

**PRESS RELEASE**

**Text of the D.O. letter dated 17.12.2020 of Thiru. Edappadi K. Palaniswami, Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu, addressed to Shri. Narendra Modi, Hon'ble Prime Minister of India**

I write to bring to your kind attention two more incidents of apprehension of 36 Indian fishermen from Tamil Nadu belonging to Ramanathapuram and Thoothukudi districts with five mechanised fishing boats by Sri Lankan Navy on 14.12.2020.

The Sri Lankan strategy of not releasing the boats of our fishermen is causing great frustration amongst the fishermen of Tamil Nadu.

I request your personal intervention and direction to the Ministry of External Affairs to urgently take up the issue with the highest authorities in Sri Lanka for the release of 36 Indian fishermen and 5 mechanised fishing boats currently in Sri Lankan custody.

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