

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3685
ANSWERED ON:17.08.2010
FISH STOCK
Bajwa Shri Partap Singh

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Food and Agriculture Organisation in a report has revealed that 70 per cent of fish stock in the world is threatened;
- (b) if so, the details thereof alongwith its impact on the Indian fishing sector;
- (c) the reaction of the Government thereto; and;
- (d) the measures taken/proposed to be taken by the Government to sustain fish stock in the country?

Answer

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

(a) to (d): Various studies including the report on General situation of world fish stocks by the United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization(FAO) have indicated that a large number of fish stocks in the world are either fully exploited or overexploited, including the fish stocks in the Indian Ocean regions.

Since, the fish stocks are generally migratory and enjoy seamless movement in the Ocean, this could also have an impact on the Indian fishing sector. However, as against the estimated marine fishery potential of 3.93 million metric tons available in the Indian Maritime Zones for exploitation, the current marine fish production is 2.92 million metric tons. Therefore, over exploitation of marine fishery resources is not a threat to Indian fisheries in the Exclusive Economic Zone(EEZ), at present.

However, managerial measures are being implemented to prevent overcapacity in the coastal/territorial waters by the States and Union Territories through their respective Marine Fisheries Regulation Acts(MFRA).