

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:591  
ANSWERED ON:21.10.2008  
SEPARATE BODY ON DEEP SEA FISHERIES  
Barad Shri Jashubhai Dhanabhai

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

- (a) whether Marine Products Exports Development Authority (MPEDA) is forming a separate body to focus directly on deep sea fisheries;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether MPEDA has any experience of operating deep sea trawlers;
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) the steps proposed to ensure that MPEDA focuses and concentrates only on its core duty of marine product exports?

**Answer**

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

(a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) & (d) MPEDA is not operating deep sea trawlers commercially. However, by virtue of the mandate given to it by the MPEDA Act, 1972, it has experience in the areas connected with deep sea fishing which include providing subsidy for modifying existing mechanized vessels to tuna long liners, operation of vessels for training of crew, assistance for modifying deep sea fishing vessels for catching diversified resources in deep sea, financing deep sea fishing trawlers etc. Under the MPEDA Act, all fishing vessels including deep sea fishing vessels are to be registered with MPEDA.

(e) MPEDA is focusing on all the activities connected with the exports of marine products which include, development and regulation of off-shore and deep-sea fishing vessels, registration of fishing vessels, processing plants, storage premises and conveyances used for the transport of marine products, fixing of standards and specifications for marine products for the purpose of export, carrying out inspection of marine products meant for export in fishing vessels, processing plants, storage premises, conveyance and places where such products are kept or handled, marketing of marine products outside India, etc.