

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

LOKSABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.280
TO BE ANSWERED ON 05TH DECEMBER, 2023

Fishing Harbour in Kerala

280. ADV. ADOOR PRAKASH

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

- (a) the details of safety measures recommended by the centrally deputed technical team after inspecting Muthalapozhi fishing harbour in Kerala;
- (b) whether the recommended safety measures have been taken to avert the continuous accidents in the harbour, if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor;
- (c) whether the Government has received any request from the State Government of Kerala for technical / financial assistance to address the issues in Muthalapozhi fishing harbour; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF FISHERIES, ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING

(SHRI PARSHOTTAM RUPALA)

(a): The Department of Fisheries, Ministry of Fisheries, Animal Husbandry and Dairying had on 17th July, 2023 deputed a three member Technical Team for inspection of Muthalapozhi fishing harbour. The team based on detailed site inspection and local stakeholder consultations, recommended short term and long-term measures mainly to mitigate the navigational difficulties faced by the fishermen at the fishing harbour. The short-term measures recommended by the Technical Team primarily include dredging and removal of rock boulders in the channel and the long-term measures include stabilizing the navigational channel and mouth to ensure safe maneuvering of fishing vessels.

(b): The Government of Kerala has reported that its executing agency has been advised to maintain depth in channel and mouth of Fishing Harbour as per MoU entered into between the State Government and its executing agency in connection with construction of load out facility at Muthalapozhi Fishing Harbour, for transporting stones for the construction of breakwaters at Vizhinjam International Sea Port. It is reported that executing agency has also been directed by the Government of Kerala to remove the scattered stones lying in the estuary and channel and accordingly, the work of removing scattered stones and tetrapodes lying in the estuary and channel using excavator and long boom crane is progressing and dredger reached at site for carrying out dredging at Muthalapozhi Fishing Harbour by its executing agency. The Government of Kerala has further reported that more life guards have been deputed, an ambulance has been allocated for rescue operations and high mast lights are installed at breakwater for smooth operations at Muthalapozhi Fishing Harbour.

(c) and (d) : The Government of Kerala has submitted a proposal for the upgradation of Muthalapozi Fishing Harbour at a cost Rs 50 crore and sought central financial assistance under the Pradhan Mantri Matsya Sampada Yojana (PMMSY). This proposal primarily envisages upgradation of internal road & parking area, construction of new drain, overhead water tank, workers rest shed, shops, dormitory, gate, gate house, auction hall, loading area, new toilet block, cold storage room, extension of wharf and auction hall, deepening of basin and berthing area, landscaping/beautification works, replenishment of breakwater and providing road facility over breakwater, refurbishment of existing structures, installation of ETP, Electrification & yard lighting, installation of surveillance system, power backup facilities, mechanical conveyor system and automation. After scrutiny of the proposal, the Government of Kerala has been advised in October, 2023 to submit a comprehensive proposal after incorporating suggestions of the studies carried out by the State Government through the Central Water and Power Research Station (CWPRS), Pune.
