

[English]

Proposal to Ban Trawling in Deep Sea

*159. SHRI A. CHARLES : Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state :

(a) whether any proposal has been received from the Government of Kerala to ban trawling in the deep sea in the Kerala Coast, as this has seriously affected fishing by the traditional fishermen ; and

(b) if so, the action taken on the above request and the stage at which the matter stand at present ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI K.P. SINGH DEO) : (a) and (b) . A proposal was received from the Government of Kerala in 1995 for imposing ban on deep sea fishing vessel along the State's coastal waters corresponding with the ban imposed on trawling by the mechanised boats in the territorial waters by the State Government. In response to the proposal of the State Government, the Central Government had issued an order imposing ban on the operation of the deep sea fishing vessel from Cochin Port for a period of 45 days starting from 15.6.1995. In the meantime, the Central Government has requested the State Governments of all coastal states, including Kerala, to indicate the exact time and duration of trawl ban during the breeding seasons and has decided to ban deep sea fishing operations during the period for which the respective State Governments prohibit trawling in coastal waters

Consumption of DAP

*160. PROF UMMAPEDDY VENKATESWARLU : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) the consumption pattern of DAP (Diamonium Phosphate) by the Indian farmers in 1993-94, 1994-95 and 1995-96, till date .

(b) whether the Indian Council of Agricultural Research has expressed concern at the low level of offtake of DAP .

(c) if so, whether the ICAR has made any suggestions to improve offtake of the DAP fertilizer , and

(d) if so, the details thereof and the steps proposed to be taken by the Government in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT AND MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (DR. JAGANNATH MISHRA) : (a) The consumption pattern of DAP during the years 1993-94, 1994-95 and 1995-96 is given below :

	(Lakh tonnes)
1993-94	34.80
1994-95	35.86
1995-96	29.16
(Estimated)	
(1.4.95. to 31.12.95)	

(b) Yes, Sir

(c) and (d) The ICAR has advocated the use of rock phosphate in acid spills and rationalizing the application of fertilizers on the basis of soil test recommendations. They have also advocated the use of organic crops residues, farm yard manure, composts and green manures in conjunction with the chemical fertilizers. With a view to improving the use of DAP, the Government of India is giving a concession of Rs. 1000 per tonne on the sale of indigenous DAP to the farmers

Submission of Report on DSF

1139 SHRI SYED SHAHABUDDIN : Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state.

(a) whether the Murari Committee has submitted its report on sea fishing.

(b) if so, the major recommendations of the Committee and the Government's reactions thereto.

(c) the present width of the coastal belt reserved for traditional fishing.

(d) whether the mechanised fishing in his coastal belt is regulated;

(e) the number of fishing trawlers which have been licensed to operate in the exclusive economic zone beyond the coastal belt.

(f) the number of foreign licencees included in (e) above, and

(g) the share of foreign licencees in the trawler fleet operating under licences ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI K.P. SINGH DEO) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Recommendations of the committee are given at the enclosed Statement - I Action has been initiated at inter-Ministerial level to examine the recommendations of the Review Committee for review of the deep sea fishing policy, in consonance with legal constitutional requirements, conservation of resources, environmental protection, international agreements, national security considerations and national interest.

(c) and (d) . Fishing operations within the territorial waters are regulated under the Marine Fishing Regulation Acts/Rules enacted by the maritime States/UTs. All the States except Gujarat have accordingly enacted their NMFRAs/Rules under which areas have been exclusively reserved for traditional fishing and mechanised fishing in the coastal belt in the country. A statement indating the areas reserved for traditional fishing and areas earmarked for mechanised fishing is given at the enclosed Statement- II.

(e) The following permissions are valid at present :-

(i) Joint Venture - 16 companies - 61 vessels. (Indian flag).

- (ii) *Leasing* - 11 companies - 57 vessels (Foreign flag).
- (iii) *Charter* - 8 companies - 23 vessels (Foreign flag)

However, out of these, 40 vessels were actually in operation as on 29-02-96. In addition, there are about 180 Indian, owned vessels

(f) No licences have been issued to any foreign company for operation of deep sea fishing vessels in the Indian EEZ.

(g) Question does not arise.

STATEMENT - I

Recommendations of the Review Committee on Deep Sea Fishing Policy

1. All permits issued for fishing by joint venture/charter/lease/test fishing should immediately be cancelled subject to legal processes as may be required.

2. No renewal, extension or new licences/permits be issued in future for fishing to joint venture/charter/lease/test fishing vessels.

3. All licences/permits for fishing may be made public documents and copy thereof made available for inspection in the office of the registered authority

4. The areas already being exploited or which may be exploited in the medium term by fishermen operating traditional craft or mechanised vessels below 20 m size should not be permitted for exploitation by any vessels above 20 m length except currently operated Indian vessels which may operate in the current area for only 3 years subject to the recommendations 1 & 7

5. Since the Indian mechanise boats below 20 m size have the capacity to fish in depths upto about 70-90m; on the West Coast, the distance from the shore represented by 150 m depth line should be out of bounds for all vessels of more than 20 m length except vessels mentioned at para 4. Where the 150 m depth zone is less than 100 nautical miles from the shore, the distance upto 100 nautical miles should be reserved for Indian vessels less than 20 m length. On the east coast, starting from Kanyakumari, Indian vessels below 20m size would have exclusive access upto 100 m depth or 50 nautical miles from the shore whichever is farther except relaxation in Para 4. The depth zone would also be defined by coordinates indicating distance from the shore. Distance will be determined by National Hydrographic Office/Coast Guard/Fishery Survey of India.

6. In regard to Andaman & Nicobar and the Lakshadweep groups of islands, a distance of 50 nautical miles from the shore would be reserved exclusively for Indian vessels below 20 m length with provision at para 4. Further, if so required, the limit would be defined taking into account the need to keep waters between islands reserved

exclusively for Indian vessels, even if some portions fall beyond the limit of nautical miles.

7. In the area open to the vessels above 20 m length, resource specific vessels for tuna and tuna like fishes, squids and cuttle fish, deep sea fin-fishes in mid-water or pelagic regions and oceanic tuna may be allowed for exploitation by tuna long lining, tuna purse seining, squid jigging and mid-water trawling, provided these are defacto Indian owned registered vessels. The Indian owners should account for at least 51% debt as well as equity.

8. The fleet size for different fishing grounds may be fixed taking into account of the maximum sustainable yield and the need for conservation of resources.

9. In order to conserve fishery resources in our waters, to protect fishermen and to reduce conflicts in the sea, deep sea fishing regulations should be enacted by the Parliament after consulting the fishing community.

10. For preventing conflicts between the tradition, small mechanised, larger deep sea vessels strict vigilance to be exercised by the Coast Guard. To attain this objective the Coast Guard should be strengthened, expanded, upgraded technically with the state-of-the-art system of navigation, surveillance and weaponry and properly tasked to prevent poaching by foreign vessels and observance of zone restriction by indigenous vessels. In case Coast Guard is not able to perform the task then by some other agency State or Central, would be identified to ensure that those vessels excluded from specific areas do not violate prohibitions.

11. The Government should take active steps as well as make finances available for upgradation of technological skills and equipment used by the traditional fishermen, for mechanised boats and the Indian deep sea fishing fleet so that each can effectively fish in the areas reserved for it by law or usage. Duty concessions and concessions finance should be made available for both navigational as well as fishing equipment aimed at competence upgradation to the state-of-the-art level to the three categories with priority to the traditional sector.

12. Traditional and small mechanised sector should be assisted by adequate regular supply of fuel and by providing HSD and kerosene and by providing subsidy taking into account the benefits given to deep sea fishing vessels.

13. All types of marine fisheries should come under one Ministry. The Government should also consider setting up a Fishery Authority of India to function in the manner in which such authorities set up in other countries function and to be responsible for formulation of policies as well as their implementation.

14. The Fishery Survey of India should also be technically upgraded by induction of the modern technology and equipment so that it can identify and map the location of all types of fish, study impact of different technologies and ecological changes. There should be proper coordination and cooperation between the National

Remote Sensing Agencies and the Fishery Survey of India for this purpose.

15. The Government should give priority to the creation of the infrastructure needed for preventing wastage of fishery resources which is occurring through throwing away by-catch. This may be achieved by providing a chain of cold storages, ice factories, fish processing facilities, fish meal and feed manufacturing for value addition to the products of fishermen and their cooperatives.

16. Infrastructure facilities such as fishing harbours for the existing and modern upgraded craft along East and West Coasts as well as in island groups of Lakshadweep and Andaman & Nicobar Islands may be created on priority basis.

17. Fishermen/fisherwomen and their cooperatives

may be provided with financial assistance for upgradation and acquisition of larger vessels for marketing and other related activities.

18. The Government should give priority to training fishermen/fisherwomen in handling new equipment, larger vessels and new fishing techniques besides fish handling and processing aspects.

19. Government should take effective steps to tackle the menace of pollutants/effluents/sewage let out by industries which affects marine life adversely.

20. Government should take a decision on the recommendations of the Committee within a period of six months.

21. The deep sea fishing policy should be revised periodically say every 3-5 years.

STATEMENT - II

Area Reservation or Traditional Craft and Mechanised vessels in the territorial waters of Maritime states under State Marine fishing regulation acts (MFRA)/ Rules.

S.No.	State/Act	Area exclusively for Traditional Craft	Area for Mechanised Vessel.
1.	Gujarat	Marine Fishing Regulation Act of the State is under consideration.	
2.	Maharashtra MFRA 1981.	(9-18 m depth)	-
3.	Goa MFRA 1980	5 Km.	Beyond 5 Km
4.	Karnataka MFRA 1986	6 Km.	Beyond 6 Km.
5.	Kerala MFRA 1980	10 Km.	Beyond 10 Km.
6.	Tamil Nadu	3 Na-Miles (5.4 Km)	Beyond 3 Na. Miles
7.	Andhra Pradesh MFRA 1994	10 Km.	Beyond 10 Km.
8.	Orissa MFRA 1982	5 Km.	(i) Upto 15 M. OAL beyond 5 Km (ii) Above 15 M. OAL beyond 10 Km.
	West Bengal MFRA 1994	The rules framed thereunder are yet to be received	

Traditional craft can fish anywhere in the sea. The reservation mentioned implies only that other category of vessels may not fish in the area reserved for traditional craft.

Tetracycline

1140. SHRI PARAS RAM BHARDWAJ : Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Tetracycline is being indigenously produced and is also being imported ;

(b) if so, the production during the last three years,

year-wise, alongwith the price fixed in respect of each producer and the quantity imported during the same period alongwith the average CIF price per kg each year ;

(c) whether the benefit of the consumer has been kept in mind before the price fixation; and

(d) if so, the details thereof ?