

ALL GOA SMALL SCALE RESPONSIBLE FISHERIES UNION

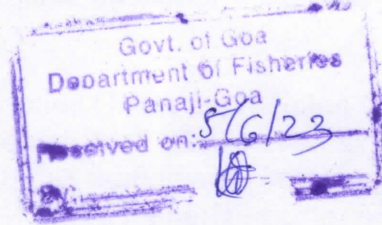
190, Nauxim, Bambolim, Tiswadi, Goa 403 206

Registered no. 561

Date: June 05, 2023

To,

The Director,
Department of Fisheries,
Government of Goa,
Panaji, Goa



Subject: Objections to the Registration of all size canoes upto 42 feet and 25 HP Outboard Motors under subsidy

Madam,

With regard to above subject matter contained in letter no. DF/ENF/GRE/2023-24/969 dated 25/05/2023 signed by Deputy director of Fisheries C. Velip under your approval we wish to submit to you today that is World Environment Day as under:

1. Currently large number of canoes are used for carrying on illegal purse seine fishing. Zuari river is one example that has been brought to your attention several times in the past.
2. Extending canoe size to 42 feet for subsidy we anticipate will lead to further intensification of abuse by using big sized canoes for illegal purse seine fishing.
3. Current use of Outboard Motors of around 8 HP already contribute towards scaring away of fish due to sound vibrations. Subsidizing 25 HP Outboard motors will worsen this situation.
4. Current use of Outboard Motors and Canoes for illegal purse seine fishing inside Zuari river has not been dealt with effectively by your office inspite of several complaints. Infact illegal fishing by canoes using purse seine nets and by trawlers has not received necessary attention from your office. As a result it is going on even during fishing ban period in Zuari river.
5. Use of big size canoes for purse seine fishing has been amongst primary violators of fishing laws in Zuari river. They use fishing nets size of around 8 mm far below permission limit of 23 mm. And your office has been toothless to deal with this situation. Now permitting subsidy for canoes upto 42 feet will further arm the capacity of the Fishing abuse leading towards fish famine of Goa's coast that is already infested with LED fishing for reasons intimately known to your office. Getting 25 HP Outboard Motors under subsidy scope will add speed to the illegal purse seine

fishing activities that even Fisheries department patrol boat will not be able to overcome on rare hot pursuit instances.

6. Andrews A. wrote his book "Pearl of the Sea" in 2001. One chapter is dedicated to perils caused to Fisheries on Kerala Coast due to use of Out Board Motors. It is high time that your office pay attention to this and tackle the issue in the interests of sustainability of Fisheries rather than interests of escalating profits by destroying Fisheries. Destruction of Goa's marine Fisheries sector will create unprecedented food insecurity.

7. All Goa Small Scale Responsible Fisheries Union appreciates valuable contribution from Goechea Raponkarancho Ekvott (GRE) even since its foundation more than four decades ago. However in this matter we differ with their proposal without malice in the long term interest of Goa's Fisheries sector and marine ecology.

In the above context All Goa Small Scale Responsible Fisheries Union hereby objects to the proposal to extend subsidy to canoes upto 42 feet and 25 HP Outboard Motors and calls upon your office to reject GRE proposal inwards to your office on 24/03/2023. Traditional fishing in Goa has always been small scale with small canoes that ensured sustainability of Fisheries and stability of Fisheries supply chain. GRE proposal threatens to disrupt both.

Thanking you.

Yours sincerely

Shaila
Shaila D'mello
(President)

Laximan Mangueshkar
(Secretary)

