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Title: Need to provide safe drinking water, sanitation and toilet facilities to people living in coastal regions of the country particularly in Kerala.

SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMCHANDRAN(VADAKARA): India has a long coastline of 7517 Kilometers covering nine states and three Union territories. Millions of people living along the coast depend upon the sea for their livelihood. India earns huge foreign exchange through marine products export. The living condition of these coastal people is deplorable. During monsoons, the poor fishermen cannot venture into sea due to turbulent weather and hence suffer financial hardships.

As I come from a coastal state, I know the condition of the fishermen living along the seashore. Kerala has 580 Kilometers of coastline and the people here suffer from want of safe drinking water. Water available along the seashore is saline and unfit for drinking resulting in all kinds of diseases.

Sanitation and lack of toilet facilities is also a major problem in all the coastal states.

I appeal to the Government of India to evolve a strategy to address these issues on a war-footing.