

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

**RAJYA SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1205  
TO BE ANSWERED ON 11<sup>th</sup> February, 2022

**Decreasing marine wealth**

**1205. Shri K. Somaprasad:**

Will the Minister of *Fisheries, Animal Husbandry and Dairying* be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has noticed that India's marine wealth is gradually decreasing in the coastal region including Kerala, if so, the details thereof;
- (b) the reasons noted and identified for such decrease;
- (c) whether any assistance to the fishermen community is likely to be announced to meet the needs of the situation, if so, the details thereof; and
- (d) whether Government is planning to conduct a scientific study on the decrease in marine wealth with reference to climate change, if so, the details thereof?

**ANSWER**

**MINISTER OF FISHERIES, ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING**

**(SHRI PARSHOTTAM RUPALA)**

(a) & (b): The data for marine fish landing across coastal States during the last five years indicate an overall stagnation in quantities of marine fish landed including in Kerala. However, a slight reduction in marine fish landings over the last two years, viz. 2019-20 and 2020-21 (Provisional) may be attributed to the reduced number of fishing days due to the Covid-19 pandemic situation.

(c): The Department of Fisheries, Ministry of Fisheries, Animal Husbandry and Dairying is implementing a flagship Scheme 'Pradhan Mantri Matsya Sampada Yojana' (PMMSY) with the highest ever investment of Rs.20,050 crore in fisheries sector for a period of five years with effect from the financial year 2020-21 to 2024-25 in all States/Union Territories to increase the incomes of fishers and fish farmers through increased productivity, enhanced price realization, reduction in post-harvest losses through improved infrastructure and transportation facilities, value addition and providing training and skill upgradation of fishers and fish farmers, upgrading and augmenting market and cold chain infrastructure and enhanced access to low cost working capital, etc.

(d): The potential of marine fisheries resources available in Indian Exclusive Economic Zone is periodically revisited through Expert Committees constituted from time to time. The last such Working Group of Experts was constituted on 24<sup>th</sup> August, 2017 for revalidation of potential fishery resources available and to estimate the additional marine fisheries potential that could be harvested on a sustainable basis from different depth, zones and regions of India's sovereign waters. The Working Group has submitted its report on 26<sup>th</sup> September, 2018, wherein potential yield of Indian EEZ is estimated as 5.31 million metric tonnes.

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