

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
AGRICULTURE  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1846  
ANSWERED ON:13.12.2004  
DEEP SEA FISHING  
Ramadass Prof. M

**Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:**

- (a) the composition and functions of Fishing Development Fund Committee;
- (b) the steps taken to harness the deep sea fishing resources in the country;
- (c) the points of code of conduct for responsible fisheries and the measures taken by the Government to propagate this code among the fishermen in the country; and
- (d) the steps taken by the Government to protect the fishermen from the possible adverse impact of global fishing which is emerging faster in the country?

**Answer**

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI KANTI LAL BHURIA)

- (a): No Fishing Development Fund Committee has been set up by the Government.
- (b): The steps taken to harness the deep sea fishery resources in the country include (i) issue of guidelines for deep sea fishing; (ii) encouraging deep sea fishing by Indian enterprises; (iii) regulation of fishing by foreign vessels through legislative measures; (iv) Monitoring of the Exclusive Economic Zone by Coast Guard to prevent poaching and unauthorised fishing; and (v) restricting the number of deep sea fishing vessels in tune with the resource potential.
- (c): The main points of the Code of Conduct for Responsible Fisheries is ensuring sustainability of fishing, fisheries, post harvest operations and aquaculture. This is sought to be achieved through stakeholder participation. The measures taken by Government include setting up of a committee at Centre to oversee the implementation of the code, translating the code and the technical manuals thereunder into vernacular for easy undertaking of the code by stakeholders and organising workshops and seminars to sensitize the State Governments and other non-governmental functionaries about the reference of this code.
- (d): The Government has promulgated a Comprehensive Marine Fishing Policy recently. The coastal States have promulgated Marine Fishing Regulation Act. An Empowered Committee has also been set up at Centre to look into matters of deep sea fishing.