

1. PMMSY: AN OVERVIEW

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Introduction

Fisheries being an important activity from economic point of view and a flourishing sector in India, provides highest returns among the allied sectors like horticulture, dairy, livestock and fisheries. Share of India in global fish production is 7.73%. Various schemes have been launched by Government of India including Blue revolution scheme from 2015-16 to 2019-20 for development of fisheries sector with a budget of 3000 crores to enhance fish production and productivity in the country and creation of need based infrastructure facilities for fisheries, Fisheries and Aquaculture Infrastructure Development Fund (FIDF) for providing concessional finance for Fisheries And Aquaculture Infrastructure in 2018-19 with a fund value of Rs. 7522 crores, and Pradhan Mantri Matsya Sampada Yojana (PMMSY) initiative will be implemented during a period of five years from FY 2020-21 to FY 2024-25. PMMSY will be implemented in all the States and Union Territories. The PMMSY initiative is expected to establish a robust fisheries management framework and check gaps in the value chain. It is hoped that initiative will also help reduce wastage of fish production. The PMMSY is a very timely and well-integrated initiative for the fisheries sector which has been usually neglected.

PMMSY is a flagship scheme for focused and sustainable development of the fisheries sector in the country as a part of the Aatmanirbhar Bharat Abhiyan. Pradhan Mantri Matsya Sampada Yojana (PMMSY) is Neelikranti se Arthkranti. PMMSY is designed to address critical gaps in fish production and productivity, quality, technology, post-harvest infrastructure and management, modernization and strengthening of value chain, traceability, establishing a robust fisheries management framework and fishers' welfare.

Aims of PMMSY

- Adopt 'Cluster or Area-based Approaches' and create fisheries clusters through backward and forward linkages.

- Focus especially on employment generation activities such as seaweed and ornamental fish cultivation.
- Address critical gaps in fish production and productivity, quality, technology, post-harvest infrastructure and management, modernization and strengthening of the value chain, traceability, establishing a robust fisheries management framework and fishers' welfare.
- Consolidate the achievements of the blue revolution and bring new interventions such as fishing vessel insurance, support for new/up-gradation of fishing vessels/boats, integrated aqua parks, e-trading/marketing, etc.

PMMSY aims at harnessing the potential of the fisheries sector in a sustainable, responsible, inclusive and equitable manner, enhancing fish production and productivity through expansion, intensification, diversification and productive utilization of land and water, modernizing and strengthening the value chain including post-harvest management and quality improvement, doubling fishers and fish farmers' incomes and generate meaningful employment, enhancing the contribution of the fisheries sector to Agricultural GVA and exports, ensuring social, physical and economic security for fishers and fish farmers and building a robust fisheries management and regulatory framework.

Targets of PMMSY

- Enhance fish production from 13.75 million metric tonnes to 22 million metric tonnes
- Doubling fisheries export earnings to Rs.1,00,000 crore by 2024-25.
- Double the incomes of fishers and fish farmers.
- Reduce post-harvest losses from 20-25% to about 10%.
- Generate an additional 55 lakhs direct and indirect gainful employment opportunities in the fisheries sector and allied activities.
- Enhancing aquaculture productivity to 5 tons per hectare from the current national average of 3 tons.
- Augmenting domestic fish consumption from 5 kg to 12 kg per capita.
- Economic Value Addition targets include increasing contribution of fisheries sector to the Agriculture GVA to about 9% by 2024-25 from 7.28% in 2018-19 and facilitating private investment and growth of entrepreneurship in the fisheries sector.

Central Sector Scheme Component

The entire project/unit cost will be borne by the Central government (i.e. 100% central funding). Wherever direct beneficiary oriented i.e. individual/group activities are undertaken by the entities of central government including National Fisheries Development Board (NFDB), the central assistance will be up to 40% of the unit/project cost for General category and 60% for SC/ST/Women category. Non-Beneficiary oriented activities – Centre 60% and State 40% of the total project cost. The Governmental Assistance will be shared between Central and States as below 60:40 General States; 90:10 North Eastern and Himalayan states and 100% UTs. Governmental assistance (central+state) for the activity livelihood support for fishers during ban/lean period would continue as per existing Blue Revolution Scheme shared in ratio of 50:50.

One activity namely “Livelihood and nutritional support for socio economically backward, active traditional fishers” families for conservation of fisheries resources during fish ban/lean period” under PMMSY is continued as per the norms, guidelines and funding pattern of the Saving-cum-Relief Component of the Centrally Sponsored Scheme (CSS) - Blue Revolution Scheme: Integrated Development and Management of Fisheries. Accordingly, the governmental assistance of Rs 3000 per annum per enrolled beneficiary under this activity under PMMSY will be shared as detailed below: The North Eastern & the Himalayan States: 80% Central share and 20% State share; Other States: 50% Central share and 50% State share and Union Territories (with legislature and without legislature): 100% Central share. Each enrolled beneficiary under this component is required to contribute Rs. 1500 annually. The beneficiary fishers will save Rs. 1500 over a period of 9 months during fishing season annually towards their contribution with a bank designated by the State/UT Department of Fisheries. States/UTs will devise suitable modalities to ensure transparency and smooth implementation of this activity. Depositing of beneficiary contribution on a lump sum basis in a period of one or two months may be avoided.

The PMMSY would be implemented through the following agencies:

- Central Government and its entities including National Fisheries Development Board
- State/UT Governments and their entities
- State Fisheries Development Boards
- Any other End Implementing Agencies as decided by Department of Fisheries

Beneficiaries intended under the Pradhan Mantri Matsya Sampada Yojana are;

- Fishers
- Fish farmers
- Fish workers and Fish vendors
- Fisheries Development corporations
- Self Help Groups (SHGs)/Joint Liability Groups (JLGs) in fisheries sector
- Fisheries cooperatives
- Fisheries Federations
- Entrepreneurs and private firms
- Fish Farmers Producer Organizations/Companies (FFPOs/Cs)
- SCs/STs/Women/Differently abled persons
- State Governments/UTs and their entities including state Fisheries Development Boards
- Central Government and its entities

PMMSY provides higher financial assistance in case of beneficiary-oriented activities to Scheduled Castes (SCs) & Scheduled Tribes (STs) and Women. While the admissible financial assistance is limited to 40% of the project cost for General Category, the same would be 60% of the project cost for SC/ST/ Women. Special focus would be given to support women headed household. Priority would be given for assisting widows (Marine fishing occupation is intrinsically risky). Focus on Fisheries Development in Islands, NE, Himalayan States/UTs & Aspirational Districts. Left Wing Extremism (LWE) affected areas priority will be given for rolling out employment generating activities.

Key strategies of PMMSY include;

- Growth clusters -species/area wise, aqua parks
- Strong institutional framework – state/district/sub-district
- Gap filling–district & state fisheries plans– role of district collector
- Focus on fisheries development in Islands, NE, Himalayan states/UTs & aspirational districts
- Convergence with other center/state schemes
- Encourage private sector participation-entrepreneurship models-PPP

- Grouping of activities into integrated projects with end to end solutions
- Development of integrated coastal fisher villages: livelihood& participatory approach
- Focus on fisheries exports-promotion of export oriented species
- Collectivization of fishers and fish farmers (FFPOs)
- Species diversification & self-reliance in shrimp brood stocks
- Quality brood and seed- national network of brood banks/hatcheries

Key aspects of PMMSY are;

- Area eligible for support up to 2 hectares per beneficiary up to 2 hectares In case of Group activity 20 ha per group/society. Cluster/area may have multiple groups/societies.
- For FFPOs/Cs modalities of implementation and upper ceiling on the area/units for support would be decided by the CAC
- Lease Period - minimum of 10 years for infrastructure projects and 7 years for non-infrastructure projects. Exception –Labs/MatsyaSevaKendras : 5 years
- Water Bodies like reservoirs, wetlands, rivers, canals, sea as per the State/UTs guidelines/leasing policy.
- Contract Farming and Buy Back Arrangements

Central sector scheme sub-components

- Genetic Improvement Programmes& Nucleus Breeding Centers (NBC)
- Innovations and Innovative Projects, Startups, Incubators, Technology Demonstration
- Aquatic Quarantine Facilities
- Training, Awareness, Exposure and Capacity Building
- Modernization of Fishing Harbours of Central Government, NFDB etc.
- Survey and Training Vessels for Fisheries Institutes
- Disease Monitoring and Surveillance Network
- Fish Farmers Producer Organizations/ Companies
- Fish Data Collection, Fishers Survey and Strengthening of Database
- Support to Security Agencies for Safety and Security of Fishermen
- Certification, Accreditation, Traceability and Labeling in Fish
