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Title: Need to implement the recommendations of Murari Committee with a view to address the problems being faced by the fishermen community.

SHRIMATI MANORAMA MADHAVRAJ (UDUPI): The miserable plight of 10 million strong fishermen community of India, facing depletion of marine resources and ecological disaster along the coastlines due to sea erosion has been further compounded by the apathy of the Government which is yet to act on the recommendation of the Murari Committee.

It is almost a decade and a half since the Committee had given its report containing 21 recommendations to address the problems being faced by the fishermen community. The Committee had recommended complete stoppage of issuing licences to deep sea trawlers operated by MNCs and also cancellation of licences already issued. Despite a Cabinet decision to the effect, the Govt has yet to implement the proposal to make available subsidised fuel (high speed diesel) to fishermen and also additional quantities of Kerosene at subsidised rates.

I urge the Centre to ensure immediate implementation of the Murari Committee recommendations and to consider creation of a separate Union Ministry for Fisheries to look after the interest of fishery development and welfare of the fishermen community.