

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1021

ANSWERED ON:20.03.2012

FISHERMEN ENDANGERED BY NATURAL CALAMITIES

Antony Shri Anto

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has any record regarding the number of Indian fishermen endangered by natural calamities and external forces during the last three years;
- (b) if so, the details thereof, category-wise and year-wise;
- (c) whether the Government has received any complaint regarding missing fishermen during this period;
- (d) if so, the details thereof during the said period, State-wise and year-wise; and
- (e) the action taken by the Government in this regard?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR AGRICULTURE AND FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES {DR. CHARAN DAS MAHANT)

(a) to (e) : The Ministry of Agriculture, Department of Animal Husbandry, Dairying and Fisheries maintains no such databank. However, the Ministry under a Centrally Sponsored Scheme provides financial assistance to all Coastal State Governments and Union Territories(UTs) for supply of safety kits consisting of Global Positioning System(GPS), communication equipment, echo-sounder and search & rescue beacon to fishermen to ensure their safety at sea.

Besides, the Indian Coast Guard is organizing community interaction programmes for the fishermen to bring in awareness about safety issues at sea. The Indian Coast Guard also undertakes certain welfare measures such as organizing of medical camps, distribution of medicines, life jackets etc. to develop a bond with fishing community. Community interaction programmes are also conducted by the Coast Guard to sensitize the fishing community on the prevailing security situation and develop them to be the eyes and ears for intelligence gathering.