

>

Title: Need for impartial investigation and enforce strict adherence to safeguard the interest of Indian fishermen.

SHRI M.I. SHANAVAS (WAYANAD): I would like to draw the attention of this august House on a very important matter considering the fishermen of Kerala. My hon. colleague Shri Kodikkunni Suresh has already raised this issue. So, I do not want to make a prolonged speech.

Now, the fishermen in Kerala are going in the sea for their livelihood in the most terrified condition. An Italian ship - just like hunting a wild animal - has shot down two fishermen in cold blood. They have died on the spot. After that, so many similar incidents have taken place. Now, how the fishermen of Kerala would go to the deep sea for fishing. This not only concerns the fishermen of Kerala but of Tamil Nadu and of all over India. These maritime rules are being disobeyed by all these foreign vessels, which are coming into our seas. So, I urge upon this Government to take stringent measures so that these kinds of activities will not happen again.

A hit and run case was also reported. So many fishing vessels are being hit and drowned. In a recent case, five fishermen died. How the fishermen will go there? So, the Navy, the Coast Guards, the Government of India and State Governments will have to be active to save the lives of the fishermen. Thank you.