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Title: Need to provide adequate fishing infrastructure and Technology to fishermen communities of Lakshadweep.

MOHAMMED FAIZAL (LAKSHADWEEP): I would like to draw the kind attention of Union Government towards the issues concerning fishermen communities of Lakshadweep.

I urge the Government and the Ministry of Agriculture specifically the National Fisheries development board and the Ministry of Commerce along with the Marine Product Export Development Authority (MPEDA) to introduce improved technology such as modified crafts and advanced fishing gears to enable fishermen communities from Lakshadweep to tap the deep sea fishes which is not tapped so far and also to develop land based infrastructures such as ice factories, fish landing centers, processing units in any of the two islands, tunnel freezers etc. given the fact that an active fisherman of Lakshadweep can indulge only for not more than 8 hours in a day. This is not because of non availability of fish but because of the limited infrastructure to preserve their catch on land.

Secondly, the overall ban period for fishing in India varies from 40 to 50 days in a year, but in the case of Lakshadweep there is natural ban of 4 months due to the South East monsoon, rough and turbid sea and during these periods the fishermen are involved in active maintenance of their crafts. During these lean period welfare schemes of the agriculture ministry may kindly be extended to them to sustain their livelihood.