

## **FISHERIES DEPARTMENT POLICY NOTE 2011–2012**

*"The welfare of fishermen is always a priority for this Government.....This Government accords the highest priority to Protecting the fishing rights of our fishermen".*

*-Tamil Nadu Government's Budget Speech 2011*

### **1. INTRODUCTION**

#### **1.1. Overview**

Fisheries is one of the important food production sectors in India contributing to the livelihood as well as food security of a large section of the economically under - privileged population. In recent years, it has assumed greater significance and its contribution towards State and National economy, livelihood and nutritional security, rural employment generation and foreign exchange earnings have been enormous. Fisheries include marine, freshwater and brackish water sub-sectors.

The major policy of the Government are as follows:

- Improving the living standards of fisher folk by implementing welfare Schemes.
- Providing social security to the fisher folk by implementing relief Schemes.

- Protecting the fishing rights of the fishermen.
- Developing / strengthening the infrastructure facilities to benefit fisher folk and promote export.
- Conserving the fishery resources by enforcing statutory regulations, stock enhancement and establishing artificial fish habitats.
- Managing the fishing 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 aquaculture practices.

This Policy Note outlines the major activities of the Fisheries Department, performances during the past year and the plans for the forthcoming year.

#### **1.2 Marine Fisheries**

A snapshot of the marine fisheries sector in Tamil Nadu is given in the Table 1 below:

**Table 1: Snapshot of Marine Fisheries Sector**

Coastal length	1,076 km
Number of Coastal Districts	13
Number of Fishing Villages	591
Marine Fisher folk Population	8.92 lakh
Active Fisher folk Population	2.60 lakh
Fishery Resources	1.9 lakh km <sup>2</sup> -Exclusive Economic Zone 41,412 km <sup>2</sup> -Continental Shelf
Fishing Fleet	6,700 Mechanized Fishing boats 54,163 Traditional Craft (21,898 Vallams and 32,265 Catamarans)
Marine Fish Production: (2010-11)	4.04 lakh tonnes valued about Rs.4,086 Crore
Exports: (2010-11)	84,495 tons valued at Rs.2,802.02 Crore

### 1.3 Inland Fisheries

The inland fisheries sector comprises reservoirs, major irrigation and long seasonal tanks, short seasonal tanks and ponds etc., which are amenable for both capture and culture fisheries. The sector has a potential production of 4.50 lakh tonnes which is aimed to be achieved during the

12<sup>th</sup> Five year plan period (2012-17). The Table 2 below provides an overview of the sector.

**Table 2: Overview of Inland Fisheries Sector**

Inland Fishery Resources	3.71 lakh hectares
Population of Inland Fishers	2.21 lakh
Fish Production (2010-11)	1.71 lakh tonnes valued about Rs 1,026 Crore
Potential Fish Production	4.50 lakh tonnes

To augment this production, about 232 million fish fingerlings are required to stock in the different categories of water bodies annually. The Department of Fisheries has the capacity to produce 85 million fish fingerlings from its 32 fish seed rearing centres and about 107 million fish fingerlings are being produced from 94 private fish farmers. There is a shortfall of 40 million fish fingerlings to achieve the requirements. It is proposed to rear seeds through cage and pen culture and also to encourage private farmers to venture into fish seed production by utilizing the funds from National Agriculture Development Programme (NADP) and Tamil Nadu Irrigated Agriculture Modernization and Waterbodies Restoration and Management (TN-IAMWARM).

#### **1.4 Brackishwater Fisheries**

The total brackish water area available for aquaculture production is 56,000 hectares and shrimp culture is being undertaken in 7,100 hectares producing 14,200 tonnes of shrimps valued at Rs.426 Crore annually. Five Brackishwater Fish Farmers Development Agencies are functioning in the State covering all the coastal districts other than Chennai district.

#### **1.5 Potential for Fisheries Development**

The vast fishery resources of both marine and inland waters have not yet been fully brought under production. The fishery resources in the inshore areas have been overexploited, whereas the offshore resources and deep sea resources are yet to be tapped to the optimum level. The prime responsibility of the Department is to judiciously balance enhanced fish production with sustained conservation of resources as well as to improve the socio-economic standards of the fishing community.

#### **2. ADMINISTRATIVE SET UP**

The Commissioner of Fisheries is the Head of the Department and also the Managing Director of Tamil Nadu Fisheries Development Corporation

Limited, an undertaking of the Tamil Nadu Government. He is the Functional Registrar of all fishermen cooperative societies including Tamil Nadu State Apex Fisheries Cooperative Federation.

The State is divided into 6 regions headed by 3 Joint Directors of Fisheries and 3 Deputy Directors of Fisheries who monitor and supervise the activities of 52 Assistant Directors of Fisheries and implement various developmental Schemes including fishermen welfare Schemes.

#### **3. OBJECTIVES OF FISHERIES DEPARTMENT**

The activities of the Fisheries Department fall into two major categories, namely promotion of the welfare of the fishing community and the enhancement of resources through conservation and sustainable practices. 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 focus on the under-utilized fishery resources and to reduce fishing pressure in the inshore areas.

- To strengthen the infrastructure facilities for fish landing and marketing.
- To uplift the socio-economic status of the fishers.
- To promote sustainable, eco-friendly aquaculture practices.
- To generate rural employment opportunities in Fisheries and allied activities.
- To promote Exports and thereby increase foreign exchange earnings.

#### **4. SCHEMES**

An important objective of the State Fisheries Department is enhancement of welfare of the fishing communities. Towards this, various Schemes have been formulated which are detailed below:

#### **4.1 MARINE FISHERIES**

##### **A. WELFARE SCHEMES**

##### **4.1.1. National Savings-cum-Relief Scheme for Marine Fishermen**

This Centrally sponsored Scheme is shared equally between Centre and State and is being implemented for the marine fishermen every year.

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 three lean months. The Government have allocated Rs.22 crore for implementing the Scheme during 2011-12.

##### **4.1.2. 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 share of Rs.1,200/- is provided by the State Government. Thus, a sum of Rs.1,800/- is distributed to the beneficiary during the three lean months. An amount of Rs. 18.15 crore has been allocated for implementing this Scheme during 2011-12.

#### **4.1.3. Enhanced Financial Assistance of Rs.2,000/- to Marine Fishermen Families during Fishing ban period**

The Government have imposed fishing ban every year from 2001 onwards, during the fish breeding season for a period of 45 days i.e. from April 15<sup>th</sup> to May 29<sup>th</sup> in the East Coast region and June 15<sup>th</sup> to July 29<sup>th</sup> in the West Coast region in order to conserve the marine fishery resources. The fishermen who are engaged as crew / labourers in the fishing boat have no source of income during the ban period which leads into 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 have enhanced the relief assistance for the year 2011-12 from Rs.1,000/- to Rs.2,000/- on 17-5-2011. The Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu inaugurated this Scheme on 24.5.2011 and a total amount of Rs.32 crore has been disbursed to 1.60 lakh fishermen families under this Scheme. Benefits will also be extended to marine fishermen families who have not been benefited earlier under this Scheme.

#### **4.1.4 Group Accident Insurance Scheme for Fisherfolk**

This is the 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/- (at Rs.15/- each) and no premium is collected from the fishermen. In case of death / permanent disablement, the fisherman will be given Rs.1,00,000/- and an amount of Rs.50,000/- will be given for partial disablement.

For the year 2010-11, a sum of Rs.89.08 lakh (as State share) has been paid to FISHCOPFED (National Federation of Fishermen's Co-operative Ltd), New Delhi, towards insurance coverage for 5.93 lakh active marine, inland fishermen and fisherwomen for the period from 10.12.2010 to 9.12.2011. This Scheme will be continued during 2011-12 as well.

#### **4.1.5. Motorisation of Traditional Crafts**

The Government is providing subsidy assistance towards the purchase of outboard motors (OBM) / In Board Engines (IBE), to be fitted in the traditional crafts of fishermen. Under this Scheme, the fishermen will be provided with 50% subsidy of

the unit cost with a ceiling limit of Rs.30,000/- per Out Board Motor (OBM) / In Board Engine (IBE), which will be shared equally between Centre and State. An amount of Rs.6 crores has been earmarked in the budget for implementing the Scheme during 2011-12. The Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu, in the memorandum submitted to the Hon'ble Prime Minister of India on 13.6.2011, has also sought assistance for Rs.15 crores for motorising atleast 5,000 traditional crafts every year.

#### **4.1.6. Reimbursement of Central Excise Duty on High Speed Diesel (HSD)**

This is a 100% Centrally funded Scheme. The increasing operational cost of mechanised fishing vessels coupled with reduced fish catch per unit has led to poor income to the fishermen. To alleviate the sufferings of the mechanized fishing boat operators and to reduce the operational cost, the Government reimburses the Central Excise Duty by way of providing subsidy amount towards the purchase of HSD oil. 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 vessels with overall length lesser than 20 metres and registered prior to Tenth Five year

Plan period. The owners of the Mechanised fishing boats should be BPL category.

The Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu, in the memorandum submitted to the Hon'ble Prime Minister of India on 13.6.2011, has also stated that the conditions imposed for reimbursement of Central Excise Duty are impractical and unworkable for all the coastal States and these should be immediately reviewed in order to enable this Scheme to become operational.

#### **4.1.7. Sales Tax Exemption on Sale of High Speed Diesel to Fishermen**

The Government of Tamil Nadu have exempted 100% Sales Tax towards purchase of High Speed Diesel Oil for mechanised fishing boats and motorised country crafts registered in the Fisheries Department. The mechanised fishing 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 the maximum of 3,600 litres per craft per year. This Scheme will be continued during 2011-12 as well.

#### **4.1.8. Subsidized /Sales Tax Exempted Industrial Kerosene to the Traditional Crafts**

The Government provide subsidized / Sales tax exempted industrial kerosene at the rate of Rs.25/- per litre (200 litres per boat per month) to the owners of the motorized traditional crafts fitted with the kerosene driven motors in Thoothukudi, Tirunelveli & Kanniyakumari Districts. The Government have allocated Rs.47.23 crore for implementing the Scheme during 2011-12.

#### **4.1.9 Cash Awards to 10<sup>th</sup> and +2 Students of Fishing Community**

To encourage students of fishing community (both boys and girls), the Government of Tamil Nadu is providing cash award and merit certificate to boys and girls from the community who have secured top ranks in 10<sup>th</sup> and +2 Standard Examinations at District and State level. This Scheme will be continued during the year 2011-12 as well.

### **B. RELIEF SCHEMES**

#### **4.1.10. 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 amount of Rs.50/- to the family till he returns home. The Scheme is being implemented through the District Collectors for providing immediate relief. This Scheme will be continued during the year 2011-12 as well.

#### **4.1.11. Relief to the Families of Missing Fishermen**

The Government have been providing relief assistance of Rs.50/- per day or Rs.1,500/- per month to the families of the fishermen missing while fishing in the sea, till he returns. The Government have sanctioned a total sum of Rs.12 lakh and distributed to the coastal District Collectors.

#### **4.1.12. Relief to the Families of Deceased Fishermen Attacked by Sri Lankan Navy**

The fishermen of coastal districts, particularly south of Nagapattinam District, sometimes inadvertently cross the International Maritime Boundary Line (IMBL) due to very close proximity of IMBL to the coast, engine failure and natural vagaries of the sea and at times drift into Sri Lankan waters. Such fishermen are apprehended and sometimes were even shot at by Sri Lankan Navy.

To alleviate the sufferings of deceased fisherman family, the Government is providing an ex-gratia payment of Rs.3 lakh to the deceased fisherman family from Chief Minister Public Relief Fund. In the case of the deceased fishermen who are the sole breadwinners of the family, an Ex-gratia amount of Rs.5 lakh is being given. For major and minor injuries, an Ex-gratia amount of Rs.50,000/- and Rs.20,000/- is being given respectively. The Scheme will be continued during the year 2011-12 as well.

### **C. INFRASTRUCTURE FACILITIES**

#### **4.1.13. Construction of Fishing Harbours in Tamil Nadu under Centre / State shared Scheme (50:50)**

##### **a) Fishing Harbour at Colachel**

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 released Rs.15.12 crore towards Central and State share in three instalments.

The construction of Eastern and Western breakwaters and its approaches for Colachel fishing harbour was taken up in the first phase. Eastern breakwater works are completed up to 103 m length against 118 m and Western breakwater works up to 430 m length against 530 m. Coreloc armour blocks (2,255 nos.) have been cast. Approach road to both Eastern and Western breakwater and Weigh Bridge works have been completed. The construction of wharf, dredging and other infrastructure facilities will be taken up in the second phase. As requested by the local

fishermen, the Institute of Hydraulics and Hydrology, Poondi conducted model study and revised the layout deviating the original plan. The report has been sent to Central Water and Power Research Station (CW&PRS), Pune for obtaining their opinion and further study.

### **b) Fishing Harbour at Thengapattinam**

Government of India have accorded administrative approval for the construction of Fishing Harbour at Thengapattinam in Kanniyakumari District at an estimated cost of Rs.40 crore and released Rs.16 crore towards Central and State share for implementing the Project in two instalments. The land for the project has been taken possession of by the Department and the contract has been awarded. Main breakwater has been constructed upto 495 m against 580 m and Leeward breakwater has been constructed upto 95 m against 120 m. Further 2,108 of Coreloc armour blocks have been cast.

### **c) Fishing Harbour at Poompuhar**

The Government have proposed to construct a fishing harbour at Poompuhar in Nagapattinam District at an estimated cost of Rs.75 crore under Centrally sponsored Scheme. The National Institute

of Ocean Technology (NIOT) has conducted model study and submitted the reports of model study and Environment Impact Assessment. As desired by the Archaeology Department, the Archaeological Marine Survey was conducted and it was reported that the proposed site is free of any Archaeological structure/artefact. The Department of Tourism & Culture has issued NOC for the project and advised to get the concurrence of the Archaeological Survey of India (under water exploration wing) and the same was obtained. Additional studies were entrusted to Annamalai University to obtain Environmental clearances at State and National level. Action is being taken to get Techno Economic Feasibility Report (TEFR) from Central Institute of Coastal Engineering for Fishery (CICEF), Bangalore. The Government of India have been addressed to sanction the above project at the earliest.

### **d) Fishing Harbour at Mookaiyur**

The present berthing facilities for mechanized boats at Rameswaram in Ramanathapuram District are inadequate. Hence, in order to provide safe berthing facilities to mechanized boats, the Government have proposed to construct a fishing harbour at Mookaiyur in

Ramanathapuram District at an estimated cost of Rs.60 crore under Centrally sponsored Scheme. Action is being taken to carry out feasibility study and preparation of DPR for the project. The Hon'ble Chief Minister has addressed the Hon'ble Prime Minister to provide funds for this project on a priority basis, since construction of a Fishing Harbour at Mookaiyur will decongest the Rameswaram Fishing Harbour and consequently, this will reduce incidents of boats of Indian fishermen crossing the International Maritime Boundary Line (IMBL).

#### **4.1.14. Construction of Fishing Harbours under "BOT" (Build, Operate & Transfer) system.**

The Government have accorded permission for the construction of Fishing Harbour at Muttom in Kanniyakumari District under "BOT" (Build, Operate and Transfer) System. In respect of Muttom Fishing Harbour, the total cost of the project is Rs.53.92 crore. Construction of Breakwater to a length of 215 m on eastern side and 1.5 km length on southern side and placing of concrete Tetrapod Armour blocks numbering 9,260 have been completed. The Concessionaire viz. M/s Jeppiaar Fishing Harbour Muttom Pvt. Ltd. has so far spent

Rs.34 crore for the project. The Government of India has given their consent to assist the project by contributing 50 percent of the project cost as Central Share under "Build Operate Transfer" (BOT) system and released Rs.5.crore as first instalment.

The Government have accorded permission to construct a Fishing Harbour under "BOOT" (Build, Own, Operate and Transfer) system at Rajakkamangalamthurai in Kanniyakumari district. Model study, Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) and Environmental Management Plan preparation are in progress. The concessionaire has not yet started the work and Notices have been served to the Concessionaire to start the construction work without any further delay.

The mechanized fishing boats of fishing villages in and around Manakkudi in Kanniyakumari District are being berthed at Chinnamuttom Fishing Harbour at present, wherein the available berthing facilities are inadequate. To decongest the Chinnamuttom Fishing Harbour and also to cater the need of additional berthing facilities, the Government have proposed to construct a fishing harbour at Manakkudi, under Build, Own, Operate and Transfer (BOOT) basis.

#### **4.1.15. World Bank Assisted Emergency Tsunami Reconstruction Project (ETRP)**

An amount of Rs.96.20 crore has been allotted under World Bank assisted ETRP, to implement the following projects:

##### **a) Reconstruction and modernisation of four fishing Harbours**

Detailed studies were carried out for preparation of Detailed Project Report (DPR) for reconstruction and modernisation of four Fishing Harbours viz., Mallipattinam, Nagapattinam, Pazhayar and Chinnamuttom through consultancy service provider M/s. SMEC International (P) Ltd., Australia. The total project cost for four projects was estimated at Rs.113 crore. The World Bank has accepted the proposals for Nagapattinam and Pazhayar fishing harbours only. Accordingly, the Government have accorded administrative sanction for Rs.63.21crore towards modernization of both the fishing harbours. The tenders received were evaluated and sent to World Bank for approval. The CRZ Clearance from Ministry of Environment and Forests, Government of India has been

obtained for Nagapattinam and Pazhayar projects during Sep 2010 and Feb 2011 respectively.

##### **b) Permanent Opening of four Bar-mouths**

The consultancy service provider M/s Water and Power Consultancy Service Ltd (M/s WAPCOS), Gurgaon have carried out detailed studies and prepared Detailed Project Report (DPR) for providing permanent solution for opening up of four bar mouths viz., Pulicat lake in Tiruvallur District, Vellar river at Annankoil in Cuddalore District, Uppanar river at Thirumullaivasal in Nagapattinam District and Tamaraparani river at Punnakkayal in Thoothukudi District at an estimated cost of Rs.58 crore. The World Bank has accepted the proposals for Vellar river and Uppanar river bar mouths only. The Government of Tamil Nadu have accorded sanction for Rs.15.44 crore for both the projects. In respect of Vellar river barmouth, work has been commenced at a cost of Rs.10.24.crore and for Uppanar barmouth, tenders have been called for at an estimated cost of Rs.5.20 crore.

##### **c) Construction of Two New Fish Landing Centres**

The Government of Tamil Nadu have accorded administrative sanction for a sum of

Rs.10.60 crore and Rs.13.50 crore towards construction of two new Fish Landing Centres (FLC) at Nagore village in Nagapattinam District and Portonovo-Annankoil village in Cuddalore District respectively. The World Bank has approved bid documents for both the projects.

In continuation, the tender received for construction of fish landing centre at Nagore has been approved by World Bank and construction work has just commenced. In respect of FLC at Portonovo-Annankoil, tenders have been called for at an estimated cost of Rs.13.50 crore.

#### **4.1.16 Construction of 10 Fish Landing Centres Under Tsunami Rehabilitation Programme**

Construction of ten new Fish Landing Centres (FLC) in the following places at a total cost of Rs.49.97 crore was sanctioned by the Government and a sum of Rs.20 crore has been released being 1<sup>st</sup> instalment.

**Table 3: Details of Fish Landing Centres**

Tiruvallur District	1. Annamalaicheri
	2. Ennore Mugathuvarakuppam
	3. Periyamangodu
Kancheepuram District	4. Kadalore Periakuppam
Villupuram District	5. Ekkiyarkuppam
Pudukottai District	6. R.Pudupattinam
Ramanathapuram District	7. Keelakarai
Thoothukudi District	8. Threspuram
	9. Periyathalai
Tirunelveli District	10. Uvari

Construction is under progress in all the places except at Uvari village in Tirunelveli District. In respect of the construction of FLC at Uvari, the Central Water and Power Research Station, (CW&PRS), Pune will conduct model studies, for providing additional facility, deployment of Groynes or construction of breakwater to overcome the possible sea erosion. After getting their study report, the work will be taken up.

#### **4.1.17. Seamless Communication Network**

In order to ensure the safety and security of the fishermen venturing into high seas, the Government of Tamil Nadu have introduced "Seamless Radio Communication System" by fixing Very High Frequency (VHF) set fitted with Global Positioning System (GPS) receiver in each fishing craft. Under this Scheme, installation of seamless communication network in 13 coastal districts will be undertaken in two phases at a total estimated cost of Rs.57.60 crore. As first phase, the Government have provided seamless communication facilities in Ramanathapuram District through M/s. ELCOT, Chennai at a cost of Rs.7.73 crore. Three base stations along with High mast towers at Pamban, Thondi and Chinna Erwadi have been established. 3,100 VHF hand held

marine radios will be given to Country crafts on free of cost. For mechanized boats, the equipments will be given on 50% subsidy. An expenditure of Rs.4.34 crore has been incurred so far. The above Scheme will be put into operation during 2011-12.

#### **4.1.18. Fish Processing Parks in Tamil Nadu**

To develop adequate infrastructure support which is essential to sustain development in Fisheries Sector, the Government have proposed to develop Fish Processing Parks in 13 coastal towns in a phased manner, under Public Private Partnership with the financial support of the Ministry of Food Processing, Government of India and National Fisheries Development Board. During 2011-12, two such Modern Fish processing and Packing Houses will be developed with cold storage facilities at Chennai and Nagapattinam as pilot projects.

### **D. RESOURCE / PRODUCTION ENHANCEMENT**

#### **4.1.19 Conservation and Management of Fishery Resources**

In recent years, the fishery wealth in the inshore water is being overexploited due to higher fishing pressure on the resources. Enforcement of

Tamil Nadu Marine Fishing Regulation Act 1983, is an ongoing measure as part of conservation and management of marine resources. Stock enhancement, habitats development and fishing diversification are the conservation and management options to reduce fishing pressure in the inshore waters.

#### **4.1.20 Stock Enhancement / Setting up of Artificial reefs**

As part of stock enhancement, the Government have already initiated implementing sea ranching programme and ranched 48 million Tiger Shrimp (*Penaeus monodon*) seeds in selected places of five coastal districts i.e., Ramanathapuram, Nagapattinam, Thanjavur, Pudukottai and Thoothukudi.

The Government have taken steps for development of fish habitats, by setting up of artificial reefs in the inshore waters as a conservation measure. The Government have already installed 18 Artificial Reefs in Thiruvallur, Kancheepuram, Cuddalore, Nagapattinam, Thanjavur, Pudukottai, Ramanathapuram, Thoothukudi, and Kanniyakumari Districts. The work has been carried out in collaboration with

Central Marine Fisheries Research Institute (CMFRI).

#### **4.1.21 Providing 25% subsidy upto Rs.5 lakh to fisherman to procure Mechanized Boats or Deep sea Tuna long liners**

The marine fish production has stagnated for the past few decades with steadily reducing catch per unit. The dwindling fish catch in the inshore areas leads to conflict among the mechanised and traditional fishermen. Diversification to offshore and deep sea fishing is one of the management options to reduce the fishing pressure in the inshore region.

Tuna is one of the offshore fishery resources yet to be optimally harvested. In order to diversify fishing activities, this Government will launch a Scheme to provide 25% subsidy upto Rs.5 lakh to fishermen to procure new fishing crafts or deep sea Tuna long liners by way of conversion of mechanized boats / replacement or upgradation of motorized fishing crafts. A sum of Rs.25 crore has been set apart for this purpose to add 500 new mechanized boats or deep sea Tuna long liners.

#### **4.1.22 Deep sea Fishing – Mother Ship Concept**

The Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu, in the memorandum submitted to the Hon'ble Prime Minister of India on 13.6.2011, has sought for an assistance of Rs.80 crore for establishing a " Mid Sea Fish Processing unit " by adopting carrier mother vessel – baby vessel concept. The carrier mother vessel stationed at mid sea will have the facilities for fish processing and provide essential inputs for the baby vessels involved in commercial fishing in the deep sea. This will also act as a 'Value Added Export Oriented Park' and ensure quality standards for export and better price to fishermen for their catch. This project will be taken up under Public-Private Partnership as a pilot project.

#### **4.1.23 Mariculture**

Tamil Nadu with its long coast line has immense potential for development of various Mariculture activities such as Lobster / Crab fattening, Seaweed Culture, Cage Culture of marine fin fishes etc., which are yet to be tapped. The development of mariculture activities acts as a diversified activity to reduce the fishing pressure in the inshore water. By undertaking mariculture activities, the fishermen will get additional income

and the marine fish production and the export earnings of the state will increase substantially.

## **E. OTHER ACTIVITIES**

### **4.1.24 Fisheries Management for Sustainable Livelihoods (FIMSUL)**

The World Bank funded project called "Fisheries Management for Sustainable Livelihoods (FIMSUL)" is being implemented at an estimated cost of Rs.10 crore. The project aims at developing Fisheries policy frame work and long term vision for overall development of marine Fisheries in Tamil Nadu. The project is implemented by Government of Tamil Nadu in collaboration with Food and Agricultural Organisation (FAO) of United Nations.

The project focuses on detailed stakeholders consultations, review and analysis by experts on Marine Fisheries Management, Livelihoods, Policy, Legal and Institutional setup. The project will come up with options in the above areas that will be part of the policy framework aiming at sustainable fisheries development.

## **F. RETRIEVAL OF KATCHATHEEVU: ISSUE AND STATUS**

The Government accords the highest priority to protect the fishing rights of our Fishermen. The Government have taken pro-active steps for the retrieval of "Katchatheevu Island" ceded by Government of India to Sri Lanka under the 1974 and 1976 agreements between India and Sri Lanka. The proposals sent for obtaining the island on "lease in perpetuity" and permitting licensed fishing in and around "Katchatheevu" are still pending with Government of India. A resolution proposed by the Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu to include Revenue department as a respondent in the W.P(Civil).No.561/2008 filed in the Supreme Court of India, regarding retrieval of "Katchatheevu" back to Tamil Nadu has been passed in the Legislative Assembly recently and forwarded to Government of India. The Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu has also stressed the need to retrieve "Katchatheevu" back to Tamil Nadu in the memorandum submitted to Hon'ble Prime Minister of India on 13.6.2011.

## **4.2. INLAND FISHERIES**

Tamil Nadu is having 3.71 lakh ha. of inland fishery resources comprising reservoirs, major

irrigation and long seasonal tanks, minor irrigation and short seasonal tanks and ponds, rivers, backwaters and swamps. Tamil Nadu mainly depends on the seasonal rains and the water retention period of the water bodies is very short. The Department is taking suitable measures to enhance inland fish production by stocking advanced fingerlings of fast growing fishes in the short seasonal water bodies, introduction of cage culture in reservoirs to increase unit productivity, integration of fish culture with scampi to generate maximum income etc.

#### **4.2.1. Reservoir Fisheries**

There are about 61 reservoirs in Tamil Nadu, consisting of major, medium and small type reservoirs. Among these, 53 reservoirs are under the control of Fisheries Department and the fishery resources of these reservoirs are being exploited by Licensing System, Share fishing involving nearby Inland Fishermen Co-operative Society members and Leasing. The reservoirs are being stocked with the advanced fingerlings produced from the departmental fish seed farms. With the view of increasing fish production and survival of fingerlings stocked, the National Fisheries Development Board is extending financial assistance of Re.1/- per fish

seed for stocking advanced fingerlings of 80 – 100 mm size. The stocking of advanced fingerlings is being done in reservoirs in a phased manner. Stocking of advanced fingerlings as per the National Fisheries Development Board norms has been carried out in 25 reservoirs since 2008-09.

#### **4.2.2 Fish seed Production / Fish seed Rearing Centres**

There are 8 Fish Seed Production Centres functioning under the control of Fisheries Department and Tamil Nadu Fisheries Development Corporation (TNFDC) with an annual production potential of 402.5 million spawn. During 2010-11, 171.8 million of early fry have been produced from 5 Fish Seed Production Centres. The spawn produced from these centres are reared in the Departmental seed rearing centres and stocked in the water bodies under the control of Fisheries Department.

There are 32 Fish Seed Rearing Centres functioning under the control of the Department and Tamil Nadu Fisheries Development Corporation (TNFDC) with an annual production potential of 85 million fingerlings. The total fish seed farm area in the department is 48.88 ha, of which only 32.97 ha. are in usable condition. The remaining

15.91 ha. are under repair. Steps are being taken to repair and renovate the seed rearing area dovetailing funds from the schemes such as National Agriculture Development Programme (NADP), National Fisheries Development Board (NFDB) and Western Ghats Development Programme (WGDP).

During 2010–11, an additional rearing space of 0.16 ha. has been developed under Western Ghats Development Programme at a cost of Rs.32.80 lakh. About 26.4 million of fingerlings have been produced from the Departmental Fish Seed Rearing Centres. In order to attain self sufficiency in fish seed requirement, private Agriculture farmers have been encouraged to establish fish seeds production / fish seeds rearing centres by extending 50% of subsidy assistance under NADP scheme. By implementing the Scheme, additional production of 35 million fingerlings have been ensured from private sector.

#### **4.2.3 Fish Farmers Development Agencies**

In order to popularise fish culture activities and generate employment opportunities in rural areas, 12 Fish Farmers Development Agencies (FFDA) have been established in Tamil Nadu. Fish Farmers Development Agency is functioning under

the Chairmanship of District Collector. The main activities are imparting training to farmers, providing technical guidance and encouraging farmers to venture into fish culture by extending subsidy assistance. For the year 2011-12, an amount of Rs.1.33 crore has been provided to implement the Scheme.

#### **4.2.4. Inland Capture Fisheries (Reservoirs / Rivers)**

To increase the earnings of inland fishermen and enhance inland fish production by increasing the fishing efficiency, subsidy has been provided for inland fishermen towards purchase of fishing implements (Gears and Nets). During 2010-11, under the ongoing FFDA component of Centrally Sponsored Scheme shared between centre and State in the ratio of 75:25, the Government have sanctioned Rs.33.33 lakh and subsidy has been released to 1,111 inland fishermen towards purchase of fishing nets. The Scheme will be continued during 2011-12 as well.

#### **4.3. BRACKISHWATER AQUACULTURE**

Tamil Nadu is bestowed with a total potential brackishwater resource of 56,000 ha. The present area under brackishwater aquaculture is 7,100ha,

comprising of 2,743 Shrimp Farms. In order to promote sustainable, eco-friendly aquaculture practices, 5 Brackishwater Fish Farmers Development Agencies (BFDA) have been established at Thiruvallur, Cuddalore, Nagapattinam, Ramanathapuram and Thoothukudi Districts and are functioning under the Chairmanship of respective District Collectors.

To promote shrimp farming in Tamil Nadu, the Government extends subsidy assistance of Rs.60,000 per ha. towards the construction cost, to small farmers having shrimp farm up to 2 ha. Water Spread Area (WSA). For extending subsidy assistance, registration with Coastal Aquaculture Authority is mandatory. So far, 1,496 farms with a total area of 4,134.34 ha. have been registered with Coastal Aquaculture Authority (CAA). During 2010-11, under the ongoing BFDA component of Centrally Sponsored Scheme shared between Centre and State (75:25), Tamil Nadu Government have accorded sanction and released a sum of Rs.2.66 crore as subsidy assistance to 192 Aqua farmers. The Scheme will be continued during 2011-12 as well.

#### **4.4 DEVELOPMENT OF COLD WATER FISHERIES**

Tamil Nadu offers immense potential for developing sport fishery in the upland water resources in Nilgiris and some parts of Western Ghats. As part of development of sport fishery, the stock enhancement of game fishes in the streams are being done regularly by producing Trout fingerlings at Avalanche Trout hatchery in Nilgiris. The fish 'Mahseer' is another fast swimming sport fish available in the Parambikulam- Aliyar river system and breeding of the same will be taken up at Sholayar Dam by collecting brood fishes from Manampathi and upper Neerar. The Department is issuing licenses to the anglers to promote sport fishing.

#### **4.5. WESTERN GHATS DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME**

Under this Scheme, the Government have sanctioned a sum of Rs.32.80 lakh for the construction of 4 nursery ponds, one packing shed cum store room and one conditioning pond at Government Fish Seed Farm, Chittar II in Kanniyakumari District. Besides, one Truck with facilities for transport of fish seed has also been

purchased under this scheme. The Scheme will be continued during 2011-12 as well.

## **5. RESEARCH**

There are two research stations, one at Chennai and another at Thoothukudi under the control of Fisheries Department. With regard to research activities, the Fisheries Department is coordinating with the Central Institute of Fresh Water Aquaculture (CIFA), Bhubaneswar, Central Institute of Brackish water Aquaculture (CIBA) Chennai, Central Marine Fisheries Research Institute (CMFRI) Kochi and the Fisheries College and Research Institute (FC & RI) Thoothukudi.

## **6. EXTENSION AND TRAINING**

Extension and Training plays a vital role in transfer of technology and propagation of Government welfare Schemes to the stakeholders. The Department of Fisheries is running a Staff Training Institute at Chennai. The Department is conducting various need based target oriented training programmes with the funding support of National Agriculture Development Programme (NADP), National Fisheries Development Board (NFDB) and Government of India.

## **7. MARITIME EDUCATION FOR FISHER YOUTH**

Under this Scheme, during 2007-08, the Government sanctioned Rs.50 lakh at the rate of Rs.50,000/- per person benefiting 100 fisher youth to pursue Maritime Education and Nautical Sciences after completing 10<sup>th</sup> std or +2. Since limited courses were included under this Scheme initially, only 9 fisher youth have availed the assistance. Subsequently, the Government have included 4 more courses additionally under this Scheme. During 2011-12, 102 applications have been received from the fisher youth for availing the assistance. The Scheme will be continued during 2011-12 as well.

## **8. FISHERIES INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY AND TRAINING**

Fisheries Institute of Technology and Training (FITT) was started in 2008 by Government of Tamil Nadu with the support of private participation with an aim of disseminating Technology oriented training to fisherfolk of Tamil Nadu with an initial setup cost of Rs.1 crore. Since then, FITT has imparted training to 2,686 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.

To bring in various technologies which are being currently practiced elsewhere, FITT had arranged to study the coastal areas of Tamil Nadu by a Norwegian agency M/s Fisheries and Aquaculture, Trondheim, Norway (M/s.SINTEF) and it has brought out 5 Detailed Project Reports (DPR) for the benefit of fisher folk.

It is also proposed to undertake cageculture of fish in freshwater resources at an estimated cost of Rs.52.50 lakh on a pilot basis this year by availing assistance from NADP. On successful completion of the pilot project, it is proposed to scale up cage culture using NADP funds.

## **9. SPECIAL PROJECTS**

### **9.1. Issuance of Biometric Identity Cards to Marine Fishermen**

Considering the importance of coastal security after the 26/11 Mumbai terrorist attack, the Government of India have introduced a Central Sector Scheme for "Issuance of Biometric Identity Cards to marine fishermen" and allocated a sum of Rs.1.16 crore to Tamil Nadu. Biometric ID cards will be issued to about 1.85 lakh active marine fishermen. The agency for issue of biometric cards is M/s.BEL Ltd. Bangalore.

### **9.2. Online Registration of Fishing Vessels**

To ensure coastal security, the Government of India have introduced a Central Sector Scheme for "Online registration of fishing vessels" and sanctioned a sum of Rs.70.509 lakh to Tamil Nadu. The hardware required for online registration of fishing vessels have been supplied to the Authorized Officers of Tamil Nadu Marine Fishing Regulation Act.1983 and the software has been supplied by the National Informatics Centre Services Inc. The total number of fishing crafts to

be covered under this online registration is estimated to be 60,863.

Further, the Government of India have sanctioned Rs.62.85 lakh additionally towards providing infrastructure facilities and the same will be utilised. The work on capturing photographs of owners and crafts is in progress. So far, 4,204 mechanised boats and 15,511 traditional crafts have been covered under the Scheme. The Scheme will be completed by October 2011. By implementing the Scheme, the coastal security will be strengthened besides, ensuring the safety of fishermen at sea.

### **9.3 Multi species Marine Fin Fish Hatchery**

The Department of Fisheries has established a "Multi Species Marine Fin fish Hatchery" under Swarna Jayanthi Grama Swarozgar Yojana (SGSY) – special project, at cost of Rs.3 crore at Neelankarai, Kancheepuram District and functioning through the society named as "Centre for Aquaculture Research and Development" (CARD). The hatchery will produce fish seeds of commercially important marine species such as Sea bass, Cobia, etc., which will be supplied to fishermen for undertaking cage culture.

### **9.4. Tamil Nadu Irrigated Agriculture Modernisation and Water Bodies Restoration and Management (TN-IAMWARM) project**

The World Bank funded TN-IAMWARM Project is being implemented in 63 sub-basins. The main objective of the project is to enhance unit productivity of water thereby to help the farmers to get additional income. For implementing the fisheries activities, 53 Sub basins have been identified and the World Bank has allocated a sum of Rs.17.30 crore. Under this Scheme, the following activities are being implemented.

- Aquaculture in Farm Ponds
- Aquaculture in Irrigation tanks
- Fish seed rearing in cages
- Construction of New Fish Seed Banks and Improvement to Government Fish Seed Farms
- Ornamental Fish Culture
- Cage farming
- Supply of fishing implements
- Setting up of Fish Kiosk for fish Marketing.
- Information, Education, Communication (IEC) / Capacity Building (CB)

During the year 2011-12, it is proposed to implement fisheries activities in 5 sub-basins at an estimated cost of Rs.90.03 lakh. Additional proposals at an estimated cost of Rs.7.23 crore have been sent to World Bank for approval.

### **9.5. National Agriculture Development Programme (NADP) 2011-12**

For the year 2011-12, under National Agriculture Development Programme (NADP), the following eight programmes have been approved at a cost of Rs.13.37 crore and an initial instalment of Rs.8.31crore has been allocated for implementing seven projects

#### **9.5.1. Installation of Artificial Reefs in the inshore areas of Tamil Nadu coast**

Artificial reef helps in augmenting the productivity of the marine ecosystem. It acts as habitat to marine aquatic organisms. Artificial reef enhances the fish production through increased breeding activity and survival of young ones. It also acts as barrier for bottom trawling operations. It is proposed to install 17 numbers of Artificial reef at a total cost of Rs.2.63 crore in 17 coastal villages of Tamil Nadu which will help the fishermen for

good fish catch, reduce the fuel cost and save time in search of fishing grounds. Another two artificial reefs will be installed under part II Schemes 2011-12 at an estimated cost of Rs.30 lakh.

#### **9.5.2. Development of Integrated Model for Coastal Aquaculture**

The demonstration of mariculture activities such as seaweed farming, crab / lobster fattening and cage culture of fin fishes enhance the income of fisherfolk, besides providing self employment, alternate livelihood opportunity and will also aid in reducing the fishing pressure in the inshore region. Therefore, it is proposed to develop an Integrated Model for demonstrating all the coastal aquaculture technologies under one roof. The proposed model unit will be established at Parangipettai in Cuddalore District at a cost of Rs 1.35 crore. The capacity building activities will expand the coastal aquaculture activities, thereby increasing the marine fish production and also enable transfer of various technologies to generate more revenue to the farmers / fisher folk.

### **9.5.3. Training to Equip Fishermen for Tuna long line Fishing**

Under this scheme, it is proposed to purchase six Fibreglass Reinforced Plastic (FRP) boats and training will be given to fishermen in deep sea Tuna fishing at a total cost of Rs.85.81 lakh. This will set a good trend in not only introducing deep sea fishing craft at a lesser cost but also encourage the small boat owners to venture into offshore for better catch, better income and enable to tap export market. Fishermen will be trained to handle the craft for Tuna fishing using manually operated hand reel and to venture into offshore.

### **9.5.4. Purchase of FRP Boats with Out Board Motors for Conservancy in Reservoirs and Rural Fisheries Demonstration Tank**

To strengthen the conservancy in Reservoirs and Rural Fisheries Demonstration Tanks and to increase the fish production, patrolling of these water bodies for prevention of poaching, regulation of fishing gears and conservation of fish sanctuaries is essential. For this, the Department will be strengthened with 45 Units of FRP Boats fitted with Out Board Motors (OBM) at a cost of Rs 1.07crore.

### **9.5.5. Subsidy Assistance to Fish Farmers to Establish Fish Seed Production Centre**

In order to encourage private sector in developing fish seed production hatcheries, it is proposed to extend 50% subsidy assistance for establishing 10 Fish Seed Production Centres with an annual capacity of 80-100 million early fry in the districts of Cuddalore, Villupuram, Thiruvallur and Kancheepuram, at a total cost of Rs 50.50 lakh. The expected advance fingerlings will be around 20-25 million annually and the anticipated fish production will be around 400 tonnes.

### **9.5.6. Capacity Building of Marine Fishermen by undertaking Exposure visit to Other States**

Under this scheme, the marine fishermen will be taken to neighbouring states for an exposure visit to the major fishing harbours, landing centres , processing plants and fish markets to educate them on the best practices being followed in those places, type of crafts and gears used, fishing methods etc., at a cost of Rs.85.85 lakh. This will create an awareness

among fishermen on sustainable fishing practices and conservation of marine resources.

#### **9.5.7. Installation of Hybrid Guide Lights powered with Solar and Wind Energy in Coastal Villages**

Ten hybrid guide lights at a cost of Rs.1.03 crore will be installed in nine coastal places in Tamil Nadu. These hybrid guide lights function using wind and solar energy which enable uninterrupted power supply aiding the marine fisherfolk for safe return to the shore.

#### **9.5.8. Repair and Renovation of Existing Fish Seed Farm at Bhavanisagar.**

The existing National fish seed farm at Bhavanisagar in Erode district will be strengthened, by undertaking repair and renovation at a cost of Rs.5.05 crore. Under this Scheme, 18 Nos. of fish seed rearing ponds, each covering an area of 600sq.m will be renovated. It is expected that 88.80 lakh of fingerlings can be produced additionally every year from this renovated area.

#### **9.6. NATIONAL MISSION FOR PROTEIN SUPPLEMENT (NMPS)**

This is a Centrally assisted Scheme launched by Ministry of Agriculture. Fisheries inter-alia constitutes one of the focus areas under this Scheme. The Government of India have suggested to improve the protein supplement of the country through the special Scheme called as "National Mission for Protein Supplement" (NMPS), wherein the State of Tamil Nadu has been allocated a sum of Rs.3.34 crore. Under this Scheme, it is proposed

- to provide training to the fishermen on cage culture to enhance fish production,
- to establish marketing outlets so as to fetch better price for their produce,
- to rear fish seeds in 4 pens of 2 hectare area and
- to culture fish in a battery of 48 cages which will be installed in Poondi reservoir, Thiruvallur District.

It is expected 480 tonnes of additional fish production annually by implementing this project.

## 9.7. NATIONAL FISHERIES DEVELOPMENT BOARD (NFDB)

The National Fisheries Development Board is extending financial assistance for the implementation of the following programmes.

### a ) Reservoir Fisheries Management

Under Reservoir Fisheries Management, the NFDB is extending financial assistance of Re.1/- per fingerling for stocking advanced fingerlings in the reservoirs. The NFDB has extended financial assistance of Rs.2.95 crore for stocking 29.5 million advanced fingerlings in 21 reservoirs in Tamil Nadu till 2010-11. The initial studies on the impact of stocking advance fingerlings have revealed that there is 25 to 30 % increase in fish production annually. Apart from that, 4,430 inland fishermen have been imparted training on sustainable reservoir fisheries management. The Scheme will be continued during 2011-12.

### b) Upgradation of Fishing Harbour and Fish landing Centres

In order to meet out emerging challenges and in view of the growing quality consciousness all over the world, it is necessary to upgrade the

facilities in the Fishing Harbours /Fish Landing Centres to promote export. Hence, the Government have accorded administrative approval to upgrade the following fishing harbour/ fish landing centres, at a total estimated cost of Rs.12.86 crore during 2011-12 under NFDB financial assistance as detailed in Table 4 below:

**Table 4: Sanction of Harbour Upgradation works:**

1	Upgradation of Chennai Fishing Harbour, Chennai.	Rs.12.07 crore
2	Upgradation of Jegathapattinam Fish Landing Centre, Pudukottai District.	Rs.53.26 lakh
3	Upgradation of Mudasalodai Fish Landing Centre, Cuddalore District	Rs.25.32 lakh

## 10. FISHERIES CO-OPERATIVE SOCIETIES

In Tamil Nadu, there are 1,375 fishermen / fisherwomen primary Co-operative Societies. Such Societies play a vital role in extending many Government welfare Schemes to the members. About 6.08 lakh fishermen / fisherwomen have been enrolled as members of the primary co-operative societies. 54 fair price shops are run by the Fishermen Co-operative Societies. The details of

the Societies / Members are given in the Table 5 below:

**Table 5: Details of Members of Fishermen Co-operative Societies:**

Society	No. of Societies	Members enrolled
<b>Primary Co-operative Societies</b>		
Marine Fishermen Co-operative Societies	564	3,32,759
Marine Fisherwomen Co-operative Societies	429	1,94,010
Inland Fishermen Co-operative Societies	292	68,705
Inland Fisherwomen Co-operative Societies	68	6,146
Other types of Societies	22	6,400
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,375</b>	<b>6,08,020</b>
District Fishermen Co-operative Federation	<b>11</b>	<b>727</b>
Tamil Nadu State Apex Fisheries Co-operative Federation	<b>1</b>	<b>598</b>

### 11. TAMIL NADU FISHERMEN WELFARE BOARD

To provide social security and for ensuring well being of fishermen and labourers engaged in fishing and allied activities, Tamil Nadu Fishermen

Welfare Board was established and functioning with its Head Office at Neelangarai, Chennai.

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

**Table 6: 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 <sup>th</sup> Std
	b) Pass in 12 <sup>th</sup> 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 / Termination of Pregnancy
9	Old Age Pension ( Above 65 years)

As on 31.07.2011, a total of 4 lakh fishermen / fisherwomen / labourers were enrolled as members in the Board. So far, 11,751 claims have been settled and relief / assistance totalling Rs.5.36 crore under various schemes of the Board have been sanctioned. A sum of Rs.1.44 crore has been received from various agencies as specified in the Act, as contribution to the fund of Tamil Nadu Fishermen Welfare Board.

## **12. NEW PROJECTS (PART- II SCHEMES)**

### **12.1. Repair and Renovation to the Existing Tiled Roof Staff Quarters of the Fisheries Department and Electrification to Trout Hatchery at Avalanche, Nilgiris District.**

The Departmental staff quarters of Trout hatchery farm, at Avalanche, Nilgiris District will be repaired and electrification will be provided to Trout hatchery at an estimated cost of Rs.10 lakh during 2011-12.

### **12.2. Strengthening of Communication in Inland Fisheries Sector**

To enable efficient administration, it is felt that the offices of Deputy Director of Fisheries (Regional), Coimbatore and the Assistant Director of Fisheries (Inland) located at various places of the State shall be provided with Multi Functional Devices such as fax machines, photo copiers etc., at an estimated cost of Rs.6.40 lakh during 2011-12.

### **12.3. Replacement of Vehicles to the Offices of the Fisheries Department**

The officers of Fisheries Department regularly attend the works such as inspecting the Fishing crafts at various fishing villages for issuing Registration Certificates, attending frequent meetings being conducted by the Coastal authorities, Coast Guard and Revenue Department to solve the disputes arising between country craft fishermen and mechanized fishing boat fishermen now and then, arranging "Peace Committee Meetings" for solving the disputes between fishermen, settling the fishermen problem inside the fishing harbour premises and monitoring many welfare activities in their jurisdiction, for which the provision of a vehicle is necessary. Hence, during

2011-12, ten vehicles will be provided to the various offices of Fisheries Department at an estimated cost of Rs.53.20 lakh.

#### **12.4. Providing Invertors to Office of the Commissionerate of Fisheries**

Uninterrupted power supply is required especially during the time of natural calamities and during the incidents of fishermen missing and shooting to enable for taking swift action. Hence, it is proposed to provide invertors to the office of the Commissionerate of fisheries. The total cost of the work will be Rs.6 lakh.

#### **13. TAMILNADU STATE APEX FISHERIES CO-OPERATIVE FEDERATION LIMITED (TAFCOFED)**

The Tamil Nadu State Apex Fisheries Cooperative Federation Limited was registered under Tamil Nadu Cooperative Societies Act, 1983 and started functioning from 6.11.1991 with Headquarters at Chennai. At present, 589 Primary Fishermen Cooperative Societies and 9 District Fishermen Cooperative Federations have become members in Tamil Nadu State Apex Fisheries Co-operative Federation Limited (TAFCOFED) and have paid Rs.89.095 lakhs as share capital.

Tamil Nadu State Apex Fisheries Co-operative Federation Limited (TAFCOFED) has established Diesel Bunks under income generating activities and supply tax exempted diesel to fishermen in following places.

**Table 7: Location of Diesel Bunks of TAFCOFED**

<b>Sl. No.</b>	<b>Name of the District</b>	<b>Name of the Village</b>
1.	Tiruvallur	Pulicat
2.	Kancheepuram	Neelangarai
3.	Cuddalore	Annankoil
4.	Nagapattinam	Nagore
5.	Thanjavur	Sethubavachatram
6.		Vembar
7.	Thoothukudi	Tharuvaikulam
8.		Keelakarai
9.	Ramanathapuram	Rameswaram
10.		Mandapam
11.	Kanniyakumari	Chinnamuttom

Further, Tamil Nadu State Apex Fisheries Co-operative Federation Limited (TAFCOFED) has initiated action to establish Diesel Bunk at Marakanam in Villupuram District, Jegathapattinam in Pudukkottai District and Seruthur in Nagapattinam District.

For the welfare of the country craft owners, the Tamil Nadu State Apex Fisheries Co-operative Federation Limited (TAFCOFED) established retail outlets to supply subsidized / Sales tax exempted Industrial kerosene in Thoothukudi and Tirunelveli districts.

Supply of OBM (Out Board Motor) is done by Tamil Nadu State Apex Fisheries Co-operative Federation Limited (TAFCOFED) to the fishermen. 823 OBMs have been supplied during 2010-11.

Tamil Nadu State Apex Fisheries Co-operative Federation Limited (TAFCOFED) is running one service centre at Mallipattinam in Thanjavur for selling engine spares, fishing requisites and engine oil to fishermen.

One modern fish retail outlet is run at Neyveli under Centrally Sponsored Post Harvest Infrastructure Development Scheme.

The total business turnover of Tamil Nadu State Apex Fisheries Co-operative Federation Limited (TAFCOFED) for the year 2010-11 was Rs.15.79 crore and net profit earned was Rs.91.518 lakh.

#### **14. TAMILNADU FISHERIES DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION LIMITED (TNFDC)**

The Tamil Nadu Fisheries Development Corporation Limited was established in 1974 as a State owned undertaking with the 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 169 employees are working in various categories.
- Following activities are being undertaken by the TNFDC Ltd.,
  - Reservoir Fisheries Management
  - Fish Seed Production
  - Fish Marketing
  - Production and Marketing of Ornamental Fishes
  - Shrimp Hatchery and Shrimp Farm
  - Sale of Diesel / Kerosene and OBM / IBM

##### **14.1. Reservoir Fisheries Management**

Systematic scientific stocking of fish seeds is being done in eight reservoirs which are under Tamil Nadu Fisheries Development Corporation

Limited. Harvesting of fish is being carried out by engaging members of inland fishermen co-operative society.

During the year 2010-11, 626.11 tonnes of fish were harvested from these reservoirs with the revenue realization of Rs.3.62 crore. During 2011-12, by stocking advanced fingerlings, it is proposed to produce 974 tonnes of fish.

#### **14.2. Fish seed Production**

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

During 2010-2011, 21.6 million of Early Fry were produced and 37.40 lakh of fingerlings were reared and supplied. For 2011-12, the target fixed for spawn production is 30 million and 50 lakh for fingerlings.

#### **14.3. Fish Processing**

The Corporation is also managing Ice Plants/Processing Plants in the State. The Processing Plant at Mandapam is leased out to a Private exporter for Rs.6.85 lakh / per annum.

#### **14.4. Diesel Outlets**

At present the Corporation is operating 28 diesel outlets in the Fishing Harbours and fish landing centres spread all along the coastal line in the State to supply subsidized diesel to the traditional and mechanized craft owners. During the year 2010-11, total quantity of 82,755 KL of diesel were sold to fishermen and for 2011-12, physical target of 91,245 KL has been fixed.

#### **14.5. Fish Marketing**

The Corporation is marketing fresh fish through its retail outlets in Chennai, Madurai, Coimbatore, Tirupur, Pollachi, Trichy, and Thiruvannamalai. 892.16 tonnes of fish were sold for Rs.12.34 crore during 2010-11. The Corporation is also running fish food courts in Chennai, Coimbatore and Tirupur. During 2011-12, it is proposed to establish 5 more modern fish stalls through NFDB assistance and physical target of 1,085 tonnes per annum has been fixed.

#### **14.6. Shrimp Hatchery at Neelankarai**

The hatchery facilities are leased out to "Rajiv Gandhi Centre for Aquaculture" a society of Marine Products Export Development Authority from 24.1.2004 for shrimp seed brood stock management and quarantine facilities.

#### **14.7. Model Shrimp farm at Karangadu**

The TNFDC has leased out the farm at Karangadu in Ramanathapuram District to a private party for an annual lease amount of Rs.5.55 lakh and the culture is being done by the lessee.

#### **14.8. Production and Marketing of Ornamental Fishes:**

Under the financial assistance received from the Government of Tamil Nadu, TNFDC has set up Ornamental Fish Production Centres at Aliyar and Thirumoorthy Nagar. An Ornamental Fish Sales centre-cum-Aquarium is functioning at Aliyar and Thirumoorthy Nagar. One ornamental fish sales centre is functioning at Chennai. During the year 2010-11, Rs.25.88 lakh was realized as total revenue from the sale of ornamental fish and accessories.

#### **14.9. Supply of OBM/IBE to Traditional Fishing Crafts**

The TNFDC is supplying Outboard Motor/Inboard Engines under subsidy to the fishermen for motorization of the traditional fishing crafts. During the year 2010-11, 515 Nos of OBM were supplied to the fishermen and net revenue of Rs.15.75 lakh has been realized during 2010-11.

#### **14.10. Supply of Subsidized Kerosene to the Traditional Motorized Fishing Crafts**

The Corporation is supplying subsidized kerosene to the traditional crafts in Kanniyakumari District. 972 KL of Kerosene has been supplied and Rs.19.44 Lakhs has been realized as revenue during the year 2010-11 and for the year 2011-12, target is fixed as 4,800 KL of kerosene and revenue as Rs.96 lakh.

#### **14.11. Other Schemes**

The other schemes supervised by TNFDC are given as under

##### **14.11.1. 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.2.50 crore from National Fisheries Development Board, Hyderabad. This project will be implemented through the Municipal Corporation, Coimbatore.

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

To improve the standards of fresh fish marketing at Chennai, the TNFDC Ltd. has proposed to establish a fish handling centre with facilities such as flake ice plant, cold storage etc., at CIBA Complex, Santhome, Chennai by availing financial assistance of Rs.45 lakh from National Fisheries Development Board (NFDB). This centre, once established, would cater the needs of retail fish marketing stalls at Chennai city for the supply of quality fish to the consumers.

**14.11.3. Establishment of Fish Dressing Centre at Nagapattinam Fishing Harbour**

It is proposed to establish a Fish Dressing Centre at Nagapattinam with financial assistance of Rs.1 crore from NFDB to impart training to the fisherwomen in production and marketing of value added fishery products.

**14.11.4. 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 establishment of Tube ice Plant and cold storage facilities. The refrigeration plant and machineries shall be given by Marine Product Export Development Authority, Government of India in kind. The basic civil works would be taken up at the cost of Rs.12 lakh.

**Financial position**

Various fishermen welfare Schemes are being implemented through Tamil Nadu Fisheries Development Corporation. Apart from this, Tamil Nadu Fisheries Development Corporation has undertaken various commercial activities such as fresh fish marketing, sea food courts, diesel/kerosene distribution and reservoir Management etc. During the year 2010-11 the TNFDC has earned a profit of Rs.96.62 lakh.

## **15. CONCLUSION**

Fishing is one of the oldest and most risky professions in the world. Considering the sufferings of the fishermen, this Government accords highest priority to protect the fishing rights of the fishermen as well as the welfare of the fisherfolk. The Government have already taken pro-active steps for the retrieval of "Katchatheevu island" back to Tamil Nadu.

The fisherfolk are always close to the heart of our beloved Honourable Chief Minister. Hence, to alleviate the sufferings of fisherman during fishing ban period and lean fishing season, the Honourable Chief Minister has enhanced the financial assistance from Rs.1,000/- to Rs.2,000/- during the fishing ban period, and ordered to give special allowance of Rs.4,000/- per fisherman family in addition to the saving -cum-relief amount being given to fishermen/fisherwomen during the lean fishing season, which is first of its kind in the whole of country.

This Government have already initiated steps to develop infrastructure facilities on par with international standards such as development of fishing harbours, fish landing centres, fish processing parks, mid sea fish processing unit to benefit the fisher folk and also aim for increasing

the fish production besides conservation of fishing resources.

The Government is committed for the holistic development of fisheries in the State and improve the living standards of the fishing communities.

**K.A.JAYAPAL**  
**Minister for Fisheries**



**ANIMAL HUSBANDRY, DAIRYING AND  
FISHERIES DEPARTMENT**

**FISHERIES**

**POLICY NOTE**

**2011-2012**

**DEMAND NO.7**

**Thiru.K.A. JAYAPAL  
Minister for Fisheries**

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**GOVERNMENT OF TAMILNADU  
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