

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE
LOK SABHA**

STARRED QUESTION NO:434

ANSWERED ON:23.12.2014

DEEP SEA FISHING

Premachandran Shri N.K.;Raghavan Shri M. K.

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Indian fishermen are able to exploit the deep sea fishery resources optimally, if so, the details of production of fish in deep sea during the last three years and the measures taken/being taken by the Government to promote deep fishing;
- (b) whether there are reports that foreign vessels are exploiting the fishery resources along the coastlines of the country without securing Letter of Permit (LoP) from the Government;
- (c) if so, the details of such foreign vessels impounded by the Government during the last three years;
- (d) whether the State Government of Kerala has requested the Union Government to withdraw these permits so as to protect the interest of Indian fishermen; and
- (e) if so, the follow up action taken by the Government thereon?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI RADHA MOHAN SINGH)

(a)to (e): A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (e) OF THE LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO.434 ON "DEEP SEA FISHING" TO BE ANSWERED ON 23rd December, 2014.

(a): As against the fishing potential of 4.41 million tonnes of Indian Exclusive Economic Zone, the marine fish production during 2011-12, 2012-13 and 2013-14 has been 3.37 million tonnes, 3.32 million tonnes and 3.44 million tonnes respectively. The Government has simplified the Guidelines for fishing operation in Indian Exclusive Economic Zone issued on 12.11.2014 to promote deep sea fishing.

(b) & (c): Letter of Permission (LoP) is issued only to Indian entrepreneurs for fishing in Indian Exclusive Economic Zone. Foreign vessels plying illegally in the Indian waters are apprehended by the Indian Coast Guard as per the provisions of Maritime Zone of India (Regulation of fishing by foreign vessels) Act 1981. As per information from the Indian Coast Guard, the foreign fishing vessels apprehended during 2012, 2013 and 2014 (upto 17th December) are 43, 74 and 55 respectively.

(d) & (e): No such request for withdrawal of permits (LOP) has been received.