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Title : Need to amend Merchant Shipping Act, 1958 with a view to protect the interests of Indian Seamen.

SHRI SUNIL KHAN (DURGAPUR): It is reported that a good no. of seamen are regularly killed in high seas. It is also inhuman that Indian seafarers who are reported missing have no trace in high seas. The tragic and mysterious disappearance from the vessel MSC Carmen on 12th Oct. 05 of Hasan Zaheer with

four others is one of the cases. The approach of the Government of India is very indifferent. It's also a fact that tampering of evidence has become a common feature in these cases. The bereaved families run from pillar to post for justice which is seldom met. A genuine demand has been raised to amend Merchant Shipping Act. 1958.

So, I urge upon the Hon'ble Minister of Shipping to amend the Act by adding the line "loss of life of any citizen of India".