

Title : Need to strengthen the Indian Fishery Research Centre in Kerala.

DR. K.S. MANOJ (ALLEPPEY): Sir, Tsunami has caused great devastation in terms of life, property, environmental damages, fishery changes and several other related developments. Sir, in this aspect, may I invite your kind attention to the fact that several countries where Tsunami has affected, have initiated 'impact assessment studies' to gauge the changes in the socio-economic, geological, environmental and fishery aspects. In the backwaters of Kerala, the fishermen are very strongly protesting and demanding for conducting such ecological studies to understand the fishery changes that have occurred due to Tsunami [\[R72\]](#).

There have also been media reports cautioning the change in the habit of several species of fishes like the puffer fish causing severe damages to the fishing gears. I would like to know about any post-Tsunami studies or research conducted in the inland sector in Kerala particularly by the Central Inland Fisheries Research Institute having its regional unit in Alappuzha. In this context, I was very disappointed to note that I have not come across any serious research programme to elicit the post-Tsunami changes in the backwaters and inland sector of Kerala to assess the ecological status vis-à-vis the fishery resources. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: What do you want in this regard?

DR. K.S. MANOJ : There is a move to shut down the only Inland Fishery Research Unit of ICAR in Kerala and shift it to Bangalore. I urge upon the Government to continue and strengthen the CIFRI unit of ICAR in Alappuzha by providing staff and equipment to conduct new studies on the impact of Tsunami in inland fishing sector.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Shrimati P. Satheedevi -- Not present

Shrimati C.S. Sujatha -- Not present