GOVERNMENT OF INDIA

MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE

DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL HUSBANDRY, DAIRYING & FISHERIES

RAJYA SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.1776

TO BE ANSWERED ON 13TH MARCH, 2015

**OFF-SHORE FISHING BY FOREIGN AND JOINT VENTURE COMPANIES**

**1776**. SHRI TIRUCHI SIVA:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE

be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government recognises a recent Expert Committee’s recommendation that waters between 200 m and 500 m kept as buffer zone, will hurt the livelihood of fishermen; and

(b) whether it is a fact that the recommendation to throw open off-shore regions for fishing by foreign and joint venture companies would work against the interest of the local fishermen, if so, the details thereof, and if not, the reasons therefor?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR AGRICULTURE:

(DR. SANJEEV KUMAR BALYAN)

(a) & (b): The Expert Committee constituted for a comprehensive review of deep sea fishing Policy and Guidelines has *inter-alia* suggested that the waters between 200m to 500 m depth zone may be kept as a buffer zone to augment the resources in both the near-shore waters as well as in the off-shore areas. There is no proposal to throw open off-shore regions for fishing by foreign vessels.

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