

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

**LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.2280  
TO BE ANSWERED ON 20<sup>TH</sup> DECEMBER, 2022

**Fisherfolk in Vizhinjam**

**2280. SHRI N.K. PREMACHANDRAN:**

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

- (a) whether the Government is aware that fisherfolk in Vizhinjam Kerala is under protest, if so, the details thereof;
- (b) whether the Government seek report from the State Government regarding the protest and if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Government proposes to consider the demand put forth by the fisherfolk in Vizhinjam and if so, the details thereof;
- (d) whether the Government proposes to ensure livelihood to the fisherfolk and if so, the details thereof;
- (e) whether the Government proposes to reduce the price of Kerosene or give subsidy to Kerosene supply to the fisherfolk and if so, the details thereof; and
- (f) whether the Government proposes to intervene this matter to ensure the welfare of fisherfolk and if so, the details thereof?

**ANSWER**

**THE MINISTER OF FISHERIES, ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING**

**(SHRI PARSHOTTAM RUPALA)**

(a) to (f): The Government of Kerala has informed that a group of fishermen and local people at Vizhinjam protested against the construction of Vizhinjam International Seaport Limited and their main allegation is that the construction of seaport causes sea erosion and affects their livelihood. The Government have taken effective measures and settled the protest amicably and now the construction of the Vizhinjam port is going on smoothly. The Department of Fisheries, Ministry of Fisheries, Animal Husbandry and Dairying under Pradhan Mantri Matsya Sampada Yojana (PMMSY) is taking steps for promoting the livelihoods and welfare of fisherfolk. These include Livelihood and Nutritional support for socio-economically backward active traditional fishers families during fishing ban periods, providing subsidy for purchase of new fishing boats and nets including deep sea fishing

vessels, subsidy for purchase of various devices such as communication and Potential Fishing Zone (PFZ) devices, safety related devices etc. and support for Training and Capacity Building of fishers etc. Besides, the Government of Kerala has informed that the State is implementing a project called Punargaeham which aims to rehabilitate all the families residing within 50m High Tide Level. In order to enhance the fish stock, the Government is also implementing sea ranching programme and construction of artificial reefs in the sea. Such fish stock enhancement programmes are aiming to help the fishers to improve their fish catch thereby to have a stable economic status. Apart from this, programmes like assistance for Education, women empowerment, skill development, alternate livelihood, distribution of fishing implements, sanctioning interest free loans etc are also implemented by the State Government. It is further informed that the Government of Kerala is providing a kerosene subsidy of Rs.25 per litre for fishing activities to fisherfolk. The Government has already taken effective measures for the upliftment of the socio economic status of fishermen through a number of welfare schemes and programmes.

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