

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:5071

ANSWERED ON:29.04.2008

MPEDA RECOMMENDATIONS TO EXPAND DEEP SEA FISHING FLEET

Barad Shri Jashubhai Dhanabhai

Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Marine Products Export Development Authority has made any recommendations to expand the Indian deep sea fishing fleet;
- (b) if so, the details thereof during the last three years and in the current year till date;
- (c) the number of deep sea fishing vessels required in this regard;
- (d) whether the Marine Products Export Development Authority proposes to provide funds for the purchase of such boats; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof alongwith the number of boats likely to be purchased?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY(SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH)

(a-e) MPEDA is facilitating expansion of the fishing fleet for sustainable exploitation of deep sea under exploited, commercially important resources such as Oceanic Tuna. During the XIth Plan period, MPEDA has proposed conversion of 900 existing vessels for tuna fishing and introduction of 44 new vessels for tuna fishing under its financial assistance schemes. This conversion / introduction is targeted within 5 years and will cover mechanized fishing vessels & deep sea fishing vessels. (In 2007-08 110 vessels were upgraded to tuna longliners with MPEDA assistance). Details of the relevant schemes of assistance are as follows:

For vessels of size above 20 M. Overall Length(OAL), the quantum of subsidy is 50% of the cost of conversion limited to Rs.15 lakh.

In the case of vessels of size 13-20 M OAL the subsidy is 50% of the cost of conversion limited to a maximum of Rs. 7.5 lakh.

In addition to above, vessels of size less than 20 M OAL are given subsidy for construction of insulated fish hold, refrigerated fish hold, ice generator, Refrigerated sea water system onboard for preservation of the catch. The quantum of assistance is 30% of the cost of construction of these facilities limited to a maximum of Rs.5 lakh.

Interest subsidy of 5% for construction of mechanized vessels subject to a maximum of Rs.10 lakh. For deep sea fishing vessels the interest is 5% limited to a maximum of Rs.15 lakh.