

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:478
ANSWERED ON:27.02.2013
KILLING OF FISHERMEN BY ITALIAN MARINES
Ray Shri Saugata

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) the current status of the case of Italian marines who killed two fishermen off the coast of Kerala;
- (b) the measures taken by the Government to ensure justice in the case; and
- (c) the steps being taken by the Government to protect the fishermen of our country?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI E. AHAMED)

(a) & (b) The matter is sub judice.

(c) Navarea VIII warning No. 100 dated 23 February, 2012 has been issued by Indian Coast Guard in which all vessels have been warned that fishing is carried out upto 50 nautical miles from the coast and vessels should not mistake fishing boats as skiffs and PAGs (Piracy armed groups).

Further, the Directorate of Shipping vide M.S. Notice 7 of 2012 dated 7 March, 2012 has advised all merchant vessels to take note of dense fishing traffic on Indian coast, the possibility that they may be approached by these boats for safeguarding their nets/lines and that these fishing boats should not be mistaken for pirate skiffs. Merchant Shipping has been advised to navigate with extreme caution when approaching upto 50 NM from the Indian Coast.