

### **Concern over frequent attacks and arrests of Indian Fishermen by the Sri Lankan Navy**

SHRI VAIKO (Tamil Nadu): Hon. Deputy Chairman, Sir, and my beloved colleagues of this House, I want to raise an important issue in which fishermen of Tamil Nadu are continuously attacked by the Sri Lankan Navy, some of whom get killed and the remaining fishermen are taken to Colombo and put in the prison. Even today, 83 Tamil Nadu fishermen are inside the prison.

In 2014, there was a cricket match between Sri Lanka and India. Before the match took place, the Sri Lankan Navy personnel entered our territorial waters. They hastened the fishermen saying: "If Sri Lanka loses this time in the cricket, we will kill you." That was reported in the press, and Sri Lanka was defeated. The same night, four fishermen were attacked. Their heads were chopped off and the bodies and heads were floating in the sea shore. Likewise, now, more than 875 fishermen over these forty years have been attacked and killed by the Sri Lankan Navy. The Union Government is not taking up any issues to prevent such killings in the high sea. Last week, the Sri Lankan Navy attacked fishermen from Rameshwaram. In the attack, one fisherman drowned in the sea and the other fisherman could not be traced. They have taken two fishermen into custody. Three days back, Sri Lankan Navy handed over the mortal remains of a fisherman who died in the attack and of two other fishermen. While this act was going on, another group of Sri Lankan Navy has taken into custody another four fishermen from Pudukottai district who were fishing on high sea. A pall of gloom descended on fishermen colonies in the coastal habitation. Fishermen Associations in Rameshwaram had announced indefinite strike for last three days, since 85 fishermen are still languishing in the Sri Lankan prisons; their livelihood is being taken away. I met the Prime Minister. I represented the matter. Then, I met the External Affairs Minister twice, and he has also told me: "We are really worried. We are trying to improve the situation." Sir, I said that when they come to our territorial waters, they attack and kill and the bodies are floating in the seas. I want to know whether these Tamil Nadu fishermen are citizens of India or not. If they are citizens of India, what are you doing? What is your neighbour... *...(Interruptions)...*

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Thank you. *(Time-bell rings.)* Thank you, hon. Vaikoji. *...(Interruptions)...* Thank you. *...(Interruptions)...* You have raised the issue. *...(Interruptions)...*

The following hon. Members associated themselves with the matter raised by the hon. Member, Shri Vaiko: Shrimati Jebi Mather Hisham (Kerala), Shrimati Mahua Maji (Jharkhand), Dr. V. Sivadasan (Kerala), Shri Jose K. Mani (Kerala), Shri P. Wilson (Tamil Nadu), Shri Sandosh Kumar P (Kerala), Shri K.R.N. Rajeshkumar (Tamil Nadu), Shri R. Girirajan (Tamil Nadu), Shri Imran Pratapgarhi (Maharashtra), Shri Haris Beeran (Kerala), Shri M. Shanmugam (Tamil Nadu), Shri Niranjana Bishi (Odisha), Shri Saket Gokhale (West Bengal), Dr. Kanimozhi NVN Somu (Tamil Nadu) and Shri S. Selvaganabathy (Puducherry).

SHRI VAIKO: Sir,... *... (Interruptions) ...*

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Thank you. *... (Interruptions) ...* Thank you. *... (Interruptions) ...* Time is over. *... (Interruptions) ...* Yes, you have already raised the issue. *... (Interruptions) ...* You have put your points. *... (Interruptions) ...* Thank you. *... (Interruptions) ...* Mananiya Prof. Ram Gopal Yadav; 'Concern over vulgar contents available on Instagram Reels.' *... (Interruptions) ...* Prof. Ram Gopal Yadavji. *... (Interruptions) ...* Vaikoji, your time is over. *... (Interruptions) ...* It is not going on record. *... (Interruptions) ...*

SHRI VAIKO: \*

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Time is over. *... (Interruptions) ...* Prof. Ram Gopal Yadavji. *... (Interruptions) ...* प्रो. राम गोपाल यादव जी, आप बोलिए। *... (व्यवधान) ...*

**प्रो. राम गोपाल यादव:** सर, क्या मैं बैठ जाऊँ?

**श्री उपसभापति:** नहीं, आप बोलिए, आपका माइक ऑन है। Please. *... (Interruptions) ...* यह जीरो ओवर तीन मिनट का होता है, इसके बाद दूसरे माननीय सदस्य बोलेंगे। *... (व्यवधान) ...* रिकॉर्ड पर नहीं जाता है। *... (व्यवधान) ...* Please. *... (Interruptions) ...*

**प्रो. राम गोपाल यादव:** महोदय, टाइम रिसैट कराइए।

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\* Not recorded.

**श्री उपसभापति:** हम आपको पूरे तीन मिनट देंगे, आप बोलिए। ...**(व्यवधान)**... Please. ...**(Interruptions)**... Nothing is going on record. ...**(Interruptions)**... Please. ...**(Interruptions)**... प्रो. राम गोपाल यादव जी, आप बोलिए। Please. ...**(Interruptions)**... Prof. Ram Gopal Yadavji, please. ...**(Interruptions)**...

SHRI VAIKO: \*

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Prof. Ram Gopal Yadavji, please. ...**(Interruptions)**... प्रो. राम गोपाल यादव जी, आप बोलिए। आपकी आवाज़ आ रही है, यह रिकॉर्ड पर है।

**प्रो. राम गोपाल यादव:** महोदय, जब तक वे बोलना बंद नहीं करेंगे, तब तक मैं कैसे बोल सकता हूँ? ...**(व्यवधान)**...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: It is not going on record, Mr. Vaiko.

**प्रो. राम गोपाल यादव:** इतने शोर में बोलना कैसे संभव है?

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: It is not going on record. ...**(Interruptions)**... प्रो. राम गोपाल यादव जी, आप बोलिए। ...**(व्यवधान)**... प्रो. राम गोपाल यादव जी, क्या मैं आपको बाद में बुलाऊँ?

**प्रो. राम गोपाल यादव:** महोदय, जब वे पीछे से बोल रहे हैं, तो मैं कैसे बोलूँ?

**श्री उपसभापति:** मैं किसी और को बुला लेता हूँ, जो आपकी जगह पर बोल लेंगे।

**प्रो. राम गोपाल यादव:** महोदय, आवाज ओवरलैप कर रही है।

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Please. ...**(Interruptions)**... Please take your seat, hon. Vaiko. ...**(Interruptions)**... You are a very senior member. ...**(Interruptions)**... Your time is already over. ...**(Interruptions)**... Please. ...**(Interruptions)**...

**प्रो. राम गोपाल यादव:** महोदय, इस टाइम को शुरू से, जीरो से आरंभ करवा दीजिए।

**श्री उपसभापति:** आप बोलिए, हम टाइम देख लेंगे।

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\* Not recorded.