

Title: Need to clear the proposal of Kerala Government for the integrated development of coastal infrastructure.

SHRI G.M. BANATWALLA (PONNANI): Mr. Deputy-Speaker Sir, fishermen are one of the weakest sections of our society. This section is also the most neglected section. The living and working conditions of our fishermen community are extremely appalling. The social and economic backwardness of the fishermen community demands massive developmental intervention both from the Central and the State Governments. The pressing need for adequate housing project, provision of the basic amenities like drinking water, electricity, sanitation arrangements and the likes brook no delay. The fishermen need also to be provided with modern fibre boats. I request the Central Government to formulate adequate and effective package for the integrated development of the fisheries sector.

The Government of Kerala has submitted a project proposal to the Eleventh Finance Commission for the integrated development of coastal infra-structure at a cost of Rs.103.75 crore. I appeal to the Central Government to pursue this for the required award.