

FISHERIES DEPARTMENT

POLICY NOTE 2013–2014

1. INTRODUCTION

Fisheries have emerged as an important food production sector of the State contributing to the livelihood as well as food security of a large section of the people. Fishing activity, starting as a traditional livelihood activity in early fifties has now transformed into commercial enterprise contributing to the State and National economy, livelihood and nutritional security, rural employment generation and foreign exchange earnings significantly.

Tamil Nadu is one of the foremost States in India showing steady increase in fish production and optimum utilisation of resources. Tamil Nadu is pioneering many innovative developmental and welfare schemes. The fisheries sector faces the challenges of transboundary issues, over exploitation of resources, need for further inputs in 'processing' infrastructure facilities in the Marine sector, poor rainfall leading to poorer water storage in the inland tanks, mismatch of breeding season and the actual water availability in water bodies, need to have further infrastructure for fish seed and quality feed and also need to develop

suitable inland fish species for short seasonal tanks in Inland sector.

The Government is committed to protecting the traditional fishing rights of Tamil Nadu fishermen, diversifying them to deep sea fishing, providing infrastructure facilities such as construction of fishing harbours / fish landing centres, marketing infrastructure, implementing innovative schemes such as conversion/purchase of new mechanized fishing vessels for Tuna fishing, establishing Fish Processing Parks in the coastal districts, deployment of artificial reefs, providing Seamless communication facilities to marine fishermen etc., restoration/ rehabilitation of water bodies, promoting fish seed production / seed rearing centres both in Government and private sector, integrating aquaculture in farm ponds, cage culture and leasing of fishing rights of reservoirs have been given top priority and are implemented to enhance fish production in Inland sector.

The major policies of the Government of Tamil Nadu are as follows:

- Protecting the traditional fishing rights of the fishermen.
- Ensuring the safety of the fishermen while fishing in the sea.
- Providing social security to the fisherfolk through various relief schemes.

- Improving the standard of living of the fisherfolk by implementing welfare schemes.
- Developing / strengthening the infrastructure facilities for hygienic handling and processing of fish and thereby promoting domestic and overseas market.
- Conserving the fishery resources by enforcing statutory regulations, stock enhancement and establishing artificial fish habitats.
- Managing the fishery resources by diversifying the fishermen to exploit offshore/ deep sea resources by providing financial assistance and establishing Mid sea Fish Processing Unit.
- Promoting sustainable eco-friendly capture / aquaculture practices.

2. OBJECTIVES OF FISHERIES DEPARTMENT

The objectives are listed below:

- To conserve the fishery wealth of the State and manage the resources for sustainable fish production.
- To encourage fishers to take up diversified fishing methods to exploit under-utilized fishery resources and to reduce fishing pressure in the inshore waters.

- To strengthen the infrastructure facilities for fish landing, processing and marketing.
- To uplift the socio-economic status of the fishers.
- To promote sustainable, eco-friendly capture and aquaculture practices.
- To generate direct and indirect employment opportunities in fisheries and allied activities.
- To promote exports and thereby increasing the earnings of foreign exchange.

3. FISHERIES SECTOR OF TAMILNADU-AN OVERVIEW

The Fisheries sector of Tamil Nadu is broadly categorized as Marine, Inland and Brackish water. The vast fishery resources of both marine and inland water bodies offer tremendous scope for fisheries development in the State.

3.1 Marine Fisheries

Tamil Nadu has 1.9 lakh sq. km of Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ) and continental shelf of 41,412 sq.km. In general, fishery resources of inshore waters are overexploited, whereas the offshore and deep sea resources are yet to be exploited to the optimum level.

A glimpse of the Marine Fisheries sector is given in Table-1.

Table 1: Marine Fisheries Statistics (2012-13) at a glance

Coastal length	1,076 km
Number of Coastal Districts	13
Number of Fishing Villages	608
Marine Fisherfolk Population	8.11 lakh *
<i>Fishing Crafts Registered (online):</i>	
1.Mechanized Fishing boats	5,600
2.Traditional Crafts (motorized and non motorized)	27,426
<i>Infrastructure Facilities</i>	
Major Fishing Harbours	3 (Chennai, Thoothukudi and Chinnamuttom)
Major Fishing Harbours under construction	4(Thengapattinam, Colachel, Muttom and Rajakkamangalamthurai)
Medium Fishing Harbours	5
Jetties	8
Beach landing centres	363
Marine fish production (2012-13)	4.28 lakh ton
Export (2012-13)	77,791 MT** (Value Rs. 2,995 crore)

Source: * Tamil Nadu Marine Fisherfolk Census 2010

** MPEDA(Tentative figure)

3.2 Inland Fisheries

Inland fisheries has gained popularity and emerged as an important source of livelihood for fisherfolk / fish farmers in Tamil Nadu. The inland fishery resources of our State comprises reservoirs, major irrigation and long seasonal tanks, short seasonal tanks and ponds which are amenable to both capture and culture fisheries. Table 2 provides an overview of this sector.

Table 2: An Overview of Inland Fisheries Sector

Inland Fishery Resources	3.75 lakh ha.
Reservoirs	52,055 ha.
Large irrigation and seasonal tanks	2,65,641 ha.
Brackish water area	56,000 ha.
Population of Inland Fishers	2.25 lakh
Fish Production (2012-13)	1.85 lakh ton.

This sector has a potential to contribute 4.50 lakh metric ton at an optimum level whereas the production is only 1.85 lakh metric ton. In order to achieve the optimum fish production potential of 4.5 lakh metric ton, 700 million fingerlings will be required.

3.3 Brackish water Fisheries

Tamil Nadu has a total of 56,000 ha. of potential brackish water area. In our State,

shrimp farming has grown considerably and emerged as a major commercial enterprise because of the introduction of Specific Pathogen Free (SPF) *Litopenaeus vannamei*. Shrimp culture was carried out in 6,019 ha. during 2011-12 producing 15,245 tons of shrimps valued at Rs.519.22 crore. Five Brackish water Development Agencies have been functioning in the State, covering all the coastal districts other than Chennai district to promote and regulate the brackish water aquaculture practices.

4. ADMINISTRATIVE SET UP

The Director of Fisheries is the Head of the Department, the Managing Director of Tamil Nadu Fisheries Development Corporation Limited, an undertaking of the Tamil Nadu Government, the Functional Registrar of all fishermen cooperative societies including Tamil Nadu State Apex Fisheries Cooperative Federation and also the Member Secretary of Tamil Nadu Fishermen Welfare Board.

The State Government is implementing various schemes for the welfare of fishermen and overall development of fisheries sector in the State. The annual allocation for Fisheries Department in this financial year has been increased compared to earlier years. Lack of qualified manpower at various levels is the main bottleneck in working towards the objectives of the department. Hence, in order to administer

various schemes being implemented by Fisheries Department, the Honourable Minister for Fisheries announced on the floor of assembly while moving the Fisheries Demand during the year 2012-13 that the administrative set up of the Fisheries Department would be reorganized.

Accordingly, two posts in the cadre of Joint Director of Fisheries in the Head Office have been upgraded to the Additional Director of Fisheries. Further, the State is divided into 9 regions headed by 3 Joint Directors of Fisheries and 6 Deputy Directors of Fisheries who monitor and supervise the activities of 49 Assistant Directors of Fisheries and implement various developmental and fishermen welfare schemes. In addition, an engineering wing headed by the Chief Engineer with supporting staff have been functioning to look after the engineering works.

Apart from reorganization of the Department, 244 posts at various level have been filled up during 2012-13. In addition, 149 posts at different cadres pending selection by Tamil Nadu Public Service Commission are expected to be filled up shortly.

Table 3. Details of posts filled up during 2012-13

SL.No	Name of the Post	Nos.
1	Deputy Director of Fisheries	06
2	Assistant Director of Fisheries	12
3	Personal Assistant	08
4	Superintendent	18
5	Assistant	16
6	Junior Assistant	07
7	Steno typist	02
8	Typist	05
9	Record Clerk	05
10	Office Assistant	02
11	Sub Inspector of Fisheries	28
12	Fishery Overseer-I	10
13	Fishery Overseer-II	32
14	Fishery Assistant	59
15	Marine Foreman	07
16	Driver	25
17	Sweeper	2
Total		244

5. PROTECTION OF TRADITIONAL FISHING RIGHTS OF TAMIL NADU FISHERMEN.

i. Retrieval of Katchatheevu: Issues and Status

Retrieval of Katchatheevu back to India and restoration of the traditional fishing rights

of Indian fishermen in the Palk Bay area, are the topmost agenda of the Government of Tamil Nadu. The Government have, since May 2011, taken pro-active steps for the retrieval of Katchatheevu Island ceded unilaterally by Government of India to Sri Lanka in 1974, to protect the traditional fishing rights of Tamil Nadu fishermen. The resolution passed unanimously in the Tamil Nadu Legislative Assembly in 2011 to implead the Revenue department in the Writ Petition W.P. (Civil) No.561/2008, filed before the Supreme Court of India in 2008, by the Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu, in her individual capacity for retrieval of Katchatheevu, the consequent 'Implead petition' filed by the Revenue department in the above writ petition and further, the 'Expedite petition' filed in September, 2012 are a proof of the earnest steps being taken in this issue by the Government of Tamil Nadu. The above steps assume significance in view of the fact that the fishermen of Palk Bay Districts who conduct fishing in their traditional areas of Palk Bay region to earn their livelihood are periodically arrested or harassed by the Sri Lankan Navy.

ii. Efforts taken by Government to prevent Harassment/Release of Tamil Nadu Fishermen

The fishermen of Palk Bay districts who drift to the other side of International Maritime Boundary Line (IMBL), while fishing in Palk Strait area are at times arrested / harassed by the Sri Lankan Navy.

Having taken a serious view of this, the Hon'ble Chief Minister has written as many as 17 letters to the Hon'ble Prime Minister of India since May 2011, bringing those incidents to the notice of the Hon'ble Prime Minister and asking for a positive action of Government of India. i.e 9 letters dated 07.06.2011, 21.06.2011, 04.07.2012, 23.07.2012, 05.12.2012, 04.03.2013, 07.03.2013, 14.03.2013 and 07.04.2013 were written asking for expediting the release of arrested fishermen and another 8 letters dated 10.10.2011, 07.11.2011, 16.11.2011, 26.11.2011, 17.03.2012, 28.06.2012, 20.08.2012 and 20.03.2013 were written imploring Hon'ble Prime Minister to take urgent steps to prevent the incidents of harassment in high seas.

Due to the consistent efforts taken by the Government, 505 fishermen arrested since May 2011, viz., 217 in 2011 (from May 2011), 219 fishermen in 2012 and 69 Fishermen in 2013 (till date) have been released by the Sri Lankan

authorities and repatriated to Tamil Nadu. Action is being taken to release the remaining innocent fishermen in Sri Lankan jails.

The Government reiterates its commitment to lend support to the fishermen whenever they are in distress and standby them at times of hardship.

6. MARINE FISHERIES

A. WELFARE SCHEMES

The welfare of fisherman is always the priority for this Government. The details of various welfare Schemes are listed below:

6.1 Enhancement of Financial Assistance from Rs.1,000/- to Rs.2,000/- to Marine Fishermen Families during Fishing ban period

The Government impose fishing ban for 45 days (i.e. from April 15th to May 29th in the East Coast region and June 15th to July 29th in the West Coast region) every year from 2001 onwards, in order to conserve the marine fishery resources. The fishermen who are engaged as crew / labourers in the fishing boats have no other source of income during the ban period which leads to much hardship in maintaining their families. To alleviate the sufferings of the poor fishermen crew / labourers who are actually

involved in marine fishing activities, this Government enhanced the relief assistance given to marine fishermen families from Rs.1,000 to Rs.2,000/- during the year 2011-12. The Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu inaugurated this Scheme on 24.5.2011.

For the year 2012-13, the Govt accorded sanction for a sum of Rs.32 crore for providing relief assistance during fishing ban period to 1.60 lakh marine fishermen families and disbursed Rs.30.94 crore to 1.55 lakh fishermen families.

This scheme will be continued during 2013-14 as well.

6.2 National Savings-cum-Relief Scheme for Marine Fishermen

This Centrally sponsored Scheme is shared equally between the Centre and State and the relief amount is being disbursed to the marine fishermen every year, during lean fishing months. Under this Scheme, the fisherman contributes Rs.600/- @ Rs.70/- per month as his share for the first 8 months and Rs.40/- for the ninth month. The contribution is matched with total amount of Rs.1,200/- by the Central and State Governments equally (i.e. Rs.600/- each). Thus, a sum of Rs.1,800/- including the fisherman contribution is disbursed to the beneficiaries during the lean months .

The Government sanctioned an amount of Rs.24.45 crore as its Share (both Central and State) for the year 2012-13. So far, a sum of Rs.17.26 crore was disbursed to 1,43,877 fishermen of 11 coastal districts. Relief is being disbursed in Thoothukudi and Tirunelveli districts from April 2013 onwards. To reach the relief assistance to the eligible beneficiaries at once and to have transparency, the department has released the amount through Electronic Clearing System (ECS).

This Scheme will be continued during 2013-14 also.

6.3 Savings-cum-Relief Scheme for Marine Fisherwomen

This Scheme is being implemented as a State Scheme. Under this Scheme, the fisherwoman contributes Rs.600/- @ Rs.70/- per month for a period of 8 months and Rs.40/- for the ninth month. The matching grant of Rs.1,200/- is provided by the State Government. Thus, a sum of Rs.1,800/- is disbursed to the beneficiary during the lean months.

The Government sanctioned an amount of Rs.20.53 crore as its share for the year 2012-13. So far, a sum of Rs.15.94 crore was disbursed to 1,32,814 fisherwomen of 11 coastal districts. Relief is being disbursed in Thoothukudi and Tirunelveli districts from April 2013 onwards. To

reach the relief assistance to the eligible beneficiaries at once and to have transparency, the department has released the amount through Electronic Clearing System (ECS).

This Scheme will be continued during 2013-14 also.

6.4 Disbursement of Special Allowance amount of Rs.4,000/- to Marine Fishermen Families during Lean Fishing Season

The Government felt that the relief amount Rs.1,800/- given to fishermen /fisherwomen under Savings cum Relief scheme every year during non-fishing period was inadequate to maintain the families. Therefore, the Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu, subsequent to the announcement made in the Budget Speech in the Assembly during August 2011, introduced a new Scheme of disbursement of Special Allowance to the marine fishermen families in coastal districts to mitigate their sufferings in the lean fishing months. The Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu inaugurated this new Scheme on 10.11.2011.

The Government accorded sanction for a sum of Rs.68.05 crore for providing special allowance during fishing lean season to 1.70 lakh Marine fishermen families during 2012-13. So far, a sum of Rs.45.38 crore has been disbursed

to 1,13,459 fishermen families of 11 coastal districts. Relief is being disbursed in Thoothukudi and Tirunelveli districts from April 2013 onwards. To reach the relief assistance to the eligible beneficiaries at once and to have transparency, the department has released the amount through Electronic Clearing System (ECS).

This Scheme will be continued during 2013-14 also.

6.5 Group Accident Insurance Scheme for Fisherfolk

This is a centrally sponsored Scheme shared equally by the Centre and State. Under this Scheme, the State and Central Government will pay the total Insurance premium of Rs.30/- per beneficiary (at Rs.15/- each) and no premium is collected from the fishermen. In the event of death /permanent disablement, the fisherman will be given Rs.1,00,000/- and Rs.50,000/- for partial disablement.

A sum of Rs.93.20 lakh (as State's share) has been paid to FISHCOPFED (National Federation of Fishermen's Co-operatives Ltd), New Delhi, towards insurance premium covering 6.21 lakh active marine, inland fishermen and fisherwomen for the period from 10.12.2012 to 9.12.2013. During 2012-13, the insurance company has settled 123 claims to a tune of Rs.1.15 crore.

In 1st March 2013, branch office of FISHCOPFED, Chennai has been opened by FISHCOPFED, New Delhi due to the concerted efforts taken by the State Government in order to settle the claims immediately.

This Scheme will be continued during 2013-14 also.

6.6 Motorisation of Traditional Crafts

The Government is providing subsidy assistance towards the purchase of Out Board Motors (OBM) / In-Board Engines (IBE), to be fitted in the traditional crafts of fishermen. The fishermen will be provided with 50% subsidy of the unit cost of the engine or Rs.30,000/- whichever is less which will be shared equally between the Centre and State.

The Government sanctioned and released a sum of Rs.4 crore (both Central and State share) towards subsidy for motorisation of 1,333 traditional crafts.

This Scheme will be continued during 2013-14 as well.

6.7 Reimbursement of Central Excise Duty on High Speed Diesel

This Scheme is to be implemented as 100% centrally funded Scheme. The Government reimburses the Central Excise Duty by way of

providing subsidy amount towards the purchase of high speed diesel (HSD) oil by the mechanized fishing boat operators so as to reduce the operational cost. The subsidy will be limited to Rs.3 /- per litre of HSD oil with a ceiling of 500 litres/per boat/per month during active fishing months. The subsidy will be provided to the mechanised fishing vessels with an overall length less than 20 metres and registered prior to 10th Five year Plan period. The owners of the Mechanised fishing boats should be below poverty line (BPL) category, which is a non-implementable condition since the mechanised boat owners do not come under the BPL category.

The Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu, presented a memorandum to the Hon'ble Prime Minister of India on 13.6.2011, insisting on relaxation of the conditions imposed for reimbursement of Central Excise Duty as the condition is impracticable and unworkable for all the coastal States and that these should immediately be reviewed in order to enable this Scheme to become operational. No decision has yet been conveyed by Government of India.

6.8 Sales Tax Exemption on Sale of High Speed Diesel to Fishermen

The Government of Tamil Nadu provides 100% sales tax exempted High Speed Diesel for mechanised fishing boats and motorised country crafts registered in the Fisheries Department.

The mechanised boats can avail sales tax exempted diesel, subject to a maximum of 15,000 litres per boat/per year during active fishing months and motorised country crafts can avail a maximum of 3,600 litres per craft per year.

This Scheme will be continued during 2013-14 as well.

6.9 Subsidized and Sales Tax Exempted Industrial Kerosene to the Traditional Crafts

The Government provided Sales tax exempted industrial kerosene at the subsidized rate of Rs.25/- per litre (200 litres per boat per month) to the owners of the motorized traditional crafts fitted with kerosene driven motors in Thoothukudi, Tirunelveli and Kanniyakumari districts till 2011-12.

The Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu ordered to enhance the Sales tax exempted and subsidized industrial kerosene from 200 litres to 250 litres/per craft/per month and sanctioned a sum of Rs.47.60 crore, benefiting 5,000 kerosene driven traditional crafts for the year 2012-13 and implemented.

This Scheme will be continued during the year 2013-14 also.

6.10 Cash Awards to 10th and 12th Class Students of Fishing Community

The Government of Tamil Nadu is providing cash award and merit certificates to the boys and girls of fishermen community who have secured top ranks in 10th and 12th standard examinations at district and State level as a measure of encouraging the students of fishing community in education.

The Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu ordered to double the cash award to the toppers of fishermen community both in district and State in 10th and 12th standard from 2010-11 onwards.

The details are furnished in table 4.

Table 4. Details of Cash Awards

Sl. No.	Category	Cash Awards (in Rs.)	
		12th std	10th std
1	State level - 1 st mark	10,000/-	6,000/-
2	District level - 1 st mark	6,000/-	2,000/-
3	District level - 2 nd mark	Nil	1,000/-
4	District level - 3 rd mark	Nil	600/-

This Scheme will be continued during the year 2013-14 also.

B. RELIEF SCHEMES

6.11 Enhancement of Daily Relief to Marine Fishermen apprehended in Other Countries

The Government support the family of genuine fishermen who are apprehended by the neighbouring countries while fishing by extending a daily relief allowance of Rs.50/- to the family till he returns home. This Government after assuming charge, enhanced the daily allowance from Rs.50/- to Rs.250/- and allocated a sum of Rs.6 lakh. The scheme is being implemented through the District Collectors for providing immediate relief.

During 2012-13, a sum of Rs.5.72 lakh was released to the 5 families of apprehended Fishermen from Ramanathapuram district.

Apart from the above, Government have sanctioned a sum of Rs.5 lakh towards the payment of legal fee for arranging for the release of 5 innocent Rameswaram fishermen who have been arrested on false charges and are languishing in Sri Lankan jails since 29.11.2011. To alleviate the financial hardship of the families of the 5 fishermen who struggle to make both ends meet in the absence of the breadwinner of the family, the Government have sanctioned a relief assistance of Rs.2 lakh per family as a special case.

This Scheme will be continued during the year 2013-14 also.

6.12 Enhancement of Daily Relief to the families of missing fishermen

The relief assistance of Rs.50/- per day or Rs.1,500/- per month was provided to the families of the fishermen missing while fishing in the sea, till he returns. This Government after taking over charge, enhanced the daily allowance from Rs.50/- (i.e. Rs.1,500/- per month) to Rs.250/-(i.e. Rs.7,500/- per month) and allocated a sum of Rs.12 lakh and distributed to the coastal District Collectors for the year 2011-12.

During 2012-13, a sum of Rs.11.93 lakh was released to the 19 families of missing Fishermen.

This Scheme will be continued during 2013-14 as well.

6.13 Relief to the families of deceased / injured fishermen due to shooting by Sri Lankan Navy and others.

The fishermen of coastal districts, who fish in their traditional areas in the disputed Palk Bay waters and who drift into Sri Lankan waters due to engine failure and natural vagaries of the sea

etc., are apprehended / harassed and sometimes even shot at 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 due to shooting. In the case of the deceased fisherman who is the sole breadwinner of the family, an Ex-gratia amount of Rs.5 lakh given. For major and minor injuries, an Ex-gratia amount of Rs.50,000/- and Rs.20,000/- is given respectively.

During 2012-13, relief assistance of Rs.5 lakh was given to the fishermen family of Ramanathapuram District who died due to shooting while fishing in the Dubai coast and Rs.50,000/- each was given to 3 fishermen who sustained injuries.

6.14 Corpus Fund for extending financial assistance for pursuing higher education to the Children of Missing / Deceased Fishermen due to Shooting while in fishing

The financial relief assistance given to the families of the missing fishermen / deceased fishermen is not sufficient for their day-to-day expenses and in most of the cases, the families experience much hardship for providing education and continuing it for their son(s)/daughter(s) as they are financially not

sound. The children of the deceased / missing fishermen are forced to discontinue their education and seeking employment as they have no financial support to pursue their school / college education, as the case may be.

Considering the pecuniary circumstances and pathetic condition of the fishermen families due to the loss of the breadwinner of their families, the Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu ordered to create a Corpus Fund of Rs.25 lakh in Tamil Nadu fishermen welfare Board to meet out the full expenses of the higher studies of the children of the families of missing / deceased fishermen who die while fishing in the sea and or due to shooting incidents. Under this Scheme, tuition fee (Government prescribed fee) and the hostel fee will be borne by the Government from the Corpus Fund.

The Scheme will be continued during 2013-14 as well.

C. FISHERIES MANAGEMENT FOR SUSTAINABLE LIVELIHOODS (FIMSUL)

FIMSUL, a World Bank funded project was implemented by Food and Agricultural Organization of United Nations (FAO) and Department of Fisheries in Tamil Nadu in the year 2010-11. The objective of the project was to suggest fisheries management, conservation, sustainable development and policy framework

for the future planning. Recommendations of FIMSUL project have been submitted. Under Coastal Disaster Risk Reduction Project (CDRRP), FIMSUL II, a project under which fisheries management systems at field level, involving various stakeholders, will be implemented and is under active consideration.

D. DEVELOPMENT OF INFRASTRUCTURE FACILITIES

6.15 Construction of Fishing Harbours under Centrally Sponsored shared Scheme:

i) Fishing Harbour at Colachel (50:50 ratio sharing basis between Centre and State):

Government of India have accorded administrative approval for the construction of Fishing Harbour at Colachel in Kanniyakumari District at an estimated cost of Rs.27.10 crore and the Government have so far released Rs.19.12 crore towards Central and State share in four instalments.

The construction of Eastern and Western breakwaters and its approaches to Colachel fishing harbour was taken up in the first phase. Eastern breakwater work has been partially completed to the total length of 120 m. and Western breakwater work up to 430 m.

length against an envisaged length of 540 m. Deployment of Coreloc armour units on sea side slope in the main breakwater has been completed upto 180 m. length. Approach road to both Eastern and Western breakwaters and Weigh Bridge work have been completed. In order to avoid overtopping and damages to the breakwater due to the heavy wave actions and high rise in tide level during cyclone and coastal flooding occurred in those areas, CWPRS, Pune recommended to increase the length, size and height of breakwater. Accordingly, Government of India sanctioned the revised proposal for a value of Rs.87.75 crore. Action is being taken to complete the balance works in Phase-I and the construction of wharf, dredging and other infrastructure facilities in Phase-II.

ii) Fishing Harbour at Thengapattinam (50:50 ratio sharing basis between Centre and State):

Administrative approval has been accorded by the Government of India for the construction of Fishing Harbour at Thengapattinam in the west coast of Kanniyakumari District at an estimated cost of Rs.40 crore. A sum of Rs.30 crore towards Central and State share has been released in three instalments for implementing the Project.

The construction of main breakwater has been completed partially to the entire length of

580 m. and Leeward breakwater has also been constructed partially to the entire length of 120 m. Further placement of Coreloc armour units on sea side slope in the main break water has been completed upto 560 m. out of 580 m. In order to avoid overtopping and damages to the breakwater due to the heavy wave actions and high rise in tide level during cyclone and some peculiar phenomena occurred in those areas, Central Water and Power Research Station (CWPRS), Pune recommended to increase the size and height of breakwater. Accordingly, the Government of India sanctioned the revised proposal for a value of Rs.97.40 crore. Action is being taken to complete the balance works in Phase-I and the construction of wharf, dredging and other infrastructure facilities in Phase-II.

iii) Fishing Harbour at Poompuhar (75:25 ratio sharing basis between Centre and State):

Government of India has accorded administrative approval for the construction of Fishing Harbour at Poompuhar in Nagapattinam district at an estimated cost of Rs.78.50 crore. The State Government has also given Administrative approval to go ahead for the project. The Government has so far released Rs.6.67 crore towards Central and State share in the first instalment. Action is being taken to commence the Project works.

iv) Expansion of Fishing Harbour at Chinnamuttom (75:25 ratio sharing basis between Centre and State):

Government of India has accorded administrative approval for the expansion of Fishing Harbour at Chinnamuttom in Kanniyakumari district in the east coast of Tamil Nadu at an estimated cost of Rs.73.52 crore. Action is being taken to commence the Project works.

v) Proposed Fishing Harbour at Mookaiyur, Ramanathapuram district:

Many Mechanized fishing boats belonging to fishermen of Mookaiyur village are operating from Rameswaram and Pamban due to non - availability of adequate landing and berthing facilities. In order to support the fishing livelihood of Mookaiyur and nearby villages, the Fisheries Department intends to reconstruct the infrastructure and also to develop a fishing harbour with break water, wharf, fish auction hall, protection wall, drying platform, net mending centre etc., at Mookaiyur in Ramanathapuram District. This will help to decongest the mechanised boats at Rameswaram as many mechanised fishing boats are expected to move to Mookaiyur fishing harbour once it is developed. Consultants have been appointed for the preparation of DPR for the construction of the harbour.

6.16 Construction of Fishing Harbours under Public – Private Partnership (PPP) mode:

i) *Fishing Harbour at Muttom in Kanniyakumari District:*

The Government have accorded permission for the construction of Fishing Harbour at Muttom in Kanniyakumari District under "BOT" (Build, Operate and Transfer) System. The total cost of the project is Rs.53.92 crore. The work has been awarded to M/s Jeppiaar Fishing Harbour, Muttom Pvt. Ltd. Construction of Breakwater to a length of 480 meter on eastern side has been partly completed. Western Breakwater is nearing completion to a length of 1,890 meter using tetrapod armour units in sea side and formation of head section is in progress. The works of landside facilities are in progress. Based on the request of fishermen of the two villages, viz. Azhikal and Pillaithoppu, Government of Tamil Nadu have given permission to extend the fishing harbour facilities to these two villages by M/s Jeppiaar Fishing Harbour Muttom Private Limited on its own funds. The work relating to that effect have been taken up.

ii) Fishing Harbour at Rajakkamangalamthurai in Kanniyakumari district:

The Government have accorded permission for the construction of Fishing Harbour at Rajakkamangalamthurai in Kanniyakumari district under "Build, Own, Operate and Transfer" ("BOOT") System. The total cost of the Project is Rs.42.24 crore. The work has been awarded to M/s Rajakkamanagalamthurai Fishing Harbour Pvt Ltd. CRZ clearance was obtained. The work has been commenced.

iii) Fishing Harbour at Manakudi in Kanniyakumari District:

Consulting Services for appointing consultants for Transaction Advisory Services has been awarded to M/s. Water and Power Consultancy Services (WAPCOS) Ltd, Chennai for Preparation of Techno-economic feasibility study, Expression of Interest (EOI), Request For Quotation(RFQ), Notice Inviting Tender(NIT), Request for Proposal(RFP) / Concessionaire agreements, legal documents and other documents as required for construction of Fishing Harbour at Manakudi in Kanniyakumari district under Public-Private Partnership (PPP) mode.

6.17 The World Bank Assisted Emergency Tsunami Reconstruction Project (ETRP)

An amount of Rs.103.25 crore has been allotted under the World Bank assisted ETRP to implement the following projects:

a) Reconstruction and Modernisation of Two Fishing Harbours in Nagapattinam District:

i) *Nagapattinam Fishing Harbour:*

Administrative approval has been accorded for a value of Rs.35.65 crore for the above work. 90% of works in construction of diaphragm wall and retaining wall along the southern side and northern side of Kaduvaiyar river and dredging the basin and lead channel have been completed. Construction of structures for land side facilities on the southern side of Kaduvaiyar river has been commenced.

ii) *Pazhayar Fishing Harbour:*

Administrative approval has been given to the tune of Rs.27.56 crore for the above work. Construction of groyne, diaphragm wall and approach road have been completed. 90% of works in construction of structures for land side facilities and dredging the basin, approach

channel and lead channel have been completed. The remaining work is in progress.

b) Permanent Opening of Two Bar-mouths:

In order to ensure safety for the navigation of fishing crafts, the Government have accorded administrative sanction for stabilization of the following two bar-mouths.

i) *Uppanar river Bar-mouth in Thirumullaivasal village of Nagapattinam District:*

The Government have sanctioned a sum of Rs.5.20 crore for the above work. Approach road has been laid. 60% of groyne work has also been completed. Balance work is in progress.

ii) *Vellar river Bar-mouth in Cuddalore District:*

For carrying out the above work, the Government have sanctioned Rs.10.24 crore. Northern guide bund, side channel guide bund and stone pitching works have been completed. 85% of dredging work has also been done. Balance work is in progress.

c) Construction of Two New Fish Landing Centres:

With an objective of providing safe berthing facilities to the fishing crafts and to facilitate hygienic handling of fish catch, the

Government have accorded administrative approval for construction of two new fish landing centres at the following places:

i) *Nagore in Nagapattinam District:*

The Government have sanctioned a sum of Rs.10.60 crore for the above work. Diaphragm wall works have been completed. 70% of dredging work and land side facilities have been completed. The remaining work is in progress.

ii) *Parangipettai-Annankoil Village in Cuddalore District:*

The Government have sanctioned a sum of Rs.13.50 crore for the above work. Diaphragm wall work has been completed. 85% of dredging work and construction of land side facilities have been completed. The remaining work is in progress.

d) *Construction of Tube ice plant at Chinnamuttom:*

To improve the fish handling facilities at Chinnamuttom Fishing Harbour, Tube ice plant with chill room facility, additional facilities to the existing auction hall have been established at a cost of Rs.50 lakh.

6.18 Construction of Fish Landing Centres

Under Tsunami Rehabilitation Programme

The Government have sanctioned for the construction of ten new fish landing centres (FLC) at various coastal villages at a total cost of Rs.49.97 crore as follows:

Table 5. Details of Fish Landing Centres

(Rs. in crore)

Place	District	Amount	Stage
1. Kadalore - Periyakuppam	Kancheepuram	4.76	Work completed.
2. Ekkiyarkuppam	Villupuram	4.76	
3. R.Pudupattinam	Pudukkottai	4.41	
4. Keelakarai	Ramanathapuram	5.32	
5. Threspuram	Thoothukudi	7.03	
6. Periathazhai	Thoothukudi	4.76	
7. Ennore-Mugathuvarakuppam	Tiruvallur	5.45	Work under progress
8. Annamalaicherry	Tiruvallur	4.72	Work will be continued after obtaining of NOC from National Bird Sanctuary Board (Govt. of India)
9. Periyamangodu	Tiruvallur	4.72	

10. Uvari	Tirunelveli	4.04	Work will be commenced after providing anti sea erosion work.
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6.19 Administrative Office building for TNFDC and TAFCOFED.

The Government have accorded administrative approval for the Construction of Office Building for Tamil Nadu Fisheries Development Corporation Ltd., and Tamil Nadu State Apex Fisheries Co-operative Federation Ltd., at an estimated cost of Rs.6 crores at Chetpet in Chennai. Action is being taken to commence the work.

6.20 Seamless Communication Network

The Government have initiated a pilot project on providing Seamless Communication facilities to the fishing crafts in Ramanathapuram District through M/s ELCOT, Chennai at a cost of Rs.7.73 Crore. Three base stations along with towers at Pamban, Thondi and Chinna Erwadi have been installed. 3,100 VHF hand-held sets have been procured. 71 sets were distributed to the traditional fishermen after obtaining the operating license from the Wireless Planning Co-ordination wing (WPC) and operational training has been given to the beneficiaries. On receipt of the operating licence from Wireless

Planning and Coordination wing of Telecommunication Department, the remaining sets will be distributed.

6.21 Establishment of Fish Processing Parks in Tamil Nadu

In order to meet the quality requirements in domestic and overseas market and to adopt hygienic measures in post harvest handling of fish catch, the Government of Tamil Nadu have proposed to establish Fish Processing Parks in 13 Coastal towns in a phased manner on Public-Private Partnership(PPP) mode, which would ultimately help the fishermen to fetch better price for their catch. Fish Processing Parks in Cuddalore and Nagapattinam districts will be established in the first phase. M/s. Mahindra Consulting Engineers Limited, Chennai has been appointed as the consultant for conducting Feasibility Study and Transaction Advisory Services and a detailed Techno- Economic Feasibility Study Report for the proposed Fish Processing Parks in the two coastal districts has been submitted.

According to the feasibility study in the first phase, Fish Processing Parks will be established at Periakanganankuppam village in Cuddalore district on an extent of 1.94 acre of land at a cost of Rs.14 crore approximately and at Nagore village in Nagapattinam district on an extent of 2.19 acre of land at a cost of

Rs.23 crore approximately. Suitable private partners will be chosen for establishment and operation of Fish Processing Parks by inviting Expression of Interest (EOI).

As announced by the Honourable Chief Minister during the District Collectors' conference, 2012 and as also announced in the Budget of 2013, two Fish Processing Parks in Thiruvallur and Ramanathapuram districts are to be established in the second phase during 2013-14.

E. RESOURCE/PRODUCTION ENHANCEMENT

6.22 Conservation and Management of Fishery Resources

In recent years, the fishery wealth in the inshore waters is being overexploited due to excessive fishing pressure on the resources. Enforcement of Tamil Nadu Marine Fishing Regulation Act, 1983 is a regulating measure as part of conservation and management of marine resources. Stock enhancement, habitat development and diversified fishing methods are some of the conservancy / stock enhancement measures.

6.23 Setting up of Artificial Reefs

Artificial reefs help in augmenting the productivity of the marine ecosystem. Artificial

reefs act as habitats to marine aquatic organisms enhance the fish production through increased breeding activity and survival of young ones and act as a barrier for bottom trawling operations. The Government have taken steps for development of fish habitats, by setting up of artificial reefs in the inshore waters as a conservation / stock enhancement measure. 18 artificial reefs have been installed along the Tamil Nadu coast. The work has been carried out after obtaining technical advice from the Central Marine Fisheries Research Institute (CMFRI), Kochi. The Government have sanctioned a sum of Rs.2.93 crore towards the installation of 19 units in the following places. The works are in progress.

Table 6. Places of Deployment of Artificial reefs

Sl. No.	Village	District
1	Arangankuppam	Tiruvallur
2	Nettukuppam	
3	Kathivakkam Chinnakuppam	
4	Kanathur	Kancheepuram
5	Chemmencherri	
6	Mahabalipuram	
7	Kadalur Chinnakuppam	
8	Mudaliarkuppam	
9	Nemmelikuppam	

10	Pudukuppam	Cuddalore
11	Pillumedu	
12	Chinnangudi	Nagapattinam
13	Perumalpettai	
14	Nagoor	
15	Seruthur	
16	Vellapallam	
17	Kattumavadi	Pudukottai
18	Muthukuda	
19	Amalinagar	Thoothukudi

6.24 Providing 50% subsidy assistance for procuring new Tuna Long Liners

To encourage the fishermen to take up diversified fishing methods and to optimally utilize the under-exploited/unexploited offshore / deep sea fishery resources, this Government introduced a scheme of providing 25% subsidy up to Rs.5 lakh to fishermen to convert the Mechanised Fishing Boats /replace or upgrade motorized fishing crafts for Tuna long lining. The Government have also sanctioned a sum of Rs.25 crore towards implementing this scheme in a phased manner for a period of five years. Accordingly, Rs.3.44 crore subsidy has been released for 149 beneficiaries to convert/replace/upgrade their fishing crafts for tuna fishing.

During the Budget speech 2013-14, the Hon'ble Finance Minister announced that the

existing pattern of subsidy towards procurement of new tuna longliners will be enhanced from 25% to 50% and a sum of Rs.30 crore will be allocated for this purpose. Accordingly, 50% subsidy assistance of the total cost of Rs.60 lakh subject to maximum of Rs.30 lakh per tuna long liner will be given.

6.25 Deep sea Fishing – Stationing of Mother Ship Concept

The Government have announced an innovative project on establishment of “Mid Sea Fish Processing Units cum Carrier Mother Vessel” as a pilot Project under Public Private Partnership (PPP) mode. This Project will help the Tamil Nadu fishermen to take up deep sea fishing and will also reduce the fishing pressure in inshore waters. The Mother Vessel will act as a source of critical inputs for the ‘baby vessels’ involved in commercial fishing in the deep sea and will have all the facilities for onboard fish processing. This will also act as a ‘Value Added Export Oriented Facility’ and ensure quality standards for export and good price to fishermen for their catch. The Project envisages to station two vessels, one at Bay of Bengal and another at Indian Ocean. M/s.Mahindra Consulting Engineers Limited, Chennai has been appointed consultant to carry out the Feasibility study and Transaction Advisory Services and the study is underway. On completion of the studies, suitable private Operators will be chosen for establishment and

operation of 'Mid Sea Fish Processing Units cum Carrier Mother Vessel' in Tamil Nadu.

7. INLAND FISHERIES

Tamil Nadu is endowed with 3.75 lakh hectares of vast Inland resources comprising reservoirs, rivers and canals, lakes, ponds and tanks and other water bodies having immense scope for development of inland fisheries. However, poor and erratic rain fall, less retention of water in the water bodies, inadequate infrastructure for quality fish seed and feed, marketing are the factors responsible for limiting inland fish production. In order to overcome these limitations, the Fisheries Department is formulating different strategies including stocking of advanced fingerlings of fast growing species, introduction of cage culture/pen culture and creation of more fish seed banks to ensure the availability of seeds round the year for increasing inland fish production and fish productivity.

7.1 Reservoir Fisheries

Reservoirs are potential resource for inland fisheries development where the fishery comprises both wild and stocked varieties. In Tamil Nadu, the Department of Fisheries has taken up 53 reservoirs for undertaking fisheries development. The Tamil Nadu Fisheries Development Corporation Limited has 8 reservoirs under its control. There are three

systems of fish exploitation in our reservoirs namely licensing, share fishing and leasing. These reservoirs are being stocked with the advanced fingerlings. With a view to increase the fish production, the National Fisheries Development Board, Hyderabad is extending financial assistance for stocking of advanced fingerlings of 80-100 mm in the water bodies.

During the year 2012-13, administrative sanction for Rs. 51.76 lakh has been received from NFDB and 31.64 lakh advanced fingerlings were stocked in 8 reservoirs under phase I. The remaining advanced fingerlings will be stocked after receipt of sufficient downpour. In order to optimise the fish production, the Tamil Nadu Government has taken a policy decision to lease out 53 reservoirs in a phased manner. The lessee has to employ the share fishermen for fish exploitation so as to safeguard the interests of the inland fishermen and improve the fish production. So far, 7 reservoirs were leased out for a total amount of Rs. 2.44 crore.

7.2 Fish seed Production / Fish seed Rearing Centres

There are 4 Fish Seed Production Centres functioning under the control of Fisheries Department at Bhavanisagar in Erode district, Mettur in Salem district, Manimuthar in Tirunelveli district and Karanthai in Thanjavur district. From these 4 fish seed production

centres, 189 million early fry have been produced during the year 2012-13.

Under the control of the Department of Fisheries, 28 fish seed rearing centres are functioning. The Tamil Nadu Fisheries Development Corporation (TNFDC) has 5 Fish seed rearing centres under its control. The total fish seed farm area available with the Department is 48.80 ha, out of which only 33.37 ha are in serviceable condition. Total number of 102 lakh late fry, 77 lakh fingerlings and 122 lakh advanced fingerlings have been produced for the year 2012-13, using the Departmental Fish seed rearing centres. To repair and renovate the un-utilized seed rearing area, steps have been taken up dovetailing funds from the Schemes such as National Agriculture Development Programme (NADP), National Fisheries Development Board (NFDB), Western Ghats Development Programme (WGDP), National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD- RIDF) and World Bank funded Tamil Nadu Irrigated Agriculture Modernisation and Waterbodies Restoration and Management (TN-IAMWARM) Schemes.

7.3 Fish Farmers Development Agencies

In Tamil Nadu, 12 Fish Farmers Development Agencies (FFDA) have been established to popularise fish culture activities and generate employment opportunities in rural

areas. Under the Chairmanship of the respective District Collector, these Agencies are functioning. The main activities are providing technical guidance and encouraging farmers to take up fish culture by extending subsidy assistance besides imparting technical training to farmers.

This Scheme will be continued during 2013-14.

7.4 Brackish water Aquaculture

Tamil Nadu is bestowed with total potential brackish water resources of 56,000 ha to undertake brackish water aquaculture. A total of 2,748 Shrimp Farms covering 6,019 ha extent of land area has been taken up for brackish water aquaculture. Registration of farms with Coastal Aquaculture Authority is mandatory. So far, 1,631 farms with a total extent of 4,432 ha area have been registered with the Coastal Aquaculture Authority (CAA). In order to promote sustainable, eco friendly aquaculture practice, 5 Brackish water Fish Farmers' Development Agencies (BFDA) have been functioning at Thiruvallur, Cuddalore, Nagapattinam, Ramanathapuram and Thoothukudi districts under the Chairmanship of the District Collectors concerned. The existing Government brackish water fish farm at Vanianchavadi in Kancheepuram district and Eripurakkarai in Thanjavur district are being upgraded with biosecurity arrangements to undertake SPF

Litopenaeus vannamei culture at an estimated cost of Rs. 1.40 crore.

This Scheme will be continued during 2013-14.

7.5 Development of Cold Water Fisheries

Tamil Nadu offers immense potential for developing sport fishery in the upland water resources in the Nilgiris and some parts of Western Ghats. The Trout hatchery at Avalanche in the Nilgiris district is the main cold water fisheries centre. The trout fingerlings reared at Avalanche Trout hatchery are being stocked regularly in the cold streams for the stock enhancement. This hatchery aims to enhance the fishery resources of upland waters of Nilgiris and surrounding areas of the Western Ghats. The National Fisheries Development Board has sanctioned Rs. 30 lakh for renovating the Avalanche Trout Hatchery and the work is under progress.

7.6 Western Ghats Development Programme

During the year 2012-13, under conservation and development of watershed in Western Ghats, an amount of Rs. 70.13 lakh has been sanctioned for the improvement of infrastructural facilities in Pechiparai and Chittar Government fish farms in Kanniyakumari district, and work is in progress.

8. RESEARCH

Two Fisheries research stations are functioning at Chennai and Thoothukudi with laboratory facilities to analyse the soil, water and fish samples. The Fisheries Department is coordinating with the Central Institute of Freshwater Aquaculture (CIFA) Bhubaneswar, Central Institute of Brackish Water Aquaculture (CIBA) Chennai, Central Marine Fisheries Research Institute (CMFRI) Kochi, TamilNadu Fisheries University, Nagapattinam and other central institutes in order to transfer the technology from lab to land/ water.

A well equipped Fish Health Diagnostic Centre and live feed culture unit with advanced analytical equipment is being established at Chetpet, Chennai with NADP assistance at a cost of Rs. 1.25 crore. This will cater to the needs of aqua farmers and ornamental fish culturists of the State.

9. EXTENSION AND TRAINING

For effective transfer of technology and propagation of Government welfare schemes among the stakeholders, extension and training plays a vital role. Five propaganda vehicles of the Fisheries Department are being exclusively utilised to conduct awareness campaigns in various fishing villages and inland fisheries area. Fisheries Department is also carrying out

extension activities by participating in exhibitions trade fair and Uzhavar peruvizhas disseminating technical knowledge to fishermen/farmers.

The Department is conducting various need-based training programmes for target audience with the funding support of National Agriculture Development Programme (NADP), National Fisheries Development Board (NFDB) and Government of India.

9.1 Maritime Education for Fisher Youth

For creating employment opportunities by upgrading the skills of fisher youth the Government extends financial assistance to children of active fishermen families at the rate of Rs.50,000/- per person for undergoing six specific courses on maritime education notified by the Government. An amount of Rs.50 lakh have been sanctioned. So far, Rs. 41.75 lakh has been disbursed to 88 fisher youth. The Scheme will be continued in 2013-14 also.

9.2 Tamil Nadu Fisheries University

As announced by the Honourable Chief Minister on the floor of Assembly, Tamil Nadu Fisheries University was established at Nagapattinam to provide technically qualified manpower for the fisheries and its allied sector. An amount of Rs. 18.10 crore has been allotted for a period of five years and the Government

released Rs. 8 crore for 2012-13. For the establishment of the University, 90 acres of land have been identified at Panangudi – Nagoor (Muttam) villages of Nagapattinam district and land acquisition process is in its advanced stage.

Under this University, two new Institutes of Fisheries Technology, one at Nagapattinam and another at Ponneri in Thiruvallur district, have also been sanctioned with a budget allocation of Rs.34.08 crore each for 5 years for which the Government have released a grant of Rs. 7 crore each for 2012-13. Two Institutes have started functioning and are presently offering Certificate Courses. It is expected that this initiative will improve the human capital formation in fisheries sector of the State.

9.3 Fisheries Institute of Technology and Training

Fisheries Institute of Technology and Training (FITT) has been functioning with the aim of imparting technology oriented training to fisherfolk. The FITT has imparted training to 3,607 fisherfolk on Seaweed culture, Crab fattening, Fish handling and preservation, Engine maintenance for mechanic and fishermen, Tuna fishing, Marine ornamental fish culture, Trap fishing etc., using its own funds and other funds received from National Fisheries Development Board (NFDB), National Agriculture Development Programme (NADP) etc.

Cage culture of fish in freshwater reservoirs at an estimated cost of Rs.3.34 crore has been sanctioned on a pilot basis with assistance from NADP under its sub-scheme. Cage culture has been undertaken in the reservoirs at Poondi in Tiruvallur district and Aliyar in Coimbatore district.

9.4 Fish Festival at Chennai

As announced in the Budget 2012-13, a National level Fish Festival in Chennai is going to be conducted at a total cost of Rs. 1 crore by Government of Tamil Nadu in association with National Fisheries Development Board (NFDB), Hyderabad, Tamil Nadu Fisheries Development Corporation Ltd (TNFDC) and Tamil Nadu State Apex Cooperative Federation Ltd (TAFCOFED) and the Government have accorded necessary sanction for conducting the maiden fish festival in the State.

This fish festival will be conducted for four days from 9th to 12th of May, 2013 at Island Grounds, Chennai. A rich variety of ornamental fishes will be displayed under one roof. Display of aquaculture inputs, machinery of aquaculture, fish processing and fishing will be informative to the target audience in this sector. An array of activities including marine and fresh water fish display, hobbyist fish competition, opening of sales counter for fresh fish, fish delicacies, fish food recipes competition, thus offer a unique

chance to witness, experience and learn about fish, sea food and it's medicinal value. This fish festival is expected to create awareness on fisheries among the general public and to help overall development of fisheries sector in future.

10. SPECIAL PROJECTS

10.1 Issuance of Biometric Identity Cards to Marine Fishermen

The Government of India introduced a Central Sector Scheme for "Issuance of Biometric Identity Cards to marine fishermen" to ensure coastal security in the aftermath of 26/11 Mumbai terrorist attack and allocated a sum of Rs.1.16 crore to Tamil Nadu. Biometric ID cards will be issued to about 1,85,000 active marine fishermen. The work has been entrusted to M/s.BEL Ltd. Bengaluru. 1,05,500 cards have been distributed to the marine fishermen out of 1,19,900 cards under phase I programme. Data entry of the remaining fishermen and capturing of biometric features are being undertaken under Phase II.

10.2 Online Registration of Fishing Vessels

For ensuring coastal security, the Government of India have introduced another Central Sector Scheme "Online registration of fishing vessels" and sanctioned a sum of Rs.70.509 lakh to Tamil Nadu towards

infrastructure such as computers and software through NIC, New Delhi.

Further, the Government of India have sanctioned Rs.62.85 lakh additionally towards online registration of fishing vessels. As on date 5,600 mechanised fishing boats have been registered and 27,426 motorised and non motorised traditional crafts have been registered.

10.3 Tamil Nadu Irrigated Agriculture Modernisation and Water Bodies Restoration and Management (TN IAMWARM) project

The World Bank funded TN-IAMWARM Project envisions at improving the service delivery and enhancing unit productivity of water in selected sub basins. In order to improve the fish productivity of the water bodies, quality fish seeds are produced and stocked. Several activities such as aquaculture in farm ponds, fish seed rearing in cages, construction of earthen fish seed rearing farms, improving the existing Government fish seed rearing farm, cage farming, promoting ornamental fish culture and setting up of fish kiosk for fish marketing are implemented.

During the year 2012-13, Rs. 6.21 crore has been sanctioned and being implemented various fisheries activities under TN-IAMWARM project in 40 sub basins covering 14 districts.

This Scheme will be continued during 2013 – 14 also.

10.4 National Agriculture Development Programme (NADP)2012-13

Under NADP 2012-13, the following programmes have been sanctioned at a total cost of Rs.20.81 crore and the progress is as follows.

10.4.1. Construction, Repair & Renovation of Government fish seed farm (Rs.15.02 Crore):

In order to increase the fish seed production thereby to reduce the gap between the fish seed demand and supply, the existing departmental fish seed farm at Bhavanisagar, Mettur, Krishnagiri and five fish seed farms functioning under the control of TNFDC Viz.Sathanur, Aliyar, Amaravathy, Thirumoorthy and Palar are proposed to be strengthened by undertaking repairs and renovation. For this purpose, Rs.13.38 crore has been sanctioned and the work is in progress. In addition, the Government have sanctioned a sum of Rs.1.64 crore towards the construction of Government fish seed rearing farm at Athur, Chengleput taluk in Kancheepuram district.

10.4.2. Establishment of modern mobile fish marketing units in major cities and towns (Rs.90.90 lakh).

In order to ensure the availability of hygienic protein rich fresh fish to the consumers at a reasonable price, sanction has been accorded to establish 10 modern mobile fish marketing vehicles and one mobile sea food restaurant vehicle at a total cost of Rs.90.90 lakh by Tamil Nadu Fisheries Development Corporation.

10.4.3. Subsidy assistance to fishing crafts in the west coast to take up squid jigging (Rs.41.41 lakh):

The Indian squid *L.duvauceli* is available throughout the coast and is predominant in the catch in the west coast of Kanniyakumari district. Under this Scheme, 50% subsidy assistance upto Rs.25,000/- per unit to fishermen of Kanniyakumari district, will be provided to procure Squid Jigging as a measure of encouraging fishermen to take up diversified fishing activities. 160 beneficiaries have been identified and subsidy assistance will be given shortly. The asset creation is in progress. A total cost of Rs.41.41 lakh has been sanctioned and released.

10.4.4. Upgradation of the existing Government Brackishwater Fish Farm to propagate vannamei culture(Rs.1.40 crore):

In order to create awareness of SPF *Litopenaeus vannamei* culture, the existing government brackish water fish farm at Vaniyanchavadi in Kancheepuram district and Eripurakkarai in Thanjavur district are being upgraded with bio security arrangements and additional infrastructure facilities at a cost of Rs.1.40 crore.

10.4.5. Capacity building of the staff of Fisheries Department (Rs.12.12 lakh):

A total amount of Rs.12.12 lakh has been sanctioned under this Scheme to provide training to the staff of this Department to get relevant exposure on latest technologies in Fisheries, field activities and office procedures. So far 129 Departmental staff have undergone this training programme.

10.4.6. *Strengthening of fish marketing infrastructure involving Fisherwomen Cooperative Society members (Rs.30.75 lakh):*

In order to empower fisherwomen with marketing skill for their upliftment, it is proposed to educate fisherwomen on hygienic handling methods of fish marketing skill, value addition, fisheries cooperatives etc. For this purpose, Government have sanctioned Rs.30.75 lakh for extension education, exposure visit to major fishing harbours, fish landing centres and fish processing plants, setting up of fish kiosks and mobile fish marketing van with accessories for selling fresh fish and fishery products. The fish kiosk is being established in Kancheepuram district. Training to the beneficiaries has already been completed. This Scheme is being implemented through TAFCOFED.

10.4.7. *Establishment of live feed culture unit for ornamental fishes and fish disease diagnostic centre at Chetpet, Chennai (Rs.1.25 crore):*

Sanction has been accorded for Rs. 1.25 crore for establishing a live feed culture unit for ornamental fishes and fish disease diagnostic laboratory at Chetpet, Chennai. The culture of live feed such as Infusoria, Daphnia, Moina and Tubifex worms etc., which are essential for enrichment of pigmentation of

ornamental fishes and quality seed production. The advanced equipment in this diagnostic laboratory will facilitate 'state of the art' fish disease diagnosis, water quality and feed analysis. This will help ornamental fish breeders and culture units and shrimp and fish farmers of the State.

10.4.8. *Input subsidy assistance to earthen fish seed rearing farms (Rs.50.50 lakh):*

To ensure the continuous availability of quality fish seed for stocking, 50% subsidy assistance has been extended for the inputs such as fish seed and fish feed for 100 ha of earthen fish seed rearing farms at a total amount of Rs.50.50 lakh.

10.4.9. *Establishment of modern fish retail outlet and fish food restaurant (Rs.89.08 lakh):*

Sanction has been accorded for Rs.89.08 lakh for establishing modern fish retail outlet and fish food restaurant by Tamil Nadu State Apex Fisheries Co-operative Federation Limited (TAFCOFED). This modern fish retail outlet will provide clean, dressed and ready to cook quality fish with neat packing to the consumers and fish food restaurant will cater for the culinary needs of the consumer. The retail

outlet and restaurant is being established at Neelankarai, Kancheepuram district.

10.5. National Mission for Protein Supplement (NMPS):

i. Fish culture in cages in reservoirs (Rs.7.08 crore):

Optimization of fish yield from water bodies is the major objective of inland fisheries sector. A sum of Rs.7.08 crore has been sanctioned by the Government of India for optimization of reservoir fish production by means of cage culture activity. It has been proposed to establish one battery consisting of 28 cages in suitable water bodies of Thiruvallur, Kancheepuram, Dharmapuri and Tirunelveli districts. The work is in progress.

ii. Integrated aquaculture unit for the fish farmers (Rs.2.50 crore):

In order to strengthen aquaculture sector by integrated approach with forward and backward linkages right from fish seed production, feed, harvesting infrastructure, hygienic handling and marketing etc., an integrated aquaculture unit is being established in Thanjavur district at an estimated cost of Rs.2.50 crore.

10.6. National Fisheries Development Board (NFDB)

The NFDB is extending financial assistance for the implementation of the following programmes.

a. Upgradation of Fishing Harbours and Fish Landing Centres:

The Government have also accorded administrative approval to upgrade / expand / modernize the following fishing harbour / fish landing centres, at a total estimated cost of Rs.30.20 crore during 2012-13 under NFDB financial assistance:

i) Cuddalore Fishing Harbour:

Administrative approval has been accorded for a value of Rs.10.35 crore for the above work. In total, 45% of works have been completed. The remaining work is in progress.

ii) Mudasalodai Fish Landing Centre in Cuddalore district:

Administrative approval has been accorded for a value of Rs.7.78 crore for the above work. Action is being taken to commence the work.

iii) Thoothukudi Fishing Harbour:

Administrative approval has been accorded for a value of Rs.12.05 crore for the above work. Action is being taken to commence the work.

b. Reservoir Fisheries Management:

Reservoir Fisheries Management in the reservoirs has been taken up under NFDB financial assistance. Rs.51.76 lakh has been sanctioned for stocking advanced fingerlings in 8 reservoirs in Tamil Nadu during the year 2012-13.

10.7. National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD):

The Government have accorded administrative approval to construct 12 fish seed farms in inland areas and 11 fish landing centres in coastal areas in various places of Tamil Nadu at a total estimated cost of Rs.100 crore during 2012-13 under NABARD-RIDF assisted programme.

i) Fish Seed Farms:

The construction of 12 Fish Seed Farms in the following places at an estimated cost of Rs.37.05 crore has been commenced and the work is in progress.

Table 7 : List of Fish seed farms*(Rs. in crore)*

Sl. No.	Places	District	Amount
1	Bhavanisagar Pungar Fish Farm	Erode	9.98
2	Bhavanisagar Old Fish Farm	Erode	4.20
3	Manimuthar	Tirunelveli	12.70
4	Vidur	Villupuram	1.41
5	Thattamanipatti	Pudukkottai	0.61
6	Neithalur	Thanjavur	0.52
7	Thattankulam	Thanjavur	1.01
8	Agarapettai	Thanjavur	1.42
9	Assur	Trichy	2.00
10	Lalpet	Cuddalore	1.68
11	Vanianchavadi	Kancheepuram	0.82
12	Thirukkampuliyur	Karur	0.70

ii) Fish Landing Centres:

Action is being taken to commence the construction of Fish Landing Centres in the following 11 places at an estimated cost of Rs.62.95 crore.

Table 8: List of Fish Landing centres

(Rs. in crore)

Sl. No	Village	District	Amount
1	Seruthur	Nagapattinam	7.41
2	Devipattinam	Ramnad	4.02
3	Rochmanagar	Ramnad	3.33
4	Tharuvaikulam	Thoothukudi	16.26
5	Threspuram	Thoothukudi	16.56
6	Enayamputhen thurai	Kanniyakumari	2.40
7	Simon Colony	Kanniyakumari	2.73
8	Kurumbanai	Kanniyakumari	2.04
9	Muthukuda	Pudukkottai	2.77
10	Samiyarpettai	Cuddalore	2.50
11	M.G.R Thittu	Cuddalore	2.93

11. FISHERIES CO-OPERATIVE SOCIETIES

The Fisheries Co-operative Societies play a dynamic role in the upliftment of Fishermen and Fisherwomen in the State. Fisheries Co-operatives are playing a vital role in the Department in extending many welfare schemes

to the members of the Primary Fishermen / Fisher women Co-operative Societies. About 6.50 lakh fishermen / fisherwomen have been enrolled as members of 1,402 primary Fishermen / Fisherwomen Co-operative Societies / District Co-operative Federation / Apex Co-operative Federation . 54 fair price shops are being run by the fishermen Co-operative Societies. The details of the Societies / Members are given in the Table 9 below:

Table 9: Details of Members of Fishermen Co-operative Societies

Society	No. of Societies	Members enrolled
Primary Co-operative Societies		
Marine Fishermen Co-operative Societies	574	3,40,033
Marine Fisherwomen Co-operative Societies	445	2,16,378
Inland Fishermen Co-operative Societies	303	84,732
Inland Fisherwomen Co-operative Societies	68	8,157
Total Number of societies and members enrolled.	1,390	6,49,300
District Fishermen Co-operative Federation	11	896
Tamil Nadu State Apex Fisheries Co-operative Federation	1	612

12. TAMIL NADU FISHERMEN WELFARE BOARD

Tamil Nadu Fishermen Welfare Board was established with a view to provide social security and for ensuring the well being of fishermen and labourers engaged in fishing and allied activities and it has been functioning with its Head Office at Neelankarai, Chennai.

The Welfare schemes being implemented by the Tamil Nadu Fishermen Welfare Board are as follows:

Table 10: Details of Schemes of Fishermen Welfare Board

Sl. No.	Relief / Assistance
1	Accident Relief
	(a) Death due to Accident
	(b) Loss of both hands
	(c) Loss of both legs
	(d) Loss of one hand and one leg
	(e) Loss of sight in both eyes
	(f) Loss of limbs due to Major injuries other than the above items
2	Death during fishing or after fishing other than accidental death
3	Fisherman missing during fishing
4	Natural death
5	Funeral Expenses
6	Assistance for Education to son or daughter of the member
	a) Pass in 10 th Std

	b) Pass in 12 th Std
	c) ITI and Polytechnic
	d) Bachelor Degree in Arts
	e) Post Graduate Degree
	f) Professional courses (Law, Engineering, and Medicine etc.)
	g) Post Graduate Professional courses
7	Marriage Assistance
	a) Marriage Assistance to Member
	b) Marriage Assistance to son or daughter of member
8	Delivery or Miscarriage of Pregnancy or Termination of Pregnancy
	Delivery
	Miscarriage
	Termination
9	Old Age Pension (Above 65 years)

- A total of 4.19 lakh Fishermen / Fisherwomen labourers were enrolled as members in the Board.
- 9,211 claims have been settled and Relief / Assistance totalling Rs.3.48 crore under various Schemes have been disbursed during the year 2012-13.
- The Relief Assistance is being disbursed to the beneficiaries through ECS.
- Rs.25 lakh has been exclusively allotted for creating corpus fund for extending financial assistance for pursuing higher education to the children of missing / deceased fishermen by shooting while in fishing.

13. PART- II SCHEMES

i) 2012-13

The following schemes have been implemented at a total cost of Rs.97.80 lakh under Part II schemes for the year 2012-13:

- 10 new vehicles were procured as replacement for the existing old vehicles to the offices of the Fisheries Department at an estimated cost of Rs. 61 lakh.
- The existing Conference Hall at Directorate of Fisheries, Chennai was upgraded at a cost of Rs. 15.25 lakh.
- Office equipment such as computers and laser printers and telephone connection was provided at a cost of Rs. 1.96 lakh
- Photo copier Machines to all Assistant Director of Fisheries offices supplied at a total cost of Rs. 13.25 lakh.
- Water supply arrangement was provided to the Staff Quarters at Manimuthar in Tirunelveli district at a cost of Rs. 6.36 lakh.

ii) 2013-14

The following schemes will be implemented at a total cost of Rs.42 lakh under Part II schemes for the year 2013-14.

Table 11: Part II schemes (2013-14)

Sl. No.	Schemes	Amount (Rs in lakh)
1	Construction of new office building for the Office of the Assistant Director of Fisheries (Marine) in Cuddalore.	27.00
2	Replacement of one vehicle (Jeep) to Assistant Executive Engineer, Fishing Harbour Project Division, Ramanathapuram.	8.00
3	Purchase of Franking Machine to the Office of the Director of Fisheries.	1.00
4	Providing Power Backup facilities to the Office of the Authorised Officers, Adjudicating Officers and Appellate Authority implementing TNMFR Act 1983.	6.00
	Total	42.00

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

Tamil Nadu State Apex Fisheries Cooperative Federation Limited (TAFCOFED), has been registered under Tamil Nadu Cooperative Societies Act of 1983. It has been functioning since 6.11.1991 for the upliftment of the economic status of fishers. At present, 401 marine Fishermen Co-op societies, 120 inland

Fishermen Co-op Societies, 82 Fisherwomen Co-op. Societies and 9 district Fishermen Cooperative Federations have been enrolled as members in TAFCOFED with a total share capital of Rs.89.155 lakh.

At present TAFCOFED has established Diesel Bunk under income generating activities and supply sales tax exempted diesel to fishermen. TAFCOFED has installed the diesel outlets in the following places.

Table 12: List of Diesel Bunks

Sl. No.	District	Village
1	Tiruvallur	Pazhaverkadu
2	Kancheepuram	Neelankarai
3	Cuddalore	Annankoil Cuddalore Fishing Harbour
4	Nagapattinam	Nagore
5	Thanjavur	Sethubavachatram
6	Thoothukudi	Vembar Tharuvaikulam
7	Kanniyakumari	Chinnamuttom
8	Ramanathapuram	Keelakarai Mandapam Rameswaram

15,693 Kilo litre sales tax exempted diesel supplied to fishermen during 2012-13.

14.1 Supply of Subsidised Industrial Kerosene to the Traditional Motorized Fishing Crafts

The TAFCOFED is supplying sales tax exempted subsidized industrial Kerosene to the traditional motorized fishing crafts in Thoothukudi and Tirunelveli Districts. 3,312 Kilo Litre industrial Kerosene have been supplied to traditional motorized fishing crafts during 2012-13.

14.2 Sale of Outboard Motors / In Board Engines

TAFCOFED is also distributing Outboard Motors/Inboard engines to the fishermen under Central and State Subsidy scheme. Under this Scheme, Rs.30,000/- or 50% of the cost of the engine whichever is less, is given as subsidy to each fishermen. So far, 2,950 OBM/IBE have been supplied during 2012-13.

14.3 Fish Marketing.

One fish retail outlet has been functioning at Neyveli Lignite Corporation Ltd., (NLC) Township and 16,520 Kg of fish sold through this outlet during the year 2012-13.

Under NADP Scheme, TAFCOFED is establishing two modern Fish Retail outlets each at Vaiyavoor and Neelankarai in Kancheepuram district and one Fish Food Restaurant at Neelankarai at a cost of Rs.1.19 crore. Moreover, 20 Fisherwomen from Kancheepuram and Villupuram districts were given exposure training in other states in preparation of Fishery products and Fish marketing. Two mobile fish marketing vehicles have been given to two fisherwomen co-operative societies so as to improve their earnings.

14.4 Other Services

TAFCOFED has established Service centre at Sethubavachatram in Thanjavur District, for selling engine spares and engine oil to fishermen.

15. TAMIL NADU FISHERIES DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION LIMITED (TNFDC)

The Tamil Nadu Fisheries Development Corporation Limited was established in 1974 as a State Owned Undertaking with an authorized share Capital of Rs.5 crore and the paid up share capital is Rs.4.45 crore.

- The Board of Directors are appointed by the Government of Tamil Nadu.
- At present, 153 employees are working in various categories.

The main objectives of TNFDC Ltd is to establish, operate, develop, aid, finance, directly or indirectly, in India and elsewhere, the business of commercial fisheries activities.

Following activities are being undertaken by the TNFDC Ltd:

- Reservoir Fisheries Management
- Fish Seed Production
- Fish Marketing and sea food courts
- Production and Marketing of Ornamental Fishes
- Shrimp Hatchery and Shrimp Farm
- Sale of Diesel / Kerosene and OBM / IBE

15.1. Reservoir Fisheries Management:

Systematic scientific stocking of fish seeds is being done in eight reservoirs which are under the control of Tamil Nadu Fisheries Development Corporation Limited. Harvesting of fish is being carried out by engaging members of inland fishermen co-operative societies as share fishermen. To achieve maximum fish production and to augment revenue at present 7 reservoirs are leased out to private fish farmers.

During the year 2012-13, the TNFDC exploited 833 ton of variety of fish from the reservoirs managed by it and earned profit from the catch to the tune of Rs.2.65 crore. It has been proposed to exploit 1,070 ton of fish to

realise the projected profit of Rs. 3.40 crore for the year 2013-14.

15.2. Fish seed Production:

Tamil Nadu Fisheries Development Corporation Limited is having total fish seed rearing area of 3.79 hectares. Fish seeds produced by the TNFDC are stocked in the reservoirs managed by the TNFDC in addition to supply of fish seeds to the Fisheries Department and private farmers.

During the year 2012-13, the corporation produced 225 lakh of hatchlings and 29.72 lakh of advanced fingerlings and realised revenue of Rs.35.59 lakh from the fish seed farms and has proposed to produce 270 lakh of hatchlings and 52 lakh of advanced fingerlings for the year 2013-14.

15.3. Fish Marketing:

The Corporation is marketing fresh fish through its retail fish stalls in Chennai, Madurai, Coimbatore, Tirupur, Pollachi, and Thiruvannamalai and during year 2012-13, 970 ton of fish were sold and the profit realised is Rs. 63.62 lakh. It is proposed to sell 1,260 ton of fish and earn a profit of Rs.95 lakh for the year 2013-14. The Corporation is also running fish food courts in Chennai, Coimbatore and Tiruppur.

The Corporation is also operating modern mobile fish marketing vehicles in Chennai, Coimbatore, Madurai and Thiruvannamalai.

15.4. Diesel Outlets:

At present, the Corporation is operating 30 diesel outlets in the Fishing Harbour and fish landing centres along the coastal line in the State to supply subsidized diesel to the traditional and mechanized fishing crafts. The Corporation sold 86,893 Kilo litre of diesel and realized a profit of Rs.6.13 crore from the diesel outlets during the year 2012-13 and projected to supply 93,089 Kilo litre of diesel and realise a profit of Rs.7 crore for the year 2013-14.

15.5. Supply of Subsidized Industrial Kerosene to the Traditional Motorized Fishing Crafts:

The Corporation is supplying sales tax exempted subsidized industrial kerosene to the traditional crafts in Kanniyakumari district. 5,912 Kilo litre of Kerosene were sold during the year 2012-13 with the profit of Rs.25.87 lakh and target is fixed as 6,900 Kilo litre of kerosene and profit of Rs.30 lakh for the year 2013-14.

15.6. Supply of OBM/IBE to Traditional Fishing Crafts:

The TNFDC is supplying Outboard Motor/Inboard Engines under centrally sponsored subsidy scheme to the fishermen for motorization of the traditional fishing crafts. During the year 2012-13, 250 Nos.of OBM were supplied to the fishermen and earned profit of Rs.10 lakh. It is proposed to supply 500 Nos of OBM to earn profit of Rs.20 lakh for the year 2013-14.

15.7. Production and Marketing of Ornamental Fishes:

TNFDC has set up Ornamental Fish Production Centres at Aliyar and Thirumoorthy. Ornamental Fish Sales centre-cum-Aquarium are functioning at Aliyar, Thirumoorthy and Chennai. The TNFDC is undertaking the activity of setting up of Marine and Fresh Water Aquarium to Major Corporate, Government organization, educational institutions etc. The TNFDC is also promoting the hobby of aquarium keeping from low end to high value customers.

15.8. Facilities leased out:

The corporation has leased out the following facilities to fish exporters/fish farmers during the year 2012-13:

- The processing facilities at Mandapam and Thoothukudi have been leased out to

private sea food exporters for an amount of Rs.11.95 lakh.

- The shrimp Hatchery at Neelankarai has been leased out to Rajiv Gandhi Centre for Aquaculture, for establishing shrimp quarantine unit to facilitate for the import of SPF *L. vannamei* brood stock for an amount of Rs.4.65 lakh.
- The shrimp farm at Karangadu in Ramanathapuram District has been leased out to a private shrimp farmer for an annual lease amount of Rs.6.13 lakh.

15.9. Other Schemes:

The following are the new schemes under progress.

15.9.1. Modernisation of wholesale fish market at Ukkadam, Coimbatore:

The TNFDC Ltd. has proposed to modernise the existing wholesale fish market at Ukkadam, Coimbatore with modern facilities such as cold storage, ice plant, waste disposal etc. by availing financial assistance of Rs.2.25 crore from National Fisheries Development Board, Hyderabad. This project is being implemented by the Municipal Corporation, Coimbatore. The work is in progress.

15.9.2. Establishment of Fish handling Centre with Ice Plant and Cold Storage at CIBA Complex, Santhome, Chennai:

The TNFDC Ltd. has established a fish handling centre with facilities for producing flake ice, cold storage etc. for improving the standards of fresh fish marketing in CIBA Complex at Santhome, Chennai by availing financial assistance of Rs.45 lakh from National Fisheries Development Board (NFDB). The centre has been functioning since 28.1.13 and fulfilling the needs of TNFDC's retail fish marketing stalls at Chennai city for the supply of quality with hygienic fish to the consumers at reasonable price.

15.9.3. Establishment of Fish Dressing Centre at Nagapattinam Fishing Harbour:

TNFDC has established a Fish Dressing Centre at Nagapattinam with financial assistance of Rs.1 crore from NFDB for production and marketing of value added fish and fishery products and action is being taken to lease out the facilities to private entrepreneurs / exporters.

15.9.4. Upgradation of Infrastructure Facilities with Ice plants at Thoothukudi Fishing Harbour

Under the Scheme for strengthening of infrastructure in Fishing Harbour/Fish landing centres with financial assistance from National Fisheries Development Board & Marine Product Export Development Authority Thoothukudi Fishing Harbour would be upgraded with the facility of Tube ice Plant and cold storage. The refrigeration plant and machinery are installed by Marine Product Export Development Authority, Government of India. The civil works at an estimated cost of Rs.12 lakh and machinery erection works are in progress.

15.9.5. Modern Mobile Fish kiosks:

The Corporation in running modern mobile fish kiosks in major cities such as Chennai, Madurai, Coimbatore and other towns in the State to supply fresh and quality Fish and sea food delicacies to the consumers at an affordable price. Under the financial assistance of NFDB and NADP, 13 Mobile Fish Stalls have been purchased and put into operation.

The Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu inaugurated the Mobile Fish Marketing Scheme of TNFDC Ltd., on 9-10-2012.

15.9.6. Upgradation of TNFDC Fish Farms:

Under the NADP scheme for the year 2012-13, the TNFDC is carrying out the special repairs at fish farms at Sathanur, Aliyar, Amaravathy, Thirumoorthy and Palar-porandalar by the Public Works Department at an estimated cost of Rs.1.64 crore, so as to increase the seed production.

15.9.7. Ornamental fish Marketing unit at Aliyar:

An Integrated Ornamental Fish Production unit at Aliyar is established at an estimated cost of Rs.15 lakh with financial assistance from NFDB to carry out mass breeding of selective species of ornamental fishes and the works are in progress.

15.10 Financial position:

The Corporation has undertaken various commercial activities such as fish marketing, sea food courts, diesel/kerosene distribution and reservoir fisheries management etc. TNFDC earned a profit of Rs.10 crore (un-audited) during the year 2012-13.

16. BUDGET FOR 2013-14

For the year 2013-14, a sum of Rs.467.44 crore has been provided in the budget. Out of this, projected revenue

expenditure is Rs.285.01 crore and capital expenditure is Rs.182.43 crore.

17. CONCLUSION

The Honourable Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu has always kept the welfare of fisherfolk as one of the topmost priorities of the Government. In order to bring prosperity to the lives of the fishers, this Government has introduced many fisherfolk welfare/developmental Schemes. Enhancement of relief amount from Rs.1,000/- to Rs.2,000/- during the Fishing ban period and providing special assistance of Rs.4,000/- during fishing lean season have given substantial relief to the poor fishermen families. In order to provide good and transparent Governance, the Government have decided and disbursed all the relief assistance through ECS (Electronic Clearance System) to the fisherfolk.

The Government headed by the Hon'ble Chief Minister, is committed to protecting the traditional fishing rights of Tamil Nadu fishermen. The fishermen of Palk Bay area very often become victims of harassment/attack and apprehension by Sri Lankan Navy while fishing for their livelihood. A total of 505 fishermen have been apprehended by Sri Lankan Navy since May, 2011. Due to timely and consistent efforts taken by the Honourable Chief Minister, the 505 fishermen are released then and there.

Further, to alleviate the suffering of the missing/apprehended fishermen, the Honourable Chief Minister has enhanced the daily allowance to the families of missing/apprehended fishermen from Rs.50/- per day to Rs.250/- per day. The Government have also created a Corpus fund of Rs.25 lakh to give financial support for pursuing Higher Education for the children of those who are missing or deceased.

This Government have launched many new infrastructure development projects such as construction of new fishing harbours/Fish landing centres which will definitely ensure creating the facilities for safe berthing of fishing vessels and hygienic handling of fish etc.,. It is expected that the export of marine products will increase substantially in the ensuing years.

To make Tamil Nadu the "Numero Uno State" in the fishing sector, the Government have introduced many innovative projects and programmes. Providing 50% subsidy for purchase of new Long-Liner fishing boats, establishing fish processing parks in the coastal districts under the Public-Private-Partnership mode, introduction of new relief Schemes for fishermen are some of the programmes which have won accolade from all corners.

To cope up with the faster development in the fisheries sector and to address the need for professionally trained human resources, the Honourable Chief Minister has announced and

established Tamil Nadu Fisheries University at Nagappattinam, which is the first of its kind in the Eastern Coast of India. The Tamil Nadu Fisheries University and its constituent units will provide necessary skill up-gradation training to the fishermen, fisherwomen, fish farmers and entrepreneurs of fishing industry and fill up the gap of trained manpower need at all levels.

The Honourable Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu, with her foresighted vision, has increased the size of the Fisheries budget from then Rs.193.32 crore in 2010-11 to Rs.467.44 crore in 2013-14. The impetus for development of Fisheries sector will surely yield positive dividends in the near future.

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Minister for Fisheries