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Title : Regarding oil leakage from a Ship affecting the endangered species of turtles and rare variety of fish in the sea near Gopalpur Coast in Orissa.

SHRI NITYANANDA PRADHAN (ASKA): Madam Speaker, I would like to raise a matter regarding the disaster that my district is facing. As you know, in Ganjam District of Orissa, there is a port called Gopalpur. On 5th or 6th of April, one ship carrying coal from Indonesia came and when it anchored, oil from that ship leaked and that oil spread over about 30 kms. on both sides of the ship with the result the Olive Ridley turtles and fish have died. They are lying on the seashore. Apart from that, fishing is the only source of livelihood of the fishermen living in that area and they are also suffering. It is learnt that some virus is there and if that virus is introduced into the sea water, they will eat away that oil portion thereby the natural calamity can be averted. Earlier also, such a disaster took place in Paradip Port and for a very long time, oil was leaking from another ship. This is occurring very frequently and so this is a very serious matter. Hence, through you, I would like to draw the attention of the hon. Minister of Environment and Minister of Shipping towards this matter and request that immediate action should be taken to prevent such recurrences. As per law, the old ships which have completed more than 20 years of service should not be allowed to enter into the port. This is the legal provision. I hope the hon. Minister will look into the matter. For that, I request your honour's intervention.