

an>

Title: Regarding reported objectionable statement made by the Indian Coast Guard.

SHRI S.R. VIJAYA KUMAR (CHENNAI CENTRAL): Hon. Deputy Speaker, Sir, the Indian Coast Guard, ICG, has filed an affidavit on 27<sup>th</sup> April, 2015 in the High Court of Madras in regard to a contempt petition on its failure to provide security for the Indian fishermen. Shockingly, ICG has submitted a highly objectionable and condemnable affidavit by making unsubstantiated allegations against Indian fishermen, relying on Sri Lankan Navy's statistics.

On more than one occasion, the ICG has grossly failed in its duty to protect the innocent Indian fishermen, resulting in illegal arrests of the Indian fishermen and illegal impounding of their boats and equipments by the Sri Lankan Navy. This led to unlawful jail for Indian fishermen in the Sri Lankan prisons. The mandate of the ICG is to protect the innocent Indian fishermen and not to cast aspersions on them in an effort to cover its failure.

I, therefore, urge upon the Government to instruct the Indian Coast Guard to recall its affidavit. The entire matter must be investigated at the highest possible level and action must be initiated against all those officials who have misled the court with such false information.

The Government must also issue suitable instructions to the ICG not to fail in protecting the innocent Indian fishermen from inimical attacks. Thank you.