

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF FISHERIES, ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING
DEPARTMENT OF FISHERIES
LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION No. 1178
TO BE ANSWERED ON 30TH JULY, 2024**

Welfare of Fishermen

1178. PROF. SOUGATA RAY:

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

- (a) the details of steps taken to assist the fishermen of the country who are facing financial crunch due to trolling ban by various State Governments;
- (b) whether the Government has any uniform policy on trolling ban in the country, if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Government noticed the issue of ban on construction of their dwelling units nearby sea shore due to Coastal Regulation Zones (CRZs); and
- (d) if so, the details thereof and the steps taken to ensure the welfare of fishermen of the country?

ANSWER

**MINISTER OF FISHERIES, ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING
(SHRI RAJIV RANJAN SINGH ALIAS LALAN SINGH)**

- (a) & (b): The uniform ban on fishing for 61 days is implemented by the Department of Fisheries, Government of India (DoF, GoI) in the Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ) of India on both the coasts (*i.e.*, 15th April to 14th June in the East Coast, and 1st June to 31st July in the West Coast) based on the recommendations of the Technical Committee and in consultation with the coastal States/Union Territories (UTs). Similarly, the coastal States/UTs are also implementing the fishing ban within their territorial waters in line with the uniform ban implemented in the EEZ. The DoF, GoI under the Pradhan Mantri Matsya Sampada Yojana (PMMSY) provides livelihood and nutritional support for socio-economically backward active traditional fishers during the fishing ban/lean period. Livelihood and nutritional support for 5,99,284 fisher families during fishing ban/lean period annually at a total investment of Rs.1062.78 crores has been provided under the PMMSY.

(c) & (d): As informed by the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change, Govt. of India, the CRZ Notifications were issued with a view to conserve and protect the unique environment of coastal stretches and marine areas while ensuring livelihood security to the fisher communities and other local communities in the coastal areas and promoting sustainable development based on scientific principles. The CRZ Notification provides for livelihood security to the fisherman community. While there are strict regulations for construction, industrial, commercial setups and also residential buildings, the CRZ notification protects the interests of the fisher community by means of suitable enabling provisions even in the No Development Zone (NDZ) of the CRZ. Facilities associated with livelihoods of fishing community such as fish drying yards, net mending yards, traditional boat building yards, ice plants, ice crushing units, auction walls, fish curing facilities etc. have been permitted in the NDZ. Fisher communities and other local communities have also been permitted to repair or reconstruct their dwelling units, as per their traditional rights in the NDZ. Besides, financial assistance under the PMMSY is provided to fishers for the Group Accident Insurance Scheme, boats (as replacement) and nets for traditional fishermen, support for acquisition of deep-sea fishing vessels for traditional fishermen and up gradation of existing fishing vessels for export competency, communication and tracking devices, and safety kits to ensure safety of fishermen while at sea, assistance for mariculture including open-sea cage culture and seaweed cultivation. To facilitate smooth fishing operations and improve the value realization to fishers, financial support is also provided under PMMSY for development of fisheries infrastructure such as fishing harbours and fish landing centers, post-harvest and cold chain facilities, fish transport units, fish markets, processing and value added enterprise units etc.
