

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3375
ANSWERED ON:18.08.2003
LIFTING OF BAN ON FISHING OF FISH SPECIES
K. MALAISAMY

Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether there has been an arbitrary ban on Shark and Ray fishing apart from certain other species rendering lakhs of fishermen jobless in the Coastal States, particularly in Tamil Nadu besides affecting the ecological balance;
- (b) if so, whether Central Marine Fisheries Research Institute (C.M.F.R.I.) is in favour of periodical and regular harvest of Shark;
- (c) if so, whether the Government propose to review its ban and relax the ban in conformity with the views of aggrieved States and Experts; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS(SHRI DILIP SINGH JU DEV)

(a)&(b) The decision to impose ban on rare and endangered marine species including Sharks and Rays has been taken after careful consideration by experts from various organisations including Central Marine Fisheries Research Institute (CMFRI)The CMFRI is in favour of sustainable harvest of sharks species other than rare and endangered ones.

(c)&(d) Government is firm on its commitment to the conservation of rare and endangered fauna and flora. A final view to relax the ban can be taken only on the basis of scientific data obtained from expert institutions.