

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

**RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION No.1002
TO BE ANSWERED ON 31ST JULY, 2024**

Fisheries sector in Goa

1002 Shri Sadanand Mhalu Shet Tanavade:

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

- (a) whether the Ministry is aware of challenges faced by fisheries sector in Goa, particularly concerning sustainability and fisherfolk livelihoods, if so, details on initiatives supporting sustainable fishing practices and fisherfolk livelihoods;
- (b) whether the Ministry is taking initiative to address overfishing, habitat degradation, pollution in Goa's coastal waters, if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the financial assistance provided to Goan fishermen for modernizing their equipment and boats details thereof; and
- (d) whether there are beneficiaries benefitting from centrally sponsored schemes for enhancing infrastructure at fishing harbours, fish landing centres in Goa, if so, details thereof?

ANSWER

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

(a) to (c): The Department of Fisheries, Government of India through its schemes, policies and programs has been taking various steps towards sustainable fisheries and strengthening of livelihood of fisherfolks in all States/Union Territories (UTs) including Goa. Under the Pradhan Mantri Matsya Sampada Yojana (PMMSY) implemented by the Department of Fisheries, Government of India, sustainability and strengthening of livelihood of fisherfolks forms the core of the scheme.

During last four years (2020-24) under PMMSY, the Department of Fisheries, Government of India has approved fisheries and aquaculture developmental proposals of Government of Goa amounting to Rs. 108.27 crore. The projects approved *inter alia* included various livelihood strengthening activities like support for construction of new grow out ponds, stocking of fingerlings in reservoirs, technology infused culture practices like Re-circulatory Aquaculture System (RAS), biofloc units, installation of cages in reservoirs, alternate /additional livelihood activities like bivalve cultivation, ornamental rearing units, boats and nets to traditional fishermen, vessels communication and tracking devices, group accidental insurance coverage to fishers, acquisition of deep sea fishing vessels, up gradation of existing fishing vessels for export competency, construction/modernization of cold storages/ice plants, refrigerated & insulated vehicles, fish kiosks, establishment of state of art wholesale fish market etc. In addition, under PMMSY, approval has been also accorded for installation of artificial reefs in all coastal States/UTs including Goa towards rebuilding of fish stocks.

Besides, Department of Fisheries, Government of India is also implementing uniform fishing ban during the monsoon/fish breeding period in the Indian Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ), and similar fishing bans are implemented within the territorial waters by Coastal States/UTs including Goa for conservation and sea safety reasons. During the fishing ban period, financial assistance is also provided by the Government towards livelihood and nutritional support for socio-economically backward active traditional fishers.

The Department of Fisheries, Government of India has also issued order to prohibit destructive fishing practices like bull or pair trawling and use of artificial lights/LED lights for fishing in the Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ), and similar prohibitions are also imposed within territorial waters by the coastal States including Goa. Further necessary provisions are included by the State Government in the Goa Marine Fishing Regulation Rules (amendments) for installation of Turtle Excluder Devices (TED) for protection of sea turtles.

(d): The fishing harbors and landing centres provide safe landing and berthing facilities to the fishing vessels and extend both direct and indirect benefits to the fisherfolk around the area. The Central Institute of Coastal Engineering for Fishery (CICEF) has informed that 16,715 beneficiaries of Malim, Cutbone, Chapora and Cortalim areas of Goa are benefitted with the fishery harbor projects developed under the component on 'Establishment of Fishing Harbours and Fish Landing Centres' of centrally sponsored scheme in Goa.
