

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:6231
ANSWERED ON:05.05.2015
MARINE FISHERIES CENSUS
Somaiya Dr. Kirit

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the next marine fisheries census is planned for conducting in 2015;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) when was the last marine fisheries census conducted;
- (d) the total number of fishermen in the country, State-wise as on date and welfare measures taken by the Government for fishermen so far;
- (e) whether the Government has received representations for providing special package to establish a separate fund for the welfare of the fishermen in the country; and
- (f) if so, the details thereof along with the Government's plan to strengthen the fishermen financially?

Answer

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

(a)&(b): Yes, Madam. The next marine fisheries census is planned for conducting in 2015 for which discussions have been held with the agencies involved.

(c): The last marine census was conducted in 2010.

(d): As per 17th Livestock Census held in 2003, the fishermen population in the country is 144,85,354. The State-wise fishermen population is at Annexure. For welfare of fishermen this department implements the 'National Scheme for Welfare of Fishermen', wherein assistance is provided to fishermen for basic amenities such as housing, drinking water, construction of community halls and tube-wells in their villages. The scheme also provides group accident insurance to active fishermen, and financial assistance to them during the lean period under its saving-cum-relief component.

(e)&(f): No representation for providing special package to establish a separate fund for Welfare of Fishermen in the country has been received in the recent past. However, the earlier existing 'National Welfare Fund for fishermen' has been amalgamated with the Janta Personal Accident Policy in 1992 to formulate a new Centrally Sponsored Scheme namely, 'National Scheme for Welfare of Fishermen'. Apart from the above scheme this department is also implementing the following schemes for social welfare and financial development of fishermen:

- a) Development of Inland Fisheries and Aquaculture.
- b) Development of Marine Fisheries, Infrastructure and Post-Harvest Operations.
- c) National Fisheries Development Board (NFDB).