

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF EARTH SCIENCES
RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION No. - 1781
ANSWERED ON 16/03/2023

Deep Ocean Mission and over-exploitation of marine resources

1781. DR. KANIMOZHI NVN SOMU:

Will the Minister of EARTH SCIENCES be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has taken note of the apprehensions that the Deep Ocean Mission would result in over-exploitation of marine resources by the corporate houses affecting the life and livelihoods of millions of fishers in the country;
- (b) if so, whether Government has taken any steps to hold discussions in this regard with various stakeholders, including the fishers, experts and State Governments, if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor; and
- (c) whether the Deep Ocean Mission is related to the Blue Economy initiatives of Government, if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER FOR STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) FOR
MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY
AND EARTH SCIENCES
(DR. JITENDRA SINGH)

- (a) Deep Ocean Mission would not result in any over exploitation of the marine resources by the corporate houses and will not affect the life and livelihoods of fishers in the country. The Deep Ocean Mission aims to explore deep-oceanic resources and develop technologies for their sustainable use. The outcome of the program is intended to identify potential new resources and develop technology for harnessing them in future, which may generate additional opportunity for livelihoods. The Deep Ocean Mission was formulated after having detailed discussions with central and state government stakeholders.
- (b) Consultations were held with Experts in central and state government while formulating the Mission.
- (c) Yes, Sir. The Deep Ocean Mission is related to the Blue Economy. The activities of Deep Ocean Mission will help the components of blue economy such as fisheries, tourism and maritime transport, renewable energy, aquaculture, seabed extractive activities and marine biotechnology.
