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Title: Regarding setting up of a Welfare Commission for Fishermen -
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SHRI SISIR KUMAR ADHIKARI (KANTHI): Geo-cultural region in the Indian Subcontinent spans the entire coastline of India of about 7516.6 Km including 6100 km of mainland coastline and coastline of 1197 km of Indian islands touching 13 States and Union Territories. Centrally Sponsored Schemes and department of the Fisheries have different developmental projects on fisheries and aquaculture. However, there is no commission or board in the country to regular follow-up or to meet the practical problems of the Fishermen and their family including their livelihood and social security. The National Fisheries Development Board (NFDB) is engaged to enhance fish production, productivity and development. All the components of CSS are very limited and the budget for the welfare of Fishermen is very less compared to their job status. Almost 18 million people in the country are fishermen/women and India is the second largest fish producer in the world where more than 70 percent have to work on deep sea water and their life is always in nightmare and filled with uncertainty.

Keeping in view real benefits and welfare of the fishermen and their family, there is an urgent need to constitute a commission for fishermen welfare with all members of the Parliament, who are directly involved with fishing community and representing coastal constituencies of the country. I, therefore, urge upon the Government to immediately set up a 'Welfare Commission for Fishermen' of the country.

