

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

**LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION No. 2423
TO BE ANSWERED ON 10TH DECEMBER, 2024**

Sustainable Fishing Practices

2423. Shri E T Mohammed Basheer:

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

- (a) the details of measures implemented to ensure sustainable fishing practices during peak seasons; and
- (b) the details of framework in place to monitor and regulate overfishing and if so, how effective has it been?

ANSWER

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

(a): The Ministry of Fisheries, Animal Husbandry and Dairying notified the 'National Policy on Marine Fisheries, 2017' to guide the responsible and sustainable fishing. Besides, Government of India promotes sustainable fishing and has issued advisories from time to time to coastal States/UTs for preventing juvenile fishing and ban on destructive fishing practices for ensuring sustainability. Paired bottom trawling or bull trawling and use of LED lights in fishing are banned in the Exclusive Economic Zone of India beyond the territorial waters. The uniform ban on fishing in the Indian EEZ, beyond the territorial waters is also implemented for a period of 61 days, from 15th April to 14th June on the East Coast and from 1st June to 31st July on the West Coast, to ensure sustainability of the fishery. Moreover, the Department of Fisheries, Ministry of Fisheries, Animal Husbandry and Dairying is implementing a flagship scheme namely "Pradhan Mantri Matsya Sampada Yojana (PMMSY)" 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. Under the PMMSY the activities such as sea ranching, mariculture, installation of artificial reefs and seaweed cultivation etc are promoted for enhancing the fishery of the coastal area and as additional livelihood for fishers and coastal communities leading to reduction in fishing pressure and for enhancing marine production.

(b): The regulation and management fisheries upto 12 nautical miles in the Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ) falls under the domain of the State Government and they have already enacted their Marine Fishing Regulation Acts (MFRAs)/Marine Fishing Regulations to monitor and regulate fishing activities within 12 nautical miles of territorial waters. The coastal States/UTs through these MFRAs have earmarked the zones/sea areas reserved for fishing only by the traditional fishermen using non-motorized and motorized fishing boats, wherein mechanized fishing vessels are not allowed to fish. The ICAR-Central Marine Fisheries Research Institute (CMFRI) had published Marine Fish Stock Status of India 2022 (CMFRI Booklet Series No. 32/2023) wherein comprehensive marine fish stock assessment for the country had been reported. As per the report, the marine fish stocks of the Indian waters are healthy and sustainable and 91.1% of the 135 fish stocks evaluated in different regions were deemed to be at healthy levels.
