

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:698
ANSWERED ON:02.03.2010
ASSISTANCE FOR DEEP SEA FISHING
Gowda Shri D.B. Chandre

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Union Government has interacted with financial institutions and banks to assist deep sea fishery sector for development of fishing in the Exclusive Economic Zones (EEZs):
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the details of financial incentives provided to the said sector;
- (d) whether the Union Government has allowed entrepreneurs to fish in the EEZs, to promote the fishing sector;
- (e) if so, the details thereof;
- (f) whether any issue has been raised by the fishery sector with regard to improving the facilities for deep sea fishing; and
- (g) if so, the reaction of the Government in this regard?

Answer

MINISTER OF THE STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE, CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD & PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION
(PROF. K.V. THOMAS)

(a) & (b) No, Madam.

(c) Indian entrepreneurs are being allowed to acquire deep-sea fishing vessels for operation in the Indian EEZ on deferred payment basis from the suppliers abroad. Facilities like mid sea bunkering and transfer of catch are being provided for promotion of the deep-sea fishing operations. In addition, the Marine Products Export Development Authority (MPEDA) also provided financial assistance for conversion of trawlers into tuna long liners.

(d) & (e) Yes, Madam. The letter(s) of Permission (LOPs) have been issued to the Indian entrepreneurs for fishing in the EEZ. As on date 84 deep-sea fishing vessels belonging to 20 Indian Companies/Firms have been allowed to fish in the EEZ under the provisions of Guidelines issued by the Government in this regard.

(f)&(g) Various issues related to operational difficulties of deep-sea fishing vessels have been raised by the Industry from time to time. An Inter-Ministerial Empowered Committee of Marine Fisheries, constituted under the chairmanship of Secretary (Animal Husbandry Dairying & Fisheries) considers such issues related to deep-sea fishing matters in its meetings held at regular intervals.