

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

RAJYA SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION No. 2820
TO BE ANSWERED ON 24th MARCH, 2023

Annual Fishing Resources Survey

2820. SHRI PRABHAKAR REDDY VEMIREDDY

Will the Minister of **FISHERIES, ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING** be pleased to state:

- (a) the highlights of Annual Fishing Resources Survey published by the Fishing Survey of India (FSI) about fishing resources in the country during the last five years and the current year, year-wise, with a particular reference to coast of Andhra Pradesh;
- (b) the details of interactions workshops, maritime exhibitions, etc., FSI held with fishermen/fishermen bodies, with a particular reference to Andhra Pradesh during the last two years; and
- (c) in what manner does FSI creates potential fishing zone maps to help fishermen to reach targeted area where there is potential catch?;

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF FISHERIES, ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING

(SHRI PARSHOTTAM RUPALA)

(a) The Fishery Survey of India (FSI) has been conducting exploratory fishery resources survey and assessing the distribution and fish stocks in the India Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ). The FSI publishes its findings through various publications viz. Annual Reports, Meena News (quarterly), Resources Information Series (quarterly), Bulletins, Occasional papers and scientific papers, etc. and disseminates the information to fishers and other stakeholders including States/UTs etc. The fishery resources survey conducted by FSI along the coast of Andhra Pradesh during last five years and its highlights are reported as below:

In Andhra Pradesh coast the fisheries survey activities are undertaken by deploying two survey vessels in the area from Machilipatnam, Andhra Pradesh to Kavity, Andhra. During 2017-18, the survey activities was undertaken for 407 hrs and an average catch rate (CPUE) of 64 kg/hr was obtained. Highest catch rate of 358 kg/hr was recorded off Kakinada, Andhra Pradesh. During 2018-19 the survey activities was undertaken for 476 hrs and an average CPUE of 70 kg/hr was obtained. During 2019-20 the survey activities was undertaken for 597 hrs and an average CPUE of 59kg/hr was obtained. Highest CPUE of 637 kg/hr was recorded off Bhimlipatnam, Andhra Pradesh. During 2020-21 the survey activities was undertaken for 716 hrs and an average CPUE of 53.1 kg/hr was obtained. During 2021-22 the survey was undertaken for 795 hrs and an average CPUE of 59 kg/hr was obtained. During 2022-23, the survey was undertaken for 1244 hrs and an average CPUE of 61.1 kg/hr was obtained.

During the above period apart from the commercial varieties of fishes, 14 species of finfishes, 19 species of crabs, 04 species of stomatopods and 01 species of shrimp were recorded for the first time from the northeast coast of India. Also 12 rare species of finfishes were recorded.

The resources survey indicated better catch rate of fishery resources in the Bhimlipatnam to Baruva region of Andhra Pradesh. During the survey period many rich fishing grounds/new fishing grounds were located at different depths and the resources availability, species composition, their distribution and abundance was analysed and disseminated to the local fishers through All India Radio, various newspapers, by conducting extension programmes i.e regional workshops, open houses, fishermen rallies, awareness programmes etc.

(b) The Zonal Base of FSI located at Visakhapatnam, Andhra Pradesh has organised 04 regional workshops, 05 open houses, 04 exhibitions and 10 Training programmes/Awareness programmes in Andhra Pradesh for the benefits of fishermen, wherein total 10,461 fishers/stakeholders participated during the last two years (2020-21, 2021-22 and 2022-2023 till Feb. 2023).

(c) The Potential Fishing Zone (PFZ) maps are generated by the Indian National Centre for Ocean Information Services (INCOIS), Hyderabad to help fishermen to reach targeted area to tap potential catch. The PFZ advisories are created with application of satellite derived data of Sea Surface Temperature (SST) and Chlorophyll for demarcation of PFZs as a proxy to potential shoals of fish aggregation in the Indian waters. FSI creates data base from its survey results including geo-tagging of marine fishery resources and the same is shared with INCOIS for refinement of PFZ generation process and necessary re-validation of PFZ is also carried out by the FSI. Besides, the FSI generate maps for rich fishing grounds with geo-tag based on survey results across the coasts of India and the same is disseminated to the fisher folk, stakeholders through electronic and digital media on routine basis throughout the year.
