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Title: Regarding reported arrest of 27 fishermen by Sri Lankan Navy.

SHRIMATI R. VANAROJA (TIRUVANNAMALAI): Respected Sir, the attack on fishermen by Sri Lankan Navy has been continuing unresolved for the last several decades. The Sri Lankan Navy very recently captured 68 fishermen and 78 fishing boats including the 12 fishermen and their two fishing boats detained earlier on February 11, 2016. Sri Lankan Navy has been arresting Tamil Nadu fishermen and it was unfortunate that the arrest was continuing while they were pursuing their traditional vocation of fishing. The repeated attempts by the Sri Lankan Navy to prevent the exercise of traditional rights by our fishermen by continuing apprehensions, arrests and assaults cannot be allowed to continue further and need to be halted through the concerted efforts by the Government of India as demanded by our hon. Chief Minister Dr. Puratchi Thalaivi Amma in a communication to our hon. Prime Minister today. Our hon. Chief Minister Dr. Puratchi Thalaivi Amma has also demanded to take proactive steps to bring about a permanent solution to the issues that plagued the livelihood of thousands of Tamil Nadu fishermen as well as sought the personal intervention of the hon. Prime Minister to ensure the release of 68 fishermen and 78 fishing boats including the 12 fishermen and their two fishing boats detained on February 11, 2016. Therefore, I would urge upon the hon. Prime Minister to take immediate action as demanded by our beloved leader *Idhaya Dheivam* Dr. Puratchi Thalaivi Amma for the release of the fishermen captured by the Sri Lankan Navy and also to bring about a permanent solution to the issues that plagued the livelihood of thousands of Tamil Nadu fishermen.

HON. CHAIRPERSON: Kunwar Pushpendra Singh Chandel is permitted to associate with the issue raised by Shrimati R. Vanaroja.

DR. SHASHI THAROOR (THIRUVANANTHAPURAM): Mr. Chairman, may I be permitted to speak from here?

HON. CHAIRPERSON: Yes please.