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

LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION No. 353 TO BE ANSWERED ON 4th FEBRUARY, 2025

Traditional Fishing Communities

353. Adv. Adoor Prakash:

Will the Minister of FISHERIES, ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government is aware that the traditional fishing communities are severely being affected by the impacts of the climate crisis;
- (b) if so, whether the Government has proposed any action plan to address the adverse impact of climate change especially job loss of traditional fishermen;
- (c) whether the Government will consider to implement a job guarantee scheme to ensure minimum employment days for traditional fishermen in a year and if so, the details thereof, and
- (d) the details of budgetary allocation for traditional small fishing communities during the last five years?

ANSWER

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

(a) to (c): The Department of Fisheries, Government of India has not received any report on the impacts of the climate crisis on traditional fishing communities and their job loss. The Department of Fisheries, Government of India under the *Pradhan Mantri Matsya Sampada* Yojana (PMMSY), has identified 100 coastal fishermen villages situated close to the coastline as Climate Resilient Coastal Fishermen Villages (CRCFV) to enhance the economic resilience of coastal communities impacted by climate change. The program promotes climate-resilient fisheries through initiatives such as seaweed cultivation, artificial reefs, sea ranching and the promotion of green fuel. Safety and security measures for fishermen and fishing vessels, economic activities like ornamental fisheries, and support programs like insurance, livelihood and nutritional support, Kisan Credit Cards (KCC), and training also supported. The activities in the identified coastal fishermen villages are needbased facilities, including common facilities like fish drying yards, fish processing centers, fish markets, fishing jetties, ice plants, cold storage, and emergency rescue facilities. In addition, the fisheries research institutes under the aegis of the Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR), Government of India have been conducting research regularly to understand the interactions between climatic parameters and fisheries to develop mitigation and adaptation strategies.

Further, ICAR-Fisheries Research Institutes has been contributing to enhance aquaculture through ongoing research, technology development, and capacity-building initiatives in marine as well as inland aquaculture funded by the Government of India.

The Department of Fisheries, Government of India has provided livelihood and nutritional support to an average of six lakh fishermen families annually during annual fishing ban/lean period (both marine and inland fishing ban).

(d): The Department of Fisheries, Ministry of Fisheries, Animal Husbandry and Dairying during the last four financial years (FY 2020-21 to FY2023-24) and current financial year (2024-25), under the PMMSY, has accorded approvals to the proposals worth Rs. 4969.62 crore with a central share of Rs. 1823.58 crore for development of small fishing communities, traditional fishers and other stakeholders including livelihood support.
