

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3718
ANSWERED ON:17.08.2010
PROBLEM OF DEEP SEA FISHERIES
Abdulrahman Shri

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether diverse problems are being faced by fisheries associations including availability of crew and visas are affecting deep sea fisheries in the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the reaction of the Government thereto;
- (c) the steps taken by the Union Government to address these problems; and
- (d) other measures taken/proposed to be taken to help deep sea fishery industry?

Answer

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

(a) to (d): No, Madam. A number of representations have been received in the Department of Animal Husbandry, Dairying and Fisheries(DADF) from deep-sea fishing Industry that conditions stipulated with the Letter of Permission(LOP) regarding manning of deep-sea fishing vessels are extremely hard to meet due to acute shortage of trained crew in the country. The matter was inter-alia considered by the Inter-Ministerial Empowered Committee on Marine Fisheries (EC) constituted under the chairmanship of Secretary(DADF), and on the recommendation of the EC, it has been decided that LOP holder deep-sea fishing vessels will be allowed to operate with a, minimum 25% Indian crew. An order in this regard granting relaxation in manning norm to LOP vessels has already been issued vide OM No. 21001/17/2007-Fy(Ind) dated 11-09-2008 (Annex. I). Apart from above, in consultation with the deep-sea fishing Industry, the Central Institute of Fisheries, Nautical and Engineering Training(CIFNET), Cochin has also proposed a training program to produce trained man power for deep-sea fishing sector.