



**STANDING COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE, ANIMAL HUSBANDRY  
AND FOOD PROCESSING**

**(2022-2023)**

**SEVENTEENTH LOK SABHA**

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

**'DEMANDS FOR GRANTS (2022-23)'**

**{Action-taken by the Government on the Observations/  
Recommendations contained in the Thirty-Ninth Report  
(Seventeenth Lok Sabha) of the Standing Committee  
on Agriculture, Animal Husbandry and Food Processing (2021-22)}**

**FORTY-EIGHTH REPORT**



**LOK SABHA SECRETARIAT  
NEW DELHI**

**DECEMBER 2022/ AGRAHAYANA, 1944 (Saka)**

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Presented to Lok Sabha on

20.12.2022

Laid on the Table of Rajya Sabha on

20.12.2022



**LOK SABHA SECRETARIAT  
NEW DELHI**

**DECEMBER 2022/ AGRAHAYANA, 1944 (Saka)**

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**COMPOSITION OF THE STANDING COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE, ANIMAL  
HUSBANDRY AND FOOD PROCESSING\* (2021-22)**

**Shri P.C. Gaddigoudar- Chairperson**

**MEMBERS**

**LOK SABHA**

2. Shri Afzal Ansari
3. Shri Horen Sing Bey
4. Shri Devendra Singh 'Bhole'
5. Shri A. Ganeshamurthi
6. Shri Kanakmal Katara
7. Shri Abu Taher Khan
8. Shri Mohan Mandavi
9. Shri Kinjarapu Ram Mohan Naidu
10. Shri Devji Mansingram Patel
11. Smt. Shardaben Anilbhai Patel
12. Shri Bheemrao Baswanthrao Patil
13. Shri Shriniwaas Dadasaheb Patil
14. Shri Vinayak Bhaurao Raut
15. Shri Pocha Brahmananda Reddy
16. Shri Rajiv Pratap Rudy
17. Shri Mohammad Sadique
18. Shri Virendra Singh
19. Shri V.K. Sreekandan
20. Shri Mulayam Singh Yadav
21. Shri Ram Kripal Yadav

**RAJYA SABHA**

22. Smt. Ramilaben Becharbhai Bara
23. Shri Kailash Soni
24. Shri Ram Nath Thakur
25. Shri Vaiko
26. Shri Harnath Singh Yadav
27. VACANT@
28. VACANT@
29. VACANT@
30. VACANT
31. VACANT

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\* Standing Committee on Agriculture renamed as Standing Committee on Agriculture, Animal Husbandry and Food Processing *vide* Para No. 3293, Bulletin Part-II, dated 23.11.2021.

@ Shri Partap Singh Bajwa, MP Rajya Sabha ceased to be a Member of the Committee *w.e.f.* 21.03.2022 due to resignation from the Membership of Rajya Sabha *w.e.f.* 21.03.2022; Sardar Sukhdev Singh Dhindsa ceased to be a Member of the Committee *w.e.f.* 09.04.2022 due to his retirement from Rajya Sabha *w.e.f.* 09.04.2022 and Shri Surendra Singh Nagar, ceased to be a Member of the Committee *w.e.f.* 04.07.2022 due to his retirement from Rajya Sabha *w.e.f.* 04.07.2022

## **SECRETARIAT**

1. Shri Shiv Kumar - Additional Secretary
2. Shri Sundar Prasad Das - Director
3. Shri Ashwaghosh B. Lokhande - Executive Officer

**COMPOSITION OF THE STANDING COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE, ANIMAL  
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**Shri P.C. Gaddigoudar- Chairperson**

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10. Smt. Sharda Anilkumar Patel
11. Shri Bheemrao Baswanthrao Patil
12. Shri Shrinivas Dadasaheb Patil
13. Shri Vinayak Bhaurao Raut
14. Shri Pocha Brahmananda Reddy
15. Shri Rajiv Pratap Rudy
16. Mohammad Sadique
17. Shri Devendra Singh *alias* Bhole Singh
18. Shri Virendra Singh
19. Shri V.K. Sreekandan
20. Shri Ram Kripal Yadav
21. VACANT\*

**RAJYA SABHA**

22. Smt. Ramilaben Becharbhai Bara
23. Shri Masthan Rao Beeda
24. Dr. Anil Sukhdeorao Bode
25. Shri S. Kalyanasundaram
26. Shri Surendra Singh Nagar
27. Shri Kailash Soni
28. Shri Randeep Singh Surjewala
29. Shri Ram Nath Thakur
30. Shri Vaiko
31. Shri Harnath Singh Yadav

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\* Vacant w.e.f. 10.10.2022 due to demise of Shri Mulayam Singh Yadav on 10.10.2022 vide Bulletin- Part II, Para No. 5316 dated 14.10.2022.

## **SECRETARIAT**

1. Shri Shiv Kumar - Additional Secretary
2. Shri Naval K. Verma - Director
3. Shri Uttam Chand Bharadwaj - Additional Director
4. Shri Ashwaghosh B. Lokhande - Executive Officer



## **INTRODUCTION**

I, the Chairperson, Standing Committee on Agriculture, Animal Husbandry and Food Processing (2022-23), having been authorised by the Committee to submit the Report on their behalf, present this Forty-Eighth Report on Action-taken by the Government on the Observations/Recommendations contained in the Thirty-Ninth Report (Seventeenth Lok Sabha) of the Standing Committee on Agriculture, Animal Husbandry and Food Processing (2021-22) on 'Demands for Grants (2022-23)' pertaining to the Ministry of Fisheries, Animal Husbandry and Dairying (Department of Fisheries).

2. The Thirty-Ninth Report (Seventeenth Lok Sabha) of the Standing Committee on Agriculture, Animal Husbandry and Food Processing (2021-22) on 'Demands for Grants (2022-23)' pertaining to the Ministry of Fisheries, Animal Husbandry and Dairying (Department of Fisheries) was presented to Lok Sabha and laid on the Table of Rajya Sabha on 24<sup>th</sup> March, 2022. The Action Taken Notes on the Report were received on 12<sup>th</sup> July, 2022.

3. The Report was considered and adopted by the Committee at their Sitting held on 15<sup>th</sup> November, 2022.

4. An Analysis of the Action-taken by the Government on the Observations/Recommendations contained in the Thirty-Ninth Report (Seventeenth Lok Sabha) of the Committee is given in **Appendix**.

**NEW DELHI;**  
**06 December, 2022**  
**15 Agrahayana, 1944 (Saka)**

**P.C. GADDIGOUDAR**  
***Chairperson,***  
***Standing Committee on Agriculture,***  
***Animal Husbandry and Food Processing***

## CHAPTER-I

### REPORT

This Report of the Standing Committee on Agriculture, Animal Husbandry and Food Processing deals with the Action-taken by the Government on the Observations/Recommendations contained in the Thirty-Ninth Report (Seventeenth Lok Sabha) of the Standing Committee on Agriculture, Animal Husbandry and Food Processing (2021-22) on Demands for Grants (2022-23) of the Ministry of Fisheries, Animal Husbandry and Dairying (Department of Fisheries) which was presented to Lok Sabha and laid on the Table of Rajya Sabha on 24<sup>th</sup> March 2022.

1.2 The Ministry of Fisheries, Animal Husbandry and Dairying (Department of Fisheries) have furnished Action-taken Replies in respect of all the 11 Observations/Recommendations contained in the Report. These Replies have been scrutinised and categorised as under:-

- |       |  |                         |
|-------|--|-------------------------|
| (i)   | Observations/Recommendations that have been accepted by the Government:<br>Recommendation Para Nos.1, 2, 4, 5, 8 & 9                                     | Total 06<br>Chapter-II  |
| (ii)  | Observations/Recommendations which the Committee do not desire to pursue in view of the Government's replies:<br>Recommendation Para No. NIL             | Total 00<br>Chapter-III |
| (iii) | Observations/Recommendations in respect of which Replies of the Government have not been accepted by the Committee:<br>Recommendation Para Nos. 3 and 10 | Total 02<br>Chapter-IV  |
| (iv)  | Observations/Recommendations in respect of which final replies of the Government are still awaited:<br>Recommendation Para Nos. 6, 7 & 11                | Total 03<br>Chapter-V   |

**1.3 The Committee desire that utmost importance would be given to implementation of the Observations/Recommendations accepted by the Government. In cases, where it is not possible for the Department to implement the Recommendations in letter and spirit for any reason, the matter be intimated to the Committee with reasons for non-implementation. The Committee desire that further Action-taken Notes on the Observations/Recommendations contained in Chapter-I and Final Action-taken Replies to the Recommendations contained in Chapter-V of this Report be furnished to them at an early date.**

1.4 The Committee will now deal with the action-taken by the Government on some of the Observations/Recommendations in the succeeding paragraphs.

**Analysis of Demand No. 43**  
**Recommendation (Serial No.1)**

1.5 The Committee had observed/recommended as under:-

“The Committee note that the Department of Fisheries has been allocated total Budgetary support of Rs. 2118.47 Crore at BE Stage in 2022-23, which is 73.52% more than that the BE Stage allocation in 2021-22. The Committee are informed that the enhanced allocation in BE 2020-23 includes the implementation of two major Schemes namely (i) Pradhan Mantri Matsya Sampada Yojana (PMMSY); and (ii) Fisheries and Aquaculture Infrastructure Development Fund (FIDF). Under the PMMSY, the allocated Budget of Rs. 1879 Crore is as per the Cabinet approval and the said allocated funds has been planned to be utilized to carry forward the implementation of the projects approved during 2020-21 and 2021-22 as the Department has an outstanding carry forward liability of Rs. 700-800 Crore by the end of 31<sup>st</sup> March, 2022 on account of the approved projects. The Committee observe that the yearly Actual Expenditure *w.r.t.* to RE made by the Department in last three years, *i.e.*, 2019-20, 2020-21 and 2021-22 (as on 31.01.2022) stands at 93.68%, 97.08% and 58.55% respectively. Utilization of only 58.55 % funds by 31<sup>st</sup>

January, 2022 proves that the Department has no option but to resort to rush of funds in the last two months of the Financial Year 2021-22. It also points out to non-satisfactory monthly expenditure by the Department during 2021-22 so far. The Committee are, therefore, of the considered opinion that the Department should strive hard every year here-in-after to ensure complete Utilization of Funds allocated”.

1.6 In its Action-taken Reply, the Department has submitted as under:-

“The Department of Fisheries was able to utilize Rs 1169.19 crore against the final allocations of Rs 1191.45 Crore (Final Requirement) which is 98.12% under the Pradhan Mantri Matsya Sampada Yojana during the year 2021-22 even after imposition of revised procedure for release of funds to States for the Centrally Sponsored Schemes(CSS) and Monitoring utilization of the funds issued by Ministry of Finance being implemented for all the scheme *w.e.f* 1<sup>st</sup> July, 2021. During this period, the process of notification of the Single Nodal Agency and States/UTs took time to understand the procedure and roll out the guidelines, which created hindrance for implementation of the PMMSY and release of central funds in time to the implementing agencies.

2. During the current financial year States/UTs have been sensitized and the entire system of implementation is being monitored by the Department through review meetings and one-to one interactive meetings to avoid delay in implementation of the scheme at various States/UTs”.

**1.7 The Committee had raised concerns regarding the decline in yearly Actual Expenditure under various Schemes/ Institutes of the Department of Fisheries such as the Pradhan Mantri Matsya Sampada Yojana, Blue Revolution, National Fisheries Development Board, Fisheries Infrastructure Development Fund, etc. as compared to the Revised Estimates for the years 2019-20, 2020-21 and 2021-22. In its reply, the Department has informed regarding the final utilisation as against the final allocation with respect to only**

one Scheme, *i.e.*, the Pradhan Mantri Matsya Sampada Yojana which was 98.12%. The Department is, however, conspicuously silent on the overall utilisation of allocated funds to the Department under all the Schemes during the year 2021-22 as compared to the Revised Estimates for that year. In this regard the Committee understand that the allocated funds should be evenly utilised during the course of the year so that rush funding by the end of the financial year can be avoided. Therefore, the Committee reiterate their earlier observation that the allocated funds should be utilised in a gradual and even manner and the Department should strive hard to utilise the funds fully, so that, the goals as envisaged are achieved during the stipulated timeframe.

**Status of Utilisation of Funds**  
**Recommendation (Serial No.3)**

1.8 The Committee had observed/recommended as under:-

"The Committee note that the amount of Utilization Certificates(UCs) pending with States and Union territories have kept on increasing year after year in the last three years. As on 01.04.2020, UCs amounting to Rs. 824.54 Crore were pending. In the year 2021 (as on 01.04.2021) pending UCs increased to Rs. 1035.83 Crore and as on 31.01.2022, UCs worth Rs. 1263.80 Crore are pending from State and Union territories. The Committee also observe that some States like Andhra Pradesh, Maharashtra, Karnataka, Tamil Nadu and Uttar Pradesh have huge pendency of Utilization Certificates as intimated to them by the Department. The Committee are of the considered opinion that this increasing pendency of UCs is surely hampering implementation of the Programmes/Schemes run by the Department and the monitoring of spending by the Department is not doing their task. The explanation about unspent balances by the Department of Fisheries that due to rainy season, funds remain unspent is unacceptable to the Committee. The Committee, therefore, recommend the Department to seriously look into their matter and take up the issue of pendency of UCs with States and Union territories with utmost seriousness and actively pursue them to utilize the allocated funds within

specified time so that the Fishing Communities in these States and Union territories get maximum benefits from the Schemes and programmes being implemented by the Department.

1.9 In its Action-taken Reply, the Department has submitted as under:-

"The amount of unspent balance includes central financial assistance released during the same year or the immediate presiding year. Normally, as per GFR, 2017 the implementing agencies requires 12 months for normal proposals and 18 months for large infrastructure based activities. Most of the activities under PMMSY are infrastructure based seasonal activities like establishment of hatchery, Re-circulatory Aquaculture System, construction/excavation of pond, establishment of feed mills, Brood bank, Post-harvest infrastructure including construction of cold storage/Ice plant, fish landing centers, fishing harbor, Deep sea fishing vessels, establishment of disease diagnostic and quality testing laboratory, Construction of fish retail markets, Sea weed park/aqua park, etc, which take time for grounding. Release of State matching share in time by the States are one of the major limitation for grounding of the scheme.

2. Further, State/UT-wise actual funds allocation in a given financial year depend upon various factors such as central PMMSY budgetary allocation, fund utilization by the States/UTs, timely submission of complete project proposals, sectoral and national priorities, achievement of fish production targets, mobilization of additional budgetary resources by State/UTs, reforms undertaken in Fisheries Sector including its management, best practices, development of fisheries entrepreneurs, etc.

3. Moreover, States/UTs and Implementing Agencies are being continuously reminded through National Review Meetings, Regional Review Meetings, Field Visits and Video Conferences to liquidate the pending Utilization Certificates and submit proposal for release of fund so as to achieve the desired targets under PMMSY".

**1.10 The Committee had opined that the increasing pendency of Utilisation Certificates with States and Union territories is hampering implementation of various Schemes and Programmes being implemented by the Department for the fishing communities, and, thereby recommended the Department to actively pursue the matter with States and Union territories regarding the same. However, the Department in its reply has only furnished the routine procedure of reminders that has been resorted to, by them, in pursuing the States and Union territories to liquidate the pending Utilisation Certificates. They have not taken any concrete steps to obtain early the Utilisation Certificates from the States and Union territories. Therefore, the Committee reiterate their earlier recommendation and recommend the Department to take concrete and effective measures to minimise the pendency of Utilisation Certificates with States and Union territories.**

**Shrimp Export**  
**Recommendation (Serial No.6)**

1.11 The Committee had observed/recommended as under:-

"The Committee note that Production, Quantity of Shrimp Exported and Export value realized from Shrimp Export have constantly increased from the year 2016-17 to year 2019-20. However, the production and Export of Shrimp have seen a downfall in the year 2020-21. The Committee have been informed that the Government has set up an ambitious target to double the Shrimp Export by expanding the area under production, productivity and value addition during the next five years. In order to achieve this target, the Government has proposed reduction in duty on certain 'Inputs' required from Shrimp Aquaculture in the Budget 2022-23. The Committee have been further informed that the 'Inputs' required for Shrimp Aquaculture includes Atlantic Salmon, Live SPF Black Tiger Shrimp, Frozen Krill, Frozen Mussel, Frozen Squid and Algal Oil etc. The proposed duty reduction on these inputs ranges from 10 % to 15% from existing 30% duty on these products. The Committee, however, note that the duty to be levied on Atlantic Salmon is proposed to be

hiked to 30% from the existing rate of 10%. The Committee are of the opinion that such hike in duty (from 10% to 30%) on Atlantic Salmon is undesirable particularly when the duty to be levied on other 'Inputs' is proposed to be reduced. The Committee, therefore, recommend that the duty being levied/to be levied on 'Atlantic Salmon' should remain same as the existing or reduce it on the lines of duty reduction proposed on other 'Inputs' required for Shrimp Aquaculture. The Committee also recommend the Department to formulate a clear cut Action Plan for each State and Union territories of the country, to achieve the ambitious target of doubling of Shrimp Export in next five years and apprise the Committee accordingly".

1.12 In its Action-taken Reply, the Department has submitted as under:-

"During the year 2021-22, the marine products exports stood at an all-time high of USD 7.76 billion (Rs. 57,587 crore) as against USD 5.96 billion in 2020-21. However, there was a fall in exports of marine products due to global impact of Covid-19 pandemic during 2020- 21 on account of shutdown of global market in general, hotels and hospitality sectors in importing countries in particular.

2. Towards meeting the objective set under the flagship scheme implemented by the Department *i.e* PMMSY and in order to enhance India's export competitiveness and higher price realization, the PMMSY supports a basket of interventions/activities along the fisheries value chain. These include quality fish production, expansion, diversification and intensification of brackish water aquaculture, promotion of export-oriented species, infusion of technology, robust disease management framework, promotion of good aquaculture practices, branding, standards, certification and traceability, training and capacity building, creation of modern post-harvest infrastructure with seamless cold chain, development of modern fishing harbours and fish landing centres, etc.



3. Further, the Marine Products Export Development Authority (MPEDA), Department of Commerce has been taking various steps to promote export of marine products from India to other countries including brand promotion. These inter-alia include participation in various trade fairs and exhibitions, and organizing 62 Virtual Buyer Seller Meets (VBSMs) with the importing countries for the benefit of the stakeholders. Additionally, MPEDA has been reached out to 62 Indian Missions in selected markets for assistance to promote seafood exports from India. MPEDA is in the process of formulating a clear cut action plan for boosting exports.

4. Moreover, as per announcement made by Hon'ble Finance Minister in budget speech in 2022 regarding the relaxation in fisheries and aquaculture sector as: "Duty is being reduced to certain inputs required for shrimp aquaculture so as to promote its exports". Since the shrimp aquaculture industry is heavily dependent on the import of larval seeds, artemia and shrimp broodstock as there is hardly any production in the country, it will lower the production cost of shrimp hatchery and other input costs. It is further, submitted that 'Atlantic Salmon' is a food item and competes with indigenously produced fish. Since, it is not a input item for shrimp industry, reductions of duty may not help the shrimp industry. On the other hand hike in duty on Atlantic salmon will increase demand for domestic fish."

**1.13 The Committee had desired that the Department formulates a clear cut plan for each State and Union Territory of the country, to achieve the target of doubling of Shrimp Export in the next five years. However, in its reply the Department has merely stated the interventions and activities undertaken by them under the PMMSY, to enhance India's export competitiveness and have further stated that Marine Products Export Development Authority (MPEDA) is still in the process of formulating a clear cut action plan for boosting exports. The Committee, however, would further like to know from the Department, its action plan for boosting exports and also how the Government is progressing to achieve the target of doubling of shrimp export in next five years.**

**Fishery Survey of India(FSI)**  
**Recommendation (Serial No.7)**

1.14 The Committee had observed/recommended as under:-

"The Committee note that the achievement of Physical Target during 2021-22 under various components of Fishery Survey of India (FSI) are significantly low e.g. for 'No. of fishing days by vessels' the achievement is 447 out of set target of 1744; for 'sampling hours for bottom and mid-water trawling', it is 1962 out of 5355; for 'No. of hooks operated for Tuna long lining', it is 44814 out of 304540 etc. The Committee are informed by the Department that the reasons for this non-satisfactory achievements of Physical Targets during 2021-22 by the Department include, among others, the Old age of vessels operated by FSI -most of the vessels are above 30 years old which results in long dry-docking period and delay in under water steel plots renewals. The Committee in their earlier Report also (Report No. 12, 17<sup>th</sup> Lok Sabha, Recommendation Para No. 6 refers) had looked into this issue and recommended the Department to explore the possibility of replacing the ageing vessels being run by FSI. Keeping in mind, the important task of assessing of our peculiar Marine Resources by the FSI, the Committee reiterate their earlier recommendation and desire the Department to take up the issue of requirement of additional funds for replacement of all ageing vessels in a time bound manner and the matter be taking with the Ministry of Finance so that the Physical Performance of FSI sufficiently improves in the coming years."

1.15 In its Action-taken Reply, the Department has submitted as under:-

"Regarding the replacement of old vessels, necessary funding provision has been kept in PMMSY. Options are being explored to lease in multipurpose Fisheries and oceanographic vessels by FSI to replace the ageing vessels instead of procuring new vessels. Action will be taken to replace the ageing vessels in a time bound manner to improve physical performance of FSI".

**1.16 The Committee had categorically recommended that the Department should take up the issue of additional funds for replacement of all ageing vessels and that the matter be taken up with the Ministry of Finance so as to improve physical performance of the Fishery Survey of India (FSI) in the coming years. The Department, however, has stated that options are being explored and action will be taken to replace the ageing vessels in a time bound manner so as to improve physical performance of FSI. The Committee therefore would further like to know the final outcome of the efforts made by the Government in this regard.**

**Budget and Cash Management Scheme  
Recommendation (Serial No. 10)**

1.17 The Committee had observed/recommended as under:-

"The Committee note that the Actual Expenditure made by the Department in Q1 of the Financial Year 2021-22 stands at Rs. 109.50 Crore out of proposed amount of Rs. 422.187 Crore, in Q2 of the same year, it is Rs. 428.28 Crore out of Rs. 422.187 Crore, for Q3, it is Rs. 260.58 Crore out of Rs. 281.96 Crore and in Q4 (as on 15.02.2022), the Actual Expenditure stands at Rs. 65.99 Crore out of Rs. 281.46 Crore. The Committee are dismayed to note that the Department has failed to adhere to the prescribed guidelines of Quarterly Expenditure Plan(QEP)/ Monthly Expenditure Plan (MEP) in each State and Union territory and the Department has not been able to spend the funds allocated to it in a planned manner. The Committee, therefore, recommend the Department to plan the Monthly Expenditure to be made by it in the manner as submitted by them to the Ministry of Finance. Further, the Committee also recommend that the Department should stick to the guidelines issued for QEP/MEP and ensure that the allocated funds are utilized as per the guidelines, during 2022-23".

1.18 In its Action-taken Reply, the Department has submitted as under:-

"The recommendation of the Committee is noted for strict compliance. Department is making sincere efforts in adhering to the quarterly and monthly expenditure progress targets as stipulated in the Detailed Demands for Grants -2022-23".

**1.19 The Committee had earlier recommended that the Department should stick to the guidelines issued for Quarterly Expenditure Plan/Monthly Expenditure Plan (QEP/MEP) and ensure that the allocated funds are utilized as per the guidelines during 2022-23. The Department in its reply has informed that it is making sincere efforts in adhering to the quarterly and monthly expenditure progress targets, which are not convincing and unacceptable. Therefore, the Committee reiterate their earlier recommendation that the Department should plan the monthly expenditure and should stick to the guidelines issued for QEP/MEP and ensure that the allocated funds are utilized as per guidelines.**

**Pradhan Mantri Matsya Sampada Yojana  
Recommendation (Serial No. 11)**

1.20 The Committee had observed/recommended as under:-

"The Committee note that the Department is implementing a Flagship Scheme namely the Pradhan Mantri Matsya Sampada Yojana (PMMSY), a Scheme to bring about Blue Revolution through sustainable and responsible development of Fisheries sector at a total investment of Rs. 20,050 Crore comprising of (a) Central share of Rs. 9407 Crore, (b) State share of Rs 4880 Crore and (c) Beneficiaries contribution of Rs. 5763 Crore for a period of 5 years from FY 2020-21 to FY 2024-25 in all States/Union Territories. The Scheme intends to address the critical gaps in fish production and productivity, quality, technology, post-harvest infrastructure and management, modernization and strengthening of value chain, traceability, establishing robust fisheries management framework and fishers welfare. The Committee also note that out

of Rs.1200 Crore under PMMSY during 2021-22 amounting to 70% of RE, a sum of Rs.737.85 Crore has been sanctioned to States/Union Territories. Besides, pending liability of Rs.258.07 Crore and Rs.503.61 Crore on account of the approved project for the year 2020-21 and 2021-22 respectively are also under process for release of funds to various States/Union Territories and other agencies. Further, delay in utilization of allocated funds during 2021-22 is primarily related to imposition of the revised procedure of release of fund including the creation of SNA account by States/Union Territories and financial sanction of the proposal in four installments instead of earlier financial sanction in two installments as per the Ministry of Finance directive. In this regard, the Committee recommend the Department to ensure that there should not be delays in utilization of allocated funds due to revision of procedure of release of funds including the creation of SNA (Single Nodal Account) by States/Union Territories. The Committee desire the Department to actively pursue the State/UT Governments for creation of SNA so that the proper, timely and effective usage of the allocated funds can be ensured".

1.21 In its Action-taken Reply, the Department has submitted as under:-

"The recommendation of the committee is noted for strict compliance. States/UTs and Implementing Agencies are continuously and closely being monitored for strict compliance of the guidelines as issued by Ministry of Finance from time to time with respect to Single Nodal Agency as well as to utilize the funds released within the stipulated time frame enabling the Department for release of funds for further installments for smooth implementation of the PMMSY in a time bound manner".

**1.22 The Pradhan Mantri Matsya Sampada Yojana (PMMSY) being the Flagship Scheme of the Department with a total investment of Rs. 20,050 Crore which aims to address the critical gaps in fish production and productivity, quality, technology, post harvest infrastructure, management, modernization and strengthening of value chain, etc., has a central aim of enhancing fishers**

welfare at its core. Therefore, the utilisation of funds allocated to the scheme forms a critical aspect for successful implementation of the Scheme. The Committee appreciate the efforts of the Department in monitoring the implementation of the PMMSY in the States/UTs and by the Implementing Agencies so that they adhere to the guidelines *w.r.t.* Single Nodal Agency. The Committee, however, would further like to be apprised of the final outcome of the efforts made by the Department in this regard.

## **CHAPTER II OBSERVATIONS/RECOMMENDATIONS THAT HAVE BEEN ACCEPTED BY THE GOVERNMENT**

### **Analysis of Demand No. 43 Recommendation (Serial No.1)**

The Committee note that the Department of Fisheries has been allocated total Budgetary support of Rs. 2118.47 Crore at BE Stage in 2022-23, which is 73.52% more than that the BE Stage allocation in 2021-22. The Committee are informed that the enhanced allocation in BE 2020-23 includes the implementation of two major Schemes namely (i) Pradhan Mantri Matsya Sampada Yojana (PMMSY) and (ii) Fisheries and Aquaculture Infrastructure Development Fund (FIDF). Under the PMMSY, the allocated Budget of Rs.1879 Crores as per the Cabinet approval and the said allocated funds has been planned to be utilized to carry forward the implementation of the projects approved during 2020-21 and 2021-22 as the department has an outstanding carry forward liability of Rs. 700-800 Crore by the end of 31<sup>st</sup> March, 2022 on account of the approved projects. The Committee observe that the yearly Actual Expenditure w.r.t. to RE made by the Department in last three years i.e. 2019-20, 2020-21 and 2021-22 (as on 31.01.2022) stands at 93.68%, 97.08% and 58.55% respectively. Utilization of only 58.55 % funds by 31st January, 2022 proves that the Department has no option but to resort to rush of funds in the last two months of the Financial Year 2021-22. It also points out to non-satisfactory monthly expenditure by the Department during 2021-22 so far. The Committee are, therefore, of the considered opinion that the Department should strive hard every year here-in-after to ensure complete Utilization of Funds allocated.

### **Reply of the Government**

The Department of Fisheries was able to utilize Rs 1169.19 crore against the final allocations of Rs 1191.45 Crore (Final Requirement) which is 98.12% under the Pradhan Mantri Matsya Sampada Yojana during the year 2021-22 even after imposition of revised procedure for release of funds to States for the Centrally Sponsored Schemes (CSS) and Monitoring utilization of the funds issued by Ministry of Finance being implemented for all the scheme w.e.f 1st July, 2021. During these

period, the process of notification of the Single Nodal Agency and states/UTs took time to understand the procedure and roll out the guidelines, which created hindrance for implementation of the PMMSY and release of central funds in time to the implementing agencies.

2. During the current financial year states/UTs have been sensitized and the entire system of implementation is being monitored by the Department through review meetings and one-to one interactive meetings to avoid delay in implementation of the scheme at various states/UTs.

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### **Comments of the Committee**

For Comments of the Committee please refer to Para No.1.7 of Chapter I of this Report.

### **Recommendation (Serial No.2)**

The Committee appreciate higher allocation by Ministry of Finance to the Department for BE 2022-23, despite poor utilization of funds in the previous year so far. The Committee recommend the Department to devise concrete Action Plan to ensure proper and effective Utilization of enhanced allocation to the tune of 73.52% more than that the BE stage allocation in 2021-22. The Committee further recommend that the Department should ensure time bound completion of the projects approved during 2020-21 and 2021-22 as the Department has as per its own estimates, an outstanding carry forward liability of Rs. 700-900 Crore by the end of 31<sup>st</sup> March, 2022 on account of approved projects.

### **Reply of the Government**

The recommendation of the committee is noted for strict compliance. An amount of Rs. 1879 crore has been earmarked under Pradhan Mantri Matsya Sampada Yojana for the year 2022-23 at BE stage. Under PMMSY, project proposals



worth of Rs. 7268 crore has been approved by the Department of Fisheries for all the States/UTs and other implementing agencies in the last two years (2020-21 to 2021-22), which shows the demand among the stakeholders as well as the priority for implementation towards targeting the goal set under the scheme. As per the OM of Ministry of Finance dated 23.03.2021, 23.03.2022 and 20.05.2022 regarding Single Nodal Agency, due to non-compliance of the points stipulated in the said OMs by the states/UTs are the hindrance of release of funds for successful implementation of PMMSY.

2. The Department has been continuously pursuing with Ministry of Finance on the said matter and also vigorously monitoring the implementation of the revised procedure for release of CSS funds with the States/UTs at higher level.

3. The Department is also doing its best to ensure optimum utilization of allocated funds and trying to improve its performance in the first part of the FY 2022-23.

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**Empowerment of Women**  
**Recommendation (Serial No 4)**

The Committee observe that a Gender Budget Cell has been set up in the Department with the objective of influencing and effecting a change in the Ministry's policies and programs in a way that can tackle gender imbalances, promote gender equality and empowerment of women. It is headed by Joint Secretary (Inland Fisheries & Administration). Currently, the Department has not earmarked any specific funds for women component, however, it is advising States/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. The Committee also note that Fisheries and

Aquaculture sector provides livelihood support to 2.8 Crore fishers in the country. Out of the total fishermen in the country, 12,397,908 are women. Further separate details of Registered as well as Unregistered Fish Farmers in the country as on date is not available with this Department. Fisheries being a State subject, the same is maintained by the concerned State Government. The Committee are also informed that the Department does not have any proposal for earmarking specific funds for women beneficiaries in the near future. Further, the Committee have also observed that there are no women beneficiaries from States like Andhra Pradesh, Assam, Daman and Diu, Goa, Jammu and Kashmir, Jharkhand, Lakshadweep, Madhya Pradesh, Mizoram, Nagaland, Odisha, Punjab, Rajasthan, Sikkim, Tamil Nadu and Uttarakhand, who have got benefitted from Scheme run by the Department in the year 2021-22. The Committee, therefore, recommend the Department to ascertain the exact number of Women Fishers in the Country with the help of States/Union territories Governments. The Committee also desire the Department to work in coherence with the State/UT Governments and ensure that 30 percent of funds, as suggested and prescribed, should be used for benefit of women fishers in the Country. The Committee desire that the Department should formulate concrete action plan in this regard and apprise the Committee regarding the same.

### **Reply of the Government**

Department of Fisheries, Gol has been working towards overall development of the Fisheries sector in the country and also ensures that women entrepreneurs/farmers are well supported and encouraged. Department of Fisheries provided financial assistance and technical hand holding for various activities such as seaweed cultivation, culture and breeding of ornamental fish, culture of food fish in ponds and tanks, paddy cum fish culture, cage culture in reservoirs, setting up of backyard Re-circulatory Aquaculture System units, Aquatic Animal Health Laboratories, procurement of fish marketing vehicles, cold chain management, fish drying and processing besides conducting various awareness programs, workshops, capacity building and training programs specifically for women in Fisheries sector and also to create opportunities to women for developing as startup/entrepreneurs.

Besides, National Fisheries Development Board, autonomous organization under Department of Fisheries has organized various activities to improve the nutritional status of children, pregnant women and lactating mothers under “Rashtriya Poshan Maah” programme during the entire month of September 2021. Since, its inception, the Board has extensively funded 93 projects amounting to a total project cost of Rs.6,023.98 Lakh for women entrepreneurs/ farmers.

2. Empowerment of weaker and underprivileged sections is a key focus area for the Government of India. Through implementation of various activities and schemes, socio-economic status has been improved along with improvements in achieving food security for the underprivileged in the Fisheries sector. Further actions taken to improve the gender equality and recognition of the role of women in fisheries are expected to increase women participation contributing to overall development in Fisheries sector.

3. Moreover, each State is proposing for women beneficiaries covering both General, SC/ST categories, which can be taken as more than 30%. The Department of Fisheries, Gol, during 2020-21 under CSS component of PMMSY sanctioned projects of a total project cost of Rs.588.85 crores with Central share of Rs.229.57 crores for women beneficiaries. This constitutes about 26% of Central share of Rs.885.74 crore sanctioned during 2020-21. Similarly, during FY 2021-22, projects worth at a total Project cost of Rs.655.26 crore with a Central share of Rs.245.44 crore have been approved for women beneficiaries. This constitutes about 27.60% of Central share of Rs.889.30 crore sanctioned during 2021-22.

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**Tribal Sub-Plan (Tsp)**  
**Recommendation (Serial No.5)**

The Committee note that the Government has made provision for earmarking specific funds for implementation of Tribal Sub-Plan (TSP) under different Schemes/Programmes. The Committee also note that the percentage utilization of funds *w.r.t.* RE by the Department under TSP for the years 2019-20, 2020-21 and

2021-22 stands at 92.76%, 99.9% and 47.3% (as on 15.02.2022) respectively. The Committee have noticed that the utilization of funds in the current year i.e. 2021-22 upto 15.02.2022 is less than 50% of the RE. The Committee deplore this type of fund utilization by the Department as the remaining funds for this year will be hurriedly utilized by the Department. The Committee also observe that in 2021-22, no allocation of funds has been made to the States/Union territories like Andhra Pradesh, Arunachal Pradesh, Goa, Jammu and Kashmir, Maharashtra, Tamil Nadu etc. - having sizeable tribal population. The Committee have been informed that under TSP, the Department does not set State-wise specific targets, instead it sees overall Country's target. Further, the achievement under TSP depends on the proposals received from respective State Governments. The Committee, therefore, recommend that the Department should atleast earmarked funds under TSP for those States which have significant Tribal Population. The Committee also desire that the Department should make earnest efforts to raise awareness about TSP among the State Governments so that the benefit of this programme reaches to maximum persons of Tribal Community.

### **Reply of the Government**

The recommendation of the committee is noted for strict compliance. During the FY 2021-22, Department of Fisheries utilized Rs. 108.48 crore against the allocation of Rs. 110.00 crore which is 98.61%. The flagship scheme PMMSY is a demand driven scheme and the proposals approved by the Department are mostly based on the proposals received from States/UTs and other implementing agencies. Further, Department encourages involvements of more tribal beneficiaries by offering increase in financial assistance under PMMSY as compared to general category.

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### **Kisan Credit Card (Kcc) Facility to Fishermen Recommendation (Serial No.8)**

The Committee note that in order to address the credit needs of fish farmers, the Government of India in 2018-19 extended the facility of KCC to Fisheries in

addition to Animal Husbandry Farmers to help them meet their working capital needs. For fishers and fish farmers, the working capital includes the cost of fuel, ice, labour charges, mooring/landing charges, etc. The credit limit for the existing KCC holders is Rs. 3 lakhs, whereas the limit for new KCC holders for fisheries is only Rs. 2 lakhs. The Committee observe that there are approximately 2.68 Crore fish farmers in the Country and the number of KCC sanctioned as of now is only 77559. The Committee further note that a total of 1,27,289 number of KCC applications have been rejected .The major reasons for rejections are (i) Large number of application had been submitted for allied activities such as fish vending, fish drying, marketing, etc. which do not fall under the category 'fish farmer'. (ii) In most States, inland fishers do not get license and without license, bankers are not willing to sanction KCC.The Committee have been informed that the Department has taken up the issue of inclusion of Allied Activities such as fish vending, fish far marketing, etc. for Kisan Credit Card Scheme with the Department of Financial Services. The Committee, therefore, recommend the Department to expedite this issue with the Department of Financial Services on priority basis and ensure that the allied activities in Fishery Sector get included for issuance of Kisan Credit Card. The Committee also recommend the Department to do aggressive campaigning of KCC Scheme among fisherfolk in each State and Union territory so that the penetration of this Scheme increases among farmers and maximum fishermen derive benefits from the Kisan Credit Card Scheme. The Committee would like to be apprised of the steps taken in this regard.

### **Reply of the Government**

The Government of India in 2018-19 extended the facility of KCC to Fisheries Farmers in addition to Animal Husbandry Farmers to help them meet their working capital needs. The Department is pursuing with state Departments for canvassing of applications for KCC from fishers and fish farmers. As on today, the number of KCC sanctioned is 1, 20, 305. The Department has already taken up the issue of inclusion of Allied Activities in the KCC scheme for fishers and will take steps to expedite the same. Department has already obtained approval of RBI vide circular dated

18.05.2022 for issue of KCC to those inland fishers not having a license on the basis of certificate to be issued by the appropriate authority. A special drive for mobilisation of KCC applications was organized from 1<sup>st</sup> June to 31<sup>st</sup> December, 2020 by the DoF. Subsequent to this, a Nation-wide campaign to ensure the covering of all the eligible fishers and fish farmers was launched on 15.11.2021 and it is to continue till 31.07.2022.

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**Fisheries and Aquaculture Infrastructure Development Fund (FIDF)**  
**Recommendation (Serial No.9)**

The Committee have been informed that the Fisheries and Aquaculture Infrastructure Development Fund (FIDF) was created by the Government during Financial Year 2018-19 with a total fund size of Rs. 7,522.48 Crore for addressing the gaps in Fisheries Infrastructure. In this, Rs. 5266.40 Crores to be raised by the Nodal Loaning Entities (NLEs) and Rs. 1316.60 Crore by beneficiaries'. The Disbursement period for this Scheme is from 2018-19 to 2022-23. The Committee note that so far the Department of Fisheries has approved the proposals to the tune of Rs. 3783.46 Crore and recommended to various States and Union territories. 14 Fishing Harbours have so far been approved under FIDF at a total cost of Rs. 3451.32 Crore for Tamil Nadu (5 Fishing Harbours), Andhra Pradesh (4 Fishing Harbours) and Gujarat (5 Fishing Harbours). An amount of Rs. 700.78 Crore has been sanctioned by the NABARD to the Government of Tamil Nadu for which Rs. 229.4272 Crore have been released. Further, the NABARD has sanctioned an amount of Rs. 5 Crore to the Government of Goa, in which the Scheduled Banks have sanctioned Rs. 2.48 Crore to three private beneficiaries. The Government of Andhra Pradesh and the Government of Gujarat have not submitted as submitted by the Department, the loan applications to NABARD for availing loan under the FIDF. The Committee are disappointed to note that the FIDF is in its last year of implementation and proposals to the tune of only Rs. 3783.46 Crore out of the corpus of Rs. 7522.48 Crore have been approved till now which is just 50.29% of the corpus. The Committee are of the

opinion that the State Governments and Union territory Administrations have not fully availed the benefits of this fund as they are not actively taking loans under the FIDF. The Committee, therefore, recommend the Department to actively pursue the matter with the State and UT concerned and apprise them accordingly, so that the full benefits of FIDF is realised before its completion in the Financial Year 2022-23.

### **Reply of the Government**

The Department of Fisheries is actively pursuing with the States/UTs to avail the benefits under FIDF before completion of the scheme. The Department of Fisheries has conducted meetings with States/UTs/SLBC/NABARD/NCDC to address the challenges faced by them and advised to submit the proposal under FIDF. NFDB being the Nodal Implementing Agency (NIA) in communicating through different media to inform the benefits of FIDF scheme with the stakeholders like entrepreneurs, investors, fish farmers, State department officials, NABARD, NCDC, SLBC Conveners & representatives of Scheduled banks. The activities undertaken by NFDB are given below:

1. Wide publicity has been given through social media platforms viz, Twitter, Facebook and Instagram.
2. Advertisements through print media platforms in English & other vernacular languages like Hindi, Tamil, Marathi, Oriya, Assamese, Bengali, Gujarati and Telugu.
3. Webinars, workshops with the entrepreneurs, fish farmers, State Department officials, Bankers, NABARD, and NCDC officials to create an awareness on FIDF Scheme.
4. For each project, the bankability and the economic viability is being scrutinized at NFDB and State Level Bankers Committee (SLBC) convenors are being requested to coordinate with the concerned beneficiaries and scheduled banks.
5. Video Conference with CGM, NABARD, SLBC convenors, States/UTs and Private Entrepreneurs to understand and sort out the issues

6. FIDF Two-page brochure and leaflets in 10 languages are prepared and uploaded on NFDB website.

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**CHAPTER III**

**OBSERVATIONS/RECOMMENDATIONS WHICH THE  
COMMITTEE DO NOT DESIRE TO  
PURSUE IN VIEW OF THE GOVERNMENT'S ACTION TAKEN REPLY**

**-NIL-**

## CHAPTER IV

### OBSERVATIONS/RECOMMENDATIONS IN REPECT OF WHICH ACTION TAKEN REPLIES OF THE GOVERNMENT HAVE NOT BEEN ACCEPTED BY THE COMMITTEE

#### **Status of Utilisation of Funds** **Recommendation (Serial No.3)**

The Committee note that the amount of Utilization Certificates (UCs) pending with States and Union territories have kept on increasing year after year in the last three years. As on 01.04.2020, UCs amounting to Rs. 824.54 Crore were pending. In the year 2021 (as on 01.04.2021) pending UCs increased to Rs. 1035.83 Crore and as on 31.01.2022, UCs worth Rs. 1263.80 Crore are pending from State and Union territories. The Committee also observe that some States like Andhra Pradesh, Maharashtra, Karnataka, Tamil Nadu and Uttar Pradesh have huge pendency of Utilization Certificates as intimated to them by the Department. The Committee are of the considered opinion that this increasing pendency of UCs is surely hampering implementation of the Programmes/Schemes run by the Department and the monitoring of spending by the Department is not doing their task. The explanation about unspent balances by the Department of Fisheries that due to rainy season, funds remain unspent is unacceptable to the Committee. The Committee, therefore, recommend the Department to seriously look into their matter and take up the issue of pendency of UCs with States and Union territories with utmost seriousness and actively pursue them to utilize the allocated funds within specified time so that the Fishing Communities in these States and Union territories get maximum benefits from the Schemes and programmes being implemented by the Department.

#### **Reply of the Government**

The amount of unspent balance includes central financial assistance released during the same year or the immediate presiding year. Normally, as per GFR, 2017 the implementing agencies requires 12 months for normal proposals and 18 months for large infrastructure based activities. Most of the activities under PMMSY are

infrastructure based seasonal activities like establishment of hatchery, Re-circulatory Aquaculture System, construction/excavation of pond, establishment of feed mills, Brood bank, Post-harvest infrastructure including construction of cold storage/Ice plant, fish landing centers, fishing harbor, Deep sea fishing vessels, establishment of disease diagnostic and quality testing laboratory, Construction of fish retail markets, Sea weed park/aqua park etc, which take time for grounding. Release of state matching share in time by the States are one of the major limitation for grounding of the scheme.

2. Further, State/UT-wise actual fund allocation in a given financial year depend upon various factors such as central PMMSY budgetary allocation, fund utilization by the States/UTs, timely submission of complete project proposals, sectoral and national priorities, achievement of fish production targets, mobilization of additional budgetary resources by State/UTs, reforms undertaken in Fisheries Sector including its management, best practices, development of fisheries entrepreneurs etc.

3. Moreover, States/UTs and Implementing Agencies are being continuously reminded through National Review Meetings, Regional Review Meetings, Field Visits and Video Conferences to liquidate the pending Utilization Certificates and submit proposal for release of fund so as to achieve the desired targets under PMMSY.

### **Comments of the Committee**

For Comments of the Committee please refer to Para No.1.10 of Chapter I of this Report.

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### **Budget and Cash Management Scheme** **Recommendation (Serial No. 10)**

The Committee note that the Actual Expenditure made by the Department in Q1 of the Financial Year 2021-22 stands at Rs. 109.50 Crore out of proposed

amount of Rs. 422.187 Crore, in Q2 of the same year, it is Rs. 428.28 Crore out of Rs. 422.187 Crore, for Q3, it is Rs. 260.58 Crore out of Rs. 281.96 Crore and in Q4 (as on 15.02.2022), the Actual Expenditure stands at Rs. 65.99 Crore out of Rs. 281.46 Crore. The Committee are dismayed to note that the Department has failed to adhere to the prescribed guidelines of Quarterly Expenditure Plan (QEP)/ Monthly Expenditure Plan (MEP) in each State and Union territory and the Department has not been able to spend the funds allocated to it in a planned manner. The Committee, therefore, recommend the Department to plan the Monthly Expenditure to be made by it in the manner as submitted by them to the Ministry of Finance. Further, the Committee also recommend that the Department should stick to the guidelines issued for QEP/MEP and ensure that the allocated funds are utilized as per the guidelines, during 2022-23.

### **Reply of the Government**

The recommendation of the committee is noted for strict compliance. Department is making sincere efforts in adhering to the quarterly and monthly expenditure progress targets as stipulated in the Detailed Demands for Grants -2022-23.

### **Comments of the Committee**

For Comments of the Committee please refer to Para No.1.19 of Chapter I of this Report.

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## CHAPTER V

### OBSERVATIONS/RECOMMENDATIONS IN RESPECT OF WHICH FINAL REPLIES OF THE GOVERNMENT ARE STILL AWAITED

#### Shrimp Export Recommendation (Serial No.6)

The Committee note that Production, Quantity of Shrimp Exported and Export value realized from Shrimp Export have constantly increased from the year 2016-17 to year 2019-20. However, the production and Export of Shrimp have seen a downfall in the year 2020-21. The Committee have been informed that the Government has set up an ambitious target to double the Shrimp Export by expanding the area under production, productivity and value addition during the next five years. In order to achieve this target, the Government has proposed reduction in duty on certain 'Inputs' required from Shrimp Aquaculture in the Budget 2022-23. The Committee have been further informed that the 'Inputs' required for Shrimp Aquaculture includes Atlantic Salmon, Live SPF Black Tiger Shrimp, Frozen Krill, Frozen Mussel, Frozen Squid and Algal Oil etc. The proposed duty reduction on these inputs ranges from 10 % to 15% from existing 30% duty on these products. The Committee, however, note that the duty to be levied on Atlantic Salmon is proposed to be hiked to 30% from the existing rate of 10%. The Committee are of the opinion that such hike in duty (from 10% to 30%) on Atlantic Salmon is undesirable particularly when the duty to be levied on other 'Inputs' is proposed to be reduced. The Committee, therefore, recommend that the duty being levied/to be levied on 'Atlantic Salmon' should remain same as the existing or reduce it on the lines of duty reduction proposed on other 'Inputs' required for Shrimp Aquaculture. The Committee also recommend the Department to formulate a clear cut Action Plan for each State and Union territories of the country, to achieve the ambitious target of doubling of Shrimp Export in next five years and apprise the Committee accordingly.

## **Reply of the Government**

During the year 2021-22, the marine products exports stood at an all-time high of USD 7.76 billion (Rs. 57,587 crore) as against USD 5.96 billion in 2020-21. However, there was a fall in exports of marine products due to global impact of Covid-19 pandemic during 2020- 21 on account of shutdown of global market in general, hotels and hospitality sectors in importing countries in particular.

2. Towards meeting the objective set under the flagship scheme implemented by the Department i.e. PMMSY and in order to enhance India's export competitiveness and higher price realization, the PMMSY supports a basket of interventions/activities along the fisheries value chain. These include quality fish production, expansion, diversification and intensification of brackish water aquaculture, promotion of export-oriented species, infusion of technology, robust disease management framework, promotion of good aquaculture practices, branding, standards, certification and traceability, training and capacity building, creation of modern post-harvest infrastructure with seamless cold chain, development of modern fishing harbours and fish landing centres, etc.

3. Further, the Marine Products Export Development Authority (MPEDA), Department of Commerce has been taking various steps to promote export of marine products from India to other countries including brand promotion. These inter-alia include participation in various trade fairs and exhibitions, and organizing 62 Virtual Buyer Seller Meets (VBSMs) with the importing countries for the benefit of the stakeholders. Additionally, MPEDA has been reached out to 62 Indian Missions in selected markets for assistance to promote seafood exports from India. MPEDA is in the process of formulating a clear cut action plan for boosting exports.

4. Moreover, as per announcement made by Hon'ble Finance Minister in budget speech in 2022 regarding the relaxation in fisheries and aquaculture sector as: "Duty is being reduced to certain inputs required for shrimp aquaculture so as to promote its exports". Since the shrimp aquaculture industry is heavily dependent on the import

of larval seeds, artemia and shrimp broodstock as there is hardly any production in the country, it will lower the production cost of shrimp hatchery and other input costs. It is further, submitted that 'Atlantic Salmon' is a food item and competes with indigenously produced fish. Since, it is not a input item for shrimp industry, reductions of duty may not help the shrimp industry. On the other hand hike in duty on Atlantic salmon will increase demand for domestic fish.

### **Comments of the Committee**

For Comments of the Committee please refer to Para No.1.13 of Chapter I of this Report.

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### **Fishery Survey of India (FSI)** **(Recommendation Serial No.7)**

The Committee note that the achievement of Physical Target during 2021-22 under various components of Fishery Survey of India (FSI) are significantly low e.g. for 'No. of fishing days by vessels' the achievement is 447 out of set target of 1744; for 'sampling hours for bottom and mid-water trawling', it is 1962 out of 5355; for 'No. of hooks operated for Tuna long lining', it is 44814 out of 304540 etc. The Committee are informed by the Department that the reasons for this non-satisfactory achievements of Physical Targets during 2021-22 by the Department include, among others, the Old age of vessels operated by FSI -most of the vessels are above 30 years old which results in long dry-docking period and delay in under water steel plots renewals. The Committee in their earlier Report also (Report No. 12, 17th Lok Sabha, Recommendation Para No.6 refers) had looked into this issue and recommended the Department to explore the possibility of replacing the ageing vessels being run by FSI. Keeping in mind, the important task of assessing of our peculiar Marine Resources by the FSI, the Committee reiterate their earlier recommendation and desire the Department to take up the issue of requirement of additional funds for replacement of all ageing vessels in a time bound manner and

the matter be taking with the Ministry of Finance so that the Physical Performance of FSI sufficiently improves in the coming years.

### **Reply of the Government**

Regarding the replacement of old vessels, necessary funding provision has been kept in PMMSY. Options are being explored to lease in multipurpose Fisheries and oceanographic vessels by FSI to replace the ageing vessels instead of procuring new vessels. Action will be taken to replace the ageing vessels in a time bound manner to improve physical performance of FSI.

### **Comments of the Committee**

For Comments of the Committee please refer to Para No.1.16 of Chapter I of this Report.

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### **Pradhan Mantri Matsyasampada Yojana** **Recommendation (Serial No. 11)**

The Committee note that the Department is implementing a Flagship Scheme namely the Pradhan Mantri Matsya Sampada Yojana (PMMSY), a Scheme to bring about Blue Revolution through sustainable and responsible development of Fisheries sector at a total investment of Rs. 20,050 Crore comprising of (a) Central share of Rs. 9407 Crore, (b) State share of Rs 4880 Crore and (c) Beneficiaries contribution of Rs. 5763 Crore for a period of 5 years from FY 2020-21 to FY 2024-25 in all States/Union territories. The Scheme intends to address the critical gaps in fish production and productivity, quality, technology, post-harvest infrastructure and management, modernization and strengthening of value chain, traceability, establishing robust fisheries management framework and fishers welfare. The Committee also note that out of Rs.1200 Crore under PMMSY during 2021-22 amounting to 70% of RE, a sum of Rs.737.85 Crore has been sanctioned to States/Union territories. Besides, pending liability of Rs.258.07 Crore and Rs.503.61



Coreon account of the approved project for the year 2020-21 and 2021-22 respectively are also under process for release of funds to various States/Union territories and other agencies. Further, delay in utilization of allocated funds during 2021-22 is primarily related to imposition of the revised procedure of release of fund including the creation of SNA account by States/Union territories and financial sanction of the proposal in four installments instead of earlier financial sanction in two installments as per the Ministry of Finance directive. In this regard, the Committee recommend the Department to ensure that there should not be delays in utilization of allocated funds due to revision of procedure of release of funds including the creation of SNA (Single Nodal Account) by States/Union territories. The Committee desire the Department to actively pursue the State/UT Governments for creation of SNA so that the proper, timely and effective usage of the allocated funds can be ensured.

### **Reply of the Government**

The recommendation of the committee is noted for strict compliance. States/UTs and Implementing Agencies are continuously and closely being monitored for strict compliance of the guidelines as issued by Ministry of Finance from time to time with respect to Single Nodal Agency as well as to utilize the funds released within the stipulated time frame enabling the Department for release of funds for further installments for smooth implementation of the PMMSY in a time bound manner.

### **Comments of the Committee**

For Comments of the Committee please refer to Para No.1.22 of Chapter I of this Report.

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**NEW DELHI;**  
**06 December, 2022**  
**15 Agrahayana, 1944 (Saka)**

**P.C. GADDIGOUDAR**  
**Chairperson,**  
***Standing Committee on Agriculture,***  
***Animal Husbandry and Food Processing.***

**Standing Committee on Agriculture, Animal Husbandry and Food Processing  
(2022-23)**

**Minutes of the Second Sitting of the Committee**

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The Committee sat on Tuesday, the 15<sup>th</sup> November, 2022, from 1100hrs. to 1245 hrs.  
in Committee Room No. 3, Block A, Extension to Parliament House Annexe, New Delhi.

**PRESENT**

Shri P.C. Gaddigoudar – *Chairperson*

***Members  
Lok Sabha***

2. Shri A Ganeshamurthi
3. Shri Kanakmal Katara
4. Shri Devji Mansingram Patel
5. Shri Pocha Brahmananda Reddy
6. Shri Devendra Singh *alias* Bhole Singh
7. Shri Ram Kripal Yadav

***Rajya Sabha***

8. Shri Masthan Rao Beeda
9. Dr. Anil Sukhdeorao Bonde
10. Shri S.Kalyansundaram
11. Shri Kailash Soni
12. Shri Randeep Singh Surjewala
13. Shri Ram Nath Thakur

***Secretariat***

- |    |                            |   |                      |
|----|----------------------------|---|----------------------|
| 1. | Shri Shiv Kumar            | - | Additional Secretary |
| 2. | Shri Naval K. Verma        | - | Director             |
| 3. | Shri Uttam Chand Bharadwaj | - | Additional Director  |
| 4. | Shri Prem Ranjan           | - | Deputy Secretary     |
| 5. | Shri N. Amarathiagan       | - | Under Secretary      |

2. At the outset, the Chairperson welcomed the Members to the Sitting of the Standing Committee and informed them that as directed by the Hon'ble Speaker, LAARDIS will make a presentation before the Committee so as to make the Members aware of the new initiatives taken towards capacity building for augmentation of research, new initiatives in the Parliament Library, creating awareness about the rich resources/repositories of the

Parliament Library, training programmes by PRIDE etc. Thereafter, Officers of LAARDIS made their Power Point Presentation.

3. The Committee then took up for consideration the following Action Taken Reports:

\* (i) XXXX            XXXX            XXXX            XXXX            XXXX

\* (ii) XXXX            XXXX            XXXX            XXXX            XXXX

\* (iii) XXXX            XXXX            XXXX            XXXX            XXXX

\* (iv) Draft Action Taken Report on Action-taken by the Government on the Observations/Recommendations contained in the Thirty-Ninth Report of the Committee on 'Demands for Grants (2022-23)' pertaining to the Ministry of Fisheries, Animal Husbandry and Dairying (Department of Fisheries);

\* (v) XXXX            XXXX            XXXX            XXXX            XXXX

\* (vi) XXXX            XXXX            XXXX            XXXX            XXXX

4. After some deliberations, the Committee adopted the Draft Action Taken Reports without any modifications and the Committee authorised the Chairperson to finalise and present these Reports to the Parliament.

\* 5.        XXXX            XXXX            XXXX            XXXX            XXXX

\* 6.        XXXX            XXXX            XXXX            XXXX            XXXX

\* 7.        XXXX            XXXX            XXXX            XXXX            XXXX

\* 8.        XXXX            XXXX            XXXX            XXXX            XXXX

***The Committee then adjourned.***

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\*Matter not related to this Report.

**Appendix**

ANALYSIS OF ACTION TAKEN BY GOVERNMENT ON THE  
OBSERVATIONS/RECOMMENDATIONS CONTAINED IN  
THE THIRTY NINTH REPORT (17<sup>th</sup> LOK SABHA) OF  
STANDING COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE, ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND FOOD  
PROCESSING (2021-22)  
(Vide Para 4 of Introduction of the Report)

(i)	Total number of Recommendations	11
(ii)	Recommendations/Observations which have been Accepted by the Government Para Nos. 1, 2, 4, 5, 8 and 9	
	Total	06
	Percentage	54.54%
(iii)	Recommendations/Observations which the Committee Do not desire to pursue in view of the Government's replies Para No. NIL	
	Total	00
	Percentage	00.00%
(iv)	Recommendations/Observations in respect of which replies of the Government have not been accepted by the Committee Para Nos. 3 and 10	
	Total	02
	Percentage	18.19%
(v)	Recommendations/Observations in respect of which Final replies of the Government are still awaited Para Nos. 6, 7 and 11	
	Total	03
	Percentage	27.27%