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title: Issue regarding increasing incidents of violent attacks on Indian fishermen by SriLankan Navy.

SHRI A. ANWHAR RAAJHAA (RAMANATHAPURAM): Mr. Chairman, Sir, day in, day out, the Sri Lankan Navy is attacking and capturing our fishermen. Just day before yesterday also, 20 fishermen along with their boats have been taken away by the Sri Lankan armed forces.

The arrest of our Tamil Nadu fishermen by the Sri Lankan Navy and the capture of their catch, and also the violent attacks on them are sadly continuing. Our Tamil Nadu Chief Minister has written so many letters by now to the Centre.

So far, 64 fishermen and 77 fishing boats have been taken away. The Sri Lankan Navy is violating the traditional fishing rights of our Tamil fishermen. Repeatedly, our Tamil Nadu Chief Minister hon. *Amma* has been drawing the attention of the Prime Minister for a positive intervention.

Two kinds of solutions can be adopted as pointed out by our hon. Amma. One is, retrieval of Katchatheevu and the other one is encouraging deep sea fishing. In order to facilitate the deep sea fishing with the infrastructure development at a cost of Rs.1520 crore, the permission and the funds have to come from the Centre. Our Tamil Nadu Government led by our hon. Amma has proposed to provide fishing equipments with fifty per cent subsidy for deep sea fishing.

Our Navy and Coastal Guard are stationed near Rameswaram. But, they have not protected our fishermen even once. Problems caused to our Indian fishermen in this fishing season are shocking. There must be an end to these sufferings. More than 600 fishermen have died so far. Hence, I would request the Union Government to provide guns to each and every fishermen who go for fishing for their safety and security. This would definitely prevent the fishermen from threat and death. I strongly believe that this is the only solution to protect our fishermen and their traditional fishing rights.