

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF FISHERIES, ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING
DEPARTMENT OF FISHERIES

RAJYA SABHA

STARRED QUESTION NO. 256
TO BE ANSWERED ON 19TH MARCH, 2021

WELFARE PACKAGES FOR FISHING COMMUNITY

***256: Shri Abdul Wahab**

Will the Minister of *Fisheries, Animal Husbandry and Dairying* be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government is committed to the welfare of fishing communities in the coastal regions;
- (b) if so, the effort made by Government for the welfare of the fisherman community in Kerala; and
- (c) whether Government is willing to consider a special subsidy in petrol and diesel for the fishing boats in the light of the continued hike in petrol and diesel prices that has burdened the expenses of the fishing community?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF FISHERIES, ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING

(SHRI GIRIRAJ SINGH)

(a) to (c): A Statement is placed on the Table of the House.

Statement referred to in reply to the Rajya Sabha Starred Question No. 256 put in by Shri Abdul Wahab, Member of Parliament for answer on 19th March, 2021 regarding Welfare packages for fishing community

(a) and (b): Yes, Sir. The Department of Fisheries, Ministry of Fisheries, Animal Husbandry and Dairying is committed to provide requisite impetus towards the holistic development of fisheries sector with socio economic wellbeing and welfare of fishermen in the country including fishing community in the coastal region. The Government of India, since 2015 under the scheme 'Blue Revolution: Integrated Development and Management of Fisheries' and 'Pradhan Mantri Matsya Sampada Yojana (PMMSY)' has been supporting following activities for welfare of fishermen community in coastal regions including State of Kerala:

- (i) Insurance cover for fishers, fish farmers, fish workers
- (ii) Insurance for fishing vessels
- (iii) Livelihood support during fishing ban/lean period
- (iv) Housing for fishers
- (v) Supply of boats and nets to traditional fishermen and
- (vi) Safety kits for traditional and motorized fishing vessels
- (vii) Supply of communications and Potential Fishing Zones devices for traditional motorized boats
- (viii) Engagement of *Sagar Mitras* in coastal villages
- (ix) Support for acquisition of technologically advanced fishing vessels for traditional fishermen
- (x) Establishment of wholesale fish markets
- (xi) Up-gradation of existing fishing vessels
- (xii) Open sea cage culture, ornamental fisheries, seaweed cultivation for creating alternative employment opportunities to coastal communities
- (xiii) Integrated modern fishing villages
- (xiv) Development of Fishing Harbours, landing centres, cold chain facilities, transport vehicles, marketing etc.

The Government of India has sanctioned funds amounting to Rs. 39545.84 lakh from 2015-16 to 2020-21 (till date) for State of Kerala for supporting above-mentioned activities which includes amount of Rs. 28178.54 lakh under Blue Revolution scheme from 2015-16 to 2019-20 and amount of Rs. 11367.30 lakh under PMMSY in 2020-21 based on proposals received from State of Kerala.

(c): The Department of Fisheries promotes utilization of alternate source of energy like solar and wind energy in fisheries sector for purpose of power auxiliary units on board the marine fishing boats to help in reducing fossil fuel consumption and encourage environment friendly fishing practices.
