

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4570
ANSWERED ON:21.12.2011
VISIT OF INDIAN DELEGATION
Kumar Shri P.

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the issue of fishermen belonging to Tamil Nadu and their livelihood have come up for discussion during the recent visit of the Indian delegation to Sri Lanka;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the steps taken by the Government in this regard?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SMT. PRENEET KAUR)

(a) to (c) During his visit to Sri Lanka from 8-10 October 2011, the Foreign Secretary called on the President of Sri Lanka and met with the Minister for Economic Development, Foreign Secretary and other officials of Sri Lanka with whom he discussed, inter alia, the issue of the safety, security and welfare of Indian fishermen. In this context, he emphasised the need to ensure that Indian fishermen apprehended in Sri Lankan waters are treated in a humane manner.