

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF EARTH SCIENCES
LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 3288
TO BE ANSWERED ON WEDNESDAY, 9TH AUGUST, 2023**

SURVEY OF EXCLUSIVE ECONOMIC ZONE

3288. SHRI MADDILA GURUMOORTHY:

Will the Minister of EARTH SCIENCES be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government is taking measures to provide for survey of Exclusive Economic Zone;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor;
- (c) the benefits proposed in this respect;
- (d) whether India intends to engage with other countries in this regard; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

ANSWER

**THE MINISTER OF EARTH SCIENCES
(SHRI KIREN RIJIJU)**

- (a) Yes Sir.
- (b) The Ministry of Earth Sciences (MoES) has carried out multi-beam swath bathymetric surveying of the Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ) of India through National Centre for Polar & Ocean Research (NCPOR) as the nodal organization, along with the National Institute of Ocean Technology (NIOT), National Institute of Oceanography (NIO), and Geological Survey of India (GSI). Bathymetric survey of 93% of the deep- water (water depth >500m) area of the EEZ and shallow water bathymetry along the Andhra Pradesh and West Bengal coast to cover 0 to 30 m water depth is completed. A marine geoscientific database has been established at NCPOR. Centre for Marine Living Resources and Ecology (CMLRE) has carried out the exploratory surveys on the living resources in the Indian EEZ. The Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas (MoPNG) through Directorate General of Hydrocarbons (DGH) has carried out the exploration in unappraised basinal part of Eastern sector, Western sector and Andaman Sector of India EEZ and has acquired about 80,000 KLM (Line kilometres) 2D seismic data.
- (c) The bathymetric survey is useful for safe navigation and construction activities, geohazard potential assessment, oceanographic research, demarcating geohazard susceptible zones such as submarine landslides and is essential for nearshore modelling, inundation mapping, coastal flooding and coastal process studies. 2D seismic surveying is beneficial to identify potential area available for exploration of petroleum and natural gas. Exploratory surveys on the living resources provides distribution and abundance of marine living resources.
- (d) Yes Sir.
- (e) For bathymetric survey, India is self- reliant as well as scientifically and technologically competent for carrying out such surveys.
