

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
AGRICULTURE  
LOK SABHA**

STARRED QUESTION NO:453  
ANSWERED ON:04.08.2009  
PROBLEMS FACED BY FISHERMEN  
Majumdar Shri Prasanta Kumar

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

- (a) whether the Government is aware of the problems being faced by the fishermen;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the corrective steps taken thereon;
- (c) whether the Government has reviewed the various welfare schemes for fishermen including the National Scheme of Welfare of Fishermen;
- (d) if so, the details of the achievements of the scheme including the number of fishermen benefited therefrom, State-wise; and
- (e) the details of other measures being taken to help the fishermen to tide over their occupational difficulties?

**Answer**

MINISTER OF THE STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR)

(a) to (e) A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (e) OF THE LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NUMBER 453 TO BE ANSWERED ON 4TH AUGUST 2009.

(a) & (b): Yes, Madam. The problems faced by fishermen relate to civic amenities, livelihood issues during fishing ban period, risk in capture fishing, fish landing and marketing facilities, lack of knowledge in modern fishing techniques and aquaculture etc. To address these issues, Centrally Sponsored Schemes such as the National Scheme of Welfare of Fishermen, Development of Inland Fisheries and Aquaculture and Development of Marine Fisheries, Infrastructure and Post Harvest Operations are being implemented in the country. The schemes have following components: (i) Housing and allied amenities; (ii) Saving-cum-Relief; (iii) Group Accident Insurance for Active Fishermen; (iv) Training and Extension, (v) Development of Marine Fisheries, infrastructure and Post Harvest facilities, and (vi) Development of Inland Fisheries and Aquaculture.

(c) & (d) Yes, Madam. The National Scheme of Welfare of Fishermen has been evaluated during 2006-07. The study recommended continuation of the Scheme during the Eleventh Plan with changes in certain parameters which have since been incorporated appropriately in the guidelines of the Scheme. State-wise achievements of the scheme are given in Annexure-I.

(e) The details of other measures being taken to help the fishermen to tide over their occupational difficulties are:-

- (i) Monetary compensation/ benefit to the tune of Rs.1200/- during the fishing ban period;
- (ii) Accident insurance cover of Rs. 1,00,000/- and Rs.50,000/- for death/ total permanent disability and partial permanent disability respectively;
- (iii) Safety kit comprising of Global Positioning System (GPS), communication equipment, echo-sounder and search & rescue beacon to marine fishermen;
- (iv) Assistance for conversion of traditional fishing crafts to motorized vessels;
- (v) Maintenance and dredging at fish harbours/ landing centers for easy navigation; and
- (vi) Construction/ renovation of fish harbours and landing centers for convenient landing offish.