

Seventeenth Loksabha

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Title: Regarding demands of fishermen in Anakapalli district affected due to new Naval Base.

DR. BEESETTI VENKATA SATYAVATHI (ANAKAPALLE): Sir, the INS VARSHA is a new Naval base developed by Indian Navy at Rambilli and S. Rayavaram Mandals in Anakapalli District. Initially, it was proposed to construct two fishing jetties, one for Kothapatnam, Vada Narsapuram and other for Bangarammapalem. The survey was conducted by CICEF (Central Institute of Coastal Engineering for Fisheries), Bangalore and given feasibility to construct fishing harbour at Pudimadaka of Atchutapuram only. Therefore, the construction of fishing jetty to Vada Narsapuram, Kothapatnam and Bangarammapalem is not possible in-between Seethapalem of Rambilli and Dondawaka of Nakkapalli Mandal. Further, the Navy may not allow to create marine-based infrastructure in the area. The Fishermen of Vada Narsapuram and Kothapatnam conduct fishing with base of Sharada river bank. The river bank area was acquired by Naval Alternative Operation Base (NAOB) and compound wall with two sub-gates at Kothapatnam and Vada Narsapuram was constructed. The NAOB imposed restrictions in view of the safety reasons for entry of fishermen into NAOB area to conduct fishing. Further, the Navy will close all sub-gates in future. The fishermen staged agitation/protest in front of NAOB main gate from 17.10.2022 demanding package for their livelihood since they are not permitted to conduct fishing from Sharada river bank.

MAJOR DEMANDS OF FISHERMEN

The fishermen demand that if the fishing jetty construction is not possible, livelihood package of Rs.11,500 per month to each family should be provided until rehabilitation of fishermen villages of Vada Narsapuram, Kothapatnam and Bangarammapalem (about 4,000 families) is done. Besides, Health and education and other infrastructure facilities should be provided to the PAF and PDF Villages. Separate residential school to fishermen should be sanctioned and employment must be given to the skilled and eligible persons and also separate skill development for villagers in order to provide suitable employment to them.

HON. CHAIRPERSON : Dr. G. Ranjith Reddy – not present.