

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
DEFENCE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3579
ANSWERED ON:03.09.2012
DISTRIBUTION OF DAT TO FISHERMEN
Mahtab Shri Bhartruhari

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has distributed Distress Alert Transmitters (DAT) to fishermen through its community interaction programmes in maritime States including Odisha to protect the distressed fishermen in deep seas in emergency;
- (b) if so, the details thereof during each of the last three years and the current year and if not, the reasons therefor; and
- (c) the other steps taken / being taken by the Government to ensure safety of fishermen at sea?

Answer

MINISTER OF THE STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI A.K. ANTONY)

(a) Yes, Madam.

(b) The details of DATs distributed yearwise from 2009 including the maritime state of Odisha are as follows:-

Sl. No.	Year	Total No. of DATs distributed	No. of DATs distributed in Odisha
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(i)	2009	798	62
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(ii)	2010		
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(iii)	2011	980	45
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Total	1778		107
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(c) Awareness drives to sensitise the fishing community about threat from the sea and surveillance sorties and patrols by Indian Navy (IN) and Indian Coast Guard (ICG) ships and aircraft off the coastline and island territories are carried out to ensure safety of fishermen at sea. On receipt of information regarding fisher folk in distress, Search and Rescue operation is initiated wherein nearest Coast Guard unit is diverted for rescue of fishermen in distress. In addition, merchant vessels operating in vicinity are also diverted for extending assistance.