

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:794  
ANSWERED ON:24.07.2015  
Assistance to Seafood Industry  
Thomas Prof. Kuruppassery Varkey

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

- a) whether there is any proposal to assist seafood industry in the country for energy efficient operations by Marine Products Export Development Authority (MPEDA);
- b) if so, the details thereof; and
- c) the other help and assistance given to the seafood industry for improving their productivity and quality ?

**Answer**

(a) & (b) Yes Madam, MPEDA is giving financial assistance for creating basic facilities for fish curing/drying/packing/storage for export purposes. It provides assistance for setting up of solar tunnel/tent dryer to support energy efficient operations for production of dried marine products. Under 12th Plan, a proposal was also recommended for providing assistance for setting up of dry fish handling centre supported with solar/LPG equipments and energy efficient machinery like screw compressors, eutectic plates, battery operated pallets jacks, containerized brine less ice plant on wheels which require less space and can be moved from one place to another etc. Moreover, MPEDA also proposes to implement financial assistance schemes for the procurement and installation of navigational equipments such as Global Positioning System (GPS), Fish Finder and Radio Telephone etc.

(c) To enhance productivity, MPEDA has focused on continued development of new farms for shrimp, scampi and L. vannamei farming in all the Maritime States of India and monitored shrimp seed samples for viral pathogens and antibiotics. National Centre for Sustainable Aquaculture (NaCSA) is an outreach organization of MPEDA which provides technical support to the primary aquaculture societies and builds capacity among small farmers to produce quality shrimps in a sustainable manner. In addition to this, MPEDA has conducted several programmes for better management practices, and to support sustainable aquaculture by creating participatory movement through capacity building at grass root level.

On Quality Control, NETFISH an extension arm of MPEDA and QC conduct various training programmes from the grass root levels to the technologists working in the seafood processing establishments. In order to ensure supply of safe aquaculture produce meant for export, MPEDA operates screening laboratories throughout the country where aquaculture activities are prominent. These labs tests farmed shrimp samples for detecting the presence of banned antibiotics, and issues Pre Harvest Test certificates.

\*\*\*\*\*