

Subsidy to Farmers by Marine Product Export Development Authority

*829. SHRI SOBHANADREESWARA RAO VADDE: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Marine Product Export Development Authority is giving subsidy to the Brackish Water Prawn Culture Farms;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether subsidy is being given to only such farmers as obtained loans from

the Financial Institutions;

(d) if so, the reasons therefor;

(e) whether the Government propose to remove this condition; and

(f) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): (a) and (b). The Marine Products Export Development Authority (MPEDA) is giving following subsidy for the development of brackish water prawn culture farms:

<i>Sl. No.</i>	<i>Subsidy scheme</i>	<i>Objective of the Scheme</i>	<i>Rate of subsidy</i>
1.	Subsidy for New Farm Development	To bring new area Under scientific shrimp farming.	25% of Capital investment of Rs 30,000/ha. which ever is less. Maximum limit for an individual/unit under the scheme is upto 1.5 lakhs to develop 10 ha. of new area.
2.	Subsidy for Shrimp feed and seed	To encourage shrimp production through traditional farms.	25% of Cost of shrimp feed and seed to a maximum of Rs.30,000/- and Rs.450/ respectively perha. Maximum area is limited to 50 ha. per unit/beneficiary.
3.	Subsidy for establishment of shrimp hatchery	To encourage shrimp production	25% of capital investment subject to a maximum of Rs 5 lakhs.
4.	Subsidy for establishment of spawners bank	To encourage establishment of spawners bank	25% of capital cost subject to maximum of Rs. 1.5 lakhs per unit.

(c) to (f). Scientific shrimp farming is capital intensive. Most entrepreneurs take recourse to assistance from a Bank or some other financial institution. MPEDA has, therefore, generally linked up its subsidy schemes

to bank finance. This helps to ensure that the project is viable and to guard against possibility of mis-use and mis-application of the subsidy facility. However, where an entrepreneur has other sources of financing

his project, and can offer valid proof of viability of his project, of creation of assets, and of investments made, MPEDA can consider such cases for grant of subsidy on merits.

Export of Grapes

*831. DR. RAMESH CHAND TOMAR:
Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) the total quantity of grapes exported

and the foreign exchange earned therefrom during each of the last three years, country-wise; and

(b) the steps being taken by the Government to boost its export?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE
(SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): (a) and (b).
A statement is laid on the Table of the House.