

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
AGRICULTURE  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3422  
ANSWERED ON:23.08.2011  
BAN ON TUNA FISHING VESSELS  
Jeyadural Shri S. R.

**Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:**

- (a) whether the Government proposes to ban all tuna fishing vessels in the Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ);
- (b) if so, the reasons for reducing the number of tuna fishing vessels in the EEZ in 2010-11;
- (c) the steps likely to be taken by the Government to study the impact of Indian Ocean Tuna Commission guidelines of Indian tuna fisheries; and
- (d) the measures proposed to review and assess the benefits to the country through foreign agreements with regard to EEZ and marine resources ?

**Answer**

MINISTER OF THE STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (DR. CHARAN DAS MAHANT)

- (a) No, Madam. Tuna fishing vessels are not banned to fish in the Indian Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ). However, ban on all kind of marine fishing activities is imposed for about 45 days during the fish breeding season.
- (b) There is no change in the number of Tuna fishing vessels permitted in the EEZ during 2010-11 in the existing Fleet Plan.
- (c) & (d) A Working Group has been constituted, which comprises of members from Department of Animal Husbandry, Dairying and Fisheries, Fishery Survey of India, Central Marine Fisheries Research Institute, and Marine Products Export Development Agency to monitor and suggest actions on various IOTC decisions/ resolutions and to suggest appropriate measures for conservation and management of marine resources. Besides, the Inter-Ministerial Empowered Committee on Marine Fisheries meets regularly to deliberate on issues relating to deep sea fisheries.