

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

**LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION No. 1296
TO BE ANSWERED ON 03rd DECEMBER, 2024**

Loss of Livelihood of Fishermen

1296. Prof. Sougata Ray:

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

- (a) whether lakhs of fishermen of the country are losing their livelihood due to the climate changes like temperature hike and rising of sea and if so, the details thereof;
- (b) whether the Government has take any steps to prevent the soil erosion among the seashores of the country and if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the damages causes the natural habitats of fishermen; and
- (d) if yes, the details thereof and steps taken to ensure the safety and security of fishermen?

ANSWER

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

(a) The Department of Fisheries, Government of India has not received any report on loss of livelihood due to climate change like temperature hike and rising of the sea level. However, the fisheries research institutes under the aegis of Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR), Government of India have been conducting research regularly for understanding the interactions between climatic parameters and fisheries in order to develop mitigation and adaptation strategies.

(b) Construction of standalone sea wall and coastal protection works are not covered under the ambit of the fisheries development schemes implemented by the Department of Fisheries, Government of India. However, development of fishing harbours and fish landing centres is supported under the *Pradhan Mantri Matsya Sampada Yojana* (PMMSY) and Fisheries and Aquaculture Infrastructure Development Fund (FIDF) and these infrastructure facilities *inter-alia* supports need based waterside and landside facilities like breakwaters, training walls and groynes primarily to create shelter and tranquil basin for smooth operations of fishery activities, protection of lives and assets of fishermen during the rough weather and natural calamities.

To address and mitigate soil erosion along the coastal stretches of Kerala, the Department of Fisheries, Government of Kerala have undertaken shore protection measures in the five districts of Kerala Namely Kasargod, Kannur, Thrissur, Kollam, Thiruvananthapuram through Kerala State Coastal Area Development Corporation Limited (KSCADC) with total outlay of Rs 106.18 crore. The Government of Puducherry have made Rock revetment arrangement through the Public works Department to prevent soil erosion of *Pillaichavady* coastal village.

(c) and (d): There is no data available on the damages causes due to climate change to the natural habitats of fishermen. The Department of Fisheries, Government of India has earmarked funds under the *Pradhan Mantri Matsya Sampada Yojana* (PMMSY) for provision for safety kits such as Global Positioning System (GPS), life-jackets, lifebuoy, other life-saving appliances, a radar reflector, first-aid box, a set of flares, backup battery, search & rescue beacons etc. Funds are also earmarked under PMMSY for Communication and /or Tracking Devices like Transmitters (DATs)/ Automatic Identification System (AIS)/ Navigation with Indian Constellation (NAVIC)/ Transponders etc. for safety of fishers and fishing vessels. Further, for livelihood and nutritional support for socio-economically backward active traditional fisher's families during fish ban/lean period and insurance cover to fishers are also made under the PMMSY scheme. The Government of Kerala has informed that they are implementing a flagship welfare project '*Punargaeham*' for the rehabilitation of highly vulnerable coastal community who are socio-economically disadvantaged and suffering their lives and livelihoods due to destruction of beachfronts.
