

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF FISHERIES, ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING
DEPARTMENT OF FISHERIES**

**LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION No. 1184
TO BE ANSWERED ON 30TH JULY, 2024**

Help to Fishermen

1184. SHRI V K SREEKANDAN:

Will the Minister of **FISHERIES, ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING** मत्स्यपालन, पशुपालन और डेयरी मंत्री be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that fisheries stakeholders in the State of Kerala have said unstrained operation of foreign vessels is eating into marine resources belonging to the country and its fishing community, if so, the details thereof;
- (b) whether it is also true that the mechanized fishing ahead seriously depleted Global marine fisheries resources, if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether it is true that the fishermen in the State demanded the Government to equip them to meet new challenges of deep sea fishing since they had the expertise and experience to capitalize on resources available in the deeper waters; and
- (d) if so, the steps taken by the Government in this regard?

ANSWER

**MINISTER OF FISHERIES, ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING
(SHRI RAJIV RANJAN SINGH ALIAS LALAN SINGH)**

- (a) The Indian Coast Guard and Indian Navy are authorized under the Maritime Zones of India (Regulation of Fishing by Foreign Vessels) Act, 1981 for taking action against foreign fishing vessels engaged in illegal fishing activities in the maritime zones of India. The Coast Guard has informed that 19 foreign fishing vessels have been apprehended in the Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ) of India, off the coast of Kerala during 2022 to 2024 (till 25.07.2024).
- (b) As per the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) report of the State of World Fisheries and Aquaculture (2024), the fraction of marine fishery stocks within biologically sustainable levels continued to decline, falling to 62.3 percent in 2021, i.e. 2.3 percent lower than in 2019. However, as per the report of Marine Fish Stock Status of India 2022 published by ICAR-Central Marine Fisheries Research Institute (CMFRI), the marine fish stocks of the Indian waters are in good health and 91.1% of the 135 fish stocks evaluated in different regions during 2022 were found sustainable.
- (c) and (d): The Department of Fisheries, Government of India is implementing Pradhan Mantri Matsya Sampada Yojana (PMMSY) in all the States and Union Territories of India from FY 2020-21 to FY 2024-25 for holistic development of fisheries sector including welfare of fishers. During last four years (2020-24) under PMMSY, the Department of Fisheries, Government of India has accorded approval to the fisheries developmental proposals of Government of Kerala amounting to Rs. 1107.68 crore with central share of Rs. 447.65 crore, which include support for acquisition of deep-sea fishing vessels for traditional fishermen and for up gradation of existing fishing vessels for export competency.
