

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

LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION No. 289
TO BE ANSWERED ON 2ND DECEMBER, 2025

Safety of Fishermen

289. Shri. Navaskani K:

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

- (a) whether the Government has formulated any special scheme to enhance the safety of fishermen;
- (b) whether the Government has taken any steps to assist fishermen affected by natural calamities and if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) whether the Government proposes to provide relief to fishermen who are affected by the coastal authorities or forces of neighbouring countries, and if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF FISHERIES, ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING

(SHRI RAJIV RANJAN SINGH ALIAS LALAN SINGH)

(a) to (c): The Department of Fisheries, Ministry of Fisheries, Animal Husbandry and Dairying, Government of India accords paramount importance to safety and security of fishermen at sea and provides financial assistance under its various schemes and programmes. Under the Pradhan Mantri Matsya Sampada Yojana (PMMSY), the Department of Fisheries, Government of India provides financial assistance to the State Governments and Union Territories(UTs) for providing (i) safety kits consisting of GPS, life jacket, lifebuoy and other life-saving appliances, radar reflector, first-aid box, a set of flares, backup battery, search & rescue beacons etc., to fishermen of traditional and motorized fishing vessels, (ii) communication and tracking devices onboard the fishing vessels, (iii) Potential Fishing Zone (PFZ) devices etc., to ensure safety of fishermen during fishing at sea and adverse climatic conditions. The Department of Fisheries, Government of India during the last five years (FY 2020-21 to FY 2024-25) has approved the proposals of various Coastal States & UTs for supply of 14,300 communication devices to marine fishermen at a total cost of Rs 50.05 crore under PMMSY.

PMMSY inter-alia provides insurance cover to fishers against death and disabilities and insurance premium subvention for insurance of fishing vessels. The insurance coverage provided to fishers includes (i) Rs.5.00 lakh against death or permanent total disability, (ii) Rs. 2.50 lakh against permanent partial disability and (iii) coverage for hospitalization expenses of Rs. 25,000/-. The insurance premium subvention for insurance of fishing vessels to cover the damage of hull, machinery, accessories including fishing nets, collision liability, total loss, partial loss, and losses caused by Natural Calamities. During the last three years (2021-22 to 2023-24) and current financial year (2024-25), insurance coverage to a total 131.30 lakh fishers with an average of 32.82 lakh fishers annually has been provided under PMMSY .

The Department of Fisheries, Ministry of Fisheries, Animal Husbandry and Dairying, Government of India has approved another proposal on National Rollout of Vessel Communication and Support System (NRVCSS) at a total cost of Rs. 364 Crore under the Pradhan Mantri Matsya Sampada Yojana (PMMSY) for installation of transponders onboard the fishing vessels in all coastal States and UTs. The transponders are being fitted to cover a total one lakh fishing vessels with 100% Governmental assistance. The transponders have geo-fencing features and give alerts to the fishermen upon approaching to or crossing over the maritime boundary so as to prevent such incidences of crossing the maritime boundary. Under the NRVCSS projects, so far, a total 45051 transponders have been installed on board the marine fishing vessels, this including 3,884 transponders in Tamil Nadu which were installed under Blue Revolution scheme

Besides, the Fisheries Department of coastal States/UTs in coordination with Indian Coast Guard are regularly conducting the community interaction programs (CIPs) with the fishermen to appraise them the importance of safety of life at sea, carriage of life saving equipment, usage of portable communication sets and are also impressed not to cross the maritime boundary.
