

>

Title: Need to empower the fishermen community with gadgets with a view to strengthen the Maritime security in the coastal regions -Laid.

DR. K.S. MANOJ (ALLEPPEY): In view of the increased terrorist threat through the sea, in addition to strengthening the Indian Navy and Coast Guard, the fishermen, who are the natural inhabitants of the sea may be empowered and their services may be utilized for maritime surveillance and security. Even historically, fishermen were the first line of defence along the maritime boundary of the country. They are instinctively coastal protectors. The fishing community had always been cooperating with the security agencies. Often the fishermen were the first to notice mystery vessels on the high sea. They can be used as information providers to protect the country's coastlines by providing them powerful binoculars and other communication equipments. So I urge upon the Government to bring the fishermen community in the national security loop, as informants.