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Title: Strike by the ship crew union against the working of Lakshdweep Development Corporation Limited.

SHRI HAMDULLAH SAYEED (LAKSHADWEEP): Madam Chairperson, I thank you for giving this opportunity.

I would like to draw the attention of the House that in the month of January, 2011, in my constituency Lakshadweep, there was a strike which was called by the Lakshadweep Development Corporation Limited crew members and this Lakshadweep Development Corporation Limited is directly under the Lakshadweep Administration. It is responsible for the manning of all the ships, vessels and steamers and, as you know, in Lakshadweep, shipping is the lifeline of the islanders.

18.05 hrs (Dr. Raghuvansh Prasad Singh *in the Chair*)

Sir, unlike other States and Union Territories, roadways and railways are not there and shipping is the basic mode of transport for the islanders.

The main reason for the strike which was called by the Lakshadweep Development Corporation Limited crew was that one Mr. Shamim Ali Yusuf who was working as a crew in M.V. Baraseema Ship died on board when the ship was docket at Cochin Port. The Lakshadweep Administration did not even bother and did not even send an officer responsible to pay a visit to the dead body. The dead body was taken by the colleagues of Mr. Shamim Ali to the hospital where the *post-mortem* was conducted and also the body was interred.

Sir, I would like to draw your attention to the fact that the deceased family members were not compensated and because of this strike which was called, all the ships and vessels were stranded and the life had come to a standstill. So, I would request and urge upon the Government of India, especially, the Ministry of Home Affairs, to direct the Lakshadweep Administration to conduct a thorough enquiry into the incident and to compensate the family of the deceased and also to compensate the passengers who were stranded because of this strike. They should also ensure that there is a strong mechanism so that such incidents are taken seriously and the local administration is not apathetic to such incidents. Thank you, Sir.