

NATIONAL PLATFORM FOR SMALL SCALE FISHWORKERS (INLAND)

Date: May 06, 2020

Shri Y. S. Jaganmohan Reddy. Hon'ble Chief Minister, Andhra Pradesh.

Sub: Extension of livelihood assistance to all small scale fish workers with enhanced amount of Rs.15,000/- per fish worker household.

Respected Sir,

We are given to understand from media report (copy enclosed) that the Government of Andhra Pradesh has announced livelihood support of Rs.10,000/- per month to every sea going fisherman family for the fishing ban period. The National Platform for Small Scale Fish Workers (Inland) extends its sincere thanks to you and the Government of Andhra Pradesh for the same.

In this regard we would like to put up the following for your kind consideration –

- A. Since the daily minimum wage of a semi-skilled worker is Rs.371/- and since generally there are at least two fish workers per fish worker household, the livelihood assistance should be at least Rs.15,000/- per fish worker household per month;
- B. The period of livelihood assistance for marine small scale fish workers should be the lockdown period and the fishing ban period taken together. This means that the period for livelihood assistance should be from 24th March 2020 to the end of lockdown or fishing ban period whichever is later;
- C. All categories of marine fish workers like fishers, fish vendors or fish sorters and driers should be covered by the livelihood assistance;
- D. In view of the indescribable sufferings of the small scale inland fish workers including fishers, fish farmers and fish vendors, the livelihood assistance should be extended also to them for the lockdown period;
- E. Fish workers' organisations like unions, associations, cooperatives, fish production groups or SHGs should be involved in and consulted with identifying the genuine fish workers for livelihood support.

With best regards,

Pradip Chatterjee,

Convener,

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