Sawalikar takes up seafarers' grievances

Times News Network

Margao: Commissioner of NRI affairs Narendra Sawai-
kar has written to Union mini-
ster of state for shipping, che-
icals and fertilisers Mans-
ukh Lal Mandaviya to take
steps to ensure that employ-
ment of Goans whose INEOS
(Indian National Database of
Seafarers) number has been
deactivated, is adequately pro-
tected. INEOS serves as a me-
ans to cross-check a seafarer's
identity.

Sawaikar, in the letter, po-
inted out to the show cause no-
tice issued by the director ge-
neral of shipping to 3,762 Indo-
an seafarers, including Goans,
by which their INEOS num-
bers have been deactivated.
"Due to deactivation, seafar-
ers cannot depart from India
as e-migrate clearance is lin-
ked to INEOS for all Indian se-
afarers," Sawaikar said in the
letter.

He further pointed out that
"such abrupt action of DG
shipping has not only put the
employment of 87 Goan seaf-
ners at risk, but has also bro-
ught bad image to hundreds of
those already employed in the
sector".