

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

LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION No. 2256
TO BE ANSWERED ON 20TH DECEMBER, 2022

Fishing Activities in Indian Ocean Region

2256. SHRI BRIJENDRA SINGH:

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

- (a) whether the Government has any report on the Illegal, Unreported and Unregulated (IUU) fishing activities in the Indian Ocean Region (IOR);
- (b) if so, the mechanisms in place to monitor and control the IUU fishing in the IOR;
- (c) the details of the extra-regional fishing fleets present in the IOR;
- (d) whether these IUU activities impact the fishing community and the fish stock in the IOR affecting the marine ecology; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF FISHERIES, ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING

(SHRI PARSHOTTAM RUPALA)

(a) : The Regional Fisheries Management Organization (RFMO) such as Indian Ocean Tuna Commission (IOTC) maintains the list of Illegal, Unreported and Unregulated (IUU) fishing vessels in the Indian Ocean Region (IOR). The list of IUU fishing vessels of IOTC and other RFMOs are periodically updated and available on the public domain.

(b) & (c): The RFMOs i.e., IOTC and its member countries are implementing monitoring, control and surveillance (MCS) measures to prevent, deter and eliminate IUU fishing. Countries determine IUU fishing as per their national framework of laws, regulations and/or administrative procedures in their jurisdiction areas and take punitive action. Indian Coast Guard and Indian Navy are authorized under the Maritime Zones of India (Regulation of Fishing by Foreign Vessels) Act, 1981 (i.e., MZI Act, 1981) to prevent IUU fishing by foreign fishing vessels in Indian waters. Besides, Maritime States/Union Territories (UTs) under their respective Marine Fishing Regulation Acts (MFRAs) have provisions for preventing IUU fishing. The RFMOs (i.e., IOTC) are maintaining the list of authorized and active vessels including extra-regional fishing fleet of the distant water fishing countries, those who are member of the RFMO. These lists of authorized fleets under the RFMOs are available on the public domain.

(d) & (e): As per the studies of the independent researchers the IUU fishing impacts the fishing community, fish stocks and also affecting the marine ecology.
