

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

RAJYA SABHA
STARRED QUESTION NO. 27
TO BE ANSWERED ON 24TH JULY, 2024

Training to Fishermen on Marine safety

27. SHRI S. SELVAGANABATHY:

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

- (a) whether Government has set up any training institute to provide training or to make fishermen aware of the issues related to safety and maritime boundary;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) if not, whether Government proposes to set up such a training institute;
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) whether fishermen at Karaikal, Puducherry had been largely affected due to maritime boundary and crossing border of neighbouring country and whether Government will find a solution to this issue?

ANSWER

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

- (a) and (e): A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement referred to in reply to the Rajya Sabha Starred Question No. 27 due for answer on 24th July, 2024 put in by Shri S. Selvaganabathy, Hon'ble Member of Parliament (Rajya Sabha) on Training to Fishermen on Marine safety

(a) to (d): Yes, Sir. The Department of Fisheries, Ministry of Fisheries, Animal Husbandry and Dairying, Government of India (DoF, MoFAHD, GoI) has set up the 'Central Institute of Fisheries Nautical and Engineering Training' (CIFNET), which is giving training to fishermen to create trained manpower for manning the ocean going fishing vessels. The institute has its Head Quarters at Kochi and two more units at Chennai and Visakhapatnam. The institute along with long-term regular courses, has been conducting various short term courses for the fishermen of the Coastal States/Union Territories (UTs) on Safety at Sea, Seamanship and Navigation, Defect Rectification and Maintenance of Boat Engine, Responsible Fishing and Electronic Equipments for Navigation and Communication at Sea etc. The institute has been conducting the above fishermen trainings through Outreach/ In-house training programmes. CIFNET has trained a total of 5309 fishermen of coastal States/UTs during the period from 2021-2022 to 2024-2025. Besides, 1576 youth were also trained under certificate courses and 420 youth underwent Bachelor of Fishery Science (Nautical Science) course. Further, 288 officials of the Department of Fisheries of coastal States/UTs were trained on various aspects of Safety and Seamanship & Navigation.

(e): Government of India attaches highest priority to the safety, security and welfare of Indian fishermen and has been taking up the fishermen issues at the highest level with neighbouring country. The DoF, MoFAHD, 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 UTs including UT of Puducherry. The transponders are being fitted in the fishing vessels with 100% government assistance. The transponders have geo-fencing features and gives alerts to the fishermen upon approaching to or crossing over the maritime boundary so as to prevent such incidences of crossing the maritime border. Apart from this, the Fisheries Department of coastal States/UTs in coordination with Indian Coast Guard regularly conducts community interaction programs with the fishermen to appraising them about importance of safety of life at sea, carriage of life saving equipment, usage of portable communication sets and are also impressed not to cross the maritime boundary. In addition, the UT of Puducherry has reported that there is a Fisheries Training Institute at Kalikuppam of Karaikal District to impart various training to the fishers. Training programmes are being conducted in the institute on various topics related to the fishers' safety. One training programme on "Sea safety and safety equipments" and another training on "Handling of Navigational Equipments and Communication Equipments in Fishing Boats" were conducted in the Institute in November, 2022 through CIFNET.
