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Title: Regarding steps to prevent LED light-fishing in the Konkan region of Maharashtra -laid.

SHRI VINAYAK BHAURAO RAUT (RATNAGIRI-SINDHUDURG): The Union Government has banned fishing by use of LED lights in the Indian EEZ beyond territorial waters. The Indian Coast Guard has been advised by the Government of India for taking necessary steps to prevent use of LED light fishing. However, in spite of ban on use of LED lights for fishing, LED light fishing is continuing unabated in Konkan region especially Raigad, Ratnagiri and Sindhudurg Districts of Maharashtra and LED light fishing vessels from outside Maharashtra State are encroaching in this region even within 12 NM and resorting to illegal LED light fishing at night. This is resulting in heavy loss of fish resources for the next season and adversely affecting the livelihood of local traditional fishermen. Indian Coast Guard and Maharashtra Govt. are not taking any effective and concrete steps to prevent the illegal LED lights fishing and impose strict penalty on the offenders.

I, therefore, urge upon the Central Government to issue instructions to the Indian Coast Guard and Maharashtra Government to take effective steps to prevent LED light fishing in the Konkan region of Maharashtra. Further, punitive action against the offenders is required.