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Title: Regarding release of 24 fishermen from Tamil Nadu who have been arrested by the Bangladesh Navy for allegedly crossing the International Maritime Boundary line.

SHRI T.G. VENKATESH BABU (CHENNAI NORTH): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I wish to bring to your notice the plight of 24 fishermen from Kanyakumari District in Tamil Nadu who were arrested by the Bangladesh Navy on 9.12.2014.

Sir, 24 fishermen belonging to Tamil Nadu engaged as fishing labourers on a share basis, went for deep sea fishing in three boats from Bettuagad near Kolkata in West Bengal on 17th November, 2014. These 24 innocent fishermen have been arrested by the Bangladesh Navy for allegedly crossing the International Maritime Boundary Line on 9.12.2014.

These innocent fishermen are the sole breadwinners of their families and are engaged in deep sea fishing in order to earn their livelihood. Their arrest and detention will severely affect their families and dependents in Tamil Nadu.

Hence, I urge upon the Ministry of External Affairs, Government of India to coordinate with the High Commission of India in Dhaka, Bangladesh and intervene at the diplomatic level to secure the immediate release of these 24 fishermen from Tamil Nadu.