FISHERIES SECTOR IN TAMIL NADU

DEPARTMENT OF FISHERIES
Government of Tamil Nadu
Tamil Nadu, located on the south-eastern coast of India, is a well-known and a diversified industrial state of India. The state has vast coastline and has good marine, brackish and inland fishery resources. It also has well developed fishing infrastructure like Fishing harbours, Fish landing centres, etc. It is the fourth largest fish producer in the country. The State has been a significant contributor to the Indian economy and has witnessed unprecedented economic growth for decades and transpired to become one of the most sought after investment destinations in the country due to its strategic location, conducive business environment, state-of-the-art infrastructure, proactive governance and favourable ecosystem and which is why 57 of Fortune 500 companies have chosen Tamil Nadu as one of their destination.
Tamil Nadu is blessed with 1,076 km long coastline along the 13 coastal districts. The total fish production of Tamil Nadu is 7.12 lakh tons and ranks 4th position in the total fish production of the Nation. Fisheries Sector contributes 0.7% to the Gross State Domestic Product (GSDP). Tamil Nadu has an efficient fishing fleet of 6,000 mechanised and 38,779 traditional fishing crafts. The total marine fish production is 4.97 lakh MT. There are 2.5 lakh active marine fishermen. Tamil Nadu marine fisheries sector supports livelihood of about 10 lakh fisher folk. Tamil Nadu has an excellent landing and shore infrastructure with 9 major fishing harbours, 3 medium fishing harbours and 36 fish landing centres which ensure hygienic fish handling and high quality fish.

Tamil Nadu has a vast inland fishery resource of 3.83 Lakh ha including rivers, reservoirs, canals, irrigational tanks, ponds, etc. The total inland fish production of the State is 2.15 lakh tons. About 11,000 ha are under Coastal aquaculture activities, mainly shrimp farming.

Tamil Nadu has an excellent fish processing infrastructure of 75 exclusive fish processing plants with a capacity of 3,140 tons and in addition to that 77 cold storage facilities are available with a capacity of 48,000 MT. Tamil Nadu contributed to the marine seafood exports of 1,14,337 tons valued at Rs. 5407.69 Crore.

Presence of Research and Export promotion institutions like Central Marine Fisheries Research Institute (CMFRI), Central Institute of Brackishwater Aquaculture (CIBA), Central Institute of Fisheries Nautical Engineering and Technology (CIFNET), Fishery Survey of India (FSI), National Institute of Ocean Technology (NIOT), National Centre for Sustainable Coastal Zone Management (NCSCZM) and Rajiv Gandhi Centre for Aquaculture (RGCA), Marine Products Export Development Authority (MPEDA) and Coastal Aquaculture Authority (CAA) support the fisheries sector in the State.
VISION & MISSION

To conserve the fishery resources

To ensure social security and improved livelihood of fishermen

To ensure the supply of quality and hygienic fish and fishery products to the public at an affordable price.

Diversification of fishing efforts into deep sea

Creation and Upgradation of infrastructure facilities

Bridging the gap between the demand and supply of fish
Government will facilitate private investment in these sector and help in obtaining Land and necessary clearances.
Development of export oriented fish processing in the State.

Development of exclusive fish processing corridors.

Co-operation in development of infrastructure for processing deep sea catches, particularly Sashimi grade tuna.

Development of integrated open sea aquaculture projects in territorial waters.

Co-operation in building of deep sea fishing vessels.
SCOP FOR INVESTMENT

- Development of coastal aquaculture parks / clusters, particularly for shrimp farming
- Technological support from partner countries for open sea aquaculture practices.
- Development of sport / recreational fishing in the State
- Training in quality standards and best practices
Marine fishery resources are renewable and limited, therefore management of the harvest of marine fishery resources is necessary for sustained production from the sea. The Government of Tamil Nadu is promoting growth of Marine Fisheries Sector in the State to provide our fishermen fraternity the safety, security, enhanced livelihood opportunities, shore infrastructure facilities on par with international standards have also been provided. Facilities to encourage quality enhancement of seafood which in turn results in value addition and also encourage diversification of fishing efforts into deep sea fishing to yield
substantial and positive impact not only on the livelihood improvement of fisher men but also on the marine fishery resources of the State. Marine fishery sector comprises of 6000 mechanized and 40,000 traditional crafts through which the state could achieve an annual marine fish production of 4.97 lakh MT (2017-18) and stands second with 10 to 12% contribution to the total marine fish production of India.
INLAND fisheries
Tamil Nadu is richly endowed with 3.83 lakh Ha. of inland fisheries resources including reservoirs, major irrigation and long seasonal tanks, short seasonal tanks and ponds. About 2.30 lakh inland fishermen are engaged in this sector. The inland fish production potential of the State is estimated to 4.50 lakh tons and the present production stands at 2.15 lakh tonnes. Under Blue Revolution efforts are being taken to triple the inland fish production by 2022.

In the recent past, the Government has taken various measures to introduce fast growing fish varieties like Amur carp, Jayanthi rohu, Genetically Improved Farmed Tilapia (GIFT), Pangassius sp., etc and are being successfully cultured all over the State which contributed significantly to inland fish production.

The State has 10 fish seed production centers and 42 fish seed rearing centers to cater the supply of fish seeds to the fish farmers. The inland fish seed production has reached a record level of 56 million in the year 2017-18. Intensification of seed rearing using aeration and probiotics and intensification of fish culture using cages is also successfully implemented in the state.

The inland fisheries sector infrastructure has been improved considerably in the last decade. Fish markets in major cities and towns have been modernized to enable Hygienic fish marketing. Skill enhancement is being provided for technological upgradation and recent advances in fish culture practices. The state has a huge potential for establishing fish feed mills, fish seed banks and aqua parks for enhancement of inland fish production.
Tamil Nadu has an excellent fish landing and shore infrastructure facility with 6 Major fishing harbours, 3 Medium fishing harbours, 36 fish landing centres. Chennai and Thoothukudi are major export oriented fish processing hubs of the state. These major fishing harbours have been established under Centrally Sponsored Scheme comprising of Main break water and Leeward breakwater for the formation of harbor basin. It is provided with infrastructure facilities such as Wharf, Jetties, Fish Auction Hall, Net Mending Shed etc., for the safe berthing and hygienic handling of the catches.

These facilities provide a strong base for the holistic development of fisheries in an integrated way as a policy for conservation of resources. It ensures safe berthing of fishing crafts, sustainable exploitation of fishery resources and promotion of aquaculture. This also aids in providing platform for hygienic fish handling, strengthening domestic marketing structure and human resource development in fisheries sector.

Now the Government is in the process of developing state of the art fishing harbour at Mookaiyur
and fish landing centre at Kunthukal exclusively to handle deep sea catches.

For the development of Inland fisheries the fisheries department has undertaken new construction, repair/renovation of Government fish seed farms under various schemes and an additional space of 34.8 ha has been created in the recent past.

The ponds in fish farms are developed with RCC/masonry structures for easy maintenance, better utility of available water source and sustainable usage.

The Sports Fishing – Cum – Eco park at Chetpet lake, Chennai established with facilities like boating jetty, angling sports, Multi Level Car Parking (MLCP), Park recreation centre, food court, walking and jogging tracks, children play area and sewage treatment plant. This landmark facility in the heart of the city has received overwhelming response from the public, besides supporting ground water recharge of that area through rain water harvesting.
The State has a long coastline bestowed with 56,000 ha of nutrient rich backwaters and creeks which offers ample opportunities to develop coastal aquaculture. The introduction of Specific Pathogen Free (SPF) Litopenaeus vannamei seed encouraged rapid development of Litopenaeus vannamei shrimp farming in the State.
In Tamil Nadu, 65 shrimp hatcheries supply Specific Pathogen Free (SPF) seed to farms located in Tamil Nadu and to other States. There are 3000 shrimp farms in 11,000 ha under coastal aquaculture mainly, Litopenaeus vannamei farming. India exported 5.66 lakh tons of shrimp valued at 30,868 Crore (USD 4848.19 million) during 2016-17.

Globally renowned aquaculture feed manufacturers set up their feed manufacturing facilities in the state. Export Inspection Council (EIC), Marine Products Export Development Authority (MPEDA) ensure quality requirements of farm products suitable for various importing countries.

Coastal Aquaculture in Tamil Nadu is now undergoing rapid development and offer excellent scope for private and overseas investment in Integrated coastal Aquaculture parks comprising facilities like farming area, hatcheries, feed mills, processing units, etc., Availability of vast coastal land parcels and State’s infrastructure and the Government hand holding will make these investments further attractive.
OPEN SEA CAGE FARMING
Tamil Nadu has second largest coastline of 1076 km with 0.19 million sq. km of EEZ. The state has diversified marine ecosystems with varied fishery wealth and thus has huge potential for off shore mariculture. The long coastline and the potential EEZ offers tremendous scope to undertake this activity in a large scale.

Open sea Cage culture in the near shore waters / off shore waters is an emerging and prominent income generating activity. The State has favourable climatic and sea condition to undertake Open Sea Cage Culture. Tamil Nadu has successfully standardized and propagated open sea cage farming among fisher-folk.

The Sustainable development of mariculture activities only can improve the livelihood of the fisher folk in view of the declining marine capture fisheries. Hatchery production of fast growing marine fin fish species like Cobia, Silver Pompano and Sea bass suitable for open sea cage culture have been standardized. There is good scope for large scale commercial seed production of these species. The State looks forward to,

- Develop supporting industries such as cage design, cage accessories, etc.
- Establish integrated open sea cage farming units
- Marine finfish feed production
- Large scale marine finfish seed production
OCEANARIUM
The Government of Tamil Nadu is in the process of establishing the first Oceanarium of the Country at Mamallapuram (Chennai) on PPP basis and will be on par with International Standards.

The objective is to educate and create awareness on the marine bio diversity, to augment the tourism potential of Mamallapuram, Chennai and provide a wholesome infotainment facility for the national and international tourists.

A suitable site, strategically located near the popular tourism spots and beach in an extent of 15 acres located 58 Kms from Chennai, on the shores of Bay of Bengal, at Mamallapuram. It is known for group of monuments which has been classified as a UNESCO World Heritage Site thus recording a tourist footfall of around 50 lakhs per annum – (Domestic & International)

The Government proposes to house rare fish species, coral reefs, research labs and other entertainment facilities. Replicating an ocean environment with various marine species, developing facilities to house the marine living organisms, maintaining sufficient stock for replenishment, providing complete balanced nutrition and feeding schedule, monitoring the water quality continuously.

As the Oceanarium project is an unique and a new concept to India which requires technical collaborators as expertise is needed at every stage of development and operation. Tamil Nadu Government looks forward developers and technical collaborators with previous experience.

- Proposed to construct and operate the Oceanarium at Mahabalipuram, Chennai and at present the process of bidding is in RFP stage.
- The Government will also provide hand hold support for getting clearances from various Government agencies.
- Similar projects will be taken up in important coastal cities and towns for smaller Oceanariums and large aquariums.
Tamil Nadu already has good number of deep sea fishing vessels in east and west coast; particularly operate from Kanniyakumari in west coast and Nagapattinam and Chennai in east coast.
Presently about 1000 deep sea fishing vessels are operating in the State and above 2000 boats will be constructed in future.

- The Government has envisaged implementing a pilot innovative projects of stationing carrier Mother Vessel’ at mid sea, to act as a source of essential inputs for the ‘baby vessels’ involved in commercial fishing in the deep sea and this project will be taken up under Public Private Partnership (PPP) mode.

- Mid – Sea carrier mother vessel is aimed at employing a well equipped vessel which will act as a source of critical inputs for the ‘baby vessels’ and is expected to have all the facilities for onboard fish processing.

- Will function as ‘Value Added Export Oriented Facility’ and ensure quality standards for export, will provide quality catch, minimal post harvest losses, better marketability and result higher price realizations for the fishers.

- Mother vessel will supply fuel, water, food supplies, ration and essential needs to the fishing vessel which fishing vessels can remain in the fishing grounds for longer duration and continue fishing without returning to shore, which reduces fuel consumption.

- The Tamil Nadu Government requires support in identification of a suitable private partner with technical support for this project.

- Government will provide operational subsidy of Rs.893.32 lakh towards diesel, salary and food materials to crew and consumables expenses for two years to the mother vessel operator.

- Tamil Nadu has invited Expression of Interest (EOI) for stationing carrier mother vessel and details are available in the websites.
PALK BAY

Government of Tamil Nadu is promoting the deep sea fishing to diversify the trawl fishing pressure from the Palk Bay into Deep sea fishing. The Government has introduced a new scheme and issued administrative orders for Diversification of 2000 numbers of trawl fishing boats from Palk Bay into Deep sea fishing boats in a phased manner with funding assistance from the Government of India and Government of Tamil Nadu. The total cost of the project including beneficiary contribution is Rs.1600 crores.

INAUGURATION

In the year 2017-18, Government has sanctioned a sum of Rs.386 crore (Gol-Rs.300 crore and State-86 crore) being subsidy assistance to fishermen for construction of 750 Tuna long liner cum gill netter towards diversifying trawl fishing boats into deep sea fishing. The scheme was inaugurated by the Hon’ble Prime Minister of India on 27.07.2017. Under this scheme, work orders have been issued to 360 beneficiaries for construction of deep sea fishing boats. Construction of 50 boats is in various stages.
of trawl fishing boats from Palk Bay can be achieved in the stipulated time only with the participation of renowned International and National Boat Builders and there is tremendous potential for construction of deep sea fishing boats as per the recommended design. Further, the Government of Tamil Nadu will help the firms in allocation of lands, electricity and clearances for developing the boat building yards along the coast of Tamil Nadu under conditional basis.

SEEKING...

Cold Chain Facilities and Investment in forward and backward linkages

In addition the Government of Tamil Nadu is also seeking expression of interest from potential investors for Cold Chain Facilities and Investment in forward and backward linkages which are needed for the deep sea fishing boats.

EXPRESSION OF INTEREST

A global advertisement has been floated seeking Expression of Interest from the boat yards for participating in this scheme. 52 interested companies applied and 18 boat yards were empanelled in the first phase. Letter of Intent was offered to 9 potential yards. The Cochin Shipyard Ltd., in consultation with Central Institute of Fisheries Technology (CIFT) has developed a prototype of the deep sea fishing boats. The same has been tested in IIT Kharagpur.

INVITING...

For Construction

The target of diversification of 2000 numbers
Presence of efficient, large fishing fleet and marine fish landings support development of export oriented fish processing sector in the state. Tamil Nadu exported 1,14,337 MT of marine products and earned a foreign exchange of Rs.5,407.69 crore.

Tamil Nadu has 6 Major Fishing Harbours (Chennai, Thoothukudi, Nagapattinam, Chinnamuttom, Colachel and Muttom (PPP), 36 fish landing centres and 254 fish landing points. Chennai and Thoothukudi are major export oriented fish processing hubs of the state.

There are 8 Chilled storage units with capacity 2100 MT.

There are 75 fish processing plants with a capacity of 3143 MT available in the state.

Presence of major ports in Chennai and Thoothukudi, helps in development of these export oriented processing sector rapidly.

There are 77 Cold storage facilities with a capacity of 48000 MT.

There are 75 fish processing plants with a capacity of 3143 MT available in the state.
Government is promoting deep sea fishing and proposed to build 2000 Nos. of deep sea fishing vessels in three years time.

It is expected that 1,20,000 MT of deep sea catch landings from the newly developed deep sea fishing fleet.

Fish processing parks with modern facilities under PPP mode are also being established in the state.

The Government is in the process of developing State-of-the-Art fishing harbour and fish landing centre at Mookaiyur and Kunthukal exclusively to handle deep sea catches.

Potential for value addition for fishery products.

The Government has proposed to develop forward and backward linkages and Development of Cold Chain Facilities in the Major Fishing Harbours of the state.

Considering the existing infrastructure facilities and potential fish landings in the State, there is scope for development of two Fish Processing Corridors, one from Chennai to Nagapattinam and another from Rameswaram to Kanyakumari.
The Tamil Nadu Fisheries Development Corporation Limited was established in the year 1974 as a State Owned Public Sector Undertaking with an authorized Share Capital of Rs.5.00 crore and paid up Share Capital of Rs.4.45 crore. The average annual turnover of the Corporation is Rs.450.00 crore.

The Corporation is continuously earning profit from the year 2005-06 onwards through its business activities such as Reservoir Fisheries Management Marketing of Fish and Fish Food, Fish Processing, Supply of Diesel and Kerosene to Fishermen, and ornamental fish culture activities. The Corporation is continuously paying dividend to the State Government from the year 2012-13 onwards. During the Financial Year 2017-18, the Corporation has earned a net profit of Rs.7.05 crore. The Corporation has paid dividend of Rs.2.11 crore to the State Government for the year 2017-18.

The Corporation has well established network in Marketing of Fish and Fishery Products. There is a vast scope for private investment in the Fisheries Sector with the concept of Joint Venture with Tamil Nadu Fisheries Development Corporation Limited especially in the field of Fish Processing and Aquaculture.
Tamil Nadu State Apex Fisheries Co-operative Federation Limited is a registered Apex society under Tamil Nadu Co-operatives Societies’ Act 1983. TAFCOFED was registered on 6.11.1991 and functioning since 19.10.1992 with its headquarters at Chennai. 805 Primary Fisher Cooperative Societies and 9 District Fishermen Co-operative Federations have become members of TAFCOFED. The TAFCOFED is having a paid up share capital of Rs.91.725 lakh contributed by the member societies.

TAFCOFED is implementing various fishermen welfare programmes of the Department and also supplying subsidized diesel and Kerosene to the fisherfolk of Tamil Nadu. In addition to this it has started its diversifying activities to achieve sustainable and independent existence of its own by establishing diesel bunks, Modern Fish stalls, sale of Out Board Motors / Inboard Engines, supply of DATs, Coracles, Moped fitted with Ice box and sale of Insulated ice boxes.

TAFCOFED is continuously earning profit from the year 2011-12 onwards through its business activities. There is vast scope for private investment in the Fisheries Sector with the concept of joint venture with Tamil Nadu State Apex Fisheries Cooperative Federation Limited in the field of Fish Marketing.
FISH PRODUCTION

(Quantity in Tons)

Inland
Marine

EXPORT OF FISH AND FISHERY PRODUCT

(Quantity in Tons)

Quantity
Value

FISHERIES SECTOR IN TAMIL NADU

30
DEPARTMENT OF FISHERIES
GOVT OF TAMIL NADU

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