

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF DEFENCE
DEPARTMENT OF DEFENCE
LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2869
TO BE ANSWERED ON 17th March, 2023

PREVENTION OF ACCIDENTS/INJURIES TO INDIAN FISHERMEN

2869. SHRI RAMALINGAM S.:

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has taken any step to prevent accidents/injuries to Indian fishermen involved in fishing activities in the coastal areas of Mayiladuthurai and Nagapattinam districts, if so, the details thereof;
- (b) the details of interventions taken by the Government to safeguard the Indian fishermen in coastal areas of the country including Mayiladuthurai and Nagapattinam districts; and
- (c) the details of status of inquiry conducted and compensation paid and subsequent developments that took place with respect to the officer of an Indian Navy ship who opened fire on Indian Fishermen involved in fishing activities near Kodiakkarai?

A N S W E R

MINISTER OF STATE
IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE

(SHRI AJAY BHATT)

(a) & (b): Department of Fisheries (DoF), Ministry of Fisheries, Animal Husbandry and Dairying, Government of India (GoI) has earmarked funds under the Pradhan Mantri Matsya Sampada Yojana (PMMSY) for provision for safety kits such as Global Positioning System (GPS), Life Jackets, other life-saving appliances, search & rescue beacons etc. including Distress Alert Transmitters (DATs), Automatic Identification System (AIS), Navigation with Indian Constellation (NAVIC), etc. to fishermen.

Indian Coast Guard (ICG) undertakes various activities aimed towards prevention of accidents/injuries to Indian fishermen. These, inter-alia, include regular patrol/surveillance by ICG ships and aircraft and regular interaction with fisherfolk by undertaking Community Interaction Programmes (CIPs). The CIPs are aimed to garner awareness of the fisherfolk on issues pertaining to their safety, security and survival at sea wherein they are advised on adoption of safe fishing practices such as carriage of lifesaving appliances (including life jackets, life buoys etc.), communication equipment, fishing in groups/buddy pair.

(c): Formal investigation by a board of inquiry has been completed and the findings have been submitted for requisite approval.
