost' in fishing vessels ensuring safety and security of fishermen at sea, enabling them to stay connected with security agencies, their families, and can seek assistance during natural calamities, weather changes, etc'.

The Committee observe that during the last five financial years, from 2020-21 to 2024-25 (up to 22.11.2024) the dept released Rs 54 crore only, under the Component 'Transponders' as against the total project cost of 364 crore, which also includes the Central share or Rs 218.40 crore. Given the importance of safety and security of fishermen at sea, the Committee want the Department to apprise them of the specific reasons for releasing less than one seventh of the total project outlay even five years (approx.) under this component.

10. Continuation of Pradhan Mantri Matsya Sampada Yojana (PMMSY) as Phase-II

The Committee note that Pradhan Mantri Matsya Sampada Yojana (PMMSY), a flagship initiative of the Department launched in 2020-21, has been instrumental in transforming India's fisheries and aquaculture sector and with a substantial investment of Rs 20,050 crore, PMMSY has focused on sustainable and responsible development, aiming to boost the sector's contribution to the national economy and food security. The Committee has been informed that till date 35 States and Union Territories have participated in PMMSY and out of the Rs 20,864.29 crore proposals approved till date, the Central share amounts to Rs 8871.42 crore out of which an amount of Rs 4670.80 crore have been released to States/UTs and other Implementing agencies. Thus the remaining committed liability of the Department amounts to Rs. 4200 crore, which has to be spent till March 2025, *i.e.* when the tenure of the scheme concludes.

The Committee observe that there is a need to extend the scheme for another five years to sustain the momentum of the initial phase and further accelerate and strengthen the development of India's blue economy. By continuing the scheme, the government can capitalize on the initial successes and ensure a sustainable and prosperous future for the fisheries sector. The Committee, therefore, strongly recommend that Pradhan Mantri Matsya Sampada Yojana may be continued as PMMSY Phase-II for a period of another five years *i.e.* from FY 2025-26 to FY 2029-30. PMMSY Phase-II will focus on strengthening of value addition infrastructure to enhance seafood exports, island fisheries development (Andaman & Nicobar and Lakshadweep Islands) and infusion and adoption of cutting edge technologies to further modernise fisheries sector.

11. Registration of Fishers

The Committee has been informed that there are about 2.8 crore fisheres, fish farmers and other fish value chain stakeholders engaged in fisheries sector in States/UTs. The Committee appreciates the initiative taken by the Department in developing a dedicated National Fisheries Digital Platform (NFDP) under the Pradhan Mantri Matsya Kisan Samridhi Sah-Yojana (PM-MKSSY) to register and provide work-based identity to all the fishers and fish farmers and other value chain stakeholders. However, the Committee note that till date under NDFP a total of 8.60 lakh fisheries stakeholders including 8.56 lakh individuals and 3393 organisations have been registered. The Committee therefore recommend that the Department should undertake proactive measures and devise effective initiatives to reach out to the remaining un-registered fishermen and assure that all the fishermen in the country are registered so that the schemes/policies of the government are better oriented in a targeted manner and benefit the fishermen of the country.

New Delhi
14 December, 2024
23 Agrahayana, 1946 (saka)

Charanjit Singh Channi
Chairperson
Standing Committee on Agriculture,
Animal Husbandry and Food Processing

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

The Committee sat on Friday, the 22nd November, 2024 from 14:15 hours to 15:55 hours in Committee Room 1, Extension to Parliament House Annexe (EPHA), New Delhi.

PRESENT

SHRI SUDHAKAR SINGH - IN THE CHAIR

MEMBERS

LOK SABHA

2. Shri Rajkumar Chahar
3. Shri Sukanta Kumar Panigrahi
4. Shri Dharmbir Singh
5. Shri Dushyant Singh
6. Smt. Geniben Nagaji Thakor
7. Shri Bhausahab Rajaram Wakchaure

RAJYA SABHA

8. Smt. Rambilaben Becharbhai Bara
9. Dr. Anil Sukhdeorao Bode
10. Shri Banshilal Gurjar
11. Shri Ramji Lal Suman

SECRETARIAT

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

LIST OF WITNESSES

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

| S. No. | Name | Designation |
|---------------|---------------------------|---|
| 1. | Dr. Abhilaksh Likhi | - Secretary (Fisheries) |
| 2. | Shri Sanjiv Narain Mathur | - Addl. Secy. & Financial Advisor |
| 3. | Shri Sagar Mehra | - Joint Secretary (Inland Fisheries) |
| 4. | Ms. Neetu Kumari Prasad | - Joint Secretary (Marine Fisheries) |
| 5. | Dr. Joykrushna Jena | - Deputy Director General (Fisheries Science) |
| 6. | Dr. Bijay Kumar Behera | - CE, NFDB |

2. As the Chairperson could not attend the meeting, the Committee under Rule 258(3) of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in Lok Sabha, chose Shri Sudhakar Singh, MP, to act as Chairperson of the Sitting.

3. The Chairperson then thanked the members and welcomed them to the Sitting of the Committee convened for taking oral evidence of the representatives of Ministry of Fisheries, Animal Husbandry and Dairying (Department of Fisheries) in connection with examination of the Demands for Grants (2024-25) pertaining to their Department. Thereafter, the Representatives of the Department of Fisheries were called in, and after welcoming them, the Chairperson drew their attention to Direction 55 (1) by the Hon'ble Speaker, Lok Sabha, regarding the confidentiality of the Proceedings.

4. After introduction by the witnesses, a power-point presentation was made by the Secretary of the Department and the Committee were briefed about the Schemes and Programmes of the Department and also about its Budget Proposals and the proposed utilisation of funds. The presentation *inter-alia* covered the following points:

- i) Achievements of the Indian fisheries sector.
- ii) Schemes and programmes of fisheries sector.
- iii) Estimated Investments and anticipated outcomes in the sector.
- iv) Financial progress of the Schemes.

- v) Physical and Financial Progress under the Pradhan Mantri Matsya Sampada Yojana (PMMSY).
- vi) Development of North Eastern Region.
- vii) Fisheries and Aquaculture Infrastructure Development Fund.
- viii) Funds allocated to the Department and Expenditure incurred during the last four years.
- ix) Status of Utilisation Certificates.

5. The Chairperson and the Members of the Committee deliberated on several issues/points as briefly mentioned below and sought clarifications from the Department. The Points raised included, *inter-alia*;

- i) Publicity and Advertising to increase domestic consumption of fish.
- ii) Budget Allocation for Advertising under Pradhan Mantri Matsya Sampada Yojana to be utilized in full.
- iii) Traditional ways for Advertising such as hoardings and banners, to be resorted to, so as to reach fishers who lack digital reach.
- iv) Extension of Pradhan Mantri Matsya Sampada Yojana (PMMSY) beyond 2025.
- v) Address issues related to Single Nodal Agency Account and release of Central Funds to States so that intended beneficiaries receive the funds in time.
- vi) Suggestions for development of Shrimps in the State of Gujarat.
- vii) Streamlining the implementation of the pilot scheme SNA-SPARSH and addressing the related issues.
- viii) Issues related to National Fisheries Development Board (NFDB) and streamlining its working so as to improve fishing related activities.
- ix) More interaction between Public Representatives and NFDB to address local problems and revamping of NFDB.
- x) Policy of the Government beyond 12 nautical miles in the sea.
- xi) Facilities provided to 'Baran' District, Rajasthan under Tribal Sub Plan.
- xii) To call representatives of State Fisheries Department with permission of Hon'ble Speaker to discuss the issue of pending Utilisation Certificates.

- xiii) Addressing the issues related to projects sanctioned under Scheduled Castes Sub Plan (SCSP) such as availability of land, Investment and collateral for banks.
- xiv) Utilization of allocated funds under Tribal Sub Plan (TSP) and Scheduled Castes Sub Plan (SCSP).
- xv) Explore possibilities of establishing Aqua Parks in all States other than Coastal States.
- xvi) Promotion of Integrated Fish Farming in already existing wet lands/water bodies available in many States.
- xvii) Provision of separate rate of Interest Subvention for SC/ST under Fisheries and Aquaculture Infrastructure Development Fund (FIDF).
- xviii) Addressing the issue of draining of contaminated water in rivers and ponds.
- xix) Relocation/removal of fishermen colonies in the name of re-development, pollution and encroachment should be addressed.
- xx) Development of Post Harvest Marketing Infrastructure.

6. The Representatives of the Department responded to some of the queries raised by the Members. The Chairperson thereafter thanked the witnesses for sharing valuable information with the Committee and directed them to furnish the requisite information on points / items, which were not readily available with them, to the Committee Secretariat by 27th November, 2024, positively.

The Committee then adjourned.

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

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

The Committee sat on Saturday, the 14th December, 2024 from 1005 hours to 1050 hours in Committee Room 'D', Parliament House Annexe, New Delhi.

Present

Shri Charanjit Singh Channi – Chairperson

Members

Lok Sabha

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

Rajya Sabha

17. Smt. Ramilaben Becharbhai Bara
18. Shri S. Kalyanasundaram

Secretariat

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

2. At the outset, the Chairperson welcomed the Members to the Sitting of the Committee. Thereafter, the Committee took up for consideration the following Reports:

*(i) XXXX XXXX XXXX XXXX

*(ii) XXXX XXXX XXXX XXXX

(iii) Draft Report on Demands for Grants (2024-25) pertaining to Ministry of Fisheries, Animal Husbandry and Dairying (Department of Fisheries);

*(iv) XXXX XXXX XXXX XXXX

*(v) XXXX XXXX XXXX XXXX

*(vi) XXXX XXXX XXXX XXXX

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

4. The Committee also decided to undertake a tour in the second week of January, 2025.

The Committee then adjourned.

*Matter not related to this report.