

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

**LOKSABHA**

STARRED QUESTION NO.\*38  
TO BE ANSWERED ON 30<sup>TH</sup> NOVEMBER, 2021

**Welfare of Fishermen**

**\*38. DR. SHASHI THAROOR:**

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

- (a) whether the country's fisheries sector enormously contributes to the food security by employing more than 14.5 million people and contributing to 1.07% of the GDP and 5.37% of the agricultural GDP;
- (b) whether the Government will consider upgrading fisheries research and infrastructure and form a Fisheries Council of India for general welfare of fishermen including insurance schemes for their health;
- (c) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor;
- (d) whether the Government is aware that almost 70% of shoreline of the State of Kerala has been eroded and thousands of homes of coastal communities destroyed mainly due to the rampant man-made interventions near the coastline;
- (e) if so, whether the Government intends to provide shoreline fisher workers, usually the older fishermen, some additional monetary benefits; and
- (f) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

**ANSWER**

**THE MINISTER OF FISHERIES, ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING**

**(SHRI PARSHOTTAM RUPALA)**

(a) to (f): A Statement is placed on the Table of the House.

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**Statement referred to in reply to the Lok Sabha Starred Question No.\*38 put in by Dr. Shashi Tharoor, Hon'ble Member of Parliament due for answer on 30<sup>th</sup> November, 2021 regarding Welfare of Fishermen.**

(a): Fisheries sector plays an important role in the socio-economic development of about 28 million fisher-folk, providing food and livelihood security. The contribution of the fisheries sector in the National Gross Value Added (GVA) during 2019-20 stood at Rs.1,26,370 crore (at constant basic prices; 2011-12) constituting 0.95 % to the national GVA and 6.42% of the agricultural GVA.

(b) and (c): The Fisheries Research Institutes under the Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) have been upgrading their infrastructures based on research and developmental needs from time-to-time. Besides, under the Pradhan Mantri Matsya Sampada Yojana (PMMSY) and other schemes, the Department of Fisheries, Ministry of Fisheries, Animal Husbandry and Dairying has been supporting holistic development of Fisheries Sector including welfare of fishers in the country. The Department of Fisheries, Ministry of Fisheries, Animal Husbandry and Dairying has no such proposal for establishment of Fisheries Council of India for general welfare of fishermen including insurance schemes for their health.

(d) to (f): Some stretches of India's shoreline are subject to varying degree of erosion due to natural causes or anthropogenic activities. The coastal erosion does impact coastal communities residing in the erosion prone areas including fishermen communities. The national shoreline change assessment mapping for Indian coast carried out by the National Centre for Coastal Research (NCCR) using 28 years of satellite data from 1990 to 2018 revealed that 41% of coastline of Kerala is subject to varying degree of erosion. The Department of Fisheries, Ministry of Fisheries, Animal Husbandry and Dairying under the Centrally Sponsored Scheme (CSS); Blue Revolution Integrated Development and Management of Fisheries implemented during the period from 2015-16 to 2019-20 provided financial assistance to Rs.93.84 crore for implementation fishermen welfare related activities including construction of fishermen houses. Besides, under the Pradhan Mantri Matsya Sampada Yojana (PMMSY) being implemented with effect from 2020-21, a sum of Rs. 50.89 crore has also been provided to the Government of Kerala for implementation of welfare related activities including livelihood and nutritional support to socio-economically backward active traditional fishers family.

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