

**Statement****Details of Production of Prawn During 1997-98**

Sl. No.	State	Production (tonnes)
1.	Andhra Pradesh	50,000
2.	Goa	25,000
3.	Karnataka	35,000
4.	Kerala	1,000
5.	Maharashtra	60,000
6.	Orissa	45,000
7.	Tamil Nadu	30,000
8.	West Bengal	6,000
9.	Others	1,000
<b>Total</b>		<b>3,60,000</b>

**Prawn Farms**

3046. SHRI BIKRAM DEO KESHARI : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of existing prawn farms in Orissa;
- (b) whether the prawn yields have been declining in Orissa;
- (c) if so, the details for the years 1996, 1997 and 1998 and the reasons therefor; and
- (d) the steps taken to increase the prawn production?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SOMPAL) : (a) The total number of existing prawn farms in the State of Orissa is 6526 conversing an area of about 11694 ha.

(b) and (c) According to the State Government, the production of prawn in the State during the last three

years is as given below:—

Year	Prawn Production (MT)
1995-96	6957.33
1996-97	6626.79
1997-98	4872.70

The decline in prawn production is attributed to the Supreme Court judgement on shrimp aquaculture in coastal areas.

(d) The steps taken by the Government for increasing the production of prawn inter alia include:—

- (i) development of scientific shrimp farming through Brackishwater Fish Farmers Development Agencies/Fish Farmers Development Agencies and providing package of Technical, financial and extension support to prawn farmers;
- (ii) encouraging establishment of integrated shrimp farms and support facilities such as seed hatcheries, feed mill, etc. in the Government/public/private sectors;
- (iii) human resource development by establishing demonstration-cum-training centres; and
- (iv) issue of guidelines outlining measures for development and management of sustainable brackishwater aquaculture practices, etc.

**Minimum Support Price for Copra**

3047. SHRI T. GOVINDAN : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government have received request from the Government of Kerala to enhance the Minimum Support Price of copra declared by his Ministry and also to entrust the NAFED the procurement of copra; and

(b) if so, the steps taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SOMPAL) : (a) and (b) The Government of India announced the Minimum Support Price (MSP) for Milling Copra of Fair Average Quality (FAQ) at R. 2900 per quintal and for Ball Copra (FAQ)