

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF COMMERCE & INDUSTRY  
(DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE)

**LOK SABHA**  
**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 242**  
**TO BE ANSWERED ON 03<sup>rd</sup> FEBRUARY, 2021**

**ISSUE OF FISHERIES AT WTO**

242. SHRIMATI VANGA GEETHA VISWANATH:  
SHRI KOTHA PRABHAKAR REDDY:

Will the Minister of **COMMERCE & INDUSTRY** (वाणिज्य एवं उद्योग मंत्री ) be pleased to state:

- (a) whether small fishermen across the country have asked the Government not to support the ongoing fisheries negotiations at the WTO as they fear it could lead to curbing of the subsidies for the community and devastate their livelihood; and
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the present status thereof?

**ANSWER**

वाणिज्य एवं उद्योग मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री हरदीप सिंह पुरी)

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY  
(SHRI HARDEEP SINGH PURI)

(a) to (b) Representations have been received from stakeholders, raising some concerns with respect to certain aspects of the fisheries subsidies negotiations.

India is participating in the negotiations as per the mandate of the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (UNSDG) 14.6 and the WTO Ministerial Conference (MC)-11 decision. India's efforts are towards protecting the interests of its stakeholders, especially small fishermen, and pursue suitable provisions towards this end. Aquaculture and inland fisheries are excluded from the scope of the negotiations.

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