



**ANIMAL HUSBANDRY, DAIRYING,
FISHERIES AND FISHERMEN WELFARE
DEPARTMENT**

**FISHERIES AND FISHERMEN
WELFARE**

**POLICY NOTE
2024-2025**

DEMAND NO.7

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Husbandry**

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**Government of Tamil Nadu
2024**

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**FISHERIES AND FISHERMEN
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1. INTRODUCTION

Tamil Nadu is a leading State with Marine, Inland and Coastal waters with rich biodiversity of aquatic fauna and flora. The sector plays an important role in the socio - economic development of the state by providing livelihood to a large number of fishers and fish farmers, generating employment opportunities in allied sectors and ensuring nutritional security. Tamil Nadu is blessed with 1,076 km long coast line along the 14 coastal districts and forms the second longest coastline in the country.

The fishery resources of the State supports the livelihood of 10.48 lakh marine fisherfolk and 2.36 lakh inland fisherfolk. In the fiscal year 2022-23, the sector contributed 6.26% to the State's agricultural GDP. Tamil Nadu stands at 5th

position in marine fish production in the country with a total fish production of 8.29 lakh tonnes. The fisheries sector contributed Rs.6,957.67 crore to foreign exchange earnings by exporting 1.23 lakh tonnes of fish and related products during the period.

Ensuring the traditional fishing rights of Tamil Nadu Fishermen, especially in the Palk Bay area and ensuring their welfare are among the top priorities of the Government. The Government implements a number of social security schemes especially during fishing ban and lean periods. To ensure the safety of our fishermen the existing communication system is being strengthened by covering more fishing grounds to ensure seamless communication in all kinds of climatic conditions.

Essential infrastructure facilities such as fishing harbours, fish landing centres and cold chain facilities such as fish markets, cold storages and ice plants are crucial for safe berthing of fishing crafts and hygienic fish handling until the

fish reaches the consumer. The Government is committed to creating these infrastructures to cater the demands of the sector.

2. FISHERIES POLICY PERSPECTIVE

The policy perspective of the Government of Tamil Nadu for the fisheries sector is to augment fish production by promoting scientific development of fish culture and capture and to ensure fishermen welfare by enhancing the income of the fisherfolk and fish farmers ensuring their safety and security.

2.1 Vision

"Ensuring safety, security and wellbeing of the fisherfolk of Tamil Nadu by providing avenues for safety and sustainable fishing, optimal utilization, management of fishery resources and increasing the fish production through aquaculture".

2.2 Mission

To develop, manage, conserve and sustainable utilization of all aquatic resources for improving livelihoods, generating employment, food and nutritional security, economic prosperity and ensuring safety and security of fisherfolk.

2.3 Major Policies

The major policy objectives of Government are as follows:

1. Enhancing the productivity and production of fish from inland, brackishwater and marine resources.
2. Protection of traditional fishing rights of fishermen of Tamil Nadu.
3. Improving the living standards of fisherfolk through various welfare schemes.
4. Creating alternative livelihood opportunities to the fisherfolk.

5. Generating additional rural employment opportunities through fish culture.
6. Empowerment of fisherwomen in livelihood activities.
7. Creation and upgradation of infrastructure facilities such as Government fish farms, Fishing Harbours (FHs), Fish Landing Centres (FLCs), cold chain, value addition, forward and backward linkages.
8. Conserving marine fishery resources, stock enhancement and stock management through enforcement of relevant Acts, Rules and Regulations.
9. Conservation, management and sustainable utilization of potential inland fishery resources to provide livelihood, generation of employment opportunities, food & nutritional security and economic prosperity.

10. Re-assessment of the fishery resources and their potential in the State of Tamil Nadu.
11. Bridging the gap between demand and supply of fish seeds.
12. Harnessing the opportunity of expanding export market for high value fish and fishery products.
13. Capacity building and skill upgradation for fisherfolk and departmental officials in Human Resource Development, Research & Development and technological interventions in Fisheries sector.
14. Ensuring transparency in implementation and monitoring of developmental and welfare measures through e-Governance.

2.4 Major activities of the Department

The following are the major activities of the Fisheries and Fishermen Welfare Department:

1. Protection of traditional fishing rights of Tamil Nadu fishermen.
2. Search, Rescue and Rehabilitation measures during natural calamities and disasters.
3. Ensuring fishermen safety at sea.
4. Enforcement of fisheries Acts and Rules.
5. Implementing various social security welfare schemes for fisherfolk.
6. Development of infrastructure facilities such as fishing harbours, fish landing centres and Government fish farms.
7. Hygienic marketing of fish and fishery products and establishing cold chain facilities.

8. Conservation and management of fishery resources in inland and marine waters through ranching programme
9. Development of inland fisheries and aquaculture through Union and State Government schemes
10. Adoption of advanced technologies to increase fish production.
11. Special focus on alternative livelihood of fisherwomen.
12. Capacity building and skill development for fish farmers and fisherfolk.
13. Outreach and extension activities.
14. Promotion and management of fisheries co-operatives.
15. Improving the socio-economic status of the fisherfolk through alternative livelihood activities.

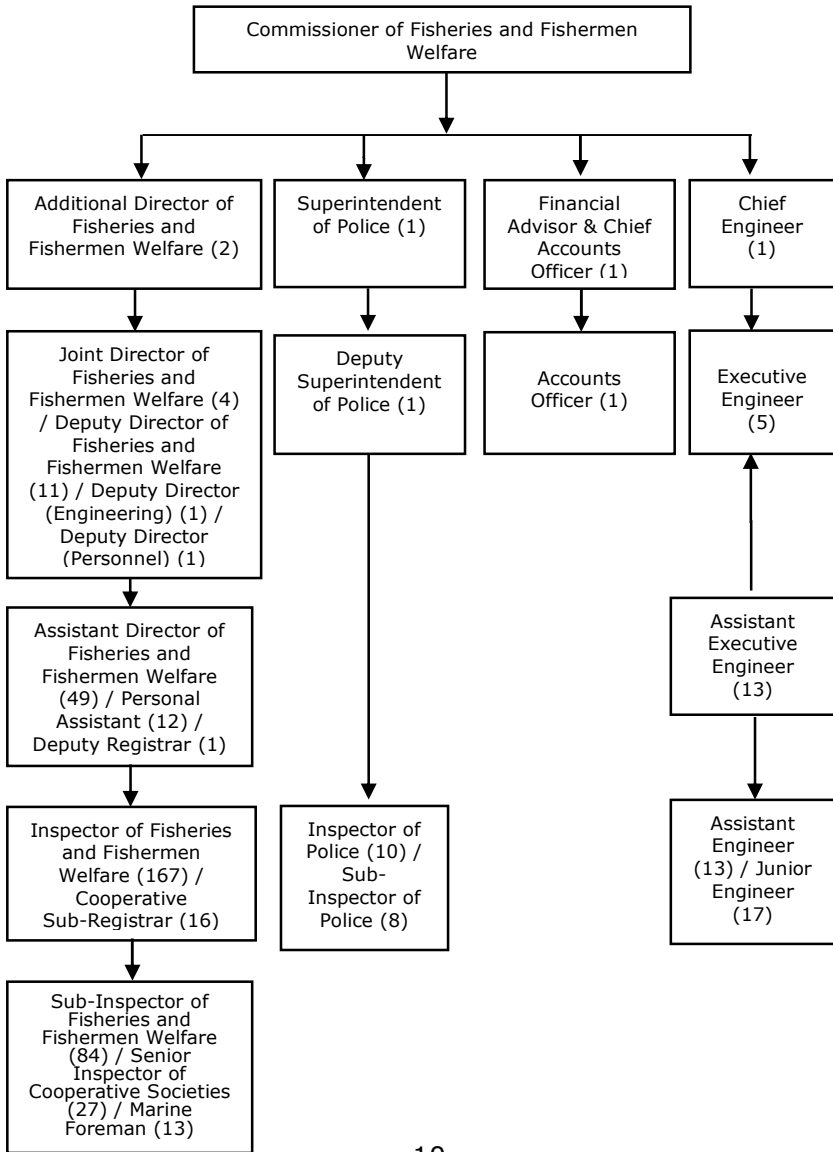
16. Implementation of welfare schemes to the fisherfolk by providing tax exempted diesel and subsidized kerosene.

17. Providing relief assistance through Tamil Nadu Fishermen Welfare Board.

3. ADMINISTRATIVE SETUP

The Department is headed by the Commissioner of Fisheries and Fishermen Welfare. Commissioner of Fisheries and Fishermen Welfare is also the Managing Director of Tamil Nadu Fisheries Development Corporation Limited (TNFDC), the Functional Registrar of all Fishermen and Fisherwomen Co-operative Societies including Tamil Nadu State Apex Fisheries Co-operative Federation Limited (TAFCOFED) and the Member Secretary of Tamil Nadu Fishermen Welfare Board (TNFWB).

Organogram



The total sanctioned staff strength of the Fisheries and Fishermen Welfare Department is 1,796. The category-wise staff strength is given in Table 1 of Annexure I.

4. FISHERIES SECTOR IN TAMIL NADU - AN OVERVIEW

Tamil Nadu has 1,076 km long coastline, which is the 2nd largest in the country. Marine fish production (2022-23) of the State is 5.97 lakh metric tonnes. A total of 1.23 lakh metric tonnes fish and fishery products have been exported during the same period, which is valued at Rs.6,957.67 crore.

Rivers, Lakes, Tanks and Ponds, Reservoirs and Estuaries are the important inland water resources in Tamil Nadu.

An estimated brackish water area of 56,000 ha. is available in the form of lagoons, estuaries, and backwaters, which are potential sources of capture fisheries. There are 2,360 farms spread

over in an area of 4536.46 ha under coastal aquaculture.

4.1 Marine Fisheries

Tamil Nadu Coast broadly classified into Coromandel Coasts, Palk Strait, Gulf of Mannar and West Coast. Fishing is practiced using various types of fishing crafts such as, Catamarans, Motorised and Non-Motorised, Traditional fishing boats, Trawlers, Gill netters and deep sea fishing boats. An overview of the marine fisheries sector is given in Table 2 of Annexure I.

4.2 Inland Fisheries

Tamil Nadu is endowed with 3.85 lakh ha. of inland water resources. The inland fishery resources include reservoirs, major and minor irrigation tanks, ponds, rivers and other water bodies which are amenable to both capture and culture fisheries. These water bodies are maintained and managed by various Government departments such as Water Resources

Department (WRD), Rural Development and Panchayat Raj Department (RD&PR) etc. A total of 22,051 numbers of Minor Irrigation tanks, ponds and Ooranies are maintained by Rural Development and Panchayat Raj Department.

Presently, 90 reservoirs and 14,306 irrigation tanks are being maintained by the Water Recourses Department. The Water Resources Department has permitted the Department of Fisheries and Fishermen Welfare for undertaking fisheries management in 62 reservoirs and in 636 irrigation tanks through various Government orders.

An overview of the inland fisheries sector is given in Table 3 of Annexure I.

4.3 Brackish Water Fisheries Management

Brackish water ecosystem is dynamic in nature which provides diverse habitat for the proliferation of diadromous and estuarine resident fish species to complete their life cycle. Brackish water resources include estuaries, backwaters, mangroves and lagoons. They are one of the finest nurseries and breeding grounds for a number of commercially as well as ecologically important species of fish, shrimps and crabs.

The major estuaries and brackish water area in Tamil Nadu are Pulicat lake, Araniar, Ennore, Adyar back waters, Muttukadu back water, Gadilum, Pitchavaram, Pazhayar, Coleroon, Muthupetlagoon, Punnakayal, Manakudi, and Thengapattanam.

Estuaries and brackish water lakes are extremely productive, highly complex ecosystems with greater environmental, social and economic significance. The total brackish water area of

Tamil Nadu has been estimated to be 56,000 ha. which accounts for 3.98% of the total estimated area of brackish water in India. Pulicat lake being the largest brackish water lake contributes 6400 ha. brackish water area in Tamil Nadu where cage culture of Sea bass and bivalve farming are being undertaken by the traditional fisher folk. Most of the estuarine and brackish water areas in Tamil Nadu are highly productive and suitable for culture-based capture fisheries.

4.4 Coastal Aquaculture and Mariculture

Mariculture and Coastal Aquaculture have recently gained impetus due to unrelenting demand for marine products, declining fish catch and increasing input costs of fishing operations. The Government policy framework promotes responsible and sustainable Coastal Aquaculture and Mariculture by means of an integrated approach involving all stakeholders. One of the most traded seafood products is the shrimp and

shrimp farming is regarded as one of the successful modern aquaculture endeavours. Moreover, shrimp farming sector generates enormous employment opportunities and also provides foreign exchange to the Country.

In Tamil Nadu, 2,360 shrimp farms with an extent of 4,536.46 ha. area have been registered under Coastal Aquaculture Authority (CAA). In Tamil Nadu, 80 registered shrimp hatcheries with the capacity of 15665 million are catering to the seed requirements of our State as well as the neighbouring States.

5. Marine Fisheries activities and schemes

Marine fisheries development stands as a cornerstone for the welfare of fishermen, who are depending upon it for their livelihood. Conservation of fishery resources, enhancement of fishery stock and promotion of fishery exports are interlinked components for the sustainable

fisheries development. Schemes of the Government concentrates for a holistic approach towards harnessing the fishery wealth while ensuring its longevity for generations to come.

5.1. Overview of the marine fisheries development

Marine fisheries development includes the schemes implemented for the welfare of the fisherfolk under State & Central funds, conservation and enforcement of Tamil Nadu Marine Fishing Regulation Act, 1983, disaster preparedness, fishermen rescue at the times of distress, development of coastal aquaculture, mariculture etc.

The Government of Tamil Nadu sanctioned an amount of Rs.322.75 crore to marine fisherfolk under various welfare schemes during the year 2023-24, as detailed in Table 4 of Annexure I.

5.2 STATE SCHEMES

5.2.1 Special allowance to marine fishermen families during Lean Fishing Period

During the North-East monsoon period, fishermen of Tamil Nadu could not venture into fishing for most of the days due to weather warnings. In order to alleviate the sufferings of the marine fishermen during this lean fishing period, the Government of Tamil Nadu is extending special allowance to marine fishermen families.

During the year 2021-22, the Government enhanced the relief assistance from Rs.5,000/- to Rs.6,000/- to marine fishermen families. Accordingly, the Government sanctioned an amount of Rs.108.00 crore for disbursement of special allowance to fishermen families for the year 2023-24, out of which an amount of Rs.105.34 crore has been disbursed to 1,75,568 marine fishermen families of 14 coastal districts.

This scheme will be continued in the year 2024-25 also and the Government has made an allocation of Rs 109.85 crore for this scheme.

5.2.2 Fishermen Savings-cum-Relief Scheme

Marine Fishermen savings-cum-relief scheme has been implemented as State scheme from the year 2022-23. Under this scheme, relief amount of Rs.4,500/- including fishermen contribution of Rs.1,500/- is being provided to fishermen during fishing lean months.

The Government has sanctioned an amount of Rs.63.39 crore for this scheme during 2023-24, Rs.59.35 crore has been disbursed to 1,97,826 marine fishermen of 14 coastal Districts.

This scheme will be implemented in the year 2024-25 also at a total cost of Rs 64.30 crore.

5.2.3 Savings-cum-Relief scheme for marine fisherwomen

Marine fisherwomen savings -cum- relief scheme is being implemented as State scheme

from the year 2006-07. Under this scheme, a total relief amount of Rs.4,500/- per fisherwomen is being disbursed during fishing lean months, which includes their contribution amount of Rs.1,500/-.

The Government has sanctioned an amount of Rs.61.77 crore for this scheme during the year 2023-24, out of which an amount of Rs.58.69 crore has been disbursed to 1,95,649 marine fisherwomen of 14 coastal Districts. Relief amount for Thoothukudi and Tirunelveli districts will be disbursed during the month of June 2024.

Government has allocated an amount of Rs.62.67 crore for implementing this scheme for the year 2024-25.

5.2.4 Supply of Tax-exempted Diesel to Fishing Boats

The Government of Tamil Nadu provides 18,000 litres of tax exempted diesel to the

registered mechanized fishing boats for 10 months at the rate of 1,800 litres per month except two months of fishing ban period. Similarly, Government provides 4,000 litres of tax exempted diesel to registered motorized country crafts per year. Tax exempted diesel is being supplied through Tamil Nadu Fisheries Development Corporation Limited (TNFDC) and Tamil Nadu State Apex Fisheries Cooperative Federation Limited (TAFCOFED).

During the year 2023-24, a total quantity of 1,25,398 kilo litre diesel has been supplied with a total sales tax exemption of Rs.194.75 crore.

Considering the request of the fisherfolk and in accordance with the announcement made during the Fishermen Conference held on 18.08.2023, the Government has enhanced the quantity of Tax exempted diesel from 18,000 litres to 19,000 litres for mechanized fishing boats

and from 4,000 litres to 4,400 litres for motorized country crafts. This enhanced quantity of diesel is being provided from 2024-25 onwards.

5.2.5 Supply of subsidized Industrial Kerosene to Traditional Fishing Crafts

The Government is providing 3,400 litres of industrial kerosene per motorized country boat per year at the subsidized rate of Rs.25/- per litre to the registered fishing crafts of Thoothukudi, Tirunelveli and Kanniyakumari Districts.

During the year 2023-24, a total quantity of 20,722 kilo litre of industrial kerosene has been supplied with the subsidy amount of Rs.96.77 crore.

Considering the request of the fisherfolk and in accordance with the announcement made during the Fishermen Conference held on 18.08.2023, the Government has enhanced the quantity of Industrial kerosene on subsidized rate from 3400 litres to 3700 litres.

This enhanced quantity of kerosene is being provided from 2024-25 onwards.

5.2.6 Daily relief to marine fishermen apprehended by neighbouring Countries

The Government supports the families of fishermen who are apprehended by Sri Lanka and other neighbouring countries while fishing, by providing a daily allowance of Rs.250/- to the family of the apprehended fishermen. The relief assistance under this scheme is being provided through the District Collectors. During the year 2023-24, a sum of Rs.19.85 lakh has been released as daily relief to 259 fishermen families.

This scheme will be continued during 2024-25 also.

5.2.7 Daily relief to the families of missing fishermen while fishing

The State Government is providing daily relief assistance of Rs.350/-(Rs.10,500/-per month) to the families of fishermen who went

missing while fishing at sea for two years or until they receive monetary benefits through Group Accident Insurance Scheme/Tamil Nadu Fishermen Welfare Board. A sum of Rs.13.34 lakh has been released as daily relief assistance to 17 fishermen families for the year 2023-24.

This scheme will be continued during 2024-25 also.

5.2.8 Relief to the families of deceased fishermen/ injured fishermen due to shooting incidents by Sri Lankan Navy

The fishermen of coastal Districts, who fish in traditional waters of the Palk Bay are apprehended/ harassed and sometimes even shot by the Sri Lankan Navy.

The Government is providing an ex-gratia payment of Rs.3 lakh from the Chief Minister's Public Relief Fund to help the family of fishermen who die in shooting at sea. In the case of deceased fisherman being the sole bread-winner

of the family, an ex-gratia amount of Rs.5 lakh is provided. If the fishermen sustain major and minor injuries, an ex-gratia amount of Rs.50,000/- and Rs.20,000/- is provided, respectively.

5.2.9 Providing 50% subsidy to procure new Tuna Long liner-cum-Gill netter boats

To support the fisherfolk to harvest the relatively under-exploited oceanic fishery resources like Tuna and Tuna-like fishes, the Government is implementing the scheme of 'Providing 50% subsidy for fishermen to procure new Tuna Long liner-cum-Gill Netter boats'. Under this scheme, 50% of the estimated unit cost of Rs.60 lakh or up to a maximum of Rs.30 lakh is provided as subsidy for construction of new Tuna Long liner-cum-Gill netter boat.

Under this scheme, an amount of Rs.51.30 crore was released by the Government for construction of 171 boats. An amount of

Rs.29.35 crore has been released as subsidy to 103 completed boats and two boats are under construction. Work orders have been issued to 66 new beneficiaries and boat construction works have been started.

5.2.10 Insurance relief to Fishers during Non-Insurance coverage period

Considering the plight of the fisherfolk to provide insurance relief to deceased fishers during the non-insurance coverage period, the Hon'ble Chief Minister has made an announcement during the Fishermen Conference held on 18.08.2023 to provide relief assistance. Accordingly an amount of Rs.3.53 crore has been disbursed as relief from State funds to the families of 176 deceased and one permanent partial disabled fisherman.

5.2.11 Fishermen welfare Conference

In Tamil Nadu, for the first time Fishermen conference was convened exclusively for the welfare of fishermen through Tamil Nadu State

Apex Fisheries Cooperative Federation Limited (TAFCOFED) and Fishermen Associations on 18.08.2023 at Mandapam, Ramanathapuram District. In the conference about 30,000 fishermen from all the coastal and inland districts have participated. The Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu has announced welfare schemes for Rs. 88.90 crore for the benefit of 14,000 fishermen beneficiaries across the State. The Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu has announced the following 10 announcements during the Fishermen welfare conference.

1. Land patta for 5,035 fishermen who have benefitted under the scheme for construction of houses for fishermen.
2. Co-operative loan for 45,000 fishers to take up fishery related business.
3. The fishing-ban period assistance will be enhanced from Rs.5,000/- to Rs.8,000/-. In addition to that 15,000 fishermen who are

above 60 years of age will be given fishing ban period assistance purely from state fund.

4. 1000 country craft fishermen will be provided @ 40% subsidy for procurement of engines.
5. Registered country craft owners from Thoothukudi, Tirunelveli and Kanniyakumari districts will be given enhanced subsidized kerosene from 3,400 liters to 3,700 liters.
6. Subsidized diesel will be increased from 18,000 liters to 19,000 liters for Mechanised fishing boats and from 4,000 liters to 4,400 liters for motorized country craft.
7. Feasibility study for setting up fishing harbour at Thangachimadam will be taken up. For the improvement of Kunthukal Fish Landing Centre, necessary studies will be taken. Moreover, the construction of the bait arch in Pamban North Fisherman Village has to be started.
8. 205 deceased fishermen families will be provided with relief for the insurance

non-coverage period under State fund. Relief assistance will be provided from revolving fund to 25 fishermen families who will be missing while gone for fishing.

9. The unit cost of Fishermen Housing Scheme will be enhanced from Rs.1.70 lakh to Rs.2.40 lakh.
10. Construction of Bait arch in coastal villages to prevent sea erosion and ensure the safety of berthing boats.

The Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu has announced an amount of Rs.926.88 crore will be allocated to benefit 2,77,347 fishers of Tamil Nadu. Out of 10 announcements, orders have been issued for 9 announcements and it is being implemented. Action is being taken to implement the remaining one announcement.

5.3 CENTRALLY SPONSORED SCHEMES

5.3.1 Livelihood assistance to marine fishermen families during Fishing Ban Period

In order to conserve the marine fishery resources, seasonal fishing ban is being imposed every year since 2001. This 61-day fishing ban period is being implemented from April 15th to June 14th in the East Coast region (From Tiruvallur District to Kanniyakumari town in Kanniyakumari District) and June 1st to July 31st in the West Coast region (Kovalam to Neerodi in Kanniyakumari District).

To alleviate the sufferings of the fishermen during fishing ban period, the Government is providing fishing ban relief assistance at the rate of Rs.5,000/- to marine fishermen families of 14 Coastal Districts, in which the Government of India is providing Rs.1,500/- as central share under Pradhan Mantri Matsya Sampada Yojana (PMMSY). During the year 2023-24, a sum of

Rs.83.50 crore has been disbursed to 1,67,007 fishermen families of 14 coastal districts.

In accordance with the announcement made during the Fishermen Conference held on 18.08.2023, the Government has enhanced the fishing ban relief assistance from Rs.5,000/- to Rs.8,000/- (Central share Rs.1,500/- + State share Rs.6,500/-) per fishermen family.

During the year 2024-25, the Government has sanctioned an amount of Rs.144.21 crore under the scheme, out of which an amount of Rs.113.79 crore has been disbursed to 1,42,237 marine fishermen families. The scheme is in progress.

5.3.2 Group Accident Insurance Scheme for fisherfolk

Group Accident Insurance Scheme (GAIS) is being implemented through the National Fisheries Development Board (NFDB) under Pradhan Mantri Matsya Sampada Yojana (PMMSY). Under this

scheme, an amount of Rs.5.0 lakh is provided as relief to deceased fisherman or Permanent Total Disability (PTD), an amount of Rs.2.50 lakh is provided as relief to Permanent Partial Disability (PPD) and Rs.25,000/- for hospitalization of injured fishermen. For the year 2023-24, an amount of Rs.2.12 crore (40% of the premium amount) has been paid to the National Fisheries Development Board as State share of premium for 5,58,966 fisher beneficiaries. This scheme policy is valid until 31.05.2024.

For 2024-2025 insurance scheme for fishers is convergence of Group Accident Insurance Scheme (GAIS) with Pradhan Mantri Suraksha Bima Yojana (PMSBY). This scheme is being implemented through the National Fisheries Development Board (NFDB) under PMMSY and PMSBY through Department of Financial Service, Ministry of Finance. For the year 2024-25, an amount of Rs.1.92 crore (40% of the premium amount) has been paid to the National Fisheries

Development Board as State share of premium for 5,73,183 fisher beneficiaries. This scheme policy is valid from 01.06.2024 to 31.05.2025.

5.3.3 Motorization of Traditional Crafts

Subsidy assistance of Rs.48,000/- or 40% in the unit cost of the engine is being provided to the fishermen for purchase of Outboard Motor (OBM)/ Inboard Engine (IBE) for traditional fishing crafts.

During the year 2023-24, 1000 nos of OBM/IBE (upto 28 HP) have been provided to traditional fishermen with subsidy assistance of Rs.4.80 crore under State Scheme.

5.3.4 Subsidy assistance for Diversification of Trawl Fishing in Palk Bay Districts to Deep Sea Fishing

The Government of Tamil Nadu is implementing the flagship scheme on 'Diversification of trawl fishing in Palk Bay Districts to deep sea fishing with Central and

State Government's financial assistance at an unit cost of Rs.80 lakh per boat with 70% subsidy assistance. Out of the total cost of Rs.80 lakh, the Government of India provides 50% of unit cost @ Rs.40 lakh and the Government of Tamil Nadu provides 20% of unit cost @ Rs.16 lakh as subsidy and 20% of unit cost @ Rs.16 lakh sourced from Institutional financing and 10% of unit cost @ Rs.8.00 lakh is borne by the beneficiary.

Under this scheme, construction of 61 deep sea fishing vessels have been completed and handed over to the beneficiaries and another 19 boats are in various stages of construction.

5.3.5 Subsidy assistance for construction of FRP boats with accessories as a replacement for Traditional/ Wooden Boats

Under the Pradhan Mantri Matsya Sampada Yojana (PMMSY) scheme, the Government is providing Fibre Reinforced Plastic (FRP) boats

having 10 metre overall length (OAL) with engine, nets and ice boxes at a total unit cost of Rs.5.00 lakh, in which 40% subsidy assistance of Rs.2.00 lakh is being provided as subsidy to the fishermen for replacement for traditional/ wooden fishing boats. During the year 2023-24, 91 FRP boats with fishing implements have been provided to fishermen with subsidy assistance of Rs.1.64 crore, under PMMSY. Further, 209 FRP boats will be provided during 2024-25.

5.4 Fishing Regulation and Law Enforcement

5.4.1 Registration of Fishing Vessels

To monitor the operation of fishing boats and also to ensure coastal security, fishing vessels are registered through 'ReALCraft' website. A total of 5,440 mechanized fishing boats, 40,312 motorized and 4,175 non-motorized traditional crafts have been registered through online.

5.4.2 Marine Enforcement Wing

In order to enforce the Tamil Nadu Marine Fishing Regulation (TNMFR) Act and Rules, to handle inter sector conflicts, law and order issues arising due to fishing and its related activities, an exclusive Marine Enforcement Wing was established in Fisheries and Fishermen Welfare Department with 112 staff including 92 police personnel.

The Marine Enforcement Wing is actively involved in enforcing the Tamil Nadu Marine Fishing Regulation Act, 1983 along the 14 coastal Districts in the State with permanent posts of 1 Superintendent of Police, 1 Deputy Superintendent of Police, 10 Inspectors of Police, 8 Sub-Inspectors of Police, 53 Police Constables and 19 Police Drivers.

The main function of the Marine Enforcement wing is to conduct patrolling in the sea to enforce the regulations of fishing and to prevent illegal

fishing, destructive fishing, use of banned fishing nets and to convey the information about the anti-social activities and intelligence gathered during patrolling to the Coast Guard and local Police authorities for further action.

5.5 Disaster preparedness, Rescue and Rehabilitation Measures

The Department of Fisheries and Fishermen Welfare is practising the following Standard Operating Procedure (SOP) to ensure the safety and security of fishermen at times of natural disaster and adverse weather conditions:

1. Dissemination of weather information and cyclone warnings to fisherfolk.
2. Operating a Central Control Room at the office of the Commissioner of Fisheries and Fishermen Welfare with essential communication equipments which are functioning round the clock with a dedicated telephone line (044-29530392).

3. Coordinating with all security agencies such as Coastal Security Group / Indian Coast Guard / Indian Navy for Search and Rescue (SAR) of fishermen.

5.5.1 Measures for Communication and Safety of Fishermen at Sea

5.5.1.1 Providing Wireless Communication Network Facilities

In order to ensure the safety of fishermen at sea, communication network facilities have been established in all the 14 coastal districts of Tamil Nadu with 18 communication towers and control rooms.

Control rooms have been established in 15 locations for effective communication between shore station and fishing boats inside the sea. The Government has provided a total of 20,930 VHF sets, which includes 17,795 Nos of 5-watt hand held VHF sets to motorized fishing crafts at free of cost and 3,135 Nos of 25-watt VHF sets to mechanized fishing crafts with 75% subsidy.

5.5.1.2 Installation of 'Transponders' in Mechanized Fishing Boats

Transponders have been developed by Indian Space Research Organization (ISRO) as a means of communication and tracking system for deep sea fishing vessels, which will help in monitoring the fishing vessels and rendering assistance at the time of distress in deep sea up to 200 nautical miles.

The Government of India has sanctioned an amount of Rs.18.01 crore for installation of transponders in 4,997 mechanized fishing boats of Tamil Nadu. The Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu inaugurated the fitment of transponders in mechanized fishing boats on 30.12.2022. Subsequently, 2,398 transponders have been installed in mechanized fishing boats and installation of transponders in remaining boats are in progress.

5.5.1.3 Providing Satellite Phones, 'NavIC' and 'Navtex'

To enhance the safety and security of fishermen while fishing in the deep sea, 160 Satellite phones, 200 NavIC and 80 NavTex message receivers have been installed in 80 clusters of boats at a total cost of Rs.2.28 crore. Further, 500 satellite phones have been distributed with 75% subsidy to deep sea fishing boats of Tamil Nadu at a cost of Rs.5 crore.

5.5.1.4 WebGIS based Mobile app 'Thoondil'

The Department of Fisheries and Fishermen Welfare in association with the National Centre for Coastal Research (NCCR), Ministry of Earth Sciences (MoES), created a mobile application "THOONDIL", a Web GIS based Decision Support System for monitoring the movements of fishing vessels and registering the crews venturing for fishing. This application assists the fishermen by dispensing vital information on real time

positioning, navigation to safe locations, facility to mark fishing grounds, Potential Fishing Zones (PFZ), weather forecast and fishing trip records etc.

5.5.2 Relief assistance to fishing boats damaged during non-cyclone period

A revolving fund has been created by the Government of Tamil Nadu to provide immediate relief assistance to the fishermen whose boats / fishing implements / houses for damages during non-cyclone period. An amount of Rs.10 lakh each to all the coastal districts totalling to Rs.1.30 crore has been provided as revolving fund to the coastal District Collectors. During the year 2023-24, Rs.24.76 lakh has been released as relief to 39 fishing boats that were damaged due to inclement weather conditions.

This scheme will be continued in the year 2024-25 also.

5.5.3 Search and Rescue operations during disasters such as Cyclone, Flood, Rainfall etc.,

During Cyclones, Flood, Heavy rains, general public are subject to hardships due to inundation submersion of habitations etc. At this time of disasters, rescue of men and material is immediately required. Though the Government agencies such as Fire and Rescue, NDRF, SDRF, Revenue etc., are actively involved. The role of fishermen in rescuing the public particularly, women and children is important and they are the frontline rescuers coordinating with the various departments. Department of fisheries is playing in vital role in organising these rescue efforts with fishermen, fishing crafts and other equipments. Efforts of fishermen during these disasters have saved many precious human life and valuables.

During the Michaung cyclone and unprecedented extremely heavy rainfall reported in Southern Districts, the Government quickly

responded to rescue the people affected in the flood. The Fisheries Department mobilized total of 633 boats & 158 coracles and engaged 1866 fishermen along with staffs in search and rescue operation. Necessary essentials, basic amenities and ration were provided to the people in the flood affected areas. The Government has released an amount of Rs. 2.70 crore exclusively for rescue operation. Fishermen also helped the damage assessment teams to access the inaccessible areas and inundated areas to assess the damages. The dedicated service of fishermen were appreciated by the Government and the fishermen engaged in rescue operations were honoured during the events held on 20.01.2024 at Thoothukudi and 24.01.2024 at Chennai.

5.5.3.1 Relief assistance to fishing boats and implements damaged during “Michaung” Cyclone

During North East Monsoon 2023, due to Michaung (Migjam) Cyclone, on 04.12.2023 heavy

rainfall reported in Chennai, Kanchipuram, Tiruvallur and Chengalpattu districts caused floods in various areas. A total of 450 FRP boats, 96 coracles and 1195 fishermen were engaged for relief and rescue operations in the flood affected areas. Also, a total sum of Rs.1.70 crore has been sanctioned vide Government Order (Ms) No.601, Revenue and Disaster Management (DM II) Department, Dated:27.12.2023 as hire charges for boats, vehicle, crane used in rescue operations and remuneration for fishermen those who were involved in relief and rescue operations and the same has been disbursed to fishermen.

Also, as per the reports submitted by damage assessment teams a sum of Rs.12.88 crore has been sanctioned vide Government Order (Ms) No.29, Revenue and Disaster Management (DM-II) Department, Dated:05.02.2024 as damage compensation to fishing boats and implements damaged in Chennai, Tiruvallur and

Chengalpattu districts due to Michaung Cyclone and the same has been disbursed to the fishermen.

5.5.3.2 Relief assistance to fishing boats and implements damaged during unprecedented extremely heavy rainfall reported in Southern Districts.

During North East Monsoon 2023, from 15.12.2023 to 17.12.2023 an unprecedented heavy rainfall/flood reported in Thoothukudi, Tirunelveli, Kanniyakumari and Tenkasi districts which caused floods in several areas. Due to this, the boats berthed were damaged.

From 18.12.2023 onwards, a total of 183 FRP Boats, 62 Coracles and 671 fishermen were engaged from Thoothukudi, Tirunelveli, Ramanathapuram, Kanniyakumari and Chengalpattu districts for relief and rescue operations in flood affected areas. The Government sanctioned a sum of Rs.99.00 lakh

vide Government Order (Ms) No.601, Revenue and Disaster Management (DM II) Department, Dated:27.12.2023 and Government Order (Ms) No.29, Revenue and Disaster Management (DM II) Department, Dated:05.02.2024 as hire charges for boats, vehicle, crane were used in rescue operations and remuneration for fishermen those who were involved in relief and rescue operations and the same has been disbursed to fishermen.

Also, as per the reports submitted by damage assessment teams a sum of Rs.14.53 crore has been sanctioned vide Government Order (Ms) No.29, Revenue and Disaster Management (DM II) Department, Dated:05.02.2024 as damage compensation to fishing boats and implements damaged in Thoothukudi, Tirunelveli and Kanniyakumari districts due to unprecedented heavy rainfall/flood and the same has been disbursed to the fishermen.

As a part of preparatory measures, the Government will mobilize to train and equip fishermen as first responders and also Department of Fisheries and Fishermen Welfare proposed to procure rescue equipments such as boats, engines and coracles for such relief and rescue operations in the future.

5.5.4 Conservation of Sea Turtles

In order to conserve the Sea Turtles, the Government has notified to fix 'Turtle Excluder Devices (TEDs)' before the cod end of trawl nets. Upto five nautical mile radius around the turtle nesting and breeding grounds is prohibited for fishing during turtle nesting and breeding season, i.e., from 1st January to 30th April of every year.

5.5.5 Marine Fishery Resource Enhancement

5.5.5.1 Installation of Artificial Reefs

Artificial reefs act as habitat to marine aquatic organisms, help in enhancing the fish production through increased breeding activity

and survival of young ones. It also acts as a barrier for bottom trawling operations. The Government has taken steps for development of fish habitats, by setting up of artificial reefs in the inshore waters as a conservation / stock enhancement measure.

To enhance the marine fishery resources, 200 units of Artificial reefs in 49 fishermen villages of coastal districts of Chennai, Cheangalpattu, Villupuram, Myladuthurai, Thoothukudi and Tirunelveli districts (other than Palk-bay districts) are being deployed at a total cost of Rs.62.00 crore with the central share of Rs.37.20 crore and the State share of Rs.24.80 crore under PMMSY.

5.6 Protection of Traditional Fishing Rights of Tamil Nadu Fishermen

5.6.1 Retrieval of Katchatheevu

There are 2,490 mechanized fishing boats, 12,443 motorized fishing crafts and 1,020 country crafts engaged in fishing. In the traditional waters

of Palk Bay area 2,08,827 fisherfolk are living in 286 fishing villages. Around 80,000 fishermen directly depend on fishing in Palk Bay Districts viz. Ramanathapuram, Thanjavur, Tiruvarur, Pudukottai and Nagapattinam Districts for their livelihood and a large section of coastal community indirectly depends on the fishing in the traditional waters of Palk Bay.

Tamil Nadu fishermen are often arrested while fishing in their traditional waters by Sri Lankan Navy in the pretext of crossing International Maritime Boundary Line (IMBL). The prolonged incarceration of our fishermen and their fishing boats by the Sri Lankan Government have been causing a sense of anxiety and insecurity among the fishermen community of Tamil Nadu as a whole.

Hence, retrieval of "Katchatheevu" back to India and restoration of the traditional fishing rights of Indian fishermen in the Palk Bay area are

on the top most agenda of the Government of Tamil Nadu. The Government is taking tireless efforts for the retrieval of "Katchatheevu" unilaterally given by the Union Government to Sri Lanka in 1974. A unanimous resolution was also passed in the Tamil Nadu Legislative Assembly in this regard. Accordingly, the Government of Tamil Nadu impleaded itself in the case filed before the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India and urged the Union Government to retrieve Katchatheevu.

In the SLP.No.8013/2017, an individual sought *Writ of Mandamus* against the Union Government to give effect to/enforce Article 6 of the 1974 agreement entered between India and Sri Lanka and delete objectionable provision of the letter dated 23.03.1976. The Government of Tamil Nadu has filed Counter Affidavit in the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India on 16.07.2022.

In this regard, the Hon'ble Chief Minister has addressed the Hon'ble Prime Minister of India, through a Memorandum on 17.06.2021. Subsequently, the Hon'ble Minister for Fisheries-Fishermen Welfare and Animal Husbandry, Government of Tamil Nadu has submitted a Memorandum to Hon'ble Union Minister for Fisheries, Animal Husbandry and Dairying on 01.04.2022 to arrive at a permanent solution to the problems faced by the Tamil Nadu fishermen and to restore their right to fish in the traditional waters. The Government of Tamil Nadu, therefore, reiterate its consistent stand that a permanent solution to this vexatious problem faced by our fishermen will be possible only by restoring India's sovereignty over Katchatheevu, thereby restoring their rights to fish in their traditional waters.

5.6.2 Efforts taken by the Government to release Tamil Nadu Fishermen and their Fishing Boats apprehended by the Sri Lankan Navy

The Tamil Nadu fishermen are often apprehended while fishing in their traditional waters by the Sri Lankan Navy in the pretext of crossing International Maritime Boundary Line (IMBL). With a deep sense of concern on the repeated incidents, the Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu has written many letters to the Hon'ble Prime Minister of India bringing the incidents to the notice for immediate remedial action through diplomatic channels.

The Government of Tamil Nadu have been constantly demanding the Union Government to decisively use diplomatic channels to secure the immediate release of apprehended fishermen of Tamil Nadu and also to prevent the recurrence of such incidents. Whereas, the arrested fishermen had spent a longest duration of 113 days in

Sri Lankan custody during the yesteryears, now due to the efforts taken by this Government, the fishermen were released with a shortest span of 16 days. The Hon'ble Minister for Fisheries-Fishermen Welfare and Animal Husbandry submitted a Memorandum to the Hon'ble Union Minister for Fisheries, Animal Husbandry and Dairying on 01.04.2022 to release the arrested fishermen and the apprehended fishing boats at the earliest.

Continuous efforts are being taken by the Government of Tamil Nadu to release and repatriate 11 fishermen and 161 fishing boats under the custody of Sri Lankan Government.

5.6.3 India-Sri Lanka Joint Working Group (JWG) on Fisheries

Joint Working Group meetings are being conducted to release the fishermen and fishing boats, procedures and protocols to be followed during the patrolling, apprehension and also to handle the fishermen in humanitarian manner and

release. So far, five rounds of India and Sri Lanka Joint Working Group meetings were conducted. During these meetings, the issue of release and repatriation of Tamil Nadu fishermen and their fishing boats apprehended by the Sri Lankan Navy were reiterated.

5.7 Brackishwater fisheries, Coastal Aquaculture and Mariculture

5.7.1 Brackishwater fisheries

Tamil Nadu has 56,000 ha. of brackishwater area, which serves the nursery and breeding grounds of many aquatic organisms including fishes.

The State envisages the following strategies for the management of brackishwater and estuarine fisheries.

1. Conservation measures to safeguard and revive the mangroves as they act as an important breeding ground and nursery

ground for several commercially important brackishwater fish species.

2. Effective management of brackishwater lakes and estuarine fishery resources for economical, social and environmental stability.
3. Ensuring the integration of brackishwater lakes and estuarine habitat in the coastal zone development plan with specific guidelines for the management of brackishwater lakes and estuarine fisheries
4. Ensuring the protection of breeding and nursery areas as well as the migratory routes of fish species for effective recruitment there of good fishing in brackishwater lakes and estuarine region.
5. Encouraging greater participation of community in the fisheries management and conservation of bio-diversity in brackishwater lakes and estuarine region.
6. Generation of relevant data and information through comprehensive research and

monitoring of brackishwater lakes and estuaries to support effective management.

5.7.2 Coastal Aquaculture

Tamil Nadu ranks 5th in Coastal Aquaculture production especially through shrimp farming. At present, more than 2,360 shrimp farms accounting for 4536.46 ha. area are being under shrimp farming. During the year 2022-23, our state had exported 80,420 tonnes of shrimp and earned foreign exchange of Rs.5,342.30 crore. Further, the Tamil Nadu coastal area is explicitly having potential to increase the present production and also there will be a bright scope for exploring the avenues of mariculture in the nearshore and open waters of Tamil Nadu Coast.

Coastal aquaculture has a well-established role in increasing fish productivity, boosting the rural economy and making efficient use of water resources. The Government promotes pond-based culture of alternative species, including Mud Crab,

Milk fish, Mullet and Sea bass, in addition to supporting the farmers to raise shrimp in coastal areas. Under suitable plans sponsored by State and Union Governments, small farmers are encouraged to take up farming of varied species such as Mud Crab, Milk fish, Mullet and Sea bass.

Resource mapping study of Central Institute of Brackishwater Aquaculture (CIBA) indicates that 10,099 hectares of the State's coastline are suitable for aquaculture in Tamil Nadu. Therefore, there is a great deal of scope for coastal aquaculture to grow and enhance the lives of the coastal inhabitants living in remote areas. In addition to this, study on assessing the potential of aquaculture and mariculture sites along the coast of Tamil Nadu is under pipeline with the technical support of National Centre for Sustainable Coastal Management (NCSCM).

In order to compete with the leading shrimp export countries, the State has to undertake

prudent steps to curtail the usage of antibiotics and other chemicals that could probably reduce the chances of export potential of shrimp. District level surveillance committees have been formed to ensure antibiotic free shrimp production so as to catapult the export potential of shrimp that are being cultured in the coastal districts of Tamil Nadu.

Further, in order to simplify the shrimp farm registration and renewal process, the CAA rules have been amended resulted in the formation of Sub-Divisional Level Committee (SDLC) and District Level Committee (DLC).

For “Ease of Doing Business” the following amendments have been made in the Coastal Aquaculture Authority (Amendment) Act, 2023

- Condonation of delay in submitting the application for renewal of registration

- Providing new certificate in case of mutilation, damage or loss, and for change of ownership or changes in the certificate
 - Validating the meetings of the Authority during the absence of the regular chairperson of the Authority for speedy process of registration and renewal applications.
 - Empowering the Authority to appoint Committees for efficient discharge of duties.
- The shrimp farms registered under Coastal Aquaculture Authority in Tamil Nadu is given in Table 5 of Annexure I.

The Government has framed guidelines for regulating culture of *P. vannamei* (White leg Shrimp) farming outside the jurisdiction of Coastal Aquaculture Authority vide G.O. (Ms). No. 05, Animal Husbandry, Dairying, Fisheries and Fishermen Welfare (FS4-1) Department, dated. 29.01.2024.

In order to urge the new aqua-entrepreneurs to pursue shrimp culture, Government has accorded administrative sanction to the tune of Rs.23.68 crore for the development of shrimp farming in Tamil Nadu under Pradhan Mantri Matsaya Sampada Yojana (PMMSY) and the schemes are under implementation. The details of the schemes are given in Table 6 of Annexure I.

In order to promote pond-based Sea bass culture and training to the interested entrepreneurs on Sea bass culture Government of Tamil Nadu had issued financial sanction for Rs.95.42 lakh under Tamil Nadu Innovation Initiatives (TANII) for Demonstration of Pond-based Sea bass technology to Aqua Entrepreneurs.

5.7.3. Mariculture

Mariculture is a sector of aquaculture that involves the rearing of aquatic organisms under controlled or semi-controlled conditions in coastal

and offshore waters. Mariculture is the fast-growing subsector of aquaculture and has very high growth potential. Mariculture activities such as Seaweed culture, Open Sea Cage culture have been successfully taken up by the State as livelihood measures to the coastal fisherfolk.

The State has set up a Marine Finfish Seed Rearing Centre at Mandapam in Ramanathapuram district to supply fish seeds to the marine cage culture. This unit has produced 83,000 marine finfish seeds. Further, subsidy assistance has been extended to fish farmers for establishment of two marine finfish nursery rearing units at a total cost of Rs.30 lakh under PMMSY at Mayiladuthurai and Ramanathapuram districts respectively.

5.7.4 Seaweed culture

Seaweed cultivation is a highly remunerative activity involving simple, low cost, low maintenance technology with a short grow-out cycle. Seaweed sector is an emerging area for

the development of rural economy, especially in the coastal districts. There is an enormous potential for the development of small-scale individual family and community-based seaweed cultivation along Tamil Nadu coastline. Our State is the top producer of seaweeds in India and the Government promotes the seaweed farming as an alternative livelihood activity for fisher folk.

Empowerment of fisherwomen through seaweed culture in Tamil Nadu is being done by the Government. A total sum of Rs. 3.02 crore has been provided to 2508 coastal fisher folk for procurement of 15,795 rafts and 2,580 monoline for seaweed cultivation.

5.7.4.1 Establishment of Multipurpose Seaweed Park

The Government have accorded administrative sanction for an amount of Rs.127.71 crore under PMMSY for Establishment of Multipurpose Seaweed Park at

Ramanathapuram and Pudukottai Districts of Tamil Nadu. The work is proposed to be executed in two phases. This project consist of sub activities such as (i) Hub I: Seaweed Production park at Valamavur in Ramanathapuram District, (ii) Hub II: Seaweed Processing Park at Kantharvakottai in Pudukottai district (iii) Spoke level-I and Spoke level-II totally consisting of 60 Villages. At present preliminary civil works have been started in the Hub-I and Hub-II facilities.

The total potential area for seaweed culture all along the Tamil Nadu coast is 5048 ha. The present demand for seaweed in Tamil Nadu is about 1,15,150 metric ton. However, the actual estimated production is only 21,982 metric ton. Therefore, under this flagship project, Hub-I and Hub-II facilities are being created with an appropriate full-fledged infrastructure facility for the holistic development of seaweed farming and the value addition of seaweed. The Government is

determined to augment the opportunities for self-employment to fisher folk, especially in the southern coastal districts of Tamil Nadu, through this project by infusing advanced technologies into the culture and processing of seaweeds.

The Government of Tamil Nadu proposes a holistic development of seaweed sector in the state with an integrated approach. With the present thrust for expansion of seaweed sector provided by the State and Government of India, the State of Tamil Nadu is poised for the growth of a unique modern seaweed hub on par with international standards by attracting investors, producers, marketers and making Tamil Nadu as a one stop destination.

5.7.5 Open sea cage culture

Open sea cage farming has emerged as a viable option to increase production of high-value marine finfish and shellfish. Suitable commercially

important fish species for open sea cage farming are Cobia, Seabass, Groupers, Pompano and Lobsters. Under various Government schemes, 409 cages have been distributed to coastal fisher folk at a project cost of Rs.17.81 crore for undertaking open sea cage culture. During the year 2023-24, based on the administrative sanction obtained from Government, action has been taken to distribute 17 Open sea cages to Marine fisherfolk at a cost of Rs. 0.85 crore to undertake fish culture in open sea.

6. Development of Inland Fisheries

Inland fisheries has gained popularity and emerged as an important source of livelihood of fisherfolk/ fish farmers in Tamil Nadu. It is an important food production sector, which is contributing to the livelihood as well as food security to the rural people. It also plays a vital role in enhanced food production, nutritional security and employment generation. The inland fisheries resources of our State comprises of

reservoirs, major irrigation and long seasonal tanks, short seasonal tanks and ponds which are amenable to both capture and culture fisheries.

The main objectives of Inland Fisheries and fish culture are:

1. Increase the fish seed production and to fulfil the fish seed demand.
2. Production and supply of quality fish seeds to the fish farmers.
3. Optimum utilization of inland fishery resources.
4. Expansion of fish farming area.
5. To augment the overall inland fish production of the State and thereby increase the income of the fish farmers.
6. Introduction of new technologies in fish farming to improve the overall inland fish production.
7. Promotion of scientific stocking of fish seeds in all suitable water bodies to contribute fish food and nutritional security.

8. Conservation of indigenous fish resources, effective management, stock enhancement, monitoring and prevention of invasive exotic species.
9. Creation of employment opportunity to the rural sector through innovative fish culture practises, hygienic marketing facilities in the State.
10. To ensure the availability of quality fish food and supply protein rich fish food to public.

6.1 Fishing practices followed in inland water bodies

In Tamil Nadu, 90 Reservoirs are maintained by Water Recourses Department. Since, 1972 onwards fishery management have been carried out in 62 reservoirs. Out of which 54 reservoirs are maintained by the Department of Fisheries and Fishermen Welfare and 8 are maintained by the Tamil Nadu Fisheries Development Corporation Limited (TNFDC). The Government has permitted the Department of

Fisheries for undertaking fishery management in 62 Reservoirs. The details are given in Table 7 of Annexure I.

The main objective of fisheries management in Reservoirs and tanks is to increase fish production by stocking quality fish seeds in right numbers, conservancy of the fishery resources, capture the marketable fish for providing cheap protein food to the public at a nominal price and also to take care of the socio-economic development of inland fishermen. From 1977 to 2012, the Department of Fisheries and Fishermen Welfare has adopted the following methods for harvesting fishery resources of reservoirs.

- i) Licensing system** - Annual fishing licence are given to the fishermen in the four reservoirs viz., 1.Mettur Dam - Salem District, 2.Kolavai - Chengalpattu District, 3.Poondi - Tiruvallur District and 4.Veeranam - Cuddalore District.

ii) Share fishing method - $1/3^{\text{rd}}$ of the harvest will go to share fishermen and $2/3^{\text{rd}}$ will go to the Government for stocked fish variety. For unstocked fish variety, 50% will go to the Government account and 50% will go to the share fishermen.

iii) Leasing method – As per the provisions of Government orders, the leasing of fishery rights are being carried out by Department of Fisheries and Fishermen Welfare.

Around 14,306 irrigation tanks are available with the Water Resources Department, in which Department of Fisheries and Fishermen Welfare has been permitted to carry out fisheries management in 636 tanks. The details are listed in Table 8 of Annexure I.

Under Intensive Inland Fish culture scheme, 486 Irrigation tanks had been handed over to the Fisheries Department for the purpose of

demonstrating Intensive fish culture practices in the potential irrigation tanks in 5 Districts Viz., Madurai, Theni, Cuddalore, Villupuram and Kallakurichi vide G.O.(Ms) No.1286, Forest and Fisheries (FS.IV) Department, Dated:09.11.1984.

District Fish Farmers Development Agency (DFFDA) was functioning under the Chairmanship of District Collector for the development of fisheries resources in water bodies of all districts in Tamil Nadu except Chennai. Expanding the inland fish culture production activities through the DFFDA, the District Collectors have allotted some tanks to Fisheries Department to expand the inland fish culture practices in the respective districts. Accordingly, 106 irrigation tanks, 22 tanks in Dindigul District, 21 Rural Fishery Demonstration tanks and 1 Kadamba tank in Thoothukudi District fishery management are being carried out by the Department of Fisheries.

6.2 Special initiatives in Inland Fisheries

Inland fisheries resources mainly depend on monsoon rainfall. Erratic rainfall associated with mismatch between breeding season of fishes and water availability for production of quality fish seed, short water retention period, non-availability of low-cost feed are factors for affecting inland fish production.

In order to overcome the above obstacles, the following special initiatives have been taken up by the Department of Fisheries and Fishermen Welfare.

1. Promotion of fish culture in floating cage culture in irrigation tanks and reservoirs to increase inland fish production and fish seed rearing in floating cages to increase the availability of quality fish seeds.
2. Scientific stocking of fish seed in potential water bodies owned by various Departments for effective utilization and increase the fish production.

3. Popularization of intensive fish culture technologies among the farmers by providing subsidy and enhancing their income through skill development trainings.
4. Promotion of eco-friendly aquaculture practices through integrated fish culture with agriculture, horticulture & livestock to provide additional income to the farmers.
5. Introduction of diversified fish species and promotion of fast growing fish culture viz., Amur Carp, Jayanthi Rohu and Genetically Improved Farmed Tilapia (GIFT).
6. Creation of employment opportunities to the rural people by promoting fish seed rearing and fish culture.
7. A fish feed mill unit owned by the Department has been operated successfully in Thanjavur district and supplying quality fish feed to the Government fish farms and private farmers.
8. Pure line brood stock facilities in Mettur Dam and Bhavanisagar Government

fish farms have been established for improving the quality of fish seed produced and reared in Government fish farms.

9. Promotion of Bio-floc fish culture as an intensive fish culture technology to enhance the unit productivity and sustainable aquaculture practices with higher profit.
10. Promotion of Re-circulatory Aquaculture System (RAS) by adopting minimal usage of water for intensive fish culture by providing subsidy assistance to fish farmers

6.3 District Fish Farmers Development Agencies (DFFDA)

The Government of Tamil Nadu has formed District Fish Farmers Development Agencies (DFFDA) in 37 Districts except Chennai, to popularize fish culture, channelize subsidies to the fish farmers and to generate employment opportunities in rural areas. These DFFDA are functioning under the Chairmanship of the respective District Collectors.

The main activities of DFFDA are encouraging farmers to take up fish culture, providing technical guidance, extending subsidy assistance, imparting training on advanced fish culture practices. Registration of fish seed hatcheries, nurseries and grow out fish culture farms are being carried out by the DFFDA to regularize the inland fisheries and also to take up fish culture practices under various Government schemes.

6.4 Reservoir Fisheries Management

In Tamil Nadu, there are 62 reservoirs are under the control of the Department of Fisheries and Fishermen welfare, in which 8 reservoirs are under the control of Tamil Nadu Fisheries Development Corporation Limited (TNFDC). The Reservoir fisheries management is carried out to augment the State's inland overall fish production.

- 1) The main objective of Reservoir fisheries management is to enhance the fish production and revenue of the inland fisherfolk who depend on these reservoirs

for their livelihood. Also, to increase the fish production by installing floating cages in Reservoirs.

- 2) In order to increase the Reservoir fish production, quality fish seeds are produced in Government fish farm and stocked in Reservoirs.
- 3) Reservoir fisheries are managed by leasing of fishery rights through licensing system and share fishing method.
- 4) During the year 2023-24, 33 reservoirs were under lease and Rs.9.39 crore revenue has been realized.
- 5) The Department of Fisheries and Fishermen Welfare has identified some more potential reservoirs and taking action to bring them under fisheries management.

6.5 Government Fish Seed Production Centres

In Tamil Nadu, 14 Government owned fish seed production centres are operating

successfully. The details of Government fish seed production centres are given in Table 9 of Annexure I.

The Government has taken various measures to strengthen the infrastructure facilities in the Government fish farms every year. During the year 2023-24, the Department of Fisheries and Fishermen welfare has produced 66.06 crore early fry so far and supplied to the fish farmers. Further, the Government is also encouraging private farmers to establish fish seed hatcheries by providing subsidy and technical assistance.

To increase the income of fish farmers, for the first time in Tamil Nadu, fast growing, genetically improved GIF Tilapia hatchery has been established at Krishnagiri Government Fish Farm, Kishnagiri District with an annual production capacity of 25 lakh fish seeds. Also, a GIF Tilapia hatchery has been established at Manjalar Government Fish Farm, Theni District

with an annual production capacity of 10 lakh fish seeds. Through these hatcheries, fast growing GIF Tilapia seeds are being produced, reared and supplied to fish farmers in Tamil Nadu and neighbouring states.

6.6 Government Fish Seed Rearing Centres

In Tamil Nadu, 46 Government fish seed rearing centres are functioning under the control of Department of Fisheries and Fishermen Welfare and 5 fish seed rearing centres are functioning under TNFDC. A total of 8.55 crore quality fish fingerlings of various fish species have been reared and supplied during the year 2023-24. The seeds were stocked in Reservoirs, irrigation tanks and also supplied to private farmers leading to increase the inland fish production of the State. The details of Government fish seed rearing centres are given in Table 10 of Annexure I.

The Government is encouraging private farmers to establish fish seed rearing centres by providing subsidy assistance. To ensure the availability of fish seeds for stocking in irrigational tanks immediately on receipt of water during North East Monsoon, fish seed rearing in cages also promoted by the Government.

6.7 Protection of native fish species

The Government has committed to protect the native fish species of the State through ranching of fish seed for replenishment and conserving the native fish species germplasm. The native species of the State are often having high demand as they are considered as local delicacies and also has immense health benefits.

In order to address the huge demand for native fish species such as Pearl spot, Calbasu and Cauvery carp and to make availability of protein rich food to the rural mass, the Government has taken earnest efforts for

establishment of native fish species hatcheries in 3 Districts viz., Salem, Thanjavur and Cuddalore at a total cost of Rs 4.40 crore. With regard to establishment of native fish hatcheries viz., Pearl spot hatchery at Parangipettai in Cuddalore district at a cost Rs.2.45 crore, Calbasu hatchery at Agarapettai in Thanjavur district at a cost Rs. 1.64 crore and Sel carp hatchery at Mettur in Salem district at a cost of Rs. 25 lakh, hatchery construction works are in nearing completion. Upon establishment of native fish hatcheries, awareness programmes and training will be conducted among the fisherfolk for conservation of native fish stock and also to increase the fish production. The fish seed produced in the native fish species hatcheries will also be supplied to the fish farmers for promotion of culture of native fish species in the State, to ensure availability of delicious fish throughout the State. This will surely fetch higher returns to the farmers.

6.8 River Ranching programme

River Ranching of native fish species in rivers pave way for restoration of fishery wealth in Tamil Nadu by replenishing the wild stock. Conservation and Restoration of native fishery wealth will also uplift the socio-economic status of the inland fisherfolk who are living adjacent to inland water bodies. In Tamil Nadu, river ranching programme has been carried out at a cost of Rs. 1.24 crore and Rs. 1.20 crore for the year 2021-22 & 2022-23 respectively. Through this programme, 80.00 lakh advanced fingerlings have been stocked in Cauvery, Bhavani and Thamirabharani rivers and their tributaries.

The native fish species restoration programme in the State includes breeding of native fish species in captivity, rearing and ranching in the natural water bodies to ensure increased fish production.

6.9 Pradhan Mantri Matsya Sampada Yojana (PMMSY) 2021-22

The Government of India has accorded Administrative and financial sanction for the Inland fisheries development schemes under the funding assistance of PMMSY for the year 2021-22. The details are furnished in Table 11 of Annexure I. At present the works are under progress.

6.10 Pradhan Mantri Matsya Sampada Yojana (PMMSY) 2022-23

The Government of India has accorded Administrative and financial sanction for the Inland fisheries development schemes under the funding assistance of PMMSY for the year 2022-23. The details are furnished in Table 12 of Annexure I. The works are under progress.

6.11 Pradhan Mantri Matsya Sampada Yojana (PMMSY) 2023-24

The Government of India has accorded Administrative sanction for the Inland fisheries

development schemes under the funding assistance of PMMSY for the year 2023-24. The details are furnished in Table 13 of Annexure I.

6.12. Input assistance for fish culture in multi-purpose farm ponds under State fund 2022-23

To provide support to the farmers to take up fish culture, the Government is implementing a scheme on "Input assistance to the farmers for promotion of fish culture in multi-purpose farm ponds" at a total cost of Rs.1.00 crore. Under the scheme for 550 farm ponds subsidy assistance has been provided to the farmers for the purchase of fish seed, feed and fertilizers for increasing the inland fish production and to improve the revenue of small and marginal farmers of the State. The scheme is completed.

6.13. Fishing net and Coracle subsidy assistance to Inland Fishermen under State fund 2023-24

To increase the fishing efficiency of inland fisherfolk the Government is implementing a

scheme on “Subsidy assistance to inland fishermen for purchase of fishing implements” at a total cost of Rs.1.01 crore. Subsidy assistance is being provided for purchase of fishing implements viz. net & coracle to the inland fishermen/ farmers. A total of 700 fishing nets subsidy assistance have been released to the beneficiaries and 300 coracles works are in progress. This will enhance the income of inland fishermen/ farmers and increase the inland fish production of the State.

6.14 Tamil Nadu Irrigated Agriculture Modernisation Project (TN-IAMP)

The World Bank funded project on Tamil Nadu Irrigated Agriculture Modernization Project (TN-IAMP) is being implemented since 2018-19 in 66 sub-basins of Tamil Nadu. The main fisheries interventions implemented are fish culture in long and short seasonal irrigational tanks, aquaculture in farm ponds and earthen

fish seed rearing and culture farms. These interventions are made mainly to increase the fish production from available water resources by adopting latest farming technology such as farming of fast growing and high value fish species thereby doubling the farmers income.

The Government of Tamil Nadu has sanctioned a sum of Rs.39.50 crore to implement the project effectively, in phased manner.

During the year 2018-19 to 2023-24, an expenditure to the tune of Rs.35.42 crore was incurred. Major activities carried out are, for developing pure line brood stock and maintenance centre at Bhavanisagar and Mettur Dam Government fish farms for the supply of quality fish breeders to the farmers, establishment of fast growing GIF Tilapia hatchery at Manjalar Dam, Murrel Hatchery at Lalpet Government Fish Farm in Cuddalore district, renovation of Government fish seed farms at Lalpet and Agaram in Cuddalore district

mainly to enhance the supply of quality fingerlings to the farmers.

In order to increase the inland fish production of the State, 27,139 ha. of seasonal irrigational tanks were stocked with fish fingerlings and 1,258 nos. of farm ponds were brought under aquaculture activities. Also 88 nos. of earthen fish seed rearing cum culture farms were created to increase the revenue of agriculture farmers. In addition to this, 100 nos. of fish seed rearing in cages and 15 nos. of grow-out fish culture in floating cages were established. Further, to improve the fishing efficiency of inland fishermen, 515 nos. of fishing implements were supplied to the inland fishermen of the State. The details of schemes to be implemented during the year 2024-25 are furnished in Table 14 of Annexure I.

6.15 Ornamental Fish Culture

Tamil Nadu is the second largest exporter of ornamental fish in the country. A pilot project on

"Development of Ornamental Fisheries in Tamil Nadu" has been launched in the state with a total project outlay of Rs. 4.70 crore and an eligible subsidy of Rs. 2.25 crore, consisting of a Central share of Rs. 1.50 crore and a State share of Rs. 0.75 crore, with the goals of promoting ornamental fish culture and creating jobs in the state. This project consists of several components, including new construction or renovation of Backyard ornamental units, Medium scale ornamental fish rearing units, integrated ornamental fish units, aquatic plant production units, aquarium fabrication/retail units, aquarium tanks for hobby development in schools and colleges and capacity building training for the ornamental fish entrepreneurs.

Further, under the centrally sponsored beneficiary-oriented component of Pradhan Mantri Matsya Sampada Yojana (PMMSY), the Government have sanctioned an amount of Rs.13.85 crore towards construction of Backyard,

Medium Scale and Integrated Ornamental Fish unit in Tamil Nadu and the schemes are under implementation.

In order to increase the ornamental fish production and trade in the State, Government has announced to set up an "Ornamental Fish Trade centre" at Kolathur, Chennai at a total cost estimate of Rs.50 crore. Suitable site for an extent of 3.94 acres in Villivakkam, Aminjikai Taluk belonging to Arulmigu Agastheeswarar temple and an extent of 4,785 sq ft. at Peravallur Village, Ayanavaram Taluk belonging to Arulmigu Selliamman Temple have been identified for establishment of ornamental fish trade centre and administrative office respectively. This project will be executed by CMDA with the technical assistance of Fisheries and Fishermen Welfare department.

7. Development of Fisheries Infrastructure

The Government invests a huge amount towards implementation of various infrastructure

projects under different funding supports for improving fish landing points as fish landing centres, upgrading fish landing centres as fishing harbours and modernization of existing fishing harbours/ fish landing centres. These efforts ensure the safety of fishing boats and fishermen, maintain the quality of fish by facilitating hygienic handling, enhancing export avenues and better price realization for fish catch. Establishment of fishing harbours creates direct and indirect job opportunities to the fishermen and general public.

Funds for establishment of these infrastructures are being obtained from various sources like NABARD, FIDF, PMMSY and State funds. During the year 2024-25, Government has allotted an amount of Rs.300 crore under FIDF and Rs.305.27 crore under NABARD towards fisheries infrastructure works.

7.1 Development of Fishing Harbours

A fishing harbour contains multifunctional facilities that provide sufficient amenities to support the capture fisheries and its hygienic post-harvest handling. Generally, Fishing harbours are created to accommodate mechanized as well as motorized fishing crafts in larger number, which enable the fishermen to engage in fishing activities collectively from one location.

In order to improve the socio-economic status of the fisherfolk, establishment of fishing harbour is essential to provide the fishes in required standards for the local consumption and export market. Fishing harbours are designed with facilities for safe berthing of crafts, hygienic handling, pre-processing, storage, transportation of fish etc.

Depending upon the size of a fishing harbour, the landside facilities will consist of Fish Auction Halls, Fish Packing Halls, Ice plants, Fish Pre-processing plants, Net mending sheds, Boat building yard and workshops, Fishery Administrative Office, Fishermen rest sheds, Dormitories, Restaurants, Fuelling station, Parking place for vehicles, Public toilets, Approach road and Internal roads, Fresh water supply, Drainage and sewerage, Electric power and lighting, Radio communication station etc,.

In view of supporting safe berthing and hygienic handling of fishes, the Government of Tamil Nadu has accorded the Administrative Sanction for the fishing harbour works. The details are furnished in Table 15 of Annexure I and the works are in progress.

7.2 Construction of Fish Landing Centres

Fish Landing Centres are created for the safe berthing of mechanized and motorized fishing

boats with minimum basic facilities for fish landing, auction and net repair facilities. Fish Landing Centres can accommodate upto 100 fishing vessels having a length of less than 10 metre OAL.

Fish Landing centres facilitate easy berthing and navigation of fishing vessels, hygienic handling of fishes and provides basic amenities for fishermen. The facilities such as Auction Hall, Net Mending Shed, Diaphragm wall, Quay walls, Jetties, Fish Drying platforms, Internal Roads, Water supply arrangements, Toilet, Lighting Arrangements etc are provided in Fish Landing Centre to fulfil the requirement of fishermen community.

There are 83 Fish Landing Centres along the coast of Tamil Nadu. The Government have accorded administrative sanction for development of Fish Landing Centres. The details are furnished in Table 16 of Annexure I.

7.3 Shore Protection Works

The shore protection works are being carried out to reduce or eliminate sea erosion in the shore due to climate change, wave action during rough season etc. The erosion along the shore is mitigated by constructing bait arches, groynes and training walls at the barmouths of river.

The bait arch / groyne is an active structure extending from the shore into the sea, most often perpendicular or slightly oblique to the shoreline. The bait arch / groynes will cause deposition of sand in the shore creating beach landing for traditional crafts.

The training walls help to guide the river flow into the sea and to avoid possible siltation near the harbour area, so as to sustain sufficient depth in the alignment of harbour entrance channel and basin.

The Government has accorded administrative sanction for the shore protection works. The details are furnished in Table 17 of Annexure I and all these works are in progress.

7.4. Improvement of infrastructure facilities in Government Fish Farms

The Government fish farms are being constructed to ensure the fish seed supply to the fish farmers in nominal prices and thereby to increase the inland fish production in the State. Necessary infrastructures such as earthen pond, breeder pond, nursery pond, rearing pond, conditioning ponds, Chinese hatchery etc. are created as part of these Government fish farms.

The Government has accorded administrative sanction for the additional facilities /renovation in Government fish farms. The details are furnished in Table 18 of Annexure I and the Fish farms works are in progress.

7.5 Establishment of Office Buildings cum Training Centres

The office buildings are constructed for effective implementation of schemes, to address public grievances and to train the fishermen with latest technologies in fishing. The Government has accorded administrative sanction for The Construction of office buildings cum training centres given in Table 19 of Annexure I. The works are in progress.

7.6 Conducting Feasibility Studies for new fishing harbours and fish landing centres

Fisheries Sector plays an important role in improving the socio-economic status of fisherfolk, whose livelihood is mainly depending on fishing and allied activities. Feasibility Study works are essential to collect necessary information and data for establishing Fishing Harbours/ Fish Landing centres at suitable locations considering its feasibility, economics and profitability. Study works involve Mathematical model studies

such as shoreline changes, sedimentation studies, dredging and disposal studies, wave tranquillity studies etc., The feasibility study works (Table 20 of Annexure I) are in progress.

7.7 Fishermen Housing Scheme

Under fishermen housing scheme, the Government of Tamil Nadu have sanctioned a sum of Rs.85 crore to construct 5,000 houses to inland and marine fisherfolk. The unit cost of the house is Rs.1.70 lakh. Out of the sanctioned amount, Rs.61.97 crore was released to Rural Development and Panchayat Raj Department. So far, 3,509 houses have been taken up for construction, of this 3,308 have been completed and 201 is under various stages of completion. Necessary action is being taken to complete the remaining number of houses during the financial year 2024-25.

8. Marketing of Fish and Fishery Products

The total fish production of the State was 8.28 lakh MT in 2022-23. The per capita consumption of fish of the State during the year 2022-23 was 10.83 Kg. The State promotes fish consumption through modernized and hygienic fish markets, fish stalls and mobile vehicles and online marketing.

8.1 Export of Fish and Fishery Products

Fish and Fishery products is emerging as one of the largest group in agricultural exports from India, with 17.35 lakh metric ton in terms of quantity and Rs. 63,969 crore in value.

During 2022–23 the State gained foreign exchange of Rs. 6,957.67 crore by exporting 1.23 lakh metric ton of marine products. The primary types of marine products are dried fish, chilled variations, live fish, frozen shrimp, frozen finfish, frozen cuttlefish, and frozen squid. The United

States, Japan, South East Asia, the European Union, China, and the Middle East are the main export destinations for fisheries products.

In order to ensure hygienic fish handling and the preservation of fish quality, the Government of Tamil Nadu has established landing and shore infrastructure in 10 major fishing harbors, 4 medium fishing harbours, and 83 fish landing centres. The Government is promoting the export of fish and fishery products through the establishment of these facilities. Chennai and Thoothukudi are the major export oriented fish processing hubs of the State.

8.2 Construction of Fish Markets

The Government is taking efforts to construct new fish markets in various places in order to ensure hygienic handling of fish and to provide quality fish and fishery products to the consumers. The project is being implemented with

the financial assistance from the State Government, National Fisheries Development Board (NFDB) and the civic bodies with a total project cost of Rs.17.54 crore.

The civic bodies and fishermen's cooperative societies received an amount of Rs. 7.19 crore from the NFDB and Rs. 6.69 crore from the State Government for the construction of 21 fish markets in the State. The details are given in Table 21 of Annexure I.

Construction of 21 fish markets have been completed.

9. Pradhan Mantri Matsya Sampada Yojana (PMMSY)

“Pradhan Mantri Matsya Sampada Yojana (PMMSY) scheme was introduced by Union Government to bring about Blue Revolution through sustainable and responsible development of fisheries sector in India” with an estimated investment of Rs. 20,050 crore comprising of (i)

Central share of Rs.9,407 crore, (ii) State share of Rs.4,880 crore and (iii) Beneficiaries contribution of Rs.5,763 crore for its implementation for a period of five years from 2020-21 to 2024-25 in all States/Union Territories.

The PMMSY is an umbrella scheme with two separate components namely (a) Central Sector Scheme (CS) and (b) Centrally Sponsored Scheme (CSS). The Centrally Sponsored Scheme (CSS) component is further segregated into Non-beneficiary oriented and beneficiary orientated sub-components/activities under the following three broad heads

- i) Enhancement of Production and Productivity
- ii) Infrastructure and Post-harvest Management
- iii) Fisheries Management and Regulatory Framework

In the year 2020-21, 20 nos. of Beneficiary Oriented Components and 3 nos. of Non-Beneficiary Oriented Components were approved under this scheme to the state of Tamil Nadu for the total project cost of Rs.69.88 crore and the schemes have been successfully completed.

In the year 2021-22, 31 nos. of Beneficiary Oriented Components and 2 nos. of Non-Beneficiary Oriented Components were approved for the total project cost of Rs.289.12 crore and the schemes are under progress.

For the year 2022-23, 19 nos. of Beneficiary Oriented Components and 6 nos. of Non-Beneficiary Oriented Components were approved for the total project cost of Rs.349.80 crore and the schemes are under progress. For the year 2023-24, 22 nos. of Beneficiary Oriented Components and 1 no. of Non-Beneficiary Oriented Component were approved for the total project cost of Rs.127.05 crore.

Similarly for the year 2024-25, 14 nos. of Beneficiary Oriented Components and 12 nos. of Non Beneficiary Oriented Components at a total estimated cost of 420.04 crore have been sent to Government of India.

10. Extension and Skill Development

The Department's Extension wing propagate welfare schemes and latest technologies in fish culture to the public, fishermen, farmers, and other stakeholders in the fisheries sector. The department also participate in the various trade shows and exhibitions to create awareness about government schemes to the fishers, Farmers and General public. Apart from these, regular awareness campaigns are held to educate fisher folk about sustainable management of fisheries resources, safety precautions in the sea, hygienic fish handling, and sanitation and hygienic practices in fish landing centers and fishing harbors.

To address the grievances of fishermen/ fish farmers, fishermen grievance day and fish farmers meetings are being organized by the Department.

Annual days like World Ocean Day (8th June), National Fish Farmers Day (10th July) and World Fisheries day (21st November) are being celebrated throughout the State by conducting various competitions for school/ college students, awareness rallies and medical camps for fisherfolk/ fish farmers.

The best-performing fisherfolk / fish farmers are honoured on these occasions with prizes in a various of categories to recognize for their contributions to the fisheries sector.

Ramanathapuram District was awarded a trophy and certificate for being the Best Performing Marine district at the national level at the celebration of "World Fisheries Day 2023" held at Ahmedabad, Gujarat.

10.1 Vision towards extension and outreach:

The Department has a vision to offer following extension activities to support fishers and fish farmers in enhancing their skills, knowledge and practices.

- a. Grievance meetings are being conducted regularly in coastal districts on monthly basis to address various issues related to fishing and fishermen welfare.
- b. Safety training programs and awareness campaigns are conducted in coordination with security agencies to ensure fishermen safety by equipping them with the necessary knowledge and skills to operate safely at sea, including first aid, navigation safety and emergency response such as Personal Protective equipment (PPE) usage, emergency procedures and on-board firefighting techniques, demonstrations of safety equipment such as life jackets, immersion suits and fire extinguishers.

- c. Awareness on various topics such as sustainable fishing practices, selective fishing gears, proper on-board handling and reducing by catch, ecosystem-based management approaches, marine protected areas, conservation of fish stocks and habitats, modern aquaculture techniques including Re-circulatory Aquaculture system (RAS), Integrated Multi-Trophic Aquaculture (IMTA), and Bio-floc Technology, fish health management and disease prevention, biosecurity measures for fish/shrimp farms, quarantine procedures, etc has been conducted for the benefit of the fishers and fish farmers in Tamil Nadu
- d. Collaborating between fisheries research institutes such as TNJFU, CMFRI, CIFA, CIBA, CIFNET, MPEDA, NFDB, MSSRF and aquaculture industries to adopt modern technologies in order to increase the fish production/ fish catch.

These extension activities are being planned to help fisherfolk and fish farmers to improve their livelihoods, adopt sustainable practices and to contribute towards the overall development of the fisheries sector.

10.2 Maritime Education for Fisher Youth

In order to improve the skills and creating employment opportunities to the fisher youth in Tamil Nadu, financial assistance of Rs.50,000/- per student is being provided to the children of fishermen families for studying 6 specific courses notified by the Government in Maritime Education. Under this scheme an amount of Rs.49.25 lakhs have been released to 139 fisher youth during the financial year 2022-23 and 2023-24.

This scheme will be continued in the year 2024-25 also.

10.3 Skill development training to fisher youth / fishermen

In order to improve the livelihood of the fisher youth/ fishermen of Tamil Nadu and create adequate employment opportunities, it is proposed to provide the following 7 skill development trainings to 1500 fishermen youth from the coastal districts of Tamil Nadu in the financial year 2024-25 with the financial assistance of the Tamil Nadu Skill Development Corporation.

Training Programme on Full Stack Developer, training Programme on Digital Marketing for Fisherwomen, training Programme on Marine Engine Repair and Maintenance, Scuba Diving, Beach Life Guard, Tourist Guide and Under Water Welding are to be provided.

11. Fisheries Co-operative Societies

The Fisheries Co-operative Societies play a pivotal role in the upliftment of fishermen and fisherwomen in the State. The Department is

executing various welfare schemes to fishermen / fisherwomen through Fisheries Co-operative Societies.

About 7.70 lakh fishermen / fisherwomen have been enrolled in 1,475 Primary Fishermen / Fisherwomen Co-operative Societies, 12 District Co-operative Federations and 1 State Apex Co-operative Federation. Fishermen Co-operative societies are operating 62 full time and 12 part time fair price shops.

The details of fisheries cooperative societies are given in Table 22 of Annexure I.

11.1 Activities of Marine Fishermen Co-operative Societies

The marine fisherfolk of age 18 and above and who are actively engaged in full time fishing / fishery related activities are being enrolled as a member in Marine Fishermen / Fisherwomen Co-operative societies. The Government is providing relief assistance to the marine fishers and fisherwomen. The members of fishermen/

fisherwomen Co-operative societies are eligible to receive relief assistance under the schemes such as Savings cum relief scheme for marine fishermen / fisherwomen, Fishing ban relief assistance and Special allowance during fishing lean months, Group Accident Insurance Scheme, etc.

There are 74 Public Distribution System shops are operated by the fisheries cooperative societies in Chennai, Thiruvallur, Mayiladuthurai, Nagapattinam and Kanniyakumari districts. Micro credit is being extended to the members of the Co-operative societies by Tamil Nadu State Apex Fisheries Co-operative Federation (TAFCOFED), Co- operative banks and other nationalized banks. Co-operative marketing shops are also operated by the marine fisheries cooperative societies in fishing harbours for the benefit of the fisherfolk to procure accessories related to fishing. Jewel loan to the fisherfolk is also provided by a few Fisheries Cooperative societies such as Colachel

Fishermen Cooperative society and Vallavilai Fishermen Cooperative society of Kanniyakumari District and Thoothukudi Fishermen Cooperative society of Thoothukudi District.

11.2 Activities of Inland Fisheries Co-operative Societies

The Inland Fishermen Co-operative societies primarily focus on fishing activities in water bodies such as Rivers, irrigation tanks, Panchayat tanks and Reservoirs etc., Certain inland fisheries co-operative societies are engaged in the sale of fresh fish, dried fish and Value-added fish within their operational areas. The members of these co-operative societies play a crucial role in enhancing inland fish production in the State. To further increase inland fish production, the Government provides fishing nets and coracles at subsidized prices to the member of these fisheries Cooperatives.

11.3 Co-operative Loan

Fishermen Welfare conference held at Ramanathapuram District on 18.08.2023 in which the Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu announced that 45,000 fishermen will be given Co-operative loans for fishing activates through co-operatives.

Accordingly, Registrar of Co-operative Societies sent allotment to all Central Co-operative banks for providing Women Self Help group loan to fisherfolk to the tune of Rs.200 crore and Rs.300 crore under the Kisan Credit Card (KCC) scheme towards capital loan to fish farmers. Thus, a total loan amount of Rs.500 crore have been allotted.

11.4 Kisan Credit Cards (KCC) to Fisherfolk and Fish Farmers

The Union Government has extended the Kisan Credit Card (KCC) scheme to the fisheries sector to support the working capital needs of

fisherfolk and fish farmers. This scheme is being implemented in the State.

The KCC facility will assist fisherfolk and fish farmers in obtaining the short-term financing for various activities i.e. fish culture, bivalve farming, shrimp farming, seaweed farming, fish marketing and capture fisheries. A credit ceiling of Rs.2 lakh is available under the KCC scheme to meet the working capital requirements of fisher folk and fish farmers.

Interest subvention for the KCC loan is 2% in annual interest during loan disbursement and another 3% subvention in annual interest as incentive for prompt payback. So far, 16,503 KCC's have been issued to fisherfolk / fish farmers for a loan value of Rs.229.88 crore.

12. SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS (SDG)

To achieve a sustainable future by 2030, United Nations has framed 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDG) to combat poverty,

inequality and environmental degradation. Fisheries and aquaculture offer ample opportunities to alleviate poverty, hunger and malnutrition, generate economic growth and ensure better use of natural resources.

The Department of Fisheries and Fishermen Welfare contributes towards 'Responsible Consumption and Production' (Goal-12) with one indicator and 'Life below Water' (Goal-14) with three indicators. The Department has taken steps to achieve Goal-12 by increasing the fish production of the State through various schemes. The fish production of the State has increased from 8.06 lakh MT during 2021-22 to 8.29 lakh MT during 2022-23.

To achieve the indicators in the Goal-12 & 14, the Department is taking various measures to enhance fish production through implementation of fishing ban period, deployment of artificial reefs, ranching of fish seeds, mariculture

activities, capacity building to fisherfolk and enforcing Tamil Nadu Marine Fishing Regulation Act, 1983 for attaining sustainable fishing practices. Growth rate of fish production has been included as an Indicator for ranking in District Good Governance Index (DGGI).

13. TAMIL NADU FISHERMEN WELFARE BOARD (TNFWB)

Tamil Nadu Fishermen Welfare Board (TNFWB) was established in 2007 with an aim to provide social security and to ensure well being of fishermen and labourers engaged in fishing and allied activities. TNFWB is headed by the Hon'ble Minister for Fisheries-Fishermen Welfare and Animal Husbandry as Chairman and the Commissioner, Fisheries and Fishermen Welfare as Member Secretary having official and Non-official members. About 4.99 lakh members have been enrolled in TNFWB.

TNFWB is functioning from the contribution funds collected from various sources such as

member contribution of Rs.20/- per member for every year, at the rate of 10 paise per litre of tax-exempted diesel sold by the Tamil Nadu Fisheries Development Corporation (TNFDC) and Tamil Nadu State Apex Fisheries Co-operative Federation Limited (TAFCOFED) diesel bunks to fishing boats, at the rate of 20 paise per litre of tax-exempted diesel purchased by the mechanized fishing boat owners from TNFDC and TAFCOFED diesel bunks, at the rate of 7% of fishing lease amount from the water bodies and at the rate of Rs.2/- for every Kilogram of fish sold by Mettur Dam fishermen co-operative marketing society. For the year 2023-24, a sum of Rs.5.54 crore has been collected as contribution fund. The TNFWB is implementing various welfare schemes for their members and their families as detailed in Table-23 of Annexure I.

For registration of new members and for quick processing and delivery of relief/assistance

schemes to the beneficiaries, a web portal www.tnfwb.tn.gov.in has been developed in co-ordination with National Informatics Centre (NIC). All the District Assistant Directors of Fisheries and Fishermen Welfare offices have been provided with User ID to access the web portal to upload the scheme applications and recommend to TNFWB for disbursement of relief/assistance amount directly to the bank accounts of the beneficiaries through NEFT. New member registration and application for all schemes of TNFWB can also be submitted through citizen portal and e-seva centres.

As a measure to provide an opportunity for the fishermen wards to pursue B.F.Sc. (Bachelor of Fisheries Science) and B.Tech. (Fisheries Engineering) in Tamil Nadu Dr. J Jayalalithaa Fisheries University (TNJFU), TNFWB is sponsoring full educational fee for 5% of students admitted under Fishermen quota. During the year

2023-24, a sum of Rs.14.56 lakh has been provided to TNJFU towards the educational sponsorship for the wards of fishermen.

The details of the relief/assistance disbursed during the year 2023-24 are given in Table -24 of Annexure I.

14. TAMIL NADU STATE APEX FISHERIES CO-OPERATIVE FEDERATION LIMITED (TAFCOFED)

Tamil Nadu State Apex Fisheries Co-operative Federation Limited (TAFCOFED) is a registered Apex society under Tamil Nadu Co-operatives Societies' Act, 1983. TAFCOFED was registered on 06.11.1991 and functioning since 19.10.1992 with its headquarters at Chennai. At present, 665 marine, 164 inland fishermen / fisherwomen Cooperative Societies and 10 district fishermen co-operative federations have been enrolled as members in TAFCOFED with a total share capital of Rs.91.49 lakh.

The Commissioner of Fisheries and Fishermen Welfare is the functional registrar of the Apex Federation and it is administered by Administrator/Managing Director in the cadre of Joint Director of Fisheries and Fishermen Welfare, with five Project Offices located at Chennai, Nagapattinam, Ramanathapuram, Thoothukudi and Nagercoil.

14.1 Supply of Subsidized Industrial Kerosene to Motorised Fishing Crafts

During 2023-24, TAFCOFED has supplied 7,351 KL of subsidized Industrial Kerosene to the traditional motorised fishing crafts in Thoothukudi and Tirunelveli districts through its 14 outlets and earned a revenue of Rs.1.47 crore (unaudited).

14.2 Supply of Tax exempted Diesel to Fishing Crafts

During 2023-24, TAFCOFED has supplied 25,436 KL of tax exempted diesel to Mechanised

and Motorised fishing boats through its 17 diesel bunks established in coastal districts and earned a revenue of Rs.5.80 Crore (unaudited).

14.3 Fish Stalls

In order to supply good quality fish to the general public at a reasonable price, TAFCOFED has established fish stalls at Kanniyakumari, Pettai in Tirunelveli district, Ramanathapuram and Paramakudi in Ramanathapuram district, Palanganatham in Mudurai District, Ariyalur, Neyveli NLC Township in Cuddalore District, Vaiyavur in Kanchipuram district. During 2023-24, TAFCOFED earned a revenue of Rs.10.55 lakh (unaudited) through this activity.

14.4 Micro Credit to Fisherwomen

During 2023-24, TAFCOFED has provided Rs.1.37 crore as micro credit to 225 fisherwomen of 45 Joint Liability Groups from Thoothukudi and Cuddalore Districts. Rs.15,000 to Rs.20,000 per fisherwoman is being provided as micro credit under this initiative.

14.5 Co-operative Stores in Fishing Harbours/Fish Landing Centres

TAFCOFED has established co-operative stores at Chinnamuttom, Colachel, Thengapattanam, Thoothukudi and Nagapattinam Fishing Harbours and Tharuvaikulam Fish Landing Centre through which fishing implements and accessories required by the fishermen are being sold at a reasonable cost.

14.6 Supply of Outboard Motor (OBM)

TAFCOFED is supplying Outboard motor for the traditional fishing crafts at a subsidized cost under State Scheme. 40% of the unit cost or Rs.48,000/- whichever is less is being provided as subsidy assistance under this scheme. During the year 2023-24, a total of 350 OBMs have been allotted to TAFCOFED for supplying to fishermen of Thoothukudi, Tirunelveli and Kanniyakumari districts.

14.7 Pradhan Mantri Matsya Sampada Yojana

During 2023-24, TAFCOFED has been allotted with 539 No's of Two Wheeler fitted with Ice Box for supplying at a total cost Rs. 1.79 crore with Subsidy assistance of 40% to General category and 60% to SC, ST and Women categories for Promoting retail fish marketing under the Centrally Sponsored Scheme component of PMMSY scheme.

14.8 Financial Performance

During the year 2023-24, TAFCOFED has made a turnover of Rs. 273.97 crore and earned a gross profit of Rs.4.78 crore (unaudited). Upto January 2024, an amount of Rs.41.62 lakh has been paid as contribution to Tamil Nadu Fishermen Welfare Board.

15. TAMIL NADU FISHERIES DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION LIMITED (TNFDC)

The Tamil Nadu Fisheries Development Corporation Limited (TNFDC) was registered under Companies Act on 11.04.1974 as a public sector undertaking with an authorized share capital of Rs.5.00 crore. It was established to undertake commercial activities in the State fisheries sector. TNFDC is being administered by the Board of Directors with its Chairman being appointed by the Government. The Commissioner of Fisheries and Fishermen Welfare is the Managing Director of the TNFDC.

15.1 Inland Fisheries

15.1.1 Reservoir Fisheries

Reservoir fisheries management is being carried out in 8 reservoirs viz., Bhavanisagar, Perumpallam in Erode District, Aliyar in Coimbatore District, Amaravathy, Thirumoorthy, Uppar in Tiruppur District, Palar-Porandalar in Dindigul District and Sathanur in Thiruvannamalai District which were taken on long term lease from

the Government for 30 years. For the financial year 2023-24, total fish landings were 718.67 tonnes and the revenue realised was Rs.6.78 crore.

15.1.2 Fish seed production and rearing

The Fish seed farms at Sathanur, Aliyar, Amaravathy, Thirumoorthy and Palar- Porandalar of total extent of 3.86 ha is managed by TNFDC. For the financial year 2023-24, Indian Major Carp and Common Carp seed productions are being carried out in Sathanur fish farm and 1.33 crore early fry seeds have been produced. Rearing of fish seed is being carried out at Sathanur, Aliyar, Amaravathy, Thirumoorthy and Palar- Porandalar fish farms and 32.27 lakh fingerlings have been reared for the year 2023-24.

15.1.3 Ornamental Fish culture & Aquarium Keeping

An exclusive ornamental fish production unit is functioning at Aliyar and fishes like Koi carp, Gold Fish, Flower horn, Cichlid varieties are being

bred, reared and marketed by TNFDC. Ornamental Fish Aquaria in Aliyar, Thirumoorthy and Sathanur are also being operated and maintained by the Corporation for attracting tourists. An exclusive aquarium shop for marketing of aquarium accessories and ornamental fishes is also functioning at Ecopark in Chetpet, Chennai. A total revenue of Rs.16.66 lakh has been earned during the year 2023-24.

15.2 Marine Fisheries

15.2.1 Supply of Tax-exempted High Speed Diesel

The tax exempted diesel provided by the Government of Tamil Nadu for the benefit of marine fishers is being supplied by TNFDC through 33 diesel outlets. During the financial year 2023-24, 84,066.84 KL of tax exempted diesel have been supplied to the fishing boats, with a turnover of Rs. 663.11 crore. A new diesel outlet has been opened at Kundhukal Fish Landing Centre on 06.10.2023 in Ramanathapuram District.

TNFDC has established petrol outlets at Therespuram in Thoothukudi District and Kaipanikuppam in Villupuram District to augment additional income from existing fuel outlets.

15.2.2 Supply of subsidized Industrial Kerosene to Fishing Boats

The subsidized industrial kerosene is provided by the Government of Tamil Nadu for the benefit of marine fishers, who are having traditional fishing crafts with kerosene operated outboard motors in Kanniyakumari District where Kerosene is being supplied through 11 outlets of TNFDC. During the financial year 2023-24, 12,258.01 KL of subsidized kerosene have been supplied with a turnover of Rs.90.38 crore.

15.2.3 Supply of Outboard Motors (OBM) to fishing crafts

During the year 2023-24, the target fixed for supply of OBM to TNFDC is 650 Nos covering the regions of Chennai, Cuddalore, Nagapattinam,

Trichy and Ramanathapuram. Out of 650 Nos, 520 Nos of OBM were supplied to the eligible beneficiaries up to March 2024.

15.3 Fish Marketing

15.3.1. Fresh fish marketing stalls and vehicles

TNFDC is currently operating 41 retail fish stalls at Chennai, Madurai, Dindigul, Coimbatore, Pollachi and Tiruppur. There are 8 mobile units are operated at Chennai, Tiruvannamalai, Neyveli and Pollachi. Mobile seafood courts are being operated at Chennai(4 Nos) and Nagercoil(1 Nos). One sit & dine facility at Santhome, Chennai and Thengapattanam in Kanniyakumari district.

During the financial year 2023-24, a total quantity of 689.66 ton of fish has been marketed with turnover of Rs. 17.60 crore.

TNFDC is undertaking online fish marketing through the web portal *www.meengal.com* and

mobile app 'Meengal'. The online fish marketing facilities are well utilized for supply of fishes to the customers at their doorsteps through E-commerce platform. Since its inception in April 2020, a total of 47,629 deliveries have been completed and 71.34 MT of fishes have been sold for a value of Rs.3.99 crore till March, 2024.

15.3.2 Wholesale fish market at Ukkadam, Coimbatore District

A wholesale fish market was established at Ukkadam in Coimbatore District in co-operation with Coimbatore City Municipal Corporation. In order to facilitate more freshness and quality of fish, an ice plant and a cold storage of 10 MT capacity each are being constructed under National Agriculture Development Programme (NADP) at a cost of Rs.1.10 crore. The Infrastructure Development works for an amount of Rs.92.50 lakh would be carried out for improvement of hygienic conditions in the market during the year 2024-25.

15.4 Management of Chetpet Sport Fishing cum Eco Park

The Sport fishing cum Eco Park established by the Department of Fisheries and Fishermen Welfare is being operated and maintained by TNFDC. During the financial year 2023-24, a total of 2,39,210 visitors have visited this park and total entry fees of Rs.54.32 lakh has been collected.

The recreational facilities in the Eco-Park are being leased out to private parties and an income of Rs.1.45 crore has been earned.

15.5 Operation of Fish Feed Mill

The fish feed mill was established under National Agriculture Development Programme (NADP) at Achampatti in Thanjavur District is being operated by TNFDC. The feed produced is supplied to the Government fish seed farms. During the financial year 2023-24, 198.02 MT of fish feed have been produced, supplied and an income of Rs.91.08 lakh has been realised.

15.6 Financial Performance

TNFDC has made a turnover of Rs.789.21 crore and earned a profit of Rs.7.55 crore (unaudited) during the financial year 2023-24.

15.7 Contribution of Funds by TNFDC

TNFDC has paid a sum of Rs.2.67 crore to the State Government as dividend for the profit earned during 2022-23. TNFDC has paid an Interim Dividend of Rs.1.00 crore to the Government for the year 2023-24. Also TNFDC has paid a sum of Rs.2.06 crore as its contribution to the Tamil Nadu Fishermen Welfare Board for the financial year 2023-24.

An amount of Rs.24.86 lakh has been earmarked for utilization towards Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) fund from TNFDC for the financial year 2023-24.

16. Tamil Nadu Dr. J. Jayalalithaa Fisheries University (TNJFU)

Tamil Nadu Dr.J. Jayalalithaa Fisheries University (TNJFU) is a State Government-funded University established on 19.06.2012 at Nagapattinam as per the Tamil Nadu Fisheries University Act 2012. The University is accredited by ICAR with "A grade" till March 2026.

16.1. Vision of the University

"Harnessing the Science of Fisheries for Food, Nutrition and Livelihood"

16.2. Mission

Excelling in teaching, research and extension initiatives in fisheries sciences to produce professionally acclaimed and socially responsible graduates achieving nutritional security and sustainable development of the fisheries sector.

16.3. Objectives

- To impart quality professional education in different branches of Fisheries Sciences.
- To conduct organized research in the frontier area to develop cutting-edge technologies in Fisheries Sciences.
- To provide extension services in Fisheries Sciences
- To facilitate the comprehensive development of Fisheries Sciences for the increased contribution of the State's Economy and set benchmark standards through appropriate interventions.

16.4. Administrative Setup

The University headquarters located in Nagapattinam has the office of Vice-Chancellor, Registrar, Director of Research, Director of Extension Education, Controller of Examinations, Director of Sustainable Aquaculture, Finance Officer and Estate Officer. There are 8 constituent

colleges, 3 paraprofessional institutes and 5 directorates located in 12 districts of Tamil Nadu.

16.5. Academics

Academic programmes are offered under four faculties at this University. In Fisheries Sciences faculty, B.F.Sc., M.F.Sc., Ph.D and B.Voc. courses are offered. B.Tech (Biotechnology), B.B.A and M.B.A and Ph.D (Life Sciences) are offered in Basic Sciences faculty, B.Tech (Fisheries Engineering) and B.Tech (Energy and Environmental Engineering) and M.Tech are offered in Fisheries Engineering faculty and B.Tech., (Food Technology) is offered in Food Science faculty.

During the academic year 2023-24, 326 students were admitted to various UG programmes and 61 to PG programmes. The overall student strength of this University is 1451.

Thirty-three students secured their admission in PG and PhD as JRF and SRF with a fellowship in Central Institute of Fisheries Education (CIFE), Mumbai and other SAUs through the ICAR – AIEEA exam.

During the academic year 2023-24, Eighteen students benefitted from the 7.5% reservation of Government School students in Undergraduate programmes and 24 students from the 20% reservation allotted for the fishermen community in B.F.Sc., and B.Tech programme. During the year 2023 in 9 UG degree programmes, out of 570 girls students 31 have benefitted from the Tamil Nadu Government 'Pudhumai Penn' scheme.

16.6. Convocation

The Eighth Convocation of TNJFU was held on 07.07.2023 at Open University Auditorium, Chennai. A total of 386 graduates (in-person 352, in-absentia 34) received their

degree certificates. Among them, 15 candidates were awarded 38 medals.

16.7. Infrastructure facilities established

- The main building of the Paraprofessional Institute of Fisheries Technology at Madhavaram Campus, Chennai for Rs.1.50 crore and the Long liner cum Gill netter Deep Sea Training Boat funded by the State Government for Rs.1.60 crore were established.
- The additional infrastructure facilities of the Girls & Boys Hostel at Dr. M.G.R Fisheries College and Research Institute, Thalainayeru for Rs.639.71 lakh with the funding support of NABARD-RIDF were established.
- "Office cum Laboratory and Training Hall" at Mandapam Centre for Sustainable Aquaculture at Seeniappadharga for Rs.1.17 crore and "Laboratory Complex with Training Hall" at Fisheries College and Research Institute,

Thoothukudi for Rs.1.00 crore with the funding support of NADP were established.

- Gents Hostel Block for Rs.7.30 crore and Ladies Hostel Block for Rs.7.30 crore at the COFE, TNJFU Campus, Nagapattinam with the funding support of NABARD-RIDF were established.
- A Digital Blue e-extension hub with an acoustic sound recording studio, digital media lab and ICT-enabled skill lab with funding support from NADP for a cost of Rs.1.06 crore were established.

16.8. Research

16.8.1. Ongoing Projects (External Funded)

Forty-two projects were operated for a total of Rs.31.84 crore. The State Government has sanctioned Rs.17.79 crore, the Central Government has granted Rs.13.47 crore and Rs.0.58 crore has been received from other funding agencies.

16.8.2. Research publications

Eighty-nine research papers were published with NAAS-rated journals above 6.0.

16.9.1 Fish Products developed

1. Seaweed-incorporated edible coffee cups.
2. Seaweed-incorporated edible ice cream cups.
3. Seaweed (*Hypnea panosa*) extract incorporated face cream.
4. Seaweed (*Hypnea panosa*) powder incorporated with soap.
5. "Fish Acid/ Fish Amino Acid".

16.9.2. Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) signed

During the year 2023-24, thirteen MoUs were signed with different industries, organizations, Universities & Institutions. One international MoU was also signed with Curtin University, Australia.

16.9.3. Industry- Institute linkage projects

Five industry-institute linkage projects were operated with a total amount of Rs. 22.68 lakh.

16.9.4. Technology commercialized through research outcome

The marine products incubation forum of Fisheries College and Research Institute, Thoothukudi and a private company “Herbalis” have jointly commercialized seaweed-incorporated cosmetic products.

16.9.5. Salient research findings:

- Installation of 150 artificial reefs at four sites in the Pulicat coastal region under the TANII scheme, enhanced fish landing from 1.2 to 12 tonnes per month.
- Two fish species viz., *Xiphochelius typus* and *Hoplunnis diomediana* were reported as a new distribution record from the Chennai coast.

- Developed online blogs and mobile Android applications for the identification and conservation of turtle species.

16.10. Important events organized

16.10.1. Webinar/Seminar/ Symposium

Fourteen webinars, two Seminars and one workshop on various aspects were organized.

16.11. Extension:

16.11.1 Extension projects operated:

Seventeen extension training projects to the tune of Rs. 29.795 lakh were operated.

16.11.2. Activities of Incubation Units

- Post-harvest Research Incubation Center (PHRIC) at Ponneri is actively involved in pickle preparation, dry fish products, and kurkure products, etc., The fish processing machineries were leased out for the benefit of incumbentes and other stakeholders.
- Six incumbentes were registered and doing

their business by using the facilities at Fisheries College & Research Institute, Thoothukudi and Dr.M.G.R Ponneri.

16.11.3 Service through laboratory analysis

- State Referral Laboratory for Aquatic Animals Health, Madhavaram, Thiruvallur District and State Referral Laboratory for Aquatic Animal Health, Fisheries College and Research Institute, Thoothukudi offered services on disease diagnosis and treatment.
- State Referral Laboratory for Fish Quality Monitoring and Certification, Fisheries College and Research Institute, Thoothukudi offered services in testing fish quality.
- State Referral Laboratory for Feed Quality Testing, Institute of Fisheries Postgraduate Studies, Vaniyanchavadi, Chennai offered services in testing feed quality.

16.11.4 Training to Fishermen

35 fishermen were given training and issued with Boat Driving License in collaboration with the District Skill Development Authority.

A one-week training program on “Deep Sea Fishing Techniques” was organised with funding from Tamil Nadu Skill Development Corporation (TNSDC), Chennai for 20 fishermen. Ninety fisherwomen were trained in Gill net designing, assembling and net mending. On-board training to 3,759 beneficiaries including fishermen from Ramanthapuram, Pudukottai, Thoothukudi and Kanniyakumari on “Deep Sea Fishing and technologies” under the NADP was conducted.

16.11.5 Service to fish farmers and entrepreneurs

a) Services through constituent units

The quarterly magazine 'Meenvala Sudar' is published by University for the benefit of fish farmers and entrepreneurs. Success stories of the fish farmers are published to motivate others in fish farming. 4,340 beneficiaries benefitted through 54 outreach programmes including webinars and conferences conducted in aquaculture and fisheries by the University. In addition, 66 skill training programmes on various aspects for farmers and entrepreneurs were conducted.

b) Services provided by KVK, Sikkal under TNJFU.

- 19 training programs were conducted in aquaculture and value addition in fish products for 504 beneficiaries.
- 33 Agricultural and Veterinary subject trainings were conducted for 704 beneficiaries.

- Soil and water sample analysis services were provided to 144 farmers.
- 6 Skill development programmes and one capacity building programme were organized for 217 beneficiaries in fisheries and agriculture.
- Demonstration units in fisheries, agriculture and Veterinary sciences were established and hands-on training was also imparted to farmers.
- On-farm advisory services on agronomy, horticulture technologies, fisheries and plant protection technologies, were provided to 2,212 farmers.

16.12. Awards/Medals/ Recognition

The faculties of the university received 4 Poster Presentation Awards and 5 Best Paper Presentation awards. In addition 6 awards were received by the faculties and students at

9th National Conference Agricultural Scientific Tamil held at the Chennai. Prof K.H.Alikuni's Gold medal for best Ph.D was received by the faculty of this university.

16.13. Sustainable Development Goals

- To ensure zero hunger (SDG 2) and no poverty (SDG 1) and to promote responsible consumption and production (SDG 12), 1703 farmers and fishers were trained through on-campus and off-campus technical training programs.
- In addition, five research projects on the impact of climate change and awareness program- (SDG 3) have been implemented and the findings are disseminated to the scientific fraternity.
- To achieve SDG goal No. 14 (Life Below Water), efforts are undertaken to implement SDGs at the District and Panchayat level by conducting

awareness programs through as World Fisheries Day, World Wetland Day, and World Sea Grass Day.

- To achieve SDG goal No: 5 (Gender equality) and to achieve the SDG target “leaving no one behind” International Day of Women and Girls in Science and International Women’s Day were celebrated.

16.14. Exhibition:

State-level Aqua Rainbow festival was conducted to promote the importance of ornamental fishes from 30.06.2023 to 02.07.2023 at Madhavaram and attracted over 50,000 people from all the districts of the State.

16.15. New Initiatives

- Quality education utilizing digital resources will be imparted to produce skilled graduates.
- Innovative research will be focused on

advanced aquaculture systems, feed development, climate-resilient aquaculture, seaweed micropropagation, disease surveillance and monitoring, fish farm machinery and fish quality.

- Industry-Institute linkage will be developed to produce industry-ready graduates.
- The focus will be given for commercialising the technologies and products developed by the university.
- Providing an interactive platform to students and alumni for better placement opportunities and to provide start-ups.

17. WAY FORWARD

The Government plans for the following initiatives towards the development of the sector in future.

- The State Government will continue to implement the social security schemes for the welfare of the fisherfolk.
- Government will accord highest priority to restore the traditional fishing rights of Tamil Nadu Fishermen in the Palk Bay area.
- Alternative livelihood options like seaweed farming and mariculture activities will be promoted to increase the marine fish production. Seaweed production and seaweed product development will be promoted in large scale.
- Skill development programmes will be implemented to create employment opportunities to the fisher youth.
- Suitable collaborations between Fisheries & Fishermen Welfare Department and Tamil Nadu Dr. J Jayalalithaa Fisheries University will be made to implement lab to land programmes in fish farming, mariculture, processing etc.

- For effective utilization of coastal fallow lands, land leasing policy will be adopted to increase coastal aquaculture production.
- Fishing Harbours, Fish Landing Centres and other shore facilities will be established all along the coast of Tamil Nadu to improve hygienic handling of fish and to bridge the missing links of Cold Chain.
- Conservation and sustainable management of Fishery resources through effective implementation of Acts, Rules and Regulations.
- Creation of necessary infrastructure facilities for inland fish seed production, promotion of latest technologies and effective utilization of water resources for fish culture will be done to increase inland fish production.
- Government will continue to take up conservation and fishery resource enhancement measures such as installation of artificial reefs and sea ranching programmes.

Ranching programmes to be continued in rivers and other natural water bodies to replenish the inland fish stock.

18. BUDGET ALLOCATION FOR THE YEAR 2024-25

For the year 2024-25, a sum of Rs.1,320.96 crore has been provided in the budget estimate. Out of this, the projected revenue expenditure is Rs.714.69 crore and the capital expenditure is Rs.606.27 crore.

19. CONCLUSION

Restoration of fishing rights of Tamil Nadu Fishermen in the traditional waters of the Palk Bay remains consistently in the top priorities of the Government. Tamil Nadu Government will continue to urge the Union Government to find a permanent solution to the attacks and apprehensions faced by our fishermen by the Sri Lankan Government by retrieval of 'Katchatheevu'. In order to ensure the welfare of

the fishermen, Government has enhanced the special allowance for fishing lean period, relief assistance for fishing ban period, quantity of sales tax exempted diesel for mechanized and motorized fishing crafts and subsidized kerosene for traditional fishing crafts. Co-operative loans are being provided to fisherfolk under various Credit schemes to support their livelihood.

In order to sustain growth in the fisheries sector, the Government has initiated various programs for the alternative livelihoods such as seaweed culture, marine finfish culture and open sea cage culture. Installation of artificial reefs all over the inshore waters of the State will act as feeding and breeding grounds to the fishes, which will ultimately enhance the marine fishery stock in near future.

The vast scope for expansion of brackish water aquaculture is being optimally utilized. Development of cold chain facilities and other coastal infrastructure facilities for fishermen are

being undertaken for safe berthing, processing, and exporting the fish catch. This is certainly expected to reflect the fish and fishery products exports of the State in the coming years, besides helping the fishermen to fetch better price for their fish catches.

Government has a vision to stock all the public water bodies in a scientific manner with quality fish fingerlings to increase the inland fish production. To fulfil this objective and to address the gap between production & supply in fish seed, Government is working on the improvement of the Government and private fish seed production infrastructures. In view of effectively utilizing the short seasonal water bodies, the fast-growing fish seeds are being produced and supplied by the Government. All these determined initiatives of the Government will certainly bring a sustainable development and prosperity in the fisheries sector of the State, besides ensuring the welfare of the fisherfolk.

Table: 1
Category wise staff strength of Fisheries and Fishermen welfare Department

Sl. No.	Name of the Post	No. of Posts (Sanctioned+ deputation)
1.	Commissioner of Fisheries and Fishermen Welfare	1
2.	Additional Director of Fisheries and Fishermen Welfare	2
3.	Joint Director of Fisheries and Fishermen Welfare	4+1
4.	Deputy Director of Fisheries and Fishermen Welfare	11+2
5.	Deputy Director (Personnel)	1
6.	Deputy Director (Engineering)	1
7.	Financial Advisor & Chief Accounts Officer	1
8.	Assistant Director of Fisheries and Fishermen Welfare / Assistant Director (Mechanical)	49+8
9.	Deputy Registrar	1
10.	Accounts Officer	1
11.	Inspector of Fisheries and Fishermen Welfare	167
12.	Sub-Inspector of Fisheries and Fishermen Welfare	84

Sl. No.	Name of the Post	No. of Posts (Sanctioned+ deputation)
13.	Ministerial and field staff	1,263+1
	Total	1,586+12
Engineering Wing		
1.	Chief Engineer	1
2.	Executive Engineer	5
3.	Assistant Executive Engineer	13
4.	Assistant Engineer	13
5.	Junior Engineer	17
6.	Senior Draughting Officer	1
7.	Draughting Officer	8
8.	Junior Draughting Officer	4
9.	Divisional Accountant	4
10.	Technical Assistant	23
11.	Ministerial and supporting staff	9
	Total	98
Marine Enforcement Wing		
1.	Superintendent of Police	1
2.	Deputy Superintendent of Police	1
3.	Inspector of Police	10
4.	Sub Inspector of Police	8
5.	Head Constable / Constable	53

Sl. No.	Name of the Post	No. of Posts (Sanctioned+ deputation)
6.	Police Driver	19
7.	Superintendent	1
8.	Assistant	2
9.	Camp Clerk	17
	Total	112
	Grand Total	1,796+12

Table: 2
Marine Fisheries Statistics 2023-24

Coastal length	1,076 km
Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ)	1.9 lakh sq. km
Continental shelf	41,412 sq. km
Number of Coastal Districts	14
Number of Fishing Villages	608
Marine Fisherfolk Population	10.48 lakh
Marine Fisherfolk enrolled in Tamil Nadu Fishermen Welfare Board	4,38,906

Fishing Crafts registered (online) (as on 15.06.2024)	
Mechanized boats	5,440
Traditional fishing Crafts (Motorized and non- motorized)	44,487 (40,312 + 4,175)
Infrastructure Facilities	
Major Fishing Harbours - 10	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Chennai, 2. Poompuhar, Mayiladuthurai District 3. Nagapattinam, 4. Mookaiyur, Ramanathapuram District 5. Thoothukudi, 6. Chinnamuttom, Kanniyakumari District 7. Colachel, Kanniyakumari District 8. Thengapattinam, Kanniyakumari District 9. Tharangambadi, Mayil aduthurai District 10. Muttom (PPP), Kanniyakumari District

Medium Fishing Harbours - 4	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Pazhayar, Mayiladuthurai District, 2. Mallipattinam, Thanjavur District 3. Cuddalore 4. Nambiyar Nagar, Nagapattinam District.
Fishing Harbours under construction - 5	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Thiruvottiyurkuppam, Chennai District 2. Azhagankuppam, Villupuram District 3. Alambaraikuppam, Chengalpattu District 4. Vellapallam, Nagapattinam District 5. Arcottuthurai, Nagapattinam District
Fishing Harbours under Modernization - 4	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Thengapattanam, Kanniyakumari District 2. Thoothukudi, 3. Pazhayar, Mayiladuthurai District. 4. Nagapattinam
Fish Landing Centres/ Jetties	83

Fish Landing Points	224
Marine Fish Production (2022-23)	5.97 lakh MT
Marine Products Export (2022-23) *	Quantity: 1,23,157 MT; Value: Rs.6,957.67 crore

Source: * Marine Products Export Development Authority

Table: 3
Inland Fisheries Statistics 2023-24

Inland Fishery Resources	3,85,761 ha.
Fisheries management in reservoirs by Fisheries & Fishermen Welfare Dept	62 No's (54 Fisheries Department + 8 TNFDC) (55,608 ha.)
Major, Minor Irrigation Tanks and Ponds	2,67,746 ha.
Fisheries management in irrigation tanks by Fisheries & Fishermen Welfare Dept	636 Nos (40,149 ha.)
Brackish water area	56,000 ha.
Population of inland fisherfolk	2.36 lakh
Inland Fisherfolk enrolled in Tamil Nadu Fishermen Welfare Board	60,196

Inland Fisheries Infrastructure	
A) Fish Seed Production Centres	
Government Fish Seed Production Centre	13+1(TNFDC)
Private Fish Seed Production Centre	37
B) Fish Seed Rearing Centres	
Government Fish Seed Rearing Centre	46+5(TNFDC)
Private fish Seed Rearing Centre	248
Inland Fish Production (2023-24)	2.32 lakh MT

Source: * Tamil Nadu Fisheries Development Corporation

Table: 4
Financial Assistance to marine fishermen under various Government welfare schemes in 2023-24

S. No.	Scheme	Amount Sanctioned (Rs. in crore)
1)	Fishing ban relief assistance to fishermen families	89.54
2)	Special allowance to fishermen families during lean fishing period	108.05
3)	Savings cum Relief scheme for marine fishermen	63.39

S. No.	Scheme	Amount Sanctioned (Rs. in crore)
4)	Savings cum Relief scheme for marine fisherwomen	61.77
Total		322.75

Table: 5
Shrimp Farms registered under CAA in Tamil Nadu

Sl. No	District	Total no. of farms	WSA (ha.)
1	Tiruvallur	125	249.80
2	Chengalpattu	81	102.29
3	Villupuram	101	134.49
4	Cuddalore	209	342.84
5	Nagapattinam	708	1,243.31
6	Mayiladuthurai	359	689.14
7	Thanjavur	337	693.09
8	Thiruvarur	197	464.44
9	Pudukottai	57	121.15
10	Ramnad	160	388.52
11	Thoothukudi	26	107.38
Total		2360	4536.45

Table: 6
Fund Allocation for various coastal
aquaculture activities under PMMSY

Sl. No	Activities	Units (Ha./No.)	Project cost (in Lakh)
1	Construction of new brackish water shrimp farms	100 ha.	800.00
2	Inputs for cultivation of shrimp in Newly constructed farms	100 ha.	600.00
3	Construction of Bio-floc ponds for brackish water/saline/alkaline areas including inputs	46 no's	828.00
4	Construction of new brackish water farms (Sea bass culture)	10 ha.	80.00
5	Inputs for cultivation of Sea bass in newly constructed farms	10 ha.	60.00
	Total		2368.00

Table: 7
Details of Fisheries management in Reservoirs

S.No	Department Details	Reservoirs (in Nos)
1	Fisheries and Fishermen Welfare Department	54
2	Tamil Nadu Fisheries Development Corporation Limited	8
3	Water Resources Department	28
	Total	90

Table: 8
Details of Fisheries management carried out in Irrigation Tanks

S. No	Tanks	No of Irrigation Tanks
1	Intensive Tanks	486
2	District Fish Farmers Development Agency tanks	106
3	Palani tanks - Dindigul District	22

S. No	Tanks	No of Irrigation Tanks
4	Rural Fishery Demonstration Tanks	21
5	Kadamba tank - Thoothukudi District	1
	Total	636

Table: 9
Fish seed production in Government fish farms 2023-24

Sl. No	District	Government fish seed production centres	Early Fry production (in lakhs)
1	Tirunelveli	Manimuthar	1401.00
2	Thanjavur	Karanthai	651.00
3		Thatankulam	
4	Tiruvarur	Nallikkottai	30.00
5	Karur	Thirukampuliyur	243.00
6	Erode	Bhavanisagar	1860.00
7	Salem	Mettur Dam	1990.00
8	Krishnagiri	Krishnagiri (Amur)	80.00
9	Tiruvallur	Poondi	218.50
10	Theni	Manjalar (GIFT)*	1.39

Sl. No	District	Government fish seed production centres	Early Fry production (in lakhs)
11	Tiruvannamalai	Sathanur**	132.95
12	Cuddalore	Lalpet	Newly Developed production Centres
13	Dharmapuri	Hogenakkal	
14	Tenkasi	Ramanadhi	
Total (Excluding Fingerlings)			6607.84

* Fingerlings ** TNFDC

Table: 10
Details of Seed Rearing in Government Fish farm 2023-24

Sl. No.	Fish seed rearing centres	District	Seed Rearing (in lakhs)
1	Bhavanisagar - Old farm	Erode	44.70
2	Pungar Fish Farm		49.95
3	National Fish Seed Farm		62.43
4	Metturdam	Salem	101.70
5	Anaimaduvu		6.02
6	AIIRLIVAS		12.01
7	Krishnagiri	Krishnagiri	99.51

8	Pambar		9.31
9	Kelavarapalli		10.01
10	Hogenakkal	Dharmapuri	11.50
11	Chinnar		28.51
12	Neithalur	Thanjavur	24.395
13	Agarapettai		16.925
14	Karanthai		12.36
15	Thirumangalakottai		8.98
16	Chembarampakkam	Kancheepuram	10.26
17	Athur	Chengalpattu	19.35
18	Poondi	Tiruvallur	17.94
19	Vidur	Villupuram	18.88
20	Lalpet	Cuddalore	26.00
21	Agaram		7.175
22	Mordhana	Vellore	11.21
23	Nallikkottai	Tiruvarur	9.84
24	Thattamanaipatti	Pudukkottai	9.01
25	Kurungalur		2.80
26	Karuvidaicherry		3.15
27	Asoor	Trichy	5.50
28	Kulithalai		1.70
29	Thirukampuliyur	Karur	6.76
30	Vaigai	Theni	22.765
31	Manjalar		21.899
32	Sathaiyar	Madurai	10.38
33	Pilavakkal	Virudhunagar	26.51
34	Anaipatti	Dindigul	27.24
35	Piravalur	Sivagangai	7.21
36	Managiri		
37	Manimuthar	Tirunelveli	35.79

38	Kuniyur		9.265
39	Gadana	Tenkasi	23.09
40	Ramanadhi		8.81
41	Pechiparai,	Kanniyakumari	3.646
42	Chittar-I,		9.558
43	Chittar -II		1.70
44	Palar Porandalar	Dindigul	Newly developed rearing centers
45	Kadamba	Thoothukudi	
46	Barur (GIFT)	Krishnagiri	
	Total (A)		855.75
Fish seed rearing farms under TNFDC			
47	Palar Porandalar	Dindigul	0.45
48	Amaravathy	Tiruppur	2.31
49	Thirumurthy	Tirupur	4.86
50	Aliyar	Coimbatore	12.19
51	Sathanur	Tiruvannamalai	12.46
	Total (B)		32.27
	Grand Total (A+B)		888.02

Table: 11
Financial assistance under PMMSY for
various inland fisheries developments
2021-22

Sl. No.	Activities	No. of units	Total project cost (Rs. in lakh)
1.	Establishment of New Freshwater Finfish Hatcheries	8 Units	200.00
2.	Construction of New Fish Rearing ponds (Nursery /Seed Rearing)	40 ha.	280.00
3.	Construction of New Grow-out fish culture ponds	85 ha.	595.00
4.	Inputs for fresh water Aquaculture	85 ha.	340.00
5.	Establishment of Bio-floc fish culture system	100 no's	750.00
6.	River Ranching of native fish species in Tamil Nadu	40 lakh AFL*	124.00
	Total		2289.00

*AFL- Advanced Fingerlings

Table: 12

**Financial assistance for inland fisheries
development under PMMSY 2022-23**

Sl. No	Activities	No. of units	Total project cost (Rs in lakh)
1.	Construction of New Grow-out fish culture ponds	10 ha	70.00
2.	Inputs for fresh water Aquaculture	10 ha	40.00
3.	Construction of mini fish feed mills - production capacity 2 ton/Day	3 units	90.00
4.	Construction of Large fish feed mills - production capacity 20 ton/Day	1 unit	200.00
	Total		400.00

Table: 13**Inland fisheries development schemes under
PMMSY 2023-24**

Sl. No	Activities	No. of units	Total project cost (Rs in lakh)
1.	Construction of New Grow-out fish culture ponds	20 ha	140.00
2.	Inputs for fresh water Aquaculture	20 ha	80.00
3.	Establishment of Small Biofloc fish culture system	25 units	187.50
4.	Establishment of Re-circulatory Aquaculture System (RAS) for fresh water fish culture	3 units	22.50
5.	Construction of mini fish feed mills - production capacity 2 ton/Day	1 unit	30.00
6.	Construction of medium fish feed mills - production capacity 8 ton/Day	1 unit	100.00
	Total		560.00

Table:14
Proposed activities
under TN-IAM PROJECT- 2024-25

Sl. No	Activities	Units (Nos)
1	Establishment of Government Fish Seed Rearing centre at Gadana Government Fish Farm in Tenkasi District.	1
2	Operational expenditure for GIFT Hatchery, Murrel Hatchery, Pureline Brood Stock centre	4
3	Model Village Activities	18

Table: 15
Implementation of Fishing Harbour
Infrastructure schemes under FIDF

S. No	Name of Work	Project Cost (Rs. in Crore)
Scheme: Fisheries and Infrastructure Development Fund (FIDF)		
1	Construction of Tuna Fishing Harbour at Thiruvottriyurkuppam in Thiruvallur District	200.00

S. No	Name of Work	Project Cost (Rs. in Crore)
2	Construction of Fishing Harbour at Arcottuthurai in Nagapattinam District.	150.00
3	Construction of Fishing Harbour at Vellapallam in Nagapattinam District.	100.00
4	Expansion and Modernization of Thengapattinam Fishing Harbour in Kanniyakumari District	253.00
5	Modernization of Nagapattinam Fishing Harbour in Nagapattinam District	81.00
6	Providing Additional Infrastructure Facilities (Auction Hall, Net Mending Shed, Road, Overhead Tank and UG Sump) to the Thoothukudi Fishing Harbour in Thoothukudi District	10.00
7	Development of Forward Backward Linkages, Cold Chain Facilities and export infrastructures in Mookaiyur Fishing Harbour in Ramanathapuram Distict	20.00

S. No	Name of Work	Project Cost (Rs. in Crore)
Scheme: Pradhan Mantri Matsya Sampada Yojana (PMMSY)		
1	Upgradation of Pazhayar Fish Harbour in Mayiladuthurai District.	26.26
2	Dredging the basin area at Colachel Fishing Harbour in Kanniyakumari District	4.94
Total		845.20

Table: 16

Implementation of Fish Landing Centre Infrastructure schemes under FIDF

S. No	Name of Work	Project Cost (Rs. in Crore)
Scheme: Fisheries and Aquaculture Infrastructure Development Fund (FIDF)		
1	Providing additional facilities to the Fish Landing Centre at Annankovil village in Cuddalore District.	10.00

2	Providing additional facilities to the Fish Landing Centre at Mudasalodai village in Cuddalore District.	9.50
3	Construction of Fish Landing Centre at Chandrapadi in Mayiladuthurai District	10.00
4	Establishment of Fish Landing Centre at Tsunami Nagar and Akkaraigori Villages in Cuddalore District	4.50
5	Establishment of Fish Landing Centre at Pudhukuppam and Anichankuppam Villages in Villupuram District	7.00
6	Establishment of Fish Landing Centre at Mudhaliyarkuppam and Chettynagar Villages in Villupuram District	7.00
7	Establishment of Fish Landing Centre at Sothikuppam and Rasapettai Village in Cuddalore District	8.50

8	Establishment of Fish Landing Centre at Chithiraipettan and Nanjalingampettai Villages in Cuddalore District	7.50
9	Construction of Fish Landing Centre at Sunnambukulam in Thiruvallur District	8.00
10	Establishment of Fish Landing Centre at Sonankuppam in Cuddalore District	5.50
11	Construction of Fish Landing Centre at Sattankuppam in Thiruvallur District	8.00
Scheme: NABARD-RIDF		
1	Construction of Fish Landing Centre and shore protection works at Kuttiyandiyur in Mayiladuthurai District	6.83
2	Providing Landside facilities at Kodyampalayam in Mayiladuthurai District	2.85
3	Improvement and Renovation of the Boat Jetty at Rameswaram in Ramanathapuram District	22.77

4	Development of Fish Landing Centre at Sippikulam in Thoothukudi District.	7.00
5	Construction of Fish Landing Centre at Ekkiyarkuppam and Anumanthai in Villupuram District	10.00
6	Construction of Fish Landing Centre and Dredging of Approach Channel in Pudhukuppam in Cuddalore District	8.00
7	Upgradation of Fish Landing Centre at Jegathapattinam in Pudukottai District	10.00
8	Upgradation of Fish Landing Centre at Kottaipattinam in Pudukottai District	10.00
Scheme: Pradhan Mantri Matsya Sampada Yojana		
1	Integrated Fish Landing Centre at Nettukuppam and Thazhankuppam in Chennai district	19.62

2	Integrated Fish Landing Centre at Arangankuppam and Goonankuppam in Thiruvallur district	6.80
	TOTAL	189.37

Table: 17
Shore Protection works with NABARD-RIDF

S. No	Name of Work	Project Cost (Rs. in Crore)
Scheme: NABARD-RIDF		
1	Permanent stability of Barmouth at Pulicat in Thiruvallur District	26.85
2	Improvements to the Fish Landing Centre at Simon colony in Kanniyakumari District	35.00
3	Improvements to the Fish Landing Centre at Kodimunai in Kanniyakumari District	35.00
4	Construction of Additional Groynes for Shore protection at Kesavaputhenthurai village in Kanniyakumari District	20.00
5	Providing Shore Protection Works and Improvements to Fish Landing Centre at Kadalore Periyakuppam in Chengalpattu District.	9.00

S. No	Name of Work	Project Cost (Rs. in Crore)
6	Construction of Fish Landing Centre and Shore Protection Works at Pudhukalpakkam in Chengalpattu District.	9.70
7	Construction of Fish Landing Centre and Shore Protection Works at Periyakuppam in Cuddalore District.	12.00
8	Upgradation of Existing Fish Landing Centre at Thirumullaivasal in Mayiladuthurai District.	18.00
9	Construction of Additional Groynes for Shore protection at Puthenthurai village in Kann+iyakumari District.	22.00
10	Construction of Fish Landing Centre and Shore Protection Works at Kokilamedu in Chengalpattu District.	10.00
11	Development of Fish Landing Centre at Threspuram in Thoothukudi District.	21.00
12	Providing Permanent Stability of Vellar Barmouth in Cuddalore District.	30.00
13	Construction of Fish Landing Centre and Permanent Stability of Bar mouth at Killai in Cuddalore District	40.00

S. No	Name of Work	Project Cost (Rs. in Crore)
14	Construction of Fish Landing Centre and Shore Protection Works at Pillaichavadi in Villupuram District.	14.50
15	Improvements to Vanagiri Fish Landing Centre in Mayiladuthurai District	55.00
16	Construction of Fish Landing Centre and Shore Protection Works including boat berthing facilities at Karikattukuppam in Chengalpattu District.	16.00
17	Construction of Fish Landing Centre and Shore Protection Works at Angalamankuppam in Chengalpattu District.	9.00
18	Construction of Bait Arch and Improvement to Fish Landing Centre at Amalinagar Village in Thoothukudi District.	58.00
19	Extension of Bait Arch and Improvement to Fish Landing Centre at Keela Kadiyapattinam Village in Kanniyakumari Village	35.00

S. No	Name of Work	Project Cost (Rs. in Crore)
20	Construction of RMS wall at Nagore Keezhapattinacherry in Nagapattinam District.	7.00
21	Extension of RMS wall at Keechankuppam in Nagapattinam District	7.00
22	Extension of main Breakwater at Manapad (Phase-2) in Thoothukudi District	41.00
23	Construction of Bait Arch at Kootapuli Village in Tirunelveli District.	48.50
24	Construction of Bait Arch at Erayumanthurai Village in Kanniyakumari District.	33.75
25	Construction of Bait Arch at Kooduthalai Village in Tirunelveli District.	15.00
	Total	628.30

Table: 18
Infrastructure facilities in Government Fish Farms

S. No	Name of Work	Project Cost (Rs. in Crore)
Scheme: Fisheries and Aquaculture Infrastructure Development Fund		
1	Renovation of Existing Fish Seed Farm in Hogenakkal in Dharmapuri District.	2.50
2	Establishment of Additional Fish Seed Rearing Facilities at Vembakottai in Virudhunagar District.	5.00
3	Establishment of Additional Fish Seed Rearing Facilities at Pilavakkal in Virudhunagar District.	2.00
4	Renovation of District Fish Farmers Development Agency Fish Farm and Improvements to the Infrastructure Facilities at Chittar Dam II in Kanniyakumari District.	1.50
5	Establishment of Public Aquarium and Ornamental Fish Retail Unit at Tirunelveli in Tirunelveli District.	5.00

S. No	Name of Work	Project Cost (Rs. in Crore)
6	Establishment of Gift Seed Hatchery in Government Fish Farm at Thiurmangalakottai in Thanjavur District.	4.70
7	Modernization of Government Fish Farm at Vidur in Villupuram District.	2.20
8	Establishment of New Government Fish Seed Rearing Centre at Vadakkanendhal, Gomuki Dam in Kallakurichi District.	5.00
9	Establishment of Government GIFT Hatchery at Chembarabakkam in Kancheepuram District.	2.75
10	Establishment of Fish Seed Hatchery at Elavampatti Village (Andiyapanoor Odai Reservoir) in Thirupathur District.	5.00
11	Renovation of Nursery Ponds in Government Fish Farm at Manimuthar in Tirunelveli District.	5.00

S. No	Name of Work	Project Cost (Rs. in Crore)
Scheme: TN-IAMP		
1	Providing Additional Infra structure facilities for Murrel seed culture in Government Fish farm at Lalpet (New farm) in Cuddalore District.	1.30
Scheme: State Fund		
1	Establishment of Native Fish Species Seed Production and Rearing Centre at Agarapettai Fish Farm in Thanjavur District.	1.64
2	Construction of Etroplus Hatchery Unit at Parangipettai in Cuddalore District.	2.45
	Total	46.04

Table: 19
Establishment of office buildings cum
Training Centres

S.No	Name of Work	Project Cost(Rs. in Crore)
Scheme: Fisheries and Aquaculture Infrastructure Development Fund		
1	Construction of Integrated Office building for Deputy Director, Assistant Director of Fisheries and Training Centre at Trichy in Trichy District	4.00
2	Establishment of Training Centre with Integrated Office Building for Joint Director (Regional), Assistant Director of Fisheries of Fisheries & Fishermen Welfare Department and Executive Engineer, Fishing Harbour Project in Thoothukudi District.	5.00
3	Establishment of Training Centre with Integrated Office Building for Assistant Director of Fisheries and Inspector of Fisheries at Mettur Dam in Salem District.	3.00
	Total	12.00

Table:20
Various feasibility study works with the financial assistance of State Government

S. No	Name of Work	Project Cost (Rs in Crore)
Scheme: State Fund		
1	Consultancy services for conducting various model studies and preparation of Techno Economic Feasibility Report and Preparation of DPR for Construction of Fishing harbour at Pulicat in Thiruvallur District	1.00
2	Consultancy services for conducting detailed survey mapping, mapping if existing infrastructure, investigations and modal studies for preparing Techno-Economic Feasibility Report and detailed project report for the Construction of Fishing Harbour at Vaniyakudi in Kanniyakumari District	1.00
3	Consultancy services for conducting a detailed survey mapping, mapping if existing infrastructure, investigations and modal studies for	1.00

S. No	Name of Work	Project Cost (Rs in Crore)
	preparing Techno-Economic Feasibility Report and detailed project report for the Expansion of Fishing Harbour at Colachel in Kanniyakumari District	
4	Consultancy services for conducting various model studies and preparation of Techno Economic Feasibility Report and Preparation of DPR for Construction of Fishing harbour at Rameswaram in Ramanathapuram District	1.00
5	Consultancy services for conducting various model studies and preparation of Techno Economic Feasibility Report and Preparation of DPR for Construction of Fishing harbour at Uvari in Tirunelveli	1.00
6	Consultancy services for conducting various model studies and preparation of Techno Economic Feasibility Report and Preparation of DPR for Fishing Harbour at Thoothukudi in Thoothukudi District	1.00

S. No	Name of Work	Project Cost (Rs in Crore)
7	Consultancy Services for Conducting Detailed Surveys, Mapping of Existing Structures, Investigation and Model Studies for Preparing Techno-Economic Feasibility Report and Detailed Project Report for Modernization of Mallipattinam Fishing Harbour in Thanjavur District	0.50
8	Consultancy Services for Conducting Detailed Surveys, Mapping of Existing Structures, Investigation and Model Studies for Preparing Techno-Economic Feasibility Report and Detailed Project Report for Extension of Training Wall at Mookaiyur Fishing Harbour in Ramanathapuram District	0.50
9	Consultancy studies for conducting model studies, various techno Feasibility studies for improvement of Pamban Fish Landing Centre in Ramanathapuram district	0.20

S. No	Name of Work	Project Cost (Rs in Crore)
10	Consultancy studies for conducting model studies, various techno Feasibility studies for improvement to Fish Landing Centre and Construction of Bait Arch at Kundukal in Ramanathapuram district	0.50
11	Consultancy studies for conducting model studies, various techno Feasibility studies Construction of Bait Arch at Thangachimadam Village in Ramanathapuram district	0.20
12	Consultancy studies for conducting model studies, various techno economic Feasibility studies and preparation of detailed project report for construction of New Fish Landing Centre at Jegathapattinam in Pudhukottai district	1.00
	Total	8.90

Table: 21
Construction/ Renovation of fish markets in
Tamil Nadu with funding from State
Government

Sl. No.	District	Fish Markets Constructed/renovated	Total Project cost (Rs. in lakh)
1	Cuddalore	1	22.50
2	Ranipet	1	61.29
3	Pudukkottai	1	53.70
4	Trichy	1	250.00
5	Salem	2	139.30
6	Tiruppur	1	93.00
7	Erode	1	100.00
8	Sivagangai	1	100.00
9	Nagapattinam	4	158.57
10	Tenkasi	1	38.76
11	Thoothukudi	1	13.60
12	Ramanathapuram	3	293.39
13	Kanniyakumari	2	179.47
14	Villupuram	1	250.00
	Total	21	1,753.58

Table: 22**Members of Fisheries Co-operative Societies**

Society	No. of Societies	Members enrolled
Primary Co-operative Societies		
Marine Fishermen Co-operative Societies	582	3,80,666
Marine Fisherwomen Co-operative Societies	478	3,01,748
Inland Fishermen Co-operative Societies	339	76,950
Inland Fisherwomen Co-operative Societies	76	11,228
Total	1,475	7,70,592
District Fishermen Co-operative Federation	12	998
Tamil Nadu State Apex Fisheries Co-operative Federation	1	834
Grand Total	1,488	7,72,424

Table: 23**Details of Relief / Assistance Schemes to TNFWB members and their family**

Sl. No.	Schemes	Amount in Rs.			
		Day Scholar		Hosteller	
		Boys	Girls	Boys	Girls
1	Educational Assistance to Sons and Daughters of the Members				
	a) Pass in 10 th Std	1,250	1,500	-	-
	b) Pass in 12 th Std	1,750	2,000	-	-
	c) ITI and Polytechnic (per year)	1,250	1,750	1,450	1,950
	d) Bachelor Degree (per year)	1,750	2,250	2,000	2,500
	e) Post Graduate Degree (per year)	2,250	2,750	3,250	3,750
	f) Under Graduate Professional Courses (Fisheries science, Agriculture, Veterinary Science, Law, Engineering, Medicine, etc.) (per year)	2,250	2,750	4,250	4,750
	g) Post Graduate Professional Courses (per year)	4,250	4,750	6,250	6,750

2	Marriage Assistance	Male	Female
	a) Marriage of Member	3,000	5,000
	b) Marriage of Son/ Daughter of the member	3,000	5,000
3	Delivery or Miscarriage of Pregnancy or Termination of Pregnancy		
	a) Delivery @ Rs.1,000/- per month for 6 months		6,000
	b) Miscarriage		3,000
	c) Termination		3,000
4	Accident Relief		
	a) Death due to Accident		2,00,000
	b) Loss of both hands		1,00,000
	c) Loss of both legs		1,00,000
	d) Loss of one hand and one leg		1,00,000
	e) Total and irrecoverable loss of sight in both eyes		1,00,000
	f) Loss of one hand or one leg		1,00,000
	g) Loss of limbs from grievous injuries other than those specified above		50,000
5	Death while fishing or immediately thereafter not due to Accident		2,00,000
6	Missing fishermen while fishing		2,00,000
7	Natural Death		25,000
8	Funeral Expenses		2,500

Table 24

**Relief assistance disbursed during the year
2023-24 in TNFWB**

Sl. No	Details of Schemes	No. of Beneficiaries	Amount (Rs. in lakh)
1	Educational Assistance to Sons and Daughters of the Members	2,710	52.017
2	Marriage Assistance	191	8.03
3	Delivery Assistance	1	0.06
4	Death due to Accident	150	298.00
5	Loss of limbs	4	3.50
6	Death while fishing	19	38.00
7	Missing fishermen while fishing	8	15.00
8	Natural Death	1,078	180.30
9	Funeral Expenses	1,185	29.625
Total		5,346	624.532

Table-25**Financial allotment for the year 2024-25**

Scheme Description	Revenue	Capital	Loan	Total
(Rs in lakh)				
Salaries	9,080.55	0.00	0.00	9,080.55
Relief Schemes (State Fund)	34,843.76	0.00	0.00	34,843.76
Other Schemes (State and Centrally Sponsored)	800.21	0.00	0.00	800.21
IAMWARM (World Bank Scheme)	172.41	0.00	0.00	172.41
PMMSY (Central and State shared Schemes)	21,682.35	0.00	0.00	21,682.35
NADP Scheme	0.12	0.00	0.00	0.12
Tamil Nadu Fisheries University	4,889.73	0.00	0.00	4,889.73
Infrastructure - State Shared Fund	0.00	100.09	0.00	100.09

Infrastructure - FIDF (Central and State Shared Schemes)	0.00	30,000.00	0.00	30,000.00
Infrastructure - NABARD	0.00	30,527.67	0.00	30,527.67
Total	71,469.13	60,627.76	0.00	1,32,096.89

ANITHA R. RADHAKRISHNAN
Minister for Fisheries-Fishermen
Welfare and Animal Husbandry



Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu inaugurated 9 newly upgraded fish landing centres, Govt. fish seed farms and various Infrastructure facilities of Tamil Nadu Dr. J. Jayalalithaa Fisheries University on 08.03.2024



Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu has given the appointment orders to the Inspector of Fisheries selected through Tamil Nadu Public Service Commission on 05.09.2023.



Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu distributed relief assistance to fishermen affected by heavy rain and flood in Thoothukudi and Tirunelveli districts on 25.02.2024.



Hon'ble Minister for Youth Welfare and Sports Development Th. Udhayanidhi Stalin has distributed relief assistance to the fishermen affected by "Michaung" cyclone in Chennai, Chengalpattu and Thiruvallur districts on 27.02.2024.



Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu distributed welfare assistance to 14,000 fishers for a value of Rs. 88.90 crore in Fishermen Conference organized by TAFCOFED and Fishermen Association held at Mandapam, Ramanathapuram district on 18.08.2023



Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu inaugurated 3 newly constructed fish landing centres, 2 newly upgraded fish landing centres, Govt. fish seed farms and various Infrastructure facilities of Tamil Nadu Dr. J. Jayalalithaa Fisheries University on 29.09.2023