

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2123
ANSWERED ON:27.03.2012
WELFARE OF FISHERMEN
Reddy Shri Magunta Srinivasulu

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government is protecting the rights of the traditional fishermen in the country including Andhra Pradesh;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the steps taken in this regard during the last three years; and
- (c) the funds allocated for the welfare of the fishermen in the 11th Five Year Plan period including Andhra Pradesh?

Answer

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

(a) to (c): The Government provides enabling environment for the welfare of fishermen and development of the fisheries sector. The traditional fishermen carry out fishing operation within the territorial waters i.e. upto 12 nautical miles, where State Governments exercise control. The State Governments, through their Marine Fisheries Regulation Acts (MFRA) earmark certain areas for exclusive fishing by the traditional fishermen. Centrally Sponsored `National Scheme of Welfare of Fishermen is implemented with the objective of providing basic civic amenities i.e. construction of fishermen houses, tubewells and community centre. Besides, socio-economic security to fishermen is provided through group accident insurance cover and financial support during the fishing ban period. During the Eleventh Plan a sum of Rs 149.58 crore was allocated in Budget Estimates for the Scheme. All the State/UTs are eligible for assistance under the scheme including Andhra Pradesh. The scheme is demand driven, therefore no separate allocation is made to the states.