

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

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION No. 3722
TO BE ANSWERED ON 16TH JULY, 2019

Regulation of Ship Traffic for Fishermen

3722. SHRI KODIKUNNIL SURESH:

Will the Minister of FISHERIES, ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING मत्स्यपालन, पशुपालन और डेयरी मंत्री be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government is aware of the demand by fishermen to regulate ship traffic and provide communication gadgets to fishing vessels as the number of mid-sea collisions is increasing;
- (b) if so, the details of the action proposed and policies initiated in this matter by the Government;
- (c) whether the Government is intending to take steps for distribution of NAVIC, a satellite-enabled communication gadget developed by ISRO to all fishing vessels;
- (d) whether the Government intends to launch any project to distribute Automatic Identification System (AIS) to mechanised fishing boats as per the National Marine Fishing Policy, 2017; and (e) if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR FISHERIES, ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING
(SHRI PRATAP CHANDRA SARANGI)

- (a) & (b) The subject matter of regulation of ship traffic and formulation of rules and policies in this regard comes under the purview of the Directorate General of Shipping, Ministry of Shipping. The Directorate General of Shipping has informed that any demand from fishermen to regulate ship traffic and to provide communication gadgets to fishing vessels has not been received, so far. This Department based on the proposals received from the coastal States/Union Territories, provides assistance to fishermen for procuring communication equipments under the component 'Safety of Fishermen at Sea' under the Centrally Sponsored Scheme (CSS) 'Blue Revolution: Integrated Development and Management of Fisheries'.
- (c) The Indian Space Research Organization (ISRO) has developed the NavIC, a satellite-enabled messaging receiver. The ISRO has informed that 212 and 250 numbers of NavIC messaging receivers have already been provided by ISRO to the fishermen of Tamil Nadu and Kerala respectively.
- (d) and (e) The Automatic Identification System (AIS) is an automatic tracking system that uses transponders on vessels to track and monitor their movements. On the recommendations of the National Committee for Strengthening Maritime and Coastal Security (NCSMCS), the ISRO has already taken up a pilot project of Proof of Concept (POC) trial covering 1050 transponder terminals, for installation in fishing vessels of Tamil Nadu & Gujarat States (500 terminals each) and Puducherry UT (50 terminals).
