



TRADITIONAL FISHERMEN AND FISH FARMERS IN TAMIL NADU

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The Department of Fisheries, Government of India (DoF, GoI) is implementing various schemes and programs for holistic development of fisheries sector and to enhance the livelihood, income and socio-economic welfare of traditional fishermen and fish farmers in the country including Tamil Nadu, such as Pradhan Mantri Matsya Sampada Yojana (PMMSY) (2020-21 to 2024-25), Fisheries and Aquaculture Infrastructure Development Fund (2018-19 to 2025-26), Pradhan Mantri Matsya Kisan Samridhi Sah Yojana (2023-24 to 2026-27) and Extension of the facility of the Kisan Credit Card (KCC) to the fishers and fish farmers to meet their working capital requirements. In the state of Tamil Nadu, a project titled "Establishment of Multipurpose Seaweed Park" has been sanctioned under the PMMSY at a total cost of Rs. 127.71 crore, including component of seaweed multiplication in Hub-I Centre at Valamavur in Ramanathapuram District.

Under PMMSY and schemes of State Government of Tamil Nadu implemented in Ramanathapuram district in the last three financial years (2023-2026), financial assistance in the form of subsidies, insurance coverage and livelihood support has been provided to traditional fishermen and fish farmers for various activities, as detailed in **Annexure I**.

(c): The details of fisheries infrastructure developed in Ramanathapuram district, including fishing harbours, fish landing centres, cold storage facilities, ice plants, fish processing units and aquaculture infrastructure are provided at **Annexure II**.

(d): The Government organizes various skill development and capacity-building programmes for fishermen and fish farmers to enhance their technical skills, disseminate recent innovations and best practices in the fisheries sector, and promote sustainable livelihood opportunities. These training programmes contribute to the livelihood development and socio-economic upliftment of fisher families. 88 training programs covering about 5599 trainees were conducted in the previous 3 years for fishers and fish farmers in Ramanathapuram district. The details are given in **Annexure III**.

(e): The Government is implementing various schemes to promote sustainable fisheries and enhance the livelihood of traditional fishing communities in Ramanathapuram district. Financial assistance and institutional credit is provided for acquisition of 45 deep-sea tuna fishing vessels. In Ramanathapuram District 13,949 Fishermen and farmers are facilitated with access to institutional credit of Rs. 236.26 crore through the Kisan Credit Card (KCC). Further, mariculture activities such as seaweed cultivation and cage culture are being actively promoted to provide alternative livelihood opportunities for fishers and coastal communities. So far, 19,575 seaweed culture rafts and monolines and 499 cage culture units have been established in different districts of Tamil Nadu including Ramanathapuram under various Government schemes. In addition, skill development and capacity-building programmes are regularly organized on seaweed farming, aquaculture and mariculture practices, value addition of fishery products, dry fish

processing, preparation of ready-to-eat fish products, boat driving, marine engine repair and maintenance, net crafting, and recycling of waste fishing nets to enhance the technical skills and income-generating capacity of beneficiaries.

Annexure-I

Statement regarding Traditional Fishermen and Fish Farmers in Tamil Nadu

S. No.	Name of the Project	Units	Project cost (Rs. In Crores)
1.	Establishment & Operation of Vessel Monitoring System (VMS)	402	18.01 (for 4997 units)
2.	Installation of the Turtle Excluder Devices (TED)	885	6.29 (for 2613 units)
3.	Establishment of Seaweed culture rafts including inputs	2100	1.90
4.	Establishment of Seaweed culture with Monoline/tubenet Method including inputs	60	0.028
5.	Construction of Biofloc ponds for Brackish water/Saline/Alkaline areas including inputs	13	1.00
6.	Refrigerated vehicles/Insulated Vehicles/Motor cycle with Ice Box/Cycle with Ice Boxes/Three wheeler with Ice Box including e-rickshaws for fish vending	78	1.52
7.	Tuna Fishing Boat Construction (70% subsidy)	5	4.00
8.	Tuna Fishing Boat Construction (50% subsidy)	10	2.37
9.	Establishment of Open Sea cages	80	0.24
10.	Backyard ornamental unit	1	0.02

11.	Livelihood and nutritional support for socio economically backward active traditional fishers' families for conservation of fisheries resources during fishing ban/lean period	1,19,104	84.08
12.	Group accident insurance scheme	102	5.10

Annexure-II

Statement regarding Traditional Fishermen and Fish Farmers in Tamil Nadu

NABARD SCHEMES - Ongoing Projects			
S.No	Name of the Project	Year of Sanction	Project cost (In Crores)
1	Improvements to the Fish Landing Centre at Thangachimadam in Ramanathapuram District	2024-25	Rs.150.00
2	Construction of Bait Arch at Roachmanagar Village in Ramanathapuram District	2024-25	Rs.20.00
3	Improvements to the Fish Landing Centre at Kunthukal in Ramanathapuram District	2024-25	Rs.148.00
4	Construction of Fish Landing Centre at Pamban North Village in Ramanathapuram District	2024-25	Rs.58.50
NABARD SCHEMES - Completed Projects			
1	Construction of Bait Arch at Merkuvadi village in Ramanathapuram Distric	2025-26	Rs.24.27
FIDF SCHEMES - Ongoing Projects			
1	Construction of Fish Landing Centre at Thiruppalaikudi in Ramanathapuram District	2025-26	Rs.1.63

2	Construction of Fish Landing Centre at Nambuthalai in Ramanathapuram District	2025-26	Rs.1.63
3	Providing Additional Infrastructure Facilities at Rameswaram in Ramanathapuram District	2025-26	Rs.1.63
4	Providing Additional Infrastructure Facilities at Vaalinokkam in Ramanathapuram District	2025-26	Rs.0.80
5	Providing Additional Infrastructure Facilities at Morepannai in Ramanathapuram District	2025-26	Rs.0.80

PMMSY SCHEMES - Completed Projects

1	Fabrication and Installation of Artificial Reefs in 75 Locations of 10 Fishermen Villages in Ramanathapuram – North in Ramanathapuram District	2024-25	Rs.23.25
2	Fabrication and Installation of Artificial Reefs in 39 Locations of 4 Fishermen Villages in Rameswaram in Ramanathapuram District	2024-25	Rs.12.09
3	Fabrication and Installation of Artificial Reefs in 9 Locations of 9 Fishermen Villages in Mandapam in Ramanathapuram District	2024-25	Rs.2.79
4	Fabrication and Installation of Artificial Reefs in 23 Locations of 10 Fishermen Villages in Ramanathapuram-South in Ramanathapuram District	2024-25	Rs.7.13

PMMSY SCHEMES - Ongoing Projects

1	Development of Climate Resilient Coastal Fishermen Village at Kalimangundu in Ramanathapuram District	2024-25	Rs.1.40
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2	Development of Climate Resilient Coastal Fishermen Village at Soliyakudi in Ramanathapuram District	2024-25	Rs.1.40
3	Establishment of Multipurpose seaweed Park in TamilNadu	2023-24	Rs.127.71

Annexure-III

Statement regarding Traditional Fishermen and Fish Farmers in Tamil Nadu

S. No.	Training Program	Number of trainings (Batches)	Number of Trainees
1.	NFDB Training on seaweed value added products and production of seaweed SAP & Fertilizer	23	575
2.	Community Based Emergency Response Training (First Responder Training on disaster preparedness, emergency response, and first aid)	28	1116
3.	Livelihood of Fishermen (Palk Bay and Gulf of Mannar Districts) on various aspects such as seaweed farming, value added fishery products, boat driving, engine repair and maintenance, dry fish making, ready to eat products, aquaculture and mariculture activities, net craft and waste net recycling	34	3683
4.	Training on Pond Based Seabass culture	3	225

This information was given by Fisheries, Animal Husbandry and Dairying Minister Shri Rajiv Ranjan Singh alias Lalan Singh in the Lok Sabha in response to a question asked.

JP

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