

**FISHERIES DEPARTMENT
POLICY NOTE-2010 – 2011
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FISHERIES DEPARTMENT

POLICY NOTE 2010 – 2011

1. INTRODUCTION

Fish is a source of healthy food for humanity at large. Historically, Fishing has been a major source of livelihood for coastal and inland fishing communities. In recent years, fisheries have become an important economic activity and contribute to significant growth in nutritional security, employment generation and foreign exchange earnings. Tamilnadu is one of the important coastal States in the East coast, pioneering in implementing many developmental and welfare schemes.

Tamil Nadu is having a coastline of 1076 kms. It has 13 Coastal Districts and 591 fishing villages with a total marine Fishers population of about 8.61 lakhs, of which 2.60 lakh fishermen are actively engaged in fishing. The marine fishery resources comprise of 1.9 lakh sq. km of Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ) and a continental shelf of about 41,412 sq kms. The Fishing fleet strength of Tamil Nadu includes 6200 mechanised fishing crafts and 49,904 traditional crafts (18,912 vallams and 30,992 catamarans). Tamil Nadu ranks third in Marine fish production and the annual marine fish catch for the year 2008-09 was 3.97 lakh tonnes. The State has

the potential to emerge as a major exporter of marine products. During 2008-09, about 68,397 M.T. of marine products valued at Rs.1,77,220.00 lakhs was exported from Tamil Nadu.

The inland fisheries sector has about 3.71 lakh ha of water spread area comprising of reservoirs, major irrigation and long seasonal tanks, short seasonal tanks and ponds, estuaries, backwaters, etc., which are amenable for both capture and culture fisheries. The Inland fishers population is about 2.17 lakhs. The fish production from the inland sector during 2008-09 was 1.66 lakhs tonnes. About 6,000 ha. are being utilised for fresh water aquaculture under the programme of the Fish Farmers' Development Agency. The total brackish water area available for aquaculture production is 56,000 ha. Apart from that, shrimp culture is being undertaken in 6,066 ha.

There are 1,377 primary fishermen cooperative societies which include 367 inland fishermen / fisherwomen cooperatives. The vast fishery resources of both marine and inland waters have not yet been fully exploited. 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, enhance fish production with sustained conservation of resources as well as to improve the socio-economic standards of the fishermen.

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 co-operative 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 Assistant Directors of Fisheries and implement various developmental Schemes including fishermen welfare Schemes.

During 2009-10, the following vacancies have been filled up.

Sl. No.	Name of the Post	No. of posts filled up
1	Joint Director of Fisheries	3
2	Deputy Director of Fisheries	4
3	Assistant Director of Fisheries	1

4	Personal Assistant	5
5	Inspector of Fisheries	8
6	Research Assistant	5
7	Superintendent	11
8	Assistant	10
9	Compassionate-ground Appointment (all categories)	11
Total		58

The Department initiated steps to fill up 43 vacancies of the following categories through direct recruitment by TNPSC during the year 2009–10.

Sl. No.	Name of the Post	No. of posts to be filled up
1	Junior Assistant	22
2	Typist	17
3	Steno-typist	4
Total		43

3. OBJECTIVES OF FISHERIES DEPARTMENT

- To encourage fishers to exploit the under-utilized fishery resources and to reduce fishing pressure in the inshore areas.
- To augment aquatic resource production in the inshore areas by conservation measures, stock enhancement, establishing artificial reefs etc.

- To promote sustainable, eco-friendly aquaculture practices.
- To strengthen the infrastructure facilities for fish landing and marketing as per Hazard Analysis and Critical Control Point (HACCP) and European Union (EU) norms.
- To uplift the socio-economic status of the fishers through welfare measures and also by generating employment opportunities.
- To modify the present fisheries legislation so as to suit the present need of the fishers and conservation.
- Impetus to ornamental fish culture and deep sea fishing including Tuna.

4. MARINE FISHERIES

4.1 FISHERMEN WELFARE SCHEMES

4.1.1 (a) NATIONAL SAVINGS-CUM-RELIEF SCHEME FOR MARINE FISHERMEN

The Government is implementing the centrally sponsored / shared Scheme of National Savings-cum-Relief for the marine fishermen of Tamil Nadu 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 fishermen contribution is disbursed to the beneficiaries during the three lean months. For the year 2009-10, the Government have sanctioned a sum of Rs.2,231.62 lakhs as relief amount for 1,85,968 fishermen beneficiaries in 13 coastal districts. This scheme will be implemented during 2010-11 as well.

(b) SAVINGS-CUM-RELIEF SCHEME FOR MARINE FISHERWOMEN

This Scheme is being implemented as a state Scheme since 2006-07. Under the Scheme, the fisher woman contributes Rs.600/- @ Rs.70/- per month for a period of 8 months and Rs. 40/- for the ninth month. Matching share of Rs.1,200/- is provided by the State Government. Thus, a sum of Rs.1800/- is distributed to the beneficiary during the three lean months. For the year 2009-10, the Government have sanctioned the relief amount of Rs.1987.20 lakhs for 13 coastal districts for disbursement to 1,43,948 fisherwomen beneficiaries. This Scheme will be continued during 2010-11 as well.

4.1.2 RELIEF ASSISTANCE TO MARINE FISHERMEN FAMILIES DURING FISHING BAN PERIOD

To conserve the fishery resources, during the fish breeding season, the Government have imposed fishing ban every year from 2001 onwards for a period of 45 days i.e from April 15 to May 29 in the East Coast region and June 15th to July 29th in the West Coast. The fishermen who are engaged as crew / labourers in the fishing boat have no source of income by means of any other alternative employment and those crew / labourers are put into hardship in maintaining their families.

To alleviate the sufferings of the poor crew / labourers who are actually involved in fishing activities, the Government of Tamil Nadu have announced relief assistance of Rs.500/- per marine fishermen family during the ban period to the families of crew / labourers. During 2009-10, a sum of Rs. 719.00 lakhs was disbursed to 1.43 lakhs fishermen families. The scheme will be continued during 2010-11 as well.

4.1.3 FISHERMEN FREE HOUSING SCHEME

The Government sanction 2000 houses every year for the Marine and Inland sector fishermen who are below poverty line under

Fishermen Free Housing Scheme, subject to the following conditions:

- Fishermen should be members of the Fishermen Co-operative Society
- Fishermen should live in huts or Kutcha houses
- Fishermen should own 3 cents of Patta land

Apart from the above Scheme, the Government of India sanction houses, community halls and tube wells under the Development of Model Fishermen Village Scheme. The Scheme is shared between the State and Centre on 50:50 basis.

The Scheme will be continued during the year 2010-11 as well.

4.1.4 GROUP ACCIDENT INSURANCE SCHEME FOR FISHERS

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 fishers will be given Rs.1,00,000/- and Rs.50,000/- for partial disablement.

During 2009-10,, a sum of Rs.90.51 lakhs (as State share) has been paid to FISHCOFED, New Delhi, towards insurance coverage for 6.03 lakhs active marine, inland fishermen and fisherwomen for the period from 10.12.2009 to 9.12.2010. Tamilnadu has been awarded second prize by the Ministry of Agriculture, Government of India, for enrolling more number of fishermen under the Centrally Sponsored Group accident insurance Scheme. This Scheme will be continued during 2010-11 as well.

4.1.5 MOTORISATION OF TRADITIONAL CRAFTS

The Government is providing subsidy assistance towards the purchase of outboard motors 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. During 2009-2010, the Government provided subsidy assistance of Rs.300.00 lakhs to the fishermen for the purchase of about 1000 OBM / IBE. This Scheme will be continued during 2010-11 as well.

4.1.6 REIMBURSEMENT OF CENTRAL EXCISE DUTY ON HIGH SPEED DIESEL

The increasing operational cost of mechanised fishing vessel 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 subsidy towards the purchase of HSD oil. The subsidy will be limited to Rs. 3.00/ 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 metre and registered prior to X Five year Plan period. The owners of the Mechanised fishing boats should be below BPL category. During 2009-10, Government of India have sanctioned Rs.300.00 lakhs as subsidy (100% assistance) This Scheme will be continued during 2010-11 as well.

4.1.7 SALES TAX EXEMPTION ON SALE OF HIGH SPEED DIESEL TO FISHERMEN

The Government have exempted 100% sales tax towards purchase of High Speed Diesel Oil for mechanised boats and motorised country crafts registered prior to X five year plan. The mechanised boat can avail Sales tax free diesel subject to a maximum of 15,000 litres per boat per year during

active fishing months and motorised country craft to the maximum of 3,000 litres per craft per year.

During the year 2009-10, 74,187 KL of sales tax free High Speed Diesel oil for mechanized boats and 27,336 KL for country crafts had been supplied. This Scheme will be continued during 2010-11 as well.

4.1.8 CASH AWARDS TO 10th AND +2 STUDENTS OF FISHERMEN COMMUNITY

To encourage students of fishermen community to pursue education, Government of Tamil Nadu have sanctioned cash awards of Rs.4.12 lakhs to fishermen boys and girls who have secured top ranks in 10th and +2 Standard Examinations at District and State level. This Scheme will also be continued during the year 2010-11 as well.

4.1.9 COMPUTERISATION OF THE OFFICE OF THE AUTHORISED OFFICERS AND APPELLATE AUTHORITIES WHO ARE IMPLEMENTING THE TAMIL NADU MARINE FISHING REGULATION (TNMFR) ACT, 1983

The authorised officers of TNMFR Act are looking after Registration of all types of fishing crafts, Issuing and Renewal of Fishing License,

Issue of Identity Cards, Collection of berthing charges from the Mechanized Fishing Boats, Issue of Daily fishing Token to Mechanized Fishing Boats, fishing coupon for Sales Tax exempted Diesel to motorised and Mechanized Fishing crafts, Implementing TNMFR Act, 1983, Reimbursement of Excise duty on HSD oil for Mechanised Fishing Boats and search and rescue of missing fishermen and fishing boats in their region. During 2009-10, the Government have sanctioned Rs.21.00 lakhs to computerise the Office of the Authorised Officers, Adjudicating Officers and Appellate Authority for effective implementation of the schemes. Orders have been placed with M/s ELCOT for supply of computer and the same will be supplied shortly.

5.1 FISHERMEN RELIEF SCHEMES

5.1.1 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 Government have sanctioned a sum of Rs.5.00 lakhs each to the 8 District Collectors of Nagapattinam, Thanjavur, Tiruvarur, Pudukkottai, Ramanathapuram, Thoothukudi, Tirunelveli and Kanniyakumari for providing immediate relief. The Scheme will be continued during the year 2010-11 as well.

5.1.2 RELIEF TO THE FAMILIES OF MISSING FISHERMEN

The Government extend relief assistance of Rs.50/- per day or Rs.1500/- per month to the families of the fishermen missing while fishing in the sea, till he returns subject to the following conditions:

- i) The missing fisherman should be an actual fisherman and should be a member of the Fishermen Co-operative Society.
- (ii) An application with FIR copy countersigned by local Sub-Inspector / Inspector of Police should be submitted to Assistant Director of Fisheries concerned.
- (iii) An Affidavit from the local village Panchayat regarding
 - (a) Non-Availability of the missing fisherman in that village for 30 days from the date of voyage.
 - (b) The fisherman had not been involved in any illegal activity
 - (c) An affidavit will be obtained from the families of these fishermen that the amount paid to them as daily relief shall be returned to the Government in case, the fishermen are later

found engaged in any illegal activity or become eligible for ex-gratia amount.

The Government have sanctioned a total sum of Rs.12.00 lakhs and distributed to the coastal District Collectors.

5.1.3 RELIEF TO THE FAMILIES OF DECEASED FISHERMEN ATTACKED BY SRI LANKAN NAVY

The fishermen of Nagapattinam, Thanjavur, Tiruvarur, Pudukkottai, Ramanathapuram, Tirunelveli, Thoothukudi and Kanniyakumari Districts inadvertently cross the International Maritime Boundary Line (IMBL) due to engine failure and natural vagaries of the sea and drift into Sri Lankan waters. Such fishermen are apprehended and sometimes shot at by Sri Lankan Navy.

To alleviate the sufferings of deceased family, during 2008-2009, the Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu has enhanced the Ex-gratia payment from Rs.1.00 lakh to Rs.3.00 lakhs to the deceased fishermen family. In the case of the deceased fisherman who is the breadwinner of the family, the Ex-gratia has been enhanced from Rs.1.00 lakh to Rs.5.00 lakhs from the Chief Minister Public Relief Fund. For major and minor injuries, an Ex-gratia amount of Rs.50,000/- and

Rs.20,000/- will be given respectively. The Scheme will be continued during the year 2010-11 as well.

5.1.4 DISTRESS MANAGEMENT CELL IN HEAD OFFICE

The Department of Fisheries has already set up a Distress Management Cell (Telephone No. 24341757) in the Head Office at a cost of Rs.6.00 lakhs to take swift follow-up action at the time of missing / apprehension and shooting incidents. The Cell also disseminates weather forecast to the fishers through the coastal District Assistant Directors.

5.2 TSUNAMI REHABILITATION AND RECONSTRUCTION PROGRAMME

During the year 2004, Tsunami had caused heavy damages to the lives and properties of the people in the 13 Coastal Districts of Tamil Nadu. The fishermen community had to be rehabilitated by way of assistance from Government and other Agencies.

Hence, the Government gave a major thrust to Tsunami relief measures, taken a comprehensive view and have sanctioned various packages to provide maximum relief assistance to the fishermen who suffered damages to their fishing crafts and gears. The Government have rejuvenated their life by extending relief assistance to a tune of

Rs.15,216.00 lakhs for carrying out repairs / replacement of damaged fishing implements.

5.2.1 ADDITIONAL RELIEF ASSISTANCE TO TSUNAMI AFFECTED FISHERMEN

In accordance with the announcement of Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu, the 42,000 Tsunami affected fishermen were given additional relief materials i.e., Heavy Duty Bi-cycles, Life jackets, Re-chargeable lanterns, fishing nets and insulated ice boxes under Rajiv Gandhi Rehabilitation package at a cost of Rs.11,036.00 lakhs.

5.2.2 WAIVER OF LOAN AVAILED BY FISHERMEN TO REPLACE THEIR DAMAGED FISHING CRAFTS DURING TSUNAMI

Fishermen who either lost or got their fishing crafts damaged during Tsunami and availed loans from banks to buy new mechanized boats have represented that they are unable to repay these loans and requested the assistance of State Government in settling their dues. Accepting their request, this Government have formulated a scheme in consultation with the banks to remove the debt burden of fishermen who availed bank loans for the replacement of crafts. Under this Scheme, the entire principal amount of the loan taken for replacing the crafts by Tsunami affected

fishermen will be waived by repaying their dues to the bank by the State Government. The banks have agreed to waive the entire outstanding interest portion on these loans. Vide G.O (4D) No. 7, Animal Husbandry, Dairying and Fisheries Department, dated: 31.03.2010, the Government have sanctioned Rs.6,370.00 lakhs to waive the Tsunami loan availed by 2715 fishermen.

5.2.3 SEAMLESS COMMUNICATION NETWORK

The scheme which was planned to be implemented under World Bank aided ETRP scheme will now be implemented under Tsunami Rehabilitation Programme. Under this scheme, installation of seamless communication network in 13 coastal districts with the Central Government assistance will be done in two phases at a total cost of Rs.5,760.00 lakhs. As first phase, the Government have accorded administrative sanction for providing seamless communication facilities in Ramanathapuram District through M/s. ELCOT, Chennai at a cost of Rs.773.00 lakhs.

5.2.4 WORLD BANK ASSISTED EMERGENCY TSUNAMI RECONSTRUCTION PROJECT (ETRP)

An amount of Rs.9,620.00 lakhs has been allotted under World Bank assisted ETRP, to implement the following projects :

a) Reconstruction and modernisation of four fishing Harbours

Consultancy service for preparation of project reports for reconstruction and modernisation of four Fishing Harbours at Mallipattinam, Nagapattinam, Pazhayar and Chinnamuttom was entrusted to M/s. SMEC International (P) Ltd., Australia. M/s. SMEC., after completing the studies, have furnished final draft Detailed Project Reports for the four fishing harbours at an estimated total project cost of Rs.11,300.00 lakhs. The total project cost was revised by the High Level Committee and it was decided to take up works only at Pazhayar and Nagapattinam fishing harbours. The revised procurement plan was approved by the World Bank on 23.11.2009.

b) Permanent Opening of four Bar-mouths

Consultancy service for permanent opening of four bar mouths at Uppanar, Vellar, Pulicat and Tamaraparani was entrusted to M/s. WAPCOS, Gurgaon. After completing the studies, the firm has furnished draft final DPR for four sites at an estimated cost of Rs.5,800.00 lakhs against the proposed estimated cost of Rs.1,960.00 lakhs. It was decided to take up works at Uppanar and Vellar bar mouths only at a total cost of Rs.1,544.00 lakhs. The Government of Tamil Nadu have accorded administrative sanction for Rs.1,544.00 lakhs. Based on the DPR, bid

documents were sent to Project Monitoring Unit (PMU) on 23.01.09 and 06.03.2009 for obtaining World Bank's approval.

The Coastal Regulation Zone (CRZ) clearance for Vellar was obtained on 04.08.2009 from the District Level Committee and clearance from State Level Coastal Zone Management Authority (SCZMA) will be obtained shortly. In respect of Uppanar River, No Objection Certificate from Forest Department is yet to be received for CRZ clearance at District Level Coastal Zone Management Authority (DCZMA).

c) Construction of two New Fish Landing Centres

Rs.2,360.00 lakhs was allocated for the construction of two new fish landing centres at Nagoor and Annankoil. The Bid document for FLC at Nagoor has been already sent to PMU at a cost of Rs.1,060 lakhs for obtaining approval from World Bank, since SCZMA has given clearance under CRZ. The bid document for FLC at Annankoil has been also submitted to PMU for obtaining approval at a cost of Rs.1,350.00 lakhs.

The Government have issued revised administrative order for a sum of Rs.1,060.00 lakhs under World Bank for construction of FLC at Nagoor.

5.2.5 ASIAN DEVELOPMENT BANK ASSISTED TSUNAMI EMERGENCY ASSISTANCE PROJECT (TEAP)

Under the Asian Development Bank assisted schemes, repairs and rehabilitation fish landing centres and fishing harbours were completed at a cost of Rs.76.40 lakhs. The total expenditure under Asian Development Bank is Rs.117.30 lakhs including conducting studies for dredging seven basins and utilization of back water area at Cuddalore.

5.2.6 CONSTRUCTION OF 10 FISH LANDING CENTRES UNDER TSUNAMI REHABILITATION PROGRAMME

Construction of ten new Fish Landing Centres in the following places at a total cost of Rs.4,997.00 lakhs was sanctioned by the Government and a sum of Rs.2,000.00 lakhs has been released being 1st instalment of amount towards commencement of civil works.

- | | |
|-----------------------|---|
| Tiruvallur District | - 1. Annamalaicheri
2. Ennore
Mugathuvarakuppam |
| Kancheepuram District | - 3. Periyamangodu
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

Tenders have been finalized for Kadalore Periakuppam, Ekkiyarkuppam, Keelakarai, Periyathalai, Uvari and R. Pudupattinam. The works are commenced and under progress. Tenders for the remaining centres will be settled and work commenced shortly.

5.2.7 MODERNIZATION OF CHENNAI FISHING HARBOUR

Government have sanctioned a sum of Rs.1,956.90 lakhs to Chennai Port Trust towards modernizing the Chennai Fishing Harbour. Under this Scheme, the work viz., rehabilitation of trawler wharf, extension of break water, construction of additional trawler wharf and finger jetties are to be carried out. Work on construction of eastern breakwater is in progress.

5.3 INFRASTRUCTURE FACILITIES

5.3.1 CONSTRUCTION OF FISHING HARBOURS IN TAMILNADU UNDER CENTRE / STATE SHARED SCHEME

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.2,710.00 lakhs.

The construction of Eastern and Western breakwaters and its approaches for Colachel fishing harbour was taken up in the first phase. Eastern Break water works are completed upto 105 metres length and Western Break Water works upto 225 metres length. Corloc armour of 764 nos have been cast. Approach road to both Eastern and Western Break water 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 modification suggested deviating the original plan was referred to the Institute of Hydraulics and Hydrology, Poondi, for conducting model study. Meanwhile, work on the Western Breakwater has been recommenced as suggested by the Expert Committee constituted to look into the apprehension raised by the local fishermen.

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.4,000.00 lakhs and Rs.400.00 lakhs has been released towards 1st instalment as Central and State share for implementing the Project. The land for the project has been taken possession by the Department. After calling for tenders, they were scrutinized and work order awarded to the eligible tenderer. The work is under progress.

c) Fishing Harbour at Poempuhar

For the proposed construction of Fishing harbour at Poempuhar in Nagapattinam District, the National Institute of Ocean Technology (NIOT) has conducted model study and submitted the model study, EIA/ EMP reports. As decided 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. In continuation, an estimate for Rs.5,945.00 lakhs has been prepared and sent to Central Institute of Coastal Engineering for Fishery (CICEF), Bangalore, to revise the Techno-Economic Feasibility Report (TEFR). 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). Action has been taken in this regard.

5.3.2 CONSTRUCTION OF FISHING HARBOUR UNDER “BOOT’ (BUILD, OWN, OPERATE & TRANSFER) SYSTEM.

The Government have accorded permission for the construction of Fishing Harbours at Muttom and Rajakkamangalamthurai in Kanniyakumari District under “BOOT” System. In respect of Muttom Fishing Harbour, the land was handed over to the promoter. Environmental clearance was obtained from Government of India. The construction of break water and Tetrapod concrete block casting are in progress.

For Rajakkamangalamthurai Fishing Harbour in Kanniyakumari District, model study, Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) and Environmental Management Plan preparation are in progress. Notices were served on the concessionaire to get all the clearance from Government of India and to start the construction work without any delay.

5.3.3 PROVISION OF GUIDE LIGHTS IN COASTAL AREAS

During 2009-2010, the Government have sanctioned a sum of Rs.30.00 lakhs for

establishing 5 Hybrid guide lights in the following places:

1. Kancheepuram District : Panaiyur Chinnakuppam
2. Nagapattinam District : Tharangampadi
3. Thanjavur District : Somanathan Pattinam
4. Ramanathapuram District : Mandapam North
5. Kanniyakumari District : Thoothur

Installation of hybrid light system which utilises both wind and solar energy to produce electricity is found to be more useful to fishermen living in coastal areas for safe returning to land. The Solar module will be a standby arrangement which assures continuous power supply. Moreover, the provision of Light Emitting Diode (LED) ensures uninterrupted power supply for brighter light source to the guide-lights.

Installation of guide lights is in progress.

5.4 CONSERVATION AND MANAGEMENT OF FISHERY RESOURCES

In recent years, the fishery wealth in the inshore water is being overexploited due to increasing dependence on the resources. Stock enhancement and fishing diversification are the

options to reduce fishing pressure in the inshore waters.

Considering this, the Government have already initiated implementing sea ranching programme and ranched 48 million *Penaeus monodon* Shrimp seeds in selected places of five coastal districts i.e Ramanathapuram, Nagapattinam, Thanjavur, Pudukottai and Thoothukudi.

Setting up of artificial reef in the inshore waters is one of the management options for stock enhancement / conservation of fishery resources. The Government have already installed 14 Artificial Reefs. Installation of another 4 Artificial Reefs at Thanjavur, Kanniyakumari, Thiruvallur and Kancheepuram Districts has been entrusted to Central Marine Fisheries Research Institute (CMFRI).

6. MARICULTURE

Tamil Nadu with its long coast line has immense potential for development of various Mariculture activities which are yet to be tapped. The development of mariculture activities will help to reduce the fishing pressure in the inshore water and also act as a diversified activity.

6.1 SEAWEED CULTURE

Seaweed cultivation is being undertaken in selected areas involving Self Help Groups and has proved to be a successful alternate employment and income generating activity for Fisherfolk. Under SGSY Special Projects, meant for alternate livelihood for Tsunami affected fishers in Tamil Nadu, skill upgradation training to 6000 fishers on seaweed culture has been completed at a cost of Rs.39.88 lakhs. Financial Assistance in the form of back ended subsidy was provided to 114 Self Help Groups at a cost of Rs.88.19 lakhs.

7. INLAND FISHERIES

Tamil Nadu is having 3.70 lakhs 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. To maximise fish production, the Government initiated innovative approaches such as stocking of advance fingerlings of fast growing fishes in the short seasonal water bodies, introduction of cage culture in reservoirs to increase unit productivity, introduce integration of fish culture with scampi to generate maximum income etc. The Department of Fisheries is taking suitable measures to bring all the water bodies under fish culture.

7.1 RESERVOIRS

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. During 2009-10, stocking of advanced fingerlings as per the National Fisheries Development Board norms has been done in 14 reservoirs.

7.2 FISH SEED PRODUCTION

There are 8 Fish Seed Production Centres functioning under the control of Department and Tamilnadu Fisheries Development Corporation (TNFDC) with an annual production potential of 4,025 lakhs of early fry. During 2009-10, 1,658.05 lakhs of early fry have been produced from 8 Fish Seed Production Centres. The early fry fish seeds produced from these centres are reared

in the Departmental seed rearing centres and stocked in the water bodies under the control of Fisheries Department.

7.3 FISH SEED REARING CENTRES

There are 29 Fish Seed Rearing Centres functioning under the control of the Department and Tamilnadu Fisheries Development Corporation (TNFDC) with an annual production potential of 85 million fingerlings. Out of the total extent of 18.50 ha, only 13.20 ha. are in usable condition and the remaining 5.30 ha. are under repair. Steps are being taken to repair and renovate the seed rearing area dovetailing the schemes such as National Agriculture Development Programme, National Fisheries Development Board and Western Ghats Development Programme. During 2009–10, a nursery area of 0.30 ha. has been repaired and renovated under Western Ghats Development Programme at a cost of Rs.22.50 lakhs. During 2009-10, 269 lakhs of fingerlings have been produced from the Departmental Fish Seed Rearing Centres.

7.4 DEVELOPMENT OF POST HARVEST INFRASTRUCTURE

The Government have sanctioned an amount of Rs.76.25 lakhs under centrally sponsored Scheme towards Development of Post Harvest Infrastructure in Tamil Nadu. Under this Scheme,

5 kiosks were established by TNFDC and 5 modern fish retail outlets were established by TNFDC and TAFCOFED. 50% as subsidy assistance @ Rs.2.50 lakhs have been extended to the Mettur Inland Fishermen Co-operative Marketing Society for the purchase of insulated mini-truck and 25% as subsidy assistance @ Rs.3.75 lakhs have been extended for the purchase of moped with insulated ice box for 50 fish vendors.

7.5 FISH FARMERS DEVELOPMENT AGENCIES

In Tamil Nadu, 12 Fish Farmers' Development Agencies (FFDA) are functioning to popularise scientific Inland fish culture activities. 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. Apart from that, the fish culture activities in water bodies provide additional income to the farmers and generate rural employment opportunities. The Scheme will be continued during 2010-11 as well.

7.6 BRACKISHWATER AQUACULTURE

5 Brackish water Fish Farmers' Development Agencies (BFDA) at Thoothukudi, Nagapattinam,

Thiruvallur, Ramanathapuram and Cuddalore Districts are functioning under the Chairmanship of respective District Collectors.

Out of 56,000 ha brackish water area and 14,880 ha. of coastal lands, Shrimp Farming is done in an area of 6,417 ha. The Government extends subsidy assistance to small farmers with land holding of less than 2.00 ha. and whose farm is registered with Coastal Aquaculture Authority. The Coastal Aquaculture Authority has approved registration of 1,294 farms. During 2009-10, the Government of India have accorded sanction and released Rs.100.00 lakhs as being the first instalment for implementing the Scheme. The Scheme will be continued during 2010-11 as well.

7.7 DEVELOPMENT OF COLD WATER FISHERIES

The upland water streams in the Nilgiris offer immense potential for developing sport fishery. The streams are stocked with Trout fish by the Department and licences are issued for the anglers. 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 farm in the Nilgiris.

7.8 WESTERN GHATS DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME

During 2009-10, the Government have sanctioned a sum of Rs.22.50 lakhs under this Scheme repair and renovation 16 nursery ponds and 7 rearing ponds at Chittar II FFDA Farm in Kanniyakumari District. The scheme will be continued during 2010-2011 as well.

7.9 STRENGTHENING OF COMMUNICATION NETWORK IN FISH SEED FARMS

During 2009-2010, the Government have sanctioned a sum of Rs.13.97 lakhs to link departmental fish farms with the controlling officers with the Centralized Monitoring Cell at Head Office to strengthen the communication net work. Under this Scheme, 7 Fish Seed Production Centres and 28 Fish Seed Rearing Centres located in remote places are computerised and the net working will facilitate to access the demand and supply of fish seed requirement in the departmental farms.

7.10 SUBSIDY ASSISTANCE TO INLAND FISHERMEN FOR PURCHASE OF NETS

During 2009-10, the Government have sanctioned a sum of Rs.20.00 lakhs for providing 50 % subsidy assistance to 800 inland fishermen for the purchase of 10 Kg of nets for each fisherman.

The Inland fishermen who depend inland water resources for their livelihood will be benefited to increase the fishing efficiency thereby improving their income by replacing their old nets which are often damaged by the submerged objects.

8. SPECIAL PROJECTS

8.1 SWARNA JAYANTHI GRAM SWAROZGAR YOJANA (SGSY) - SPECIAL PROJECTS

The SGSY special projects funded by Department of Rural Development are being implemented in 12 coastal districts at a cost of Rs.2,816.00 lakhs in two phases. The major components of the projects include skill upgradation training to fishers on different mariculture practices such as lobster fattening, Crab fattening, Seaweed culture, Ornamental fish culture, Engine repair, net mending, fish processing and value addition to take up as their economic activity and infrastructure development to support the Project. This Project aims to benefit about 42,000 fishers by upgrading their skills and improving their economic status. Apart from this, there will be a significant increase in aquaculture production, self employment, alternate livelihood support for fishers' families, and subsequent export earnings.

114 Self Help Groups have been involved in seaweed culture as an economic activity for self employment support. Under infrastructure

development, a Multi Species Marine Fin fish hatchery is being established through society named as "Centre for Aquaculture Research and Development" (CARD) and 12 solar dryers will be set up one in each of the coastal districts. Those trained in fish processing and value addition will be provided with marketing kit for hygienic handling and fish marketing at an estimated total cost of Rs.175.00 lakhs.

8.2 TAMILNADU IRRIGATED AGRICULTURE MODERNISATION AND WATER BODIES RESTORATION AND MANAGEMENT (TN IAMWARM) PROJECT

The World Bank funded IAMWARM Project is envisioned to improve the productivity and efficiency of water by putting into optimum use and to help the farmers to get a sustainable additional income. The Department of Fisheries being a line department is implementing several activities for the benefit of farmers. 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 2009-10, spill over activities of Phase 1st and 2nd besides new activities for 3rd phase were taken up. The World Bank have approved implementation of Fisheries activities in 24 sub basins in the 3rd Phase at a total estimated cost of Rs.269.37 lakhs.

8.3. NATIONAL AGRICULTURE DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME (NADP)

This is a centrally assisted scheme launched by Ministry of Agriculture. Fisheries inter-alia constitutes one of the focus areas under this Scheme. During the year 2008-09, the following Schemes were sanctioned and being implemented at a cost of Rs.107.00 lakhs during the year 2009-10.

i) To Promote Establishment of Fish Seed Production Centres / Fish Seed Rearing Centres in Private Sector by extending 50% subsidy assistance to augment fish seed production

Though there is enough water resources in Tamil Nadu, they are not fully exploited because of the non availability of quality seeds. By promoting private sectors in fish seed production and seed rearing, self sufficiency in fish seed requirement can be achieved.

Taking into consideration and to encourage private entrepreneurs to establish fish seed production / fish seed rearing centres, the Government have sanctioned Rs.95.00 lakhs to extend the following subsidy assistance to private fish farmers during 2009-10.

- 50% subsidy on capital cost of 10 fish seed production centres with a production capacity of 8-10 million seeds per annum, subject to maximum of Rs.5.00 lakhs per centre. Under this Scheme, 10 beneficiaries have been identified from Thanjavur, Thiruvarur, Madurai, Tirunelveli and Krishnagiri districts and the construction is at different stages. The construction of seed production centres are at different stages of progress.

- 50% subsidy on capital cost of 30 fish seed rearing centres with a rearing capacity of 5.00 lakhs fingerlings per annum, subject to maximum of Rs.1.50 lakh per centre. Under this Scheme, 30 beneficiaries have been identified from the districts of Thiruvarur, Thanjavur, Trichy, Tirunelveli, Kanniyakumari, Kancheepuram, Krishnagiri and Madurai. The construction of seed rearing centres are at different stages of progress.

ii) Capacity Building for Fish Farmers and Technical Staff of Fisheries Department

There are number of new technologies available for increasing fish production. These technologies have been developed and perfected by Central and State Research Institutes and yet to reach the grass root level. There are instances of advanced farming technologies available with the farmers in the States like Andhra Pradesh, Orissa, West Bengal, Punjab and Haryana. To create awareness among the progressive farmers and departmental functionaries on aqua-farming and for adopting latest technologies for achieving highest production, exposure visit has been undertaken to the Central / State / private farms in other States. During 2009-10, 100 fish farmers and 100 departmental officials are being taken for exposure visit to other states at a cost of Rs.12.00 lakhs.

During 2009-10, the following Fisheries Schemes have been sanctioned and are being implemented at a total cost of Rs.112.37 lakhs.

a) Fish culture in Check Dams

The water bodies in forest areas hitherto remained either unutilized or under-utilized for fish culture. To utilize check dams and percolation ponds in forest area for fish culture by stocking fish fingerlings, the Fisheries Department in coordination with the Forest Department conducted awareness cum training programmes to 300 Village Forest Council members in fish culture and stocked fingerlings in 100 ha. of suitable water bodies in Vellore, Theni, Salem, Namakkal and Kanniyakumari Districts. During 2009-10, the Government have sanctioned a sum of Rs.4.30 lakhs for implementing the Scheme.

b) Capacity building to fish farmers and Technical staff

Fish culture is being practised as the most successful commercial venture in states like Andhra Pradesh, Orissa and West Bengal. In order to create awareness on scientific aqua-farming by adopting latest technologies for achieving optimal fish production, it is essential that the farmers and the technical staff of the department to be exposed to various aquaculture techniques being practised in other states. During 2009-10, 100 farmers from

Tamil Nadu and 100 technical staff of fisheries department are being taken to other states for exposure training at a cost Rs.12.12 lakhs.

c) *To Promote Establishment of / Fish Seed Rearing Centres in Private Sector by extending 50% subsidy assistance to augment fish seed production*

In order to bridge the gap between demand and supply of fish seeds and to attain self sufficiency in fish seed requirement of Tamil Nadu, the Government have sanctioned Rs. 60.60 lakhs towards extending 50% subsidy assistance of capital cost of 40 fish seed rearing centres with a rearing capacity of 5.00 lakhs fingerlings per annum with maximum subsidy amount of Rs.1.50 lakh per centre.

d) *Subsidy assistance (50%) to fishermen to equip small fishing crafts for Tuna long line fishing*

The Marine fish production has been levelled off for the past few decades. The catch per unit has been considerably reduced due to increasing dependence on the resource. Diversification to offshore and deep sea fishing are the few options available to reduce the fishing pressure in the inshore region. Tuna is one such offshore fishery resource yet to be optimally exploited. Tuna has

both domestic and International market. India is still in infant stage in exploitation of export oriented Tuna Fisheries. In order to utilize the under exploited tuna resources in Tamil Nadu, the Government extends 50% subsidy assistance to the fishermen to equip their small crafts for Tuna fishing. During 2010-2011, 50 mechanized boats and 50 FRP Vallams will be equipped by providing necessary infrastructure facilities for tuna fishing at a total estimated cost of Rs. 35.35 lakhs. The mechanized boat fishermen will get subsidy assistance of 50% capital cost subject to maximum of Rs. 40,000/- per unit and the FRP Vallam fishermen will get subsidy assistance 50% capital cost subject to maximum of Rs.30,000/- per unit.

8.4 NATIONAL FISHERIES DEVELOPMENT BOARD (NFDB)

a) *Reservoir Fisheries Management Scheme*

To augment the exploitable fishery resources in the reservoirs, it is imperative to stock reservoirs with quality fingerlings for developing and sustaining the fishery wealth. The NFDB is extending financial assistance of Re.1/- per fingerling under reservoir fisheries development programme. During 2008-09, for stocking 157 lakhs advanced fingerlings in the selected water bodies under the control of Fisheries Department, the NFDB has released an amount of Rs.157.64 lakhs. About 2290 inland fishermen who

depend on these resources for their livelihood have been imparted training on sustainable reservoir fishery management at an estimated cost of Rs.18.93 lakhs. For the year 2009-10, the NFDB sanctioned Rs.157.40 lakhs, for stocking of advanced fingerlings in 22 reservoirs and imparting training for 2,140 fishermen and released a sum of Rs.96.75 lakhs being the first instalment. The scheme will be continued during 2010-11 as well.

b) *Creation of database on ornamental fish breeding / rearing centres and other allied industries.*

The NFDB has sanctioned and released Rs.2.44 lakhs for creating database on ornamental Fish breeding and allied industries in Tamil Nadu.

9. 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), Central Institute of Brackish water Aquaculture (CIBA), Central Marine Fisheries Research Institute (CMFRI) and the Fisheries College and Research Institute (FC & RI) at Thoothukudi.

During the 28th meeting of the Tamil Nadu State Fisheries Research Council held on 29.2.2008, under the Chairmanship of Hon'ble Minister for Fisheries, it was planned to take up the following research programmes for the period 2008-10.

- Standardising the multiple breeding technology by environmental and feeding management.
- Development of Mahseer fishery in upland waters.
- Environmental Impact Assessment of shrimp farm discharges.
- Study on the prevalence of shrimp diseases.
- Study on the Tuna Fishery resources of Nagapattinam and Kanniyakumari Districts.
- Status / Study on the aggregation of fish in the available artificial reef.
- Study on the Lobster fishery of Thoothukudi and Kanniyakumari Districts.
- Present strategy of management in Kelavarapalli and Krishnagiri Reservoirs.
- Studies on the availability of commercially important fresh water prawn seeds in river Coleroon and study on growth of *Macrobrachium malcolmsonii* in culture ponds.
- Improvement of Trout fisheries in the Niligiris.

- Production of cost effective feed for Trout brood stock for selected ornamental fishes.
- Breeding of Marine / Fresh water ornamental fishes.
- Resource assessment of milk fish in Mandapam Coast.

10. EXTENSION AND TRAINING

Extension and Training plays a vital role in transfer of technology and propagate Government welfare Schemes to the stakeholders. Apart from that, the Department of Fisheries is running a Staff training institute at Chennai and fishermen training centres at 4 places viz., Nagapattinam, Mandapam, Colachel and Thoothukudi. The Department is also conducting various need based target oriented training programmes with the funding support of Swarna Jayanthi Grama Swarozkar Yojna (SGSY), National Agriculture Development Programme (NADP), National Fisheries Development Board (NFDB) and Government of India.

10.1 TRAINING FOR FISHER YOUTH

For the operation and maintenance of the mechanised fishing boats and to operate modern fishing gear, the fisher youth are given training on modern fishing methods for 10 months in four places at Nagapattinam, Mandapam, Thoothukudi

and Colachel. 50 to 60 fisher youth are trained in each centre. Besides, a Junior Mechanic course is also conducted in these training centres. Monthly stipend of Rs.400/- is paid to each selected trainee.

10.2 MARITIME EDUCATION FOR FISHER YOUTH

To upgrade the skills in Maritime Education and Nautical Sciences thereby providing more employment opportunities to fisher youth, the Government is extending financial assistance to pursue Maritime Education and Nautical Sciences after completing 10th std or +2.

Under this Scheme, during 2007-08, the Government have sanctioned Rs.50.00 lakhs at the rate of Rs.50,000/- per person benefiting 100 fisher youth. Since limited courses were included under this scheme initially, only 9 fisher youth have availed the assistance. The Government have included 4 more courses additionally. At present, 50 applications have been received from the fisher youth for availing the assistance. The Scheme will be continued during 2010-11 as well.

10.3 FISHERIES INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY AND TRAINING

In accordance with the announcement made in the Assembly, an Institute named "Fisheries Institute of Technology and Training" (FITT) has

been established with the participation of TATAs , to impart world class training facility to fishers and thereby improving the socio- economic condition of fishers. Land measuring 2.6 acres at Muttukadu has been transferred to establish infrastructure facilities for FITT. Training has been given to 2390 fishermen on seaweed culture and Tuna fishing. The Scheme will be continued during 2010-11 as well.

11. NEW SCHEMES 2010 – 2011

11.1 WAIVER OF LOAN AVAILED BY FISHERMEN TO REPLACE THEIR DAMAGED FISHING CRAFTS DURING TSUNAMI

Fishermen who either lost or got their fishing crafts damaged during Tsunami and availed loans from banks to buy new mechanized boats have represented that they are unable to repay these loans and requested the assistance of State Government in settling their dues. Accepting their request, this Government have formulated a scheme in consultation with the banks to remove the debt burden of fishermen who availed bank loans for the replacement of crafts. Under this Scheme, the entire principal amount of the loan taken for replacing the crafts by Tsunami affected fishermen will be waived by repaying their dues to the bank by the State Government. The banks have agreed to waive the entire outstanding interest portion on these loans. Vide G.O (4D) No. 7, Animal Husbandry, Dairying and Fisheries Department,

dated: 31.03.2010, the Government have sanctioned Rs.6,370.00 lakhs to waive the Tsunami loan availed by 2715 fishermen.

11.2 ONLINE REGISTRATION OF FISHING CRAFTS

Realizing the importance of imposing stringent security measures in the coastal States in the aftermath of the terrorist attack at Mumbai on 26.11.2008, the Government of India had initiated steps for adopting uniform registration of fishing crafts throughout the coast for issuing ID cards to fishermen.

Government of Tamil Nadu have agreed in principle for adopting a uniform registration process and also accepted the common online registration of fishing crafts formulated by the Government of India.

Govt. of India have sanctioned a sum of Rs.498.30 lakhs as being the 1st instalment and released Rs.120.00 lakhs to National Informatics Centre (NIC), New Delhi, for taking up the projects covering all the coastal States during 2009-10. Tamil Nadu has been allotted Rs.70.90 lakhs. The online registration certificate would be a bilingual one. The Scheme will be implemented shortly in coordination with NIC.

11.3. ISSUE OF BIOMETRIC IDENTITY CARDS

The Government of India have sanctioned a Scheme for issue of uniform identity cards with biometric features to the fishermen in the coastal villages. MNIC cards will be issued by the Registrar General of India to the entire fisher population in the coastal States and Biometric ID cards will be issued by the Department of Fisheries for active fishermen.

Government of India have allocated a sum of Rs.116.00 lakhs to Tamil Nadu for implementing the Scheme during 2009-10.

11.4 SUBSIDY ASSISTANCE (50%) TO FISHERMEN TO EQUIP SMALL FISHING CRAFTS FOR TUNA LONG LINE FISHING

The Marine fish production has been levelled off for the past few decades. The catch per unit has been considerably reduced due to increasing dependence on the resource. Diversification to offshore and deep sea fishing are the few options available to reduce the fishing pressure in the inshore region. Tuna is one such offshore fishery resource yet to be optimally exploited. Tuna has both domestic and International market. India is still in infant stage in exploitation of export oriented Tuna Fisheries. In order to utilize the under exploited tuna resources in Tamil Nadu, the

Government extends 50% subsidy assistance to the fishermen to equip their small crafts for Tuna fishing. During 2010-11, 50 mechanized boats and 50 FRP Vallams will be equipped by providing necessary infrastructure facilities for tuna fishing at a total estimated cost of Rs. 35.35 lakhs. The mechanized boat fishermen will get subsidy assistance of 50% capital cost subject to maximum of Rs. 40,000/- per unit and the FRP Vallam fishermen will get subsidy assistance 50% capital cost subject to maximum of Rs.30,000/- per unit.

11.5. OPENING OF BAR MOUTHS AT VELLAR, PILLAMEDU AND CHINNAVAIKKAL NEAR PICHAVARAM IN CUDDALORE DISTRICT

The Cuddalore District, has a coastal length of 57.5 K.m. and 49 Marine Fishing Villages with total population of 49,113. The Fishing fleet strength of Cuddalore District includes 656 mechanized boats, 1,111 FRP Vallams and 5,538 wooden catamarans. The fishermen use the bar mouths at Vellar, Pillamedu and Chinnavaikkal to venture into the sea. Due to failure of the monsoon and inadequate rainfall, the river mouths and the leading channels are closed with sand bar. Hence, the fishermen face hardship to venture into sea for fishing.

In order to alleviate the sufferings of the fishermen of Cuddalore District and facilitate navigation, dredging of bar mouths and its leading channel to sea is essential. The dredging of bar mouths and leading channels at Vellar, Pillamedu and Chinnavaikal will be carried out at an estimated cost of Rs. 29.04 lakhs during the year 2010-11. The project will be implemented through Fishing Harbour Project Circle, Chennai.

11.6 OFFICE AUTOMATION – INTRA NETWORKING OF ADMINISTRATIVE SECTIONS IN HEAD OFFICE

The various fishermen welfare and Fisheries developmental schemes are being implemented and monitored by the 18 administrative sections in Head Office. Getting reports from the administrative sections, compiling and sending them to the Government and other intended agencies and monitoring is cumbersome and time consuming.

By undertaking automation of the administrative office and development of user friendly softwares, the benefits of various schemes, will reach the beneficiaries in time. Implementing the Schemes in an effective and efficient manner will be also ensured. Hence, “Office automation – Intra networking of Administrative sections in Head

office” will be done at an estimated cost of Rs 25.50 lakhs during the year 2010-11.

11.7 TAMIL NADU MARINE FISHER FOLK CENSUS - 2010

Tamil nadu with a coastal length of 1076 km has 591 marine fishing villages with 363 fish landing centres. The last marine fisher folk census was taken by the Tamil Nadu Fisheries Department during the year 2000. To ascertain the changing scenario, it is necessary to take marine fisher folk census once in ten years. The census will be useful to the planner, policy makers, administrators to plan and implement the Fishermen welfare and developmental schemes. It is also reiterated that the census will help to ascertain the changes in the post Tsunami scenario.

Hence, the Marine Fisherfolk census – 2010, will be undertaken at an estimated cost of Rs.21.01 lakhs during the year 2010-11.

11.8 RECONSTRUCTION OF QUARTERS OF FISHERMEN WORKING IN DEPARTMENT FISHFARM AT MANIMUTHAR, TIRUNELVELI DISTRICT

The reconstruction of 8 quarters meant for departmental fishermen built during 1950 and now in a dilapidated condition will be taken up at an

estimated Cost of Rs.19.00 lakhs during the year 2010-11.

11.9 REPAIRS TO THE OFFICE BUILDING OF THE INSPECTOR OF FISHERIES POONDI, TIRUVALLUR DISTRICT.

The office of the Inspector of Fisheries at Poondi in Tiruvallur District was constructed in the year 1960 to look after the reservoir fisheries activities of Sathyamurthy Sagar and the induced carp spawning and seed rearing in the farm located at Poondi. It has been decided to repair the damages in this building at an estimated cost of Rs.4.50 lakhs during the year 2010-11.

11.10 DOCUMENTARY FILM ON GLORIOUS 100 YEARS OF FISHERIES DEVELOPMENT IN TAMIL NADU

The Department of Fisheries in Tamil Nadu is one of the oldest Departments in the Country and was established during the year 1907. The department has pioneered many developmental and fishermen welfare schemes. The efforts taken by the Department over the past 100 years need to be documented. Hence, a documentary film on Glorious 100 years of Fisheries Development in Tamil Nadu will be produced at an estimated cost of Rs.11.00 lakhs during the year 2010-11.

11.11 CONSTRUCTION OF MEENAVAR SANTHAI (FISH MARKET) IN GULF OF MANNAR REGION

Ramanathapuram District has the longest coast line of 236.8 kms covering part of Palk Bay and Gulf of Mannar with 184 Marine Fishing Villages and a total population of 1,41,948. The Fishing fleet strength of Ramanathapuram District includes 1,705 mechanized boats and 5,266 traditional fishing crafts. In order to develop fish marketing in Gulf of Mannar area, as a pilot scheme it has been planned to construct a Meenavar Santhai (Fish Market) at an estimated cost of Rs.10.00 lakhs during the year 2010-11.

12. FISHERIES CO-OPERATIVE SOCIETIES

The Fisheries Co-operative Societies play a dynamic role in the upliftment of fishermen and fisherwomen in the State by extending many welfare Schemes to the members. About 5.56 lakh fishermen/fisherwomen have been enrolled as members of the fishermen co-operative societies. 54 fair price shops are being run by the fishermen co-operative societies.

The details of the Societies / Members are as given below:-

Society	No. of Societies	Members enrolled
Marine Fishermen Co-operative Societies	560	3,22,121
Marine Fisherwomen Co-operative Societies	417	1,49,140
Inland Fishermen Co-operative Societies	299	71,214
Inland Fisherwomen Co-operative Societies	68	6178
Other types of Societies	21	6028
District Fishermen Co-operative Federation	11	727
Tamil Nadu State Apex Fisheries Co-operative Federation	1	598
TOTAL	1377	5,56,006

12.1 TAMILNADU STATE APEX FISHERIES CO-OPERATIVE FEDERATION LIMITED (TAFCOFED)

In order to uplift the economic status of the fishermen in Tamil Nadu, the Tamilnadu 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 TAFCOFED and have paid Rs.89.095 lakhs as share capital.

TAFCOFED, in line with it's objectives, implemented the Integrated Marine Fisheries Development Project in two phases availing NCDC fund. Under this project, TAFCOFED distributed fishing inputs consisting of fishing crafts, engines and gears to the members of the Fishermen Co-operative Societies. Rs. 1979.00 lakhs was disbursed to 147 Fishermen Co-operatives benefiting 5,669 beneficiaries who had acquired 2,736 fishing inputs.

After Tsunami, by way of reducing the outstanding loan burden of fishermen, the Government of Tamil Nadu has waived the amount of loan, interest, Penal Interest and Share Capital outstanding as on 31.07.2005 to the tune of Rs.1,956.00 lakhs. The amount was released from the Prime Minister's National Relief Fund. 5,635 Marine Fishermen who are members of 147 Fishermen Co-operative Societies were benefited.

The Integrated Marine Fisheries Development Project Phase I and phase II has come to an end on 30.06.2006. At present, TAFCOFED has established Diesel Bunk under income generating activities and supply tax exempted diesel to fishermen. In addition, supply of OBM under Government subsidy scheme is also undertaken.

12.2. DIESEL BUNKS

In order to ensure that each fisherman is benefited by services provided by the Federation both in terms of "Quality and Price" and also to improve the financial position of TAFCOFED, the diesel outlets have been established in the following centres :-

Sl. No.	Name of the District	Name of the Village
1.	Tiruvallur	Pulicut
2.	Kancheepuram	Neelangarai
3.	Cuddalore	Annankoil
4.	Nagapattinam	Nagore
5.	Thanjavur	Sethubavachatram
6.	Thoothukudi	Vembar
7.	Thoothukudi	Tharuvaikulam
8.	Kanniyakumari	Chinnamuttom
9.	Ramanathapuram	Keelakarai

Further, TAFCOFED has initiated action to establish one Diesel Bunk at Marrakanam in

Villupuram District and another at Jegathapattinam in Pudukkottai District.

12.3 SALE OF OUTBOARD MOTORS

TAFCOFED is also supplying Outboard Motors to the fishermen under Central and State Subsidy scheme. Under this Scheme, Rs.30,000/- is given as subsidy to each fisherman.

12.4 SERVICE CENTRE

TAFCOFED is running one service centre at Mallipattinam in Thanjavur District, for selling engine spares, fishing requisites and engine oil to fishermen.

12.5 ESTABLISHMENT OF FISH STALLS

The TAFCOFED has established one modern fish retail outlet at Neyveli under Centrally Sponsored Post Harvest Infrastructure Development Scheme.

12.6 WAIVER OF LOAN GIVEN TO FISHERMEN THROUGH FISHERMEN CO-OPERATIVE SOCIETIES PRIOR TO THE FORMATION OF TAMILNADU STATE APEX FISHERIES CO-OPERATIVE FEDERATION (TAFCOFED)

Prior to the formation of Tamilnadu State Apex Fisheries Co-operative Federation (TAFCOFED), loans were sanctioned to fishermen through Co-operative Societies. As on 31.12.2007, Rs.337.00 lakhs was outstanding towards principal and Rs.637.00 lakhs as interest and penal interest. Vide G.O. (Ms.) No. 101, Animal Husbandry, Dairying and Fisheries Department, dated 27.08.2009, the principal, interest and penal interest were waived, benefiting 5,877 members of 119 Fishermen Co-operative Societies.

13. 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.500.00 lakhs and the paid up Share Capital of Rs.445.52 lakhs.

The Corporation is at present engaged in the following activities:

1. Management of reservoirs by stocking quality fish seeds and exploiting them on commercial basis.
2. Production of quality fish seeds by induced carp spawning centers at reservoir sites for stocking in the reservoirs and for sale to fish farmers.
3. Management of Ice Plants, Cold Storages and Processing Plants at Mandapam, Thoothukudi
4. Supply of diesel at subsidized price to fishermen through retail outlets at Fishing Harbours/Jetties.
5. Supply of quality fish in prime condition to public at reasonable price through retail outlets in Chennai, Madurai, Coimbatore, Pollachi, Thiruvannamalai and other important towns.
6. Management of Shrimp Hatchery at Neelankarai near Chennai and providing facilities to RGCA, MPEDA for shrimp seed brood stock management and quarantine projects.

7. Management of Model Shrimp Farm at Karangadu.
8. Production and marketing of ornamental fishes and management of Fresh Water Aquarium at various places and marine aquarium at Mandapam
9. Supply of OBM/IBE to the fishermen under subsidy for motorisation of traditional fishing crafts.

13.1 RESERVOIRS

The following reservoirs are under the management of the Tamil Nadu Fisheries Development Corporation Limited in which systematic stocking of fish seeds is done. Harvesting of fish is done by engaging local fishermen who are entitled for the value of 1/3rd of the catches as their share.

- a) Sathanur Dam
- b) Bhavanisagar
- c) Aliyar
- d) Amaravathy
- e) Thirumoorthy Nagar
- f) Uppar
- g) Palar-Porandalar
- h) Perumpallam

During the year 2009-10, 621 tonnes of fish were harvested from the reservoirs under the control of TNFDC. The revenue realization is Rs. 293.81 lakhs (including lease income). The Bhavanisagar, Uppar, Perumpallam Reservoirs have been leased out to private parties.

13.2 FISH SEED PRODUCTION

The Corporation is managing one fish seed production centre at Sathanur Dam and four rearing centres at Aliyar, Amaravathy, Thirumoorthy Nagar and Palar-Porandalar with total rearing area of 3.79 ha. Fish seeds produced are stocked in the reservoirs managed by the TNFDC in addition to supplying of fish seeds to the Fisheries Department and Private farmers. During 2009-10, 198 lakhs of Early Fry were produced and 32.07 lakhs of Fingerlings were reared and supplied.

13.3 FISH PROCESSING

The Corporation is also managing Ice Plants / Processing Plants in the State. The processing plant at Mandapam is leased out for Rs.8.35 lakhs per annum.

13.4 DIESEL OUTLETS

At present, the Corporation is operating 27 diesel outlets in the Fishing Harbours and Jetties spread all along the coast line in the state to

supply subsidised diesel to the traditional and mechanised crafts owners. During the year 2009-10, total quantity of 77,543 KL of diesel were sold to fishermen.

13.5. FISH MARKETING

The Corporation is marketing fresh fish and also running fish food courts in Chennai, Madurai, Coimbatore, Tirupur Trichy, Pollachi, Tirunelveli and Thiruvannamalai. During the year 2009-10, 785 tonnes of fish were sold for Rs.996.18 lakhs.

13.6. SHRIMP HATCHERY AT NEELANKARAI

The hatchery has been leased out to "Rajiv Gandhi Centre for Aquaculture" society of Marine Products Export Development Authority from 24.01.2004 for shrimp brood stock management and quarantine facilities.

13.7. MODEL SHRIMP FARM AT KARANGADU

The TNFDC has taken over the farm from the lessee and taking action for culture of milk fish.

13.8. PRODUCTION AND MARKETING OF ORNAMENTAL FISHES

Under the 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 2009-10, Rs.29.69 lakhs was realized as total revenue from the sale of ornamental fish and accessories.

13.9 SUPPLY OF OBM/IBE UNDER SUBSIDY TO MOTORISE THE TRADITIONAL FISHING CRAFTS

The TNFDC is supplying Outboard Motor / Inboard Engines under subsidy to the fishermen for motorisation of the traditional fishing crafts.

13.10 SCHEMES BEING IMPLEMENTED BY TNFDC UNDER FUNDING ASSISTANCE FROM VARIOUS GOVERNMENT AGENCIES.

Sl. No.	Name of the Scheme	Amount (in lakhs)
I. POST HARVEST INFRASTRUCTURE DEVELOPMENT		
A)	Under Strengthening of Post Harvest Infrastructure	16.00

	Development Scheme funded by Government of India, Ministry of Agriculture, 4 Retail fish sale outlets established at 4 places @ Rs.4.00 lakhs each.	
B)	Purchase of 3 TATA 407 insulated vehicle for fish Marketing	15.00
C)	Establishment of Fish Stall-cum-Aquarium-cum-Value Added Product sales outlet at Teynampet under the assistance of Post Harvest Infrastructure Development Scheme funded by Government of India, Ministry of Agriculture.	10.00
II. NADP SCHEMES		
A)	Setting up of Modern Fish stalls @ Rs. 6.00 lakhs each in five places	30.00
B)	Establishment of Chill Room Facilities in four Fishing Harbours /Fish Landing Centres @ Rs.15.00 lakhs each	60.00
C)	Fish Culture in Cages in Reservoirs.	10.80
III. NATIONAL FISHERIES DEVELOPMENT BOARD SCHEMES		
A)	Stocking of Advanced Fingerlings in the reservoirs managed by TNFDC Under reservoir management	75.12

	scheme for the year 2008-09	
B)	Stocking of Advanced Fingerlings in the reservoirs managed by TNFDC Under reservoir management scheme for the year 2009-10	21.80
C)	Establishment of Fish Dressing Centre at Royapuram Fishing Harbour, Chennai. for marketing value added products	100.00
D)	Modernisation of wholesale fish market at Ukkadam, Coimbatore.	250.00
E)	Construction of Earthen Pond at Thirumoorthy Nagar for creating additional fish seed rearing space	3.50

14. TAMIL NADU FISHERMEN WELFARE BOARD

- To provide social security and for ensuring well being of fishermen and labourers engaged in fishing and allied activities, Tamilnadu Fishermen Welfare Board was established on 29.06.2007 and functioning from 04.10.2008 with its Head Office at Neelangarai, Chennai - 600 041.

- A sum of Rs.500.00 lakhs has been sanctioned as grant for the year 2007-08 for implementation of various welfare programmes.

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

Sl. No	Relief / Assistance				Amount (in Rs).
1	Accident Relief				
	(a) Death due to Accident				1,00,000
	(b) Loss of both hands				1,00,000
	(c) Loss of both legs				1,00,000
	(d) Loss of one hand and one leg				1,00,000
	(e) Loss of sight in both eyes				1,00,000
	(f) Loss of limbs due to Major injuries other than the above items				50,000
2	Death during fishing or after fishing other than accidental death				20,000
3	Fisherman missing during				1,00,000

	fishing				
4	Natural death				10,000
5	Funeral Expenses				2,500
6	Assistance for Education to son or daughter of the member	Day scholar		Hosteller	
		Boys	Girls	Boys	Girls
	a) Pass in 10 th Std	1250	1500	---	---
	b) Pass in 12 th Std	1750	2000	---	---
	c) ITI and Polytechnic (for one year)	1250	1750	1450	1950
	d) Bachelor Degree in Arts (for one year)	1750	2250	2000	2500
	e) Post Graduate Degree (for one year)	2250	2750	3250	3750
	f) Professional courses (Law, Engineering, and Medicine etc.) (for one year)	2250	2750	4250	4750
	f) Post Graduate Professional courses (for 1 Year)	4250	4750	6250	6750
7	Marriage Assistance	Man		Woman	
	a) Marriage Assistance to Member	3000		5000	

	b) Marriage Assistance to son or daughter of member	3000	5000
8	Delivery or Miscarriage of Pregnancy or Termination of Pregnancy		
	Delivery	6000	
	Miscarriage	3000	
	Termination	3000	
9	Old Age Pension per month (Above 65 years)	400	

- As on 31.03.2010, a total of 2,55,790 fishers were enrolled as members in the Board. So far, 3,848 claims were settled and relief / assistance totalling Rs.1,51,70,200/- under various schemes of the Board was sanctioned. A sum of Rs.65,81,270/- has been received from various agencies as specified in the Act, as contribution to the fund of Tamil Nadu Fishermen Welfare Board.

**K.P.P. SAMY,
MINISTER FOR FISHERIES.**