

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4154
ANSWERED ON:03.08.2009
EXPORT OF TUNA FISH
Rao Shri Sambasiva Rayapati

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

- (a) whether the Government proposes to develop Visakhapatnam as a hub for exploitation and export of tuna fish;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor; and
- (c) the measures being taken by the Government to encourage export of tuna fish and the outcome thereof?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY(SHRI JYOTIRADITYA M. SCINDIA)

a & b) Yes Madam, with a view to develop Visakhapatnam as a major hub for exploitation and export of tuna, the National Institute of Fisheries Post Harvest Technology & Training (NIFPHTT) is constructing a packing facility centre for tuna with the help of National Fisheries Development Board, which is expected to be completed during 2009-2010. The Marine Products Export Development Authority (MPEDA) has assisted 26 vessels in Visakhapatnam for conversion of Tuna long liners and also conducted various training programmes on "Commercial Tuna fishing, better onboard handling and grading of Tuna" for the Tuna fishermen of Visakhapatnam region.

c) Marine Products Export Development Authority (MPEDA) have taken following steps for providing facilities to encourage production and export of Tuna fish to other countries of the world:-

- (i) Training to tuna fishermen;
- (ii) Providing insulated fish boxes for carrying ice to improve the quality of the tuna landed after fishing;
- (iii) Developing landing facilities, packing facilities, handling facility in Andaman and air freight facilities for there;
- (iv) 'Interest Subsidy' for assisting entrepreneurs for constructing new tuna vessels.