

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
AGRICULTURE  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:772  
ANSWERED ON:28.11.2005  
SCARCITY OF FISH IN COASTAL SEA  
Surendran Shri Chengara

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

(a) whether the Union Government proposes to conduct a scientific study of fish wealth in the coastal sea of Kerala in view of widespread complaint from the fishermen folk of Kerala that the scarcity of fish in the coastal sea is due to mechanised deep sea fishing of foreign countries;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the action taken thereon; and

(c) the salient features of National marine fisheries census in the maritime States of the country now being conducted by the Central Marine Fisheries Research Institute (CMFRI)?

**Answer**

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SHRAD PAWAR)

(a)&(b): Scientific studies are conducted by Fishery Survey of India along the entire coast line including that of Kerala to assess the fisheries resources. Studies have not reported any major decrease in fish landings along Kerala coast, which in the past three years have steadied at slightly above 6 lakh tonnes. The Government has not allowed any foreign vessels to fish in Indian waters.

(c): Salient features of National marine fisheries census relates to data collection on fisher folk including their community status, educational status, occupational status, membership in cooperative societies, etc. besides their holdings of craft and gears and infrastructural facilities in fishing villages.