

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

**LOK SABHA  
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.1193  
TO BE ANSWERED ON 3<sup>rd</sup> December, 2024**

**Shrimp Exports**

**1193. Shri Hibi Eden:**

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

(a) the details of steps taken for lifting the embargo imposed by the United States of America on shrimp exports from India due to non-usage of Turtle Exclusive Devices (TED) on fishing nets, if so, the details thereof; and

(b) Whether any action plan has been made or steps have been taken to provide relief to the fishing community affected by the ban in the State of Kerala, if so, the details thereof?

**ANSWER**

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

(a) and (b): Department of Commerce, Government of India through Marine Products Export Development Authority (MPEDA) has been proactively taking up the matter with USA through the Embassy of India (EoI) in Washington D. C. Department of Commerce through MPEDA in consultation with both the US Department of State and the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) has tested several versions of the Turtle Excluder Device (TED) fabricated by ICAR-Central Institute of Fisheries Technology (CIFT). Further, Department of Commerce through, MPEDA has organized State level workshop on popularization of the TED and is conducting awareness programmes among the boat owners and fishers across all the major harbors and landing centers of the country. Further, Department of Commerce has taken up the matter through various bilateral mechanisms between India and the US at both official and ministerial level. Some of such recent interventions have been through the India-US Trade Policy Forum (TPF) held in New Delhi in January 2024 and the Trade Policy Forum Inter-sessional held in September 2024.

In addition, Department of Fisheries, Government of India has requested all coastal States and Union Territories (UTs) to take necessary steps to review their respective Marine Fisheries Regulation Act (MFRA) with particular reference to harvesting of wild shrimp and use of Turtle Excluder Device (TED) in trawl nets. All coastal States and Union Territories were also requested to consider immediate declaration of turtle conservation zones, sensitization of concerned authorities and fishermen for strict compliance of turtle conservation measures while fishing. Presently out of 13 coastal states/UTs, 9 have already amended their MFR Acts (Marine Fishing Regulation Acts) to mandate TED use.

USA has not implemented a blanket ban on Indian shrimp imports including Kerala. The restrictions are specifically targeted at wild-caught shrimp, primarily due to concerns regarding sea turtle conservation. While exports of wild-caught shrimp to the US are currently limited, exports of wild-caught shrimp to other countries remain unaffected. The Department of Fisheries, Government of India under the flagship scheme the *Pradhan Mantri Matsya Sampada Yojana* (PMMSY) provides livelihood and nutritional support for traditional fisher's families during the fishing ban/lean period. To supplement the amount provided by Government of India, the State Government may also provide additional amount to the marine fishermen during ban/lean period, as per the state scheme. In addition to financial support during annual fish ban/lean period, the PMMSY scheme has several activities to provide additional or alternative livelihood opportunities to supplement the incomes of marine fishermen, viz. seaweed cultivation, marine cage cultivation, fish marketing outlets like fish kiosks, mobile vending outlets and support to take up brackish water aquaculture.

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