

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3895
ANSWERED ON:04.09.2012
WELFARE OF FISHERMEN
Gandhi Shri Dilip Kumar Mansukhlal

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether a delegation of the Maharashtra Rajya Machchhimar Sangh had recently met the Union Minister of Agriculture with their demands relating to the welfare of fishermen;
- (b) if so, the details thereof indicating the issues/demands raised by the delegation during the said meeting; and
- (c) the response of the Union Government thereto along with the action taken thereon?

Answer

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

(a) Yes, Madam.

(b) The delegation raised the following issues/demands;

(i) To provide an Act to observe the law and order at Sea in Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ)

(ii) To extend the benefit of the rebate on diesel to all fishermen with enhanced rate

(iii) To extend the benefit of interest subvention to fishermen

(c): Regarding the demand at (i) above, it was clarified to the delegation that the Marine Fisheries (Regulation and Management) Bill drafted by the Ministry of Agriculture has the objective of regulating fishing and related activities in the Indian Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ) including law and order concerns. The demand (ii) for extending benefits of diesel subsidy to all categories of mechanized fishing vessels irrespective of the economic status of the owner has not been supported by the Ministry of Finance. With regard to the demand at

(iii), necessary instructions have been issued to the National Fisheries Development Board (NFDB) to incorporate the provisions of interest subvention appropriately in their schemes.