

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

**LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION No. 2395  
TO BE ANSWERED ON 3<sup>rd</sup> AUGUST, 2021

**Draft Blue Economy Policy**

**2395. SHRI HIBI EDEN:**

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

- (a) whether the Government is aware of the allegation that Ministry of Fisheries is not equipped with basic infrastructure and that Ministry of Earth Sciences is making crucial decisions in the absence of efficiency of Ministry of Fisheries including draft blue economy policy, if not, the reasons therefor;
- (b) whether the Government is with knowledge that people of the State of Kerala and fish-workers have raised concerns in Draft Blue Economy Policy for India, if so, the details thereof including the reactions by the Ministry by Fisheries;
- (c) whether the Ministry is aware that new policy is favourable to capital-intensive enterprises, which will ultimately act against the interests of lakhs of fishermen;
- (d) whether the Government has noticed that there has been loud protests against major pact between the State Government of Kerala agency and US company for deep sea fishing and the MOU between Kerala State Inland Navigation Corporation and US company which was subsequently withdrawn following protests; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof?

**ANSWER**

**MINISTER OF STATE FOR FISHERIES, ANIMAL HUSBANDRY DAIRYING**

**(SHRI PARSHOTTAM RUPALA)**

- (a) to (c) The concept of Blue Economy encompasses many sub-sectors including fisheries as one of the sub-sectors. Ministry of Earth Sciences is steering the draft National Policy for India's Blue Economy-2021 (NPIBE-2021) as the nodal Ministry. While the Department of Fisheries, Ministry of Fisheries, Animal Husbandry and Dairying has no information on the concerns raised by Indian fishers including fishers from Kerala regarding the draft NPIBE-2021, the elements of the NPIBE-2021 are not against the interest of fishers.
- (d) and (e) The Department of Fisheries, Ministry of Fisheries, Animal Husbandry and Dairying has drawn attention of the Government of Kerala to the relevant recommendation of the National Policy on Marine Fisheries, 2017 regarding the need for holistic resource utilization plan to be developed together by Union and State Governments.

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