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Title: Need for stringent laws to protect the lives of fishermen on sea.

SHRI N. PEETHAMBARA KURUP (KOLLAM): Sir, thank you for giving me this opportunity to raise this issue. The recent killings of our poor fishermen in the territorial waters of India has not only sent shock waves in the minds of the fishing community but also brought pain and distress to our minds. Poor unarmed fishermen were brutally shot and killed by the crew of the ship of Italy on the plea that they were pirates. Similarly, another ship called *Prabhudaya*, without any *daya*, trampled on the boat of our fishermen and killed them, who were on their way to earn bread for their families. Some of the dead bodies of the fishermen are still trapped in the destroyed boat entangled by the fishing net underneath the sea bed.

I earnestly request the Government of India to bring in stringent laws to protect the lives of the poor fishermen in the sea and to punish those who attack them on one pretext or the other. I would also like to request the Government of India to render necessary help and financial assistance to the families of the deceased and injured in the mishaps.