

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:449
ANSWERED ON:26.07.2000
IMPORT OF FISH
SULTAN SALAHUDDIN OWAISI

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the fishermen have launched agitation against the move of Government to import fish;
- (b) if so, the reaction of Government thereto; and
- (c) the steps being taken by the Government to save the interests of fishing community?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (DR DEBENDRA PRADHAN)

(a): Yes Sir. One of the demands of the National Fish Worker's Forum which launched an agitation from 12th June 2000 was to stop import of fish..

(b) & (c): The fear that import of fish will destroy the fishing industry is misplaced. The import of fish into the country is limited. Presently, the fish processing infrastructure to the country is utilised to the extent of about 20 per cent of the installed capacity only. Import of fish as raw material by the processors/exporters generally is for re-export. This encourages greater employment generation apart from increasing exporters