

New Guidelines for Import of Seaweeds

Source: TH

Recently, the Centre issued the 'Guidelines for Import of Live Seaweeds into India' to support the import of high-quality-seed-materials or germplasm, aimed at enhancing livelihood opportunities for coastal communities.

• Guidelines:

- Framework and Procedures for Importing Seaweed:
 - Establishes a regulatory **framework with clear guidelines for live seaweed import into India**, covering quarantine, risk assessment, and post-import monitoring to prevent pests, diseases, and biosecurity risks.
 - India's seaweed industry faces challenges from limited seed availability and quality issues, especially in the widely farmed <u>Kappaphycus species</u>.
- Pradhan Mantri Matsya Sampada Yojana (PMMSY):
 - The <u>PMMSY</u> targets raising <u>India's seaweed</u> production to over 1.12 million tonnes by 2025, with major initiatives such as a <u>Multipurpose Seaweed Park</u> in <u>Tamil Nadu</u> to bolster seaweed farming.
- Encouragement for Sustainable and Responsible Cultivation:
 - The guidelines encourage environmentally sustainable and economically beneficial seaweed cultivation.
 - Introducing new strains drives research and development, boosting the production of diverse seaweed species including <u>red</u>, <u>brown</u>, <u>and green algae</u>.

Read More: National Conference on Promotion of Seaweed Cultivation

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