

has introduced a scheme known as Mahila Udyam Nidhi. They also provide assistance for setting up industry by women entrepreneurs including food processing industries.

Deep Sea Fishing

+

*363. PROF. UMMAREDDY VENKATESWARLU:
SHRI ANKUSHRAO RAO-SAHEB TOPE:

(b) if so, details of the proposals approved during the above period, State-wise;

(c) whether most of these proposals involve foreign equity and investment; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI TARUN GOGOI):
(a) Yes, Sir.

Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(b) The information is furnished in the Statement attached.

(a) whether the Government have approved investment proposals worth over Rs. 1700 crores in the deep sea fishing sector, including processing of fish, during the last two years;

(c) and (d) Out of 89 projects approved during the last two years in deep sea fishing and processing, 36 projects involve foreign equity and investment amounting to Rs. 1508 crores.

STATEMENT

*Details of Deep sea fishing and Processing projects approved during Last two Years—
Statewise*

STATE	No. of fish processing Projects (100% EOU)	Approx. Investment (Rs. in crores)	No. of deep sea fishing projects with foreign collaboration	Approx. Investment Rs. in crores)	Fish project with foreign collaboration No.	processing investment with foreign collaboration Investment.
Andhra Pradesh	15	98.85	3	35.22	6	83.18
Orissa	2	6.65	..	..	..	..
Kerala	14	42.78	2	26.17	3	13.30
Tamil Nadu	7	22.58	9	797.32	1	360.00
Gujarat	6	81.87	..	..	1	30.00
Karnataka	3	18.97	1	15.75	..	..
Maharashtra	5	29.55	..	..	2	12.30
Goa . . . . .	..	..	7	132.90	..	..
Lakshadweep . . . . .	..	..	..	..	1	1.86
Andaman & Nicobar	1	2.10	..	..	..	..
	53	303.35	22	1007.36	14	500.64
	Fish Processing units (100% EOU)				Rs. 303.35	Crores
	Deep sea fishing projects (Foreign Collaboration)				Rs. 1007.36	Crores
	Fish Processing Projects (Foreign Collaboration)				Rs. 500.64	Crores
	Total				Rs. 1811.35	Crores

Note : The 22 deep sea fishing project and 14 fish processing projects with foreign collaboration involve a total foreign equity and investment of Rs. 1508 crores.

PROF. UMMAREDDY VENKATESWARLU: Sir, at present, most of the Indian deep sea fishing fleet is lying idle and under utilised. In spite of the country's large 2.02 million square kilometres of Exclusive Economic Zone, the annual production is hardly 24.69 lakh tonnes. I am glad that the Minister has been taking some steps for the past two years after the investment of Rs. 1700 crore. However, I would like to know from the hon. Minister whether the Government has chalked out any new schemes for extending financial assistance and subsidy to cold storage, diversification of the present fishing charters particularly rehabilitation of sick deep sea fishing units after the recent Rs. 1700 crore investment to augment the present earnings. To what extent would these proposals boost up production during the next few years to come?

SHRI TARUN GOGOI: In fact, we have a scheme for giving subsidy for about 50 per cent plant and machinery for establishing cold storage. There is also a scheme for diversification of fishing vessels and we give assistance. I do not exactly remember it. There is a scheme by SCICI and MPEDA; they do provide assistance for diversification. About sick units, the problem is there. I have already constituted a technical committee to go into the whole matter.

PROF. UMMAREDDY VENKATESWARLU: Sir, from the answer provided, it is clear that out of 53 units sanctioned in the past two years, 36 units are foreign-based and only 17 units are Indian-based. In the earlier fleet, majority of the Indian based deep sea fishing charters are sick. The Ministry seems to have been adopting a discriminatory approach between foreign units and Indian units. Particularly under 1990-91 rehabilitation programme, fast track approach is extended to Indian-based foreign fishing companies.

Whereas, several units of the Indian entrepreneurs are lying sick, particularly at Vizag in Andhra Pradesh. They have been at your mercy over several years for rehabilitation and other assistance. It seems that several middlemen—I speak subject to correction—are also lending a helping

hand in this process and making hay out of it. It has taken about 15 years for us to build the deep sea fishing fleet and it has landed in trouble recently. Unfortunately, we are after the American companies for joint ventures, who will simply vanish once the potentiality depletes, as they have done in the case of Pacific Islands. I would like to know from the hon. Minister whether the 'fast track approach' is also going to be adopted for all the Indian sick units which are engaged in deep sea fishing.

SHRI TARUN GOGOI: In fact, we are encouraging Indian entrepreneurs to have more vessels so that there can be more and more diversification. That is why, we have formulated all these schemes to provide assistance by way of soft loans for acquisition of more trawlers. We are also providing 33 per cent of subsidy for constructing indigenous vessels. We have formulated all these schemes in order to encourage Indian entrepreneurs to acquire more vessels.

PROF. UMMAREDDY VENKATESWARLU: I want to know whether the 'fast track approach' is going to be implemented.

MR. SPEAKER: He has stated that they are encouraging entrepreneurs. That implies 'yes'.

[Translation]

SHRI MOHAMMAD ALI ASHRAP FATMI: Mr. Speaker, Sir, four countries i.e. Korea, Thailand, Japan and Holland occupy a special place in the field of deep-fishing. At least two hundred people have applied for trollers to the Government of India during the last three years and out of them fifty six people have been permitted. Through you, I would like to know that while permitting these two hundred people whether the collaboration with these four countries would also be kept in view so that we may get high-tech. from these countries? At the same time I would also like to know whether the Government is thinking of the whole network i.e. catching and processing of lobsters and prawns keeping them in cold storage and exporting afterwards?

[English]

SHRI TARUN GOGOI: In order to exploit our marine resources, we have introduced new schemes. The earlier policy of 1981-82, which is known as the 'charter policy' is no longer pursued. We have introduced a new policy which enables us to go in for joint ventures, then for leasing and test fishing in order to encourage our own people. With this scheme, they can acquire their own vessels, their own technology and they can train their own crew.

MR. SPEAKER: He wants to know, whether you are going to encourage people from Thailand, Japan, Holland etc.

SHRI TARUN GOGOI: Yes Sir, we are encouraging.

SHRI MOHAMMAD ALI ASHRAF FATMI: Sir, I asked about the network.

MR. SPEAKER: It is implied that fishing involves all that.

DR. KARTIKESHWAR PATRA: The Minister has stated that out of 53 projects, two projects with an investment of Rs. 6.65 crore have been sanctioned for Orissa. Is there any proposal from the State Government to lease out the Chilka Lake for some foreign collaboration? I would like to have a categorical answer from the hon. Minister because certain objections were raised that it would lead to ecological imbalance. It is said that the lake should not be leased because of environmental reasons. What are the comments of the hon. Minister on this aspect?

SHRI TARUN GOGOI: As far as this figure of Rs. 6.65 crore is concerned, it is not the Government who has spent this money; it is the private party who has come to invest in this sector. We have not received any proposal about the Chilka Lake.

MR. SPEAKER: Are you going to lease it out?

SHRI TARUN GOGOI: We have not taken any decision to lease it out.

[Translation]

SHRI DILEEP BHAI SANGHANI: Mr. Speaker, Sir, according to the infor-

mation provided by the hon. Minister it appears that not even a single project with foreign collaboration has been provided to Gujarat though its production is highest in Gujarat and the quality of fish there is best and costly. I would like to know whether keeping this in view Government is going to do something for Gujarat or not.

[English]

SHRI TARUN GOGOI: Sir, these are all private investors. It is they who have to decide where to invest their money. I cannot compel anybody to invest the money in a particular sector.

[Translation]

Hindustan Steel Works Construction Limited

+

*365. **SHRI BHERU LAL MEENA:**

SHRI SANAT KUMAR MANDAL:

Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

(a) the accumulated loss sustained by the Hindustan Steel Works Construction Limited upto March 31, 1993;

(b) the amount out of the above, which represents non-payment by the Company's Libyan clients for works executed in that country and the interest burden on Government loans advanced for the Libyan contracts;

(c) the manner in which this amount is proposed to be recovered from the Libyan clients;

(d) whether there is any proposal for restructuring the capital base of the Company and formulate a viable revival plan without pursuing the voluntary retirement scheme; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

[English]

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV): (a) to (c) A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.