

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:195
ANSWERED ON:24.02.2015
UNCONTROLLED FISHING CAPACITY
Mani Shri Jose K.

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) Whether it is a fact that uncontrolled marine fishing capacity has led to over exploitation of the coastal resources;
- (b) If so, the details thereof;
- (c) Whether the Government has installed any monitoring and surveillance system to reduce the problem;
- (d) If so, the details thereof; and
- (e) The steps taken by the Government for up gradation of the fleet as well as skills and capacity of the fishermen in various States including Kerala?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR AGRICULTURE: (DR. SANJEEV KUMAR BALYAN)

(a) & (b) : As per the Report of the Working Group for Revalidating the Potential of Fishery Resources in the Indian Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ), 2011 the potential yield (PY) of the Indian EEZ is revalidated as 4.41 million tones. Of this, the potential yield up to 100 m depth is estimated as 3,82 million tones. Whereas the marine fish production reported by States/UTs during 2011-12 was 3.37 million tones. The Working Group has opined that the present level of exploitation of the fishery resources from the waters up to 100 m depth zone is near optimum.

(c) & (d) : Fisheries is a state subject and fishing in the coastal area i.e., from 0-12 nautical miles (territorial waters) is regulated through Marine Fishing Regulation Acts (MFRAs) of respective coastal states / Union Territories. Advisories have been issued to State Governments/UTs from time to time to ensure sustainable exploitation of fishery resources.

(e) ; Financial assistance is provided by the Union Government through the Marine Products Export Development Authority (MPEDA) for conversion of mechanized fishing trawlers into tuna long liners so as to reduce the excess fishing capacity in territorial waters. Besides, the Guidelines for fishing operations in the EEZ have also been simplified and revised on 12 Nov 2014 in order to allow fishing vessels of 15 m and above length to fish in the EEZ beyond 12 nautical miles of territorial waters. The Central Institute for Fisheries Nautical Engineering and Training (CIFNET) and Fishery Survey of India (FSI) provide trainings to fishermen for skill development.