

**Seminar on Fishery Industry**

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**\*292. SHRI MANIK REDDY :  
SHRI SUBHASH YADAV :**

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether a seminar on the development of fishery industry in the country was held in New Delhi during the second week of November, 1985;

(b) if so, the number of persons who participated in the Seminar;

(c) the main points discussed and the recommendations made; and

(d) how far these will be beneficial to the fishermen in India ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND COOPERATION (SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) to (d). Do not arise.

[Translation]

SHRI MANIK REDDY : Mr. Speaker, Sir, the Hon. Minister has stated in his reply that no seminar was held. I have evidence to the effect that a seminar was held on the 12th and 13th November.

MR. SPEAKER : Now, Sir, he has the evidence.

[English]

SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA : The question is : whether a seminar on the development of fishery industry in the country was held in New Delhi during the second week of November, 1985. The seminar which the Hon. Member is talking about is the seminar held for the welfare of the fishermen by the National Fishermen Association.

[Translation]

SHRI MANIK REDDY : That seminar was attended by the Prime Minister also and

he had suggested a 3—point programme. If you allow, I may put a question ?

MR. SPEAKER : Seminar did take place, the only controversy is about the subject.

SHRI MANIK REDDY : The seminar was held on fishermen and discussion also took place on that.

MR. SPEAKER : It is like *Ashwathama hata kunjraha*.

SHRI MANIK REDDY : Government want to introduce some new system regarding their wages; has that been introduced and if so, what is that system ?

The middlemen are making a lot of money out of it. It will be better if a change is brought about in their marketing system. Is the Hon. Minister doing something about it ?

[English]

SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA : What is the exact question of the Hon. Member ? I cannot follow it. Can be clarify ?

[Translation]

MR. SPEAKER : Has any programme been formulated for their betterment, has any programme been chalked out to eliminate the middlemen or not; this is what he is asking.

SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA : We have not yet received their recommendations. They are about to send them to us and as such we do not know what their demands are and what the recommendations are.

SHRI MANIK REDDY : They are rendered jobless for as much as a month after a cyclone. I want to know from the Hon. Minister whether the Government are rendering any assistance to rehabilitate them during such periods and if so, what type of assistance would it be ?

SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA : For this there is a Fishermen Fund, from which

they are given money. For instance, assistance is provided from the Fishermen Fund to those who are old and are unable to work.

[English]

The Minister is the Chairman of this Fund.

**SHRI SURESH KURUP :** Sir, I would like to know whether the Minister is aware of the fact that indiscriminate fishing by the mechanised trawlers at the time of the breeding season, i.e. from June to September is playing havoc with our marine wealth and it is resulting in the drastic reduction of the catch of the traditional fishermen. Will the Minister consider to put a ban on this, as this has been a major demand of the Fishermen's Association in Kerala ?

**SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA :** There are certain specified areas in which these trawlers cannot fish. Those areas upto five kilometres from the coast are left for the traditional fishermen. However, these big trawlers sometimes violate the rules. When such things happen, the coast guards are always taking action against them.

[Translation]

**SHRIMATI USHA THAKKAR :** Hon. Speaker, Sir, big trawlers are poaching in the areas meant for small boats. I have also written about it...

**MR. SPEAKER :** You might have heard a saying that big fish swallows the small fish.

**SHRIMATI USHA THAKKAR :** Because of poaching by big trawlers, the small boats do not get fish. I have written a number of times that an arrangement should be made whereby big trawlers should be prohibited from fishing in shallow waters. I want to know what the Government are doing about it ?

**SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA :** I have already told that the areas are specified, but, sometimes they do come and

for that Coast Guards are there to check them.

[English]

**Subsidy and loan assistance for construction of shallow tubewells**

**\*293. DR. PHULRENU GUHA :** Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Union Government have sanctioned a Centrally-sponsored scheme for utilising a sum of Rs. 3.50 lakhs per block for giving subsidy and loan assistance to small and marginal farmers in West Bengal for construction of shallow tubewells;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the progress during 1983-84 and 1984-85; and

(c) the reasons for shortfall, if any ?

**THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND COOPERATION (SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA) :** (a) to (c). A Statement is given below :

**Statement**

(a) The Government of India launched a Centrally Sponsored Scheme of Assistance to Small and Marginal Farmers for increasing Agricultural Production in 1983-84 in all the States including West Bengal. A provision of Rs. 3.50 lakh per block as subsidy was provided for minor irrigation component. Financial institutions were requested to provide loans.

(b) Under minor irrigation component of the scheme, works like construction of shallow tubewells, dug-wells and small surface storage structures, installation of pump sets, etc. were to be taken up. The matching loan to utilise subsidy, as required under IRD pattern, was to be arranged by the States/Union Territories through Financial Institutions. A sum of Rs. 267.80 lakhs has been released as Central share to West Bengal Government for minor irrigation during 1983-84 and Rs. 307.23 lakhs during 1984-85.