Title: Need to consider the demands of the fishermen community in order to solve their problems.

SHRI VINAY KUMAR SORAKE (UDUPI): Under the banner of National Fishworkers Forum, fishermen from all parts of India, including my constituency Udupi in Dakshina Kannada coastal belt had converged into the capital during July, 2002 to present a charter of demands to the Centre, which, *inter-alia*, sought relief through:

- 1. Speeding up implementation of Murari Committee Report in its entirety.
- 2. Cancellation of licences issued to Joint/Lease/Test fishing vessels plying deep seas.
- 3. Increase in supply quota of kerosene oil used by traditional and small-mechanised sector.
- 4. Enhancement of subsidy given by the Centre on High Speed Diesel Oil consumed by fishing crafts, to sustain parity with the subsidy component of today's HSD prices which works out to Rs. 2.82 per litre in comparison with the prevailing 35 paise per litre fixed in 1991.
- 5. Cancellation of all licences issued by the Ministry of Commerce to all foreign fishing vessels, which is violating of the Murari Committee recommendations and the Constitution of India.
- 6. Early enactment of Aquaculture Authority Bill.
- 7. Setting apart 25 per cent of allocations under Swarnima Yojna of the Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment to benefit fisherwomen through self-employment.

I urge the Centre to consider these just demands and grant appropriate relief to fishermen community of India.

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