

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE & FARMERS WELFARE
DEPARTMENT OF FISHERIES
RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION No. 618
TO BE ANSWERED ON 8TH FEBRUARY, 2019

LACK OF TECHNICAL KNOW-HOW IN DEEP-SEA FISHING

618 : DR. SASIKALA PUSHPA RAMASWAMY:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE & FARMERS WELFARE
be pleased to state :

- (a) whether Government is aware of the fact that there is a complete lack of technology and technical know-how in deep-sea fishing sector in the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether Government has formulated any plan to overcome this lacunae due to which foreign companies are taking advantage of the situation;
- (d) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor ?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR AGRICULTURE & FARMER'S WELFARE:

(SRIIMATI KRISHNA RAJ)

(a) & (b) The technology and technical know-how in deep-sea fishing sector is available in the country.

(c) The National Policy on Marine Fisheries, 2017 recommends for enhancing the skills and capabilities of the traditional fishermen to undertake and popularize deep sea fishing. Accordingly, in order to assist traditional fishers in fabrication and procurement of new deep sea fishing vessels a sub-component 'Assistance for Deep Sea Fishing' has been introduced by this Department under the Centrally Sponsored Scheme (CSS) 'Blue Revolution: Integrated Development and Management of Fisheries' on 09.3.2017 and assistance is provided. The traditional fishermen are also provided assistance for imparting training and capacity building in Deep Sea Fishing and onboard handling of Tuna through Central Institutes, viz. Central Institutes of Fisheries Nautical Engineering Technology (CIFNET) and Fishery Survey of India (FSI).

(d) Central financial assistance of Rs. 32051.20 lakhs has been provided so far to States under the sub-component 'Assistance for Deep Sea Fishing' under Blue Revolution Scheme for procurement of deep-sea fishing vessels. Training has been imparted to 213 traditional fishermen by CIFNET and FSI for deep-sea tuna fishing, on board handling and processing of catch and skill development in deep sea fishing. Besides, the Indian Coast Guard is empowered under the provisions of the Maritime Zones of India (Regulation of Fishing by Foreign Vessels) Act, 1981 to apprehend foreign fishing vessels and foreign crew if found engaged in illegal fishing in Indian waters.
