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Pradhan Mantri Matsya Sampada Yojana: Economic Revolution for the Indian Fisheries Sector

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Abstract

The Prime Minister of India officially launched Pradhan Mantri Matsya Sampada Yojana (PMMSY) on 10th September 2020. It is a scheme for the development of the Indian fisheries sector in a sustainable and responsible manner. The estimated investment of 20,050 crores for the holistic development of the fisheries sector, including fishers' welfare to ensures the food and nutritional security of the country. Department of Fisheries has identified nine strategic priorities under Pradhan Mantri Matsya Sampada Yojana. PMMSY is being implemented in all the States and Union Territories for five years period from the Financial Year 2020-21 to 2024-25.

Introduction

The fisheries sector is a basis of livelihood for over 25 million people in the country engaged fully, partially or in subsidiary activities pertaining to the sector. India ranks second in aquaculture and third in overall fisheries production. Fisheries contribute to 1.24% of the total GDP of the country. The fisheries is a sunrise sector and an important source of nutrition with the healthiest options to mitigate hunger and malnutrition besides livelihood support and gainful employment (Takar and Gurjar, 2020). The fisheries sector in our country has shown remarkable growth with an average annual growth rate of 10.88% during the period from 2014-15 to 2018-19 and export from marine products stood at 13.93 lakh metric tonnes and valued at Rs. 46,589 crores during 2018-19. This sector has employments >20 million fishers at the primary level and twice the number along the value chain.

PMMSY approved by the Union Cabinet chaired by the Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi on 20 May, 2020. PMMSY plays an essential role in the blue revolution for a well-structured implementation framework to create sufficient implementation rights. The scheme brings sustainable development in the fisheries sector with the highest financial investment of Rs. 20,050 crores in the fisheries sector, which comprising of central share of Rs. 9,407 crores, and State share of Rs. 4,880 crores and contribution from beneficiaries Rs. 5,763 crores. This structure will be implemented over a period of 5 years from 2020-21 to 2024-25 in all the States/ Union Territories of India (NFDB, 2020). This scheme helps to improve the availability of the certified quality of fish seed and fish feed, as well as aquatic health management.

Almost 42% of total estimated investment of the PMMSY is earmarked for the creation and upgradation of infrastructure facilities for fisheries. Emphasis areas include post-harvest and cold chain infrastructure, fishing harbours and landing centers, integrated modern coastal fishing villages, development of deep-sea fishing and fish markets and marketing facilities. In

addition creating critical fisheries infrastructure by attracting private investments in the fisheries division, the scheme also plans to reduce post-harvest losses from 25% to about 10% by modernizing and strengthening the value chain. Under the 'Swath Sagar' plan, activities envisaged modernizing the fisheries sector include promoting bio-toilets, fishing vessels coverage by insurance, fisheries management plans, E-Trading/ Marketing, fishers and resources survey and creation of National IT-based databases.

Hence, PMMSY as a flagship scheme in fisheries sector that will add the strength to building an AatmaNibhar Bharat, which was launched by the Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi on 10th September, 2020.

Objectives of PMMSY

The central aim of PMMSY to enhance fish production from 137.58 lakh metric tons in 2018-19 to 220 lakh metric tons by 2024-25 with an average annual growth rate of about 9%.

- Develop the quality of brooder and seed from National Network of Brood Banks/ Hatcheries.
- Enhance productivity and fish production through expansion, intensification, diversification and productive utilization of land and water.
- Harness the potential prospective of the fisheries sector in a responsible, sustainable, inclusive and equitable manner.
- Modernize and strengthen the value chain, including post-harvest management and quality improvement.
- Enhance the role of the fisheries sector to Agricultural Gross value added (GVA) and exports.
- Doubling the incomes of fish farmers and generation of employment.
- Build a robust fisheries management and regulatory framework.
- Ensure social, physical and economic security for fishers and fish farmers.
- To focus on Fisheries Development in Islands, North East, Himalayan States/ UTs.
- Encourage Private Sector Participation-Entrepreneurship Models-Public-Private Partnership (PPP).
- To the development of Integrated Coastal Fisher Villages: Livelihoods & Participatory Approach.

Components of PMMSY and Funding Pattern

The PMMSY scheme is an umbrella types which are having two separate components as:

1. Central Sector Scheme (CS)

(A) The complete project/ unit cost will be allocated by the Central government (100% funding from central govt.); (B)

Wherever direct beneficiary oriented *i.e.* individual/ group activities undertaken by the central government entities, including National Fisheries Development Board, the central support for general category will be up to 40% of the unit/ project cost and 60% for SC/ ST/ Women category.

2. Centrally Sponsored Scheme (CSS)

This component is further separated into Non-beneficiary oriented and beneficiary orientated sub-components/ activities, includes:

- Enhancement of Production and Productivity.
- Infrastructure and Post-harvest Management.
- Fisheries Management and Regulatory Framework.

For the Beneficiary orientated individual/ group activities sub-components/ activities under CSS section to be implemented by the States/ UTs. The Government's financial assistance of both Centre and State/ UTs governments will be limited the project/ unit cost 40% for General category and 60% for SC/ ST/ Women. The Government's financial support will in turn be collective between Centre and State/ UTs in the given ratio: (a) The North Eastern and the Himalayan States: 90% share from central and 10% share from state share; (b) Other States: Central share 60% and state share 40%; (c) Union Territories (with the administration and without legislature): 100% share from Central government (No Share by UT).

The Non-beneficiary orientated sub-components/ activities under Centrally Sponsored Scheme component to be executed by the States/ UTs, the whole project/ unit cost will be shared between Central and State: (a) North Eastern and Himalayan States: Central share 90% and 10% share from state; (b) Other States: 60% share from central and State share 40%; (c) Union Territories: 100% Central share.

Implementation Strategy

- It recognizes the critical role of states/ UTs for very effective implementation and in the case of the main interest of national importance, the entire cost will be allowed by the central government.
- This scheme provides modern fishing boats with upgraded facilities for deep sea resources, better maintenance of fishes in air-conditioned facilities that provide better transportation, suitable provision of value chains strengthening the basic concept of catch to end-users or customers.
- Establishment of Fisheries Incubation Centers, this would be helpful in creation of new business, aquapreneurs and employment opportunity in fisheries sector.
- Thrust on water management and spatial based planning supported by the regulatory framework. In this scheme, allocation will be made for permeating different types of advanced technologies like Recirculatory Aquaculture Systems (RASs), Biofloc, Aquaponics Cage cultivation etc. which

enhances production and productivity for the aquaculture system.

- The promotion and advancement of startups in fisheries and aquaculture as incubation centers, sea ranching, encouraging innovations, and entrepreneurship models. So recognition of fisheries will attract the best talent.
- To increase the export from fisheries sector, PMMSY providing funds for diversification of species, value added products, infrastructure development & modernization, end to end traceability, certification, brand promotion, etc. in close collaboration with MPEDA.
- It provided insurance to fishing boats, as proudly proclaimed in the Yojana. All coastal areas will be covered by the schemes to be developed by all state governments concerned and effective planning. All states' cooperation and performance, including those who ignored this sector, is expected.
- Also, species diversification, promotion of high-value commercially important species like Seabass, Scampi, mud crab, and thrust on shrimp, including establishing a national Brood Banks network for all commercially important species, is envisaged. Genetically improvement of commercially important finfish and shellfish species and establishment of Nucleus Breeding Center for self-sufficiency in Shrimp Brood stock with the providing of necessary funds.
- Integrated modern fishing villages' developed for Coastal fisher communities in a holistic manner with essential infrastructure is envisaged for the initial time under PMMSY. The main aim of coastal villages would be leveraged for amplifying the economic benefits in a systematic way through sustainable fishing practices.
- Collectivizing fishers and fish-farmers through Fish Farmer Producer Organizations to increase fishers and fish farmers' bargaining power is the key to new strategy under this scheme.
- It is fair to know that youth would be benefited from engaged in fisheries extension activities by the formation of 3347 SagarMitras in coastal fisher villages and large number of Fisheries Extension Services Centers which would be set up as private space to create new job opportunities to young professionals. Also provides funds during the lean season, each enrolled beneficiary after providing Rs. 1500.00 per head would receive Rs. 3000.00 for three months.
- The scheme clearly visualizes the private sector's involvement not only in India but also in international markets to upgrade the infrastructure, technologies and meeting required capital for investment.

PMMSY Targets and Potential Employment Generation

- The country's fish production is likely to be enhanced from 13.75 MMT (2018-19) to 22 MMT in 2024-25, with an average annual growth rate of about 9% is expected, which sustained average yearly growth of about 9% in fish production.

- An increase in the contribution of GVA from fisheries sector to the Agriculture GVA present from 7.28% in 2018-19 to approximately 9% by 2024-25, where that will double the earnings from export from presently Rs. 46,589 crores (2018-19) to about Rs. 1,00,000 crores by 2024-25.
- To enhance the productivity in aquaculture sector from the present national average of 3 tons to about 5 tons/ha and reduction of post-harvest losses from the reported 20-25 % to about 10%. As well as doubling the incomes of fishers and fish farmers.
- To create of 15 lakhs direct productive employment opportunities and thrice the number as indirect employment chances along the supply and value chain.
- Enhancement of the domestic fish consumption increase from about 5 kg to about 12 kg per capita which will be encouragement of private investment and facilitation of growth of entrepreneurship in the fisheries sector.

Beneficiaries of PMMSY

In this scheme, different beneficiaries are included like fishers, fish farmers, fish workers and Fish vendors, fisheries development corporations, Self Help Groups (SHGs)/ Joint Liability Groups (JLGs) in the fisheries sector, fisheries cooperatives, fisheries federations, entrepreneurs and private firms, Fish Farmers Producer Organizations/ Companies (FFPOs/Cs) and categories wise SCs/ STs/ Women/ Differently abled persons etc.

How to Apply for PMSSY

The previous application can only be applied through offline mode, but presently that mode of application has changed, modified as an online application process for PMMSY 2021. This is a simple step to the process; with the help of the e-Gopala App, every desire fishermen can apply for this scheme. For applying this scheme, the following steps are included such as:

- First, go to official website: <http://dof.gov.in/pmmsy>.
- Then you will see an "Apply Now" button along with some PGD file.
- Where click on the "Apply Now" button, then a pop-up display will be open.
- Then you need to fill up all the required documents as your Name, Address, Mobile Number, Aadhaar Card number, etc.
- Then click on the final submission button.

Entrepreneur Models

In the recent years, the Fisheries and Aquaculture sector has witnessed a gradual growth in entrepreneurship across the value chain, bolstered by rising educational levels, enhanced business acumen and higher risk-taking ability. Entrepreneur

models would open avenues for rapid commercialization of the available technologies and further, enable the establishment of a nation-wide network of entrepreneurs, investors, research institutions, leading industry players and financial agencies operating in this sector. Thus, the entrepreneur models would empower emerging firms to leverage local knowledge banks and the afore-mentioned business networks to enable convergence with existing interventions and would thereby amplify outcomes.

Viable entrepreneur models can be fall under three broad categories:

1. Investment driven models: This will include business models based on a congenial policy environment, with structured incentives and access to water resources to support development of fisheries enterprises.

2. Industry driven models: These include contract farming-based business models that boost engagement between entrepreneurs and fishers & fish farmers along the fisheries value chain (including seaweed, ornamental and recreational fisheries) covering production, processing, post-harvest and value addition.

3. Incubator driven models: To promote technology and value chain-based entrepreneurs through tech-enablement, tech transfer, training, mentoring and handholding.

Objectives of Models

- To enhanced private investment in fisheries and aquaculture sector.
- To foster connections among producers, aggregators, processors and exporters for better price realization and enhanced incomes.
- To enhance production, productivity and profitability across the value chain by achieving economies of scale, encouraging technology uptake and addressing value chain gaps.
- To create sustainable employment and livelihood opportunities, especially among women and youth in rural and semi-urban areas.

- To create an ecosystem for the growth and development of entrepreneurship in the sector of fisheries and aquaculture.
- To leverage the existing knowledge capital and expand into newer, untapped markets.

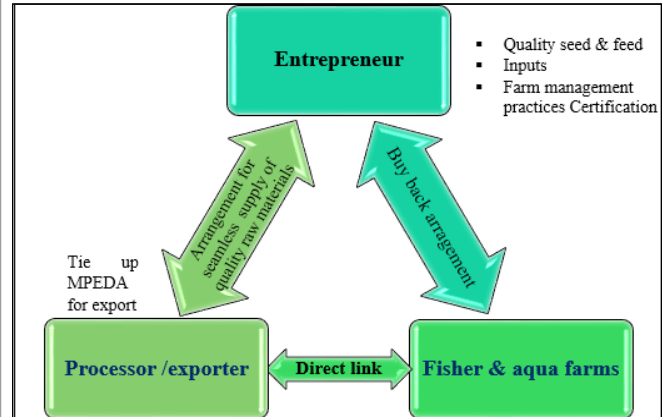


Figure 1: Flow chart of PMMSY Entrepreneur Models

Conclusion

PMMSY is designed to address serious gaps in the fisheries value chain from fish production, productivity and quality to technology, post-harvest infrastructure and marketing. It aims to modernize and strengthen the value chain, enhance traceability, and establish a robust fisheries management framework while simultaneously ensuring fishers and fish farmers' socio-economic welfare.

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