

**PRESS RELEASE**

Text of the D.O.Letter dated 9.8.2015 addressed by **Selvi J Jayalalithaa**, Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu to **Shri Narendra Modi**, Hon'ble Prime Minister of India is reproduced below: -

"I write to bring to your attention a tragic incident which occurred on the high seas off the coast of Bahrain in which a fisherman named Thiru Antony Arul Anish, S/o Androse, aged 21, hailing from Enayamputhenthurai Fishing Village of Kanyakumari District, Tamil Nadu, and working as a contract labourer in a fishing company based at Qatar was shot dead by sea pirates while fishing along with five other fishermen.

The fishermen had reportedly left the fishing base of Qatar in the early hours of 6-8-2015. After being shot at by sea pirates, the Bahrain Coast Guard airlifted the injured fisherman to a Bahrain Hospital, where he succumbed to his injuries. The body of the deceased fisherman is now reportedly kept at a hospital in Bahrain.

This poor and innocent fisherman who had gone to Qatar as a fishing labourer on contract was eking out his meagre livelihood to support his family back in India. The family of the deceased fisherman is traumatized by the loss of their sole bread winner and seeks the early return of his body. The sudden demise of the fisherman and the tragic circumstances surrounding his death have put his family to great financial and mental hardship.

I request you to direct the Indian Embassy at Bahrain and Qatar to take urgent steps to arrange for the transportation of the body of the deceased fisherman Thiru Antony Arul Anish, back to Tamil Nadu at the earliest. I also request you to kindly direct the officials of the Indian Embassy to take up this matter with the employer and to ensure that the terminal monetary benefits due to Thiru Antony Arul Anish are released to his family without any delay."

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