

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4100
ANSWERED ON:15.12.2009
DEEP SEA FISHING ACT
Kurup Shri N.Peethambara

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government has adopted the recommendations of the Murari Committee to involve fishermen cooperatives in deep sea fishing by improving the capacity of fishermen groups in deep sea fishing and handling bigger vessels ; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

MINISTER OF THE STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE, CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD & PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION
(PROF. K.V. THOMAS)

(a) & (b) Yes, Madam. One of the recommendations of the Murari Committee suggested that the Government should take active steps for upgradation of technological skills and equipment used by the traditional fishermen, for mechanized boats and the Indian deep-sea fishing fleet.

In accordance with the above, the Ministry of Agriculture is implementing a Centrally Sponsored Scheme on `Development of Marine Fisheries, Infrastructure and Post Harvest Operations` for motorization of traditional craft, safety of fishermen at sea, fishermen development rebate on High Speed Diesel (HSD) oil, introduction of intermediate craft of improved design, promoting fuel efficient and environment friendly fishing practices and Management of Marine Fisheries.

In addition, the Marine Products Export Development Authority (MPEDA) is also providing financial assistance under their scheme for conversion of trawlers into tuna fishing vessels enabling fishing by these vessels in deep-sea areas. The Central Institute for Fisheries Nautical Engineering and Training (CIFNET), Cochin, is also imparting training and education to produce trained manpower for fisheries sector.