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Title : Need to set up a Maritime University in Gujarat.

SHRI HARIN PATHAK (AHMEDABAD EAST): I want to bring to the kind notice that Gujarat State has the longest coastline of 1600 kms. There is one major port (Kandla Port Trust) and 41 non major ports. Gujarat ports including Kandla handles 35% of the total cargo handed in India and Gujarat Maritime Board Ports handles 80% of the cargo of all minor ports in India. Nearly 7000 ships per year come at Gujarat Ports. The requirement of man power is, therefore, very high. With a view to make available marine manpower to be deployed in the sector, Gujarat. State had requested the Centre for establishment of Maritime University in Gujarat. The purpose of establishing of Maritime University is to impart education at graduate and post graduate level to the students willing to join maritime sector. The university would offer various courses on Port Management, Marine Engineering, Nautical Science and Ship Building etc. Government of India had announced the establishment of two Universities one at East Coast and other on West Coast and it was informed that permission for starting Maritime University has been granted to Kandla Port Trust and it was suggested that Gujarat Maritime Board can have a Maritime Institute and the same can be affiliated to the Maritime University. In this connection, Gujarat Govt. is regularly requesting Director General of Shipping, and Government of India to expedite the approval for Maritime Institute in Gujarat State for the benefit of students from Gujarat State who are keen to join the shipping lines and will add to manpower. Since this matter is pending for more than 2 years, I, therefore, request the Hon'ble Minister through this august House to expedite this matter so that Maritime University can be set up in Gujarat