

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

**RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1003
TO BE ANSWERED ON 31st JULY, 2024**

Decline in coastal marine fish production

1003 Shri Pramod Tiwari:

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

- (a) whether there has been a decline in coastal marine fish production in the country over the last few years;
- (b) if so, the details thereof including the rate of decline as calculated by the Central Marine Fisheries Research Institute;
- (c) the reasons therefor; and
- (d) the steps taken by Government to increase the fish stocks and improve the marine ecosystem?

ANSWER

**THE MINISTER OF FISHERIES, ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING
(SHRI RAJIV RANJAN SINGH ALIAS LALAN SINGH)**

(a) to (c): The total marine fish production of India during 2022-23 was 4.43 million tonnes, which records increment of 0.3 million tonnes of marine fish production over the previous year, i.e. 2021-22 when total marine fish production of India was 4.12 million tonnes. The ICAR- Central Marine Fisheries Research Institute (CMFRI) has *inter alia* reported that the overall marine fish production as measured through marine fish landings has not shown a declining trend. Further, according to the CMFRI published Marine Fish Stock Status, 2022, the marine fish stock of the Indian waters are in good health and 91.1% of the 135 fish stocks evaluated in different regions during 2022 were found sustainable.

(d): The Department of Fisheries, Government of India is taking several steps towards conservation and sustainable development of marine fishery resources such as implementation of artificial reefs development and conduct of sea ranching under the Pradhan Matri Matsya Sampada Yojana (PMMSY). Besides, measures such as implementation of uniform, seasonal fishing ban for 61 days during monsoon months which coincides with the fish breeding periods in the Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ), ban on pair or bull trawling and use of LED or artificial lights for fishing in the EEZ areas, issuance of advisories to States/UTs for taking measures to prevent juvenile fishing like strict implementation of mesh size regulations, minimum legal size for harvest of fish etc under respective Marine Fishing Regulation Acts (MFRAs) etc. are taken to ensure responsible fishing and sustainable fisheries.
