

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

**RAJYA SABHA**  
**STARRED QUESTION No.\*17**  
**TO BE ANSWERED ON 24<sup>TH</sup> JULY, 2024**

**Compensation to Fishermen**

**\*17. SHRI BEEDHA MASTHAN RAO YADAV:**

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

- (a) the details of all ongoing fishery disputes between Andhra Pradesh and Tamil Nadu;
- (b) whether Government has taken any steps for resolving these disputes in a smooth and timely manner;
- (c) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor;
- (d) whether Government has provided any compensation to the fishermen who have suffered loss of livelihood as a result of these disputes; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

**ANSWER**

**MINISTER OF FISHERIES, ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING**  
**(SHRI RAJIV RANJAN SINGH ALIAS LALAN SINGH)**

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

\*\*\*\*\*

**Statement referred to in reply to the Rajya Sabha Starred Question No. 17 regarding “Compensation to Fishermen” put in by Shri Beedha Masthan Rao Yadav, Hon’ble Member of Parliament, for answer on 24<sup>th</sup> July, 2024**

(a) to (c): It was informed by Government of Andhra Pradesh during the 11<sup>th</sup> meeting of the Standing Committee of the Southern Zonal Council held in Chennai on 27<sup>th</sup> September, 2019, that unauthorized entry and illicit fishing is done by Tamil Nadu fishing boats in the territorial waters of Andhra Pradesh, which is causing fishing disputes between Andhra Pradesh and Tamil Nadu. Subsequently, the deliberations on this matter were held during the 12<sup>th</sup> meeting of the Standing Committee of the Southern Zonal Council on 28<sup>th</sup> May, 2022 and the 30<sup>th</sup> meeting of the Southern Zonal Council held on 3<sup>rd</sup> September, 2022. The Inter-State Council Secretariat, Ministry of Home Affairs (ISCS, MHA) advised the Department of Fisheries, Ministry of Fisheries, Animal Husbandry and Dairying, Government of India (DoF, M/o FAH&D, GoI) to constitute a Regional Fisheries Management Council to address the inter-state fishing related issues.

The DoF, M/o FAH&D, Government of India vide its Order dated 29<sup>th</sup> March, 2023 has constituted three Regional Fisheries Management Councils (RFMCs), namely Western, Eastern and Southern RFMC to address the inter-state fishing disputes. These RFMCs are Co-Chaired by the Joint Secretary (Marine Fisheries), DoF, M/o FAH&D, GoI and the Secretary, in-charge of Department of Fisheries, concerned Coastal States/UTs on annual rotation basis. A representative from Indian Coast Guard is also one of the member of the each of the three RFMCs.

The Governments of Coastal States under three RFMCs, were requested by DoF, M/o FAH&D, GoI, to inform about any inter-state fishing disputes before scheduling the first joint meeting of the three Regional Fisheries Management Council (RFMCs). Subsequently, the first joint meeting of three RFMCs was held on 19<sup>th</sup> August, 2023, wherein, the Government of Andhra Pradesh informed about the un-authorized entry and illicit fishing even during the fishing ban period by Tamil Nadu fishing boats in the territorial waters of the State of Andhra Pradesh and that clashes occurred between fishermen of Tamil Nadu and local fishermen. It was also informed that the matter was raised with the Government of Tamil Nadu at the Secretariat level for resolution.

Subsequent to the first Joint RFMC meeting, Government of Andhra Pradesh in its letter dated 23<sup>rd</sup> August, 2023 requested Government of Tamil Nadu to communicate the date and time to conduct a joint meeting to resolve the issue. The Government of Tamil Nadu has issued an Order dated 31<sup>st</sup> January, 2024 to constitute a district level committee with the District Collectors and other officers from Thiruvallur, Chennai, Chengalpattu of Tamil Nadu and SPSR Nellore, Prakasam and Tirupati districts of Andhra Pradesh to sensitize the fishermen and sort out the fishing disputes between the fishermen of both the States.

The DoF, M/o FAH&D, GoI has approved a project with total outlay of Rs. 364.0 Crores under the Pradhan Mantri Matsya Sampada Yojana (PMMSY) for the National Rollout of Vessel Communication and Support System including installation of transponders on 1,00,000 fishing vessels in all coastal States and Union Territories. The transponders are being fitted in the fishing vessels with 100% government assistance. The transponders have geo-fencing features to give alerts to the fishermen upon approaching to or crossing over the authorized areas of fishing under the jurisdiction of the concerned coastal state/UT to prevent cross border or unauthorized fishing.

(d) and (e): The DoF, M/o FAH&D, GoI, is taking several steps under the PMMSY towards providing financial assistance, which includes livelihood and nutritional support for socio-economically backward fishers, and also Group Accident Insurance Scheme coverage. Under the PMMSY, financial assistance is also provided for procurement of boats for better catch, nets, communication and tracking devices, safety kits to ensure safety of fishermen while at sea. To improve the value realization to fishers, financial support is provided under PMMSY for development of post-harvest and cold chain facilities, fish transport, fisheries infrastructure, fish market, value added enterprise units and such other activities. Besides, for conservation and sustainable development of fish resources governmental support is provided under PMMSY for installation of artificial reefs, sea-ranching etc.

\*\*\*\*\*