

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

LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION No. 3165
TO BE ANSWERED ON 22ND MARCH, 2022

Deep Sea Fishing Project 2017

3165. SHRIMATI SAJDA AHMED

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

- (a) the details of the progress of the Deep Sea Fishing Project 2017;
- (b) whether the Government proposes for deep sea project for the fishermen of the Bay of Bengal with Bangladesh Border;
- (c) if so, the details thereof; and
- (d) the steps taken by the Government to resolve the dispute of Palk Bay to reduce the conflict of cross border fishing?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF FISHERIES, ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING

(SHRI PARSHOTTAM RUPALA)

(a) to (c): To promote Deep Sea fishing in Indian Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ), the then Department of Animal Husbandry, Dairying and Fisheries in the Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers' Welfare had introduced a sub-component namely "Assistance for Deep Sea Fishing" on 9th March, 2017 and another component of "Conversion of Trawlers into Resource Specific Deep-Sea Fishing Vessels" on 27th August, 2018 under the Centrally Sponsored Scheme (CSS) on "Blue Revolution: Integrated Development and Management of Fisheries". These sub-components were introduced to provide financial assistance to traditional fishermen for promoting deep-sea fishing in the coastal States and Union Territories(UTs) including States and UTs along the Bay of Bengal. The Department of Fisheries, Government of India has released an amount of Rs. 31209.51 lakh to States/UTs under the subcomponent, "Assistance for Deep Sea Fishing" for procurement of 918 number of Deep Sea Fishing Vessels and an amount of Rs. 427.50 lakh under the subcomponent, "Conversion of Trawlers into Resource Specific Deep-Sea Fishing Vessels" of Blue Revolution Scheme for conversion of 57 trawlers into Deep Sea Fishing vessels.

Subsequently, the Department of Fisheries, Ministry of Fisheries, Animal Husbandry and Dairying, under its flagship scheme namely, Pradhan Mantri Matsya Sampada Yojana (PMMSY) being implemented with highest ever estimated investment of Rs. 20050 crore in fisheries sector for a period of 5 years with effect from the financial year 2020-21, has introduced the components namely, “Support for acquisition of Deep-Sea Fishing vessels for traditional fishermen” and “Up-gradation of existing fishing vessels for export competency” to provide financial assistance to traditional fishermen for promotion of deep-sea fishing in the coastal States and UTs including coastal States and UTs along the Bay of Bengal. The Department of Fisheries, Government of India has released to States/UTs, an amount of Rs.7756.00 lakh under the subcomponent, “Support for acquisition of Deep-Sea Fishing vessels for traditional fishermen” of PMMSY for procurement of 323 number of Deep Sea Fishing Vessels.

(d): A Joint Working Group (JWG) between India and Sri Lanka has been constituted to address the fishermen issues including the cross border fishing in Palk Bay region. Besides, an amount of Rs. 300 crore has been sanctioned and released to the Government of Tamil Nadu in financial year 2017-18 for providing 750 deep-sea fishing vessels to traditional fishers of Tamil Nadu especially in the Palk Bay area and construction of a fish landing centre at Kunthakal in Rameshwaram District of Tamil Nadu. In addition, financial assistance is provided under the PMMSY for activities like seaweed cultivation, cage culture and sea-ranching in order to reduce fishing pressure in the Palk Bay area and to reduce the conflict of cross border fishing.
