

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:7039

ANSWERED ON:08.05.2015

SCHEMES BY MARINE PRODUCTS EXPORTS DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY

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Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of projects, promotional activities and schemes undertaken/ implemented by Marine Products Exports Development Authority (MPEDA) in the country, particularly in Tamil Nadu during the last three years, State/UT-wise;
- (b) whether the potential of marine resources available in the country, particularly in Tamil Nadu have been fully utilized;
- (c) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor along with the corrective measures taken to tap its potential;
- (d) whether the Authority has requested for establishment and strengthening of quality control laboratories to promote production and export of value added fishery and other marine products, if so the details thereof along with the reaction of the Government thereto and the funds provided for the purpose;
- (e) whether any proposal for promoting marine-aquaculture and seafood production in the country, particularly in Tamil Nadu is under consideration of the authority and if so, the details thereof; and
- (f) the further measures taken by the Government to boost export of value added fishery and other marine products?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) (SMT. NIRMALA SITHARAMAN)

a) In order to boost the exports of marine products from the country, Marine Products Export Development Authority (MPEDA) is operating various Developmental / financial assistance schemes for the benefit of the seafood industry in the country. There is no separate scheme for Tamil Nadu. The details of the various financial assistance schemes are as under:

- i) Capture Fisheries - for promotion of fishing of Tuna and other under exploited resources, providing interest subsidy for the construction of new tuna long liners and Assistance to fishermen for better preservation of catch.
- ii) Processing Infrastructure & Value Addition – providing subsidy for acquisition of machinery for tuna cannery / processing of value added tuna product, financial support for acquisition of Refrigerated Truck / Containers and setting up Large Cold Storages, etc.
- iii) Culture Fisheries – providing subsidy for new farm development, small and medium-scale hatcheries, setting up of PCR labs in hatcheries/Pvt. Lab, assistance for farmers for undertaking organic farming of shrimp and scampi, etc.
- iv) Market Promotion – providing development assistance for export of Ornamental/Aquarium Fishes/Live Aquarium Plants, Sea Freight Assistance, and insurance scheme for workers in Seafood processing units, etc.
- v) Quality Control – providing assistance to seafood processors for construction / renovation of captive pre-processing center with upgraded facilities, for setting up of Mini Laboratory, etc.

The details of other promotional activities conducted during the last 3 years are enclosed as Annexure I and the details of financial assistance provided by MPEDA to boost exports, state-wise and Tamil Nadu is enclosed as Annexure II.

b) & c) It is a fact that the potential of marine resources in Tamil Nadu has been fully utilized. The potential yield within 200 nautical miles in Tamil Nadu has been estimated to be 4.2 lakhs tons. Marine fish production in Tamil Nadu in 2013 was 6.87 lakh tons. It is clear that the Tamil Nadu fisheries have already crossed the potential yield of the region and therefore the scope for increasing the fish production from Tamil Nadu waters is limited. (Source: Central Marine Fisheries Research Institute)

d) MPEDA has setup 19 ELISA Labs in India of which 2 are in Tamil Nadu, these labs test for the presence of banned antibiotics in shrimps meant for export to EU prior to their harvest. 3 NABL accredited labs with modern sophisticated equipments like LC- MS etc are also operated by MPEDA for carrying out residue monitoring programmes in fish & fishery products on behalf of Government of India. MPEDA is also planning to set up a referral lab in the state of Tamil Nadu after identifying suitable land. Apart from that subsidy is being granted for setting up of mini labs in the processing establishments.

e) MPEDA undertakes promotion and production of marine products for exports from all States of the country as per details given in part (a) above. There are no schemes specifically for implementation in Tamil Nadu, other than the ones already under implementation.

f) The details of the additional measures taken to boost export of value added & other marine products are given below:

Name of Schemes	Objectives	Quantum of Assistance
1 MPEDA Quality Logo scheme	This scheme is aimed at promotion of value added fish and fishery products, processed/ produced in a MPEDA registered processing plant possessing a certificate of approval under the Marine Products (Quality Marking) Scheme and thereby carrying the MPEDA quality Logo.	The assistance under this scheme will be limited to 25% of the promotional expenses subject to a maximum of Rs.25/- lakh in a market for one product. A manufacturer exporter will be eligible for getting assistance on three products in a market (first come first served) and he will be eligible to introduce the logo products in three markets with assistance of this scheme.
2 Assistance for ware-housing / transportation/ placement of value added marine products abroad	Assistance is offered to exporter for storage of the product in an accredited frozen ware-house, local mobilization to retail supplies and for display of his branded seafood in retail outlets by	The assistance will be provided as reimbursement of 25% of the expenses incurred for warehousing; transportation and slotting for value added marine products in retail outlets in abroad markets, subject to a maximum of 25 lakh per exporter per year.

Apart from the above, the Foreign Trade Policy for 2015-20 provides for 3% incentive for Marine Products under Merchandise Export from India Scheme (MEIS).