

Sir, However, in keeping with Government's commitment to develop cordial and cooperative relations between the two countries, contacts have been maintained at various levels.

[*Translation*]

**Firing on Indian Fishermen by Sri Lanka Seamen And Naval Forces**

\*4. DR. A.K. PATEL :  
SHRI C. JANGA REDDY :

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) the number of Indian fishermen killed by seamen and naval forces of Sri Lanka, the number of those injured and those imprisoned in the territorial waters between India and Sri Lanka ;

(b) whether there were arrangements for their safety at the seashore and if so, the reasons for the failure in protecting them, the number of such incidents and the dates when they occurred ;

(c) whether any protest was made to the Government of Sri Lanka in this regard and if so, the nature and dates thereof ;

(d) whether any compensation has been demanded from or paid by Sri Lanka Government ;

(e) the steps taken by Government to prevent Sri Lankan Naval Vessels encroaching into our territorial waters ; and

(f) the reaction of Tamil Nadu Government in the matter ?

THE PRIME MINISTER (SHRI RAJIV GANDHI) : (a) and (b). Five Indian fishermen were killed by the Sri Lanka Navy from December 1984 to February 1985 on the following dates :

December 10, 1984 1 killed

January 7, 1985 2 killed

February 13, 1985 2 killed

Several have been injured in the past month and over the last year, 175 have been imprisoned.

The Coast Guard can ensure safety and security of our fishermen in our maritime zones. Our fishermen have been given standing instructions not to cross over into the Sri Lankan waters.

(c) and (d). Government of India have strong protests to the Government of Sri Lanka over these incidents and urged them to exercise restraint. Government have also asked the Sri Lanka Government for compensation for the lives of fishermen. Ex-gratia payment of Rs. 10,000/- to each family is being made from Prime Minister's Relief Fund.

(e) Government have strengthened its Coast Guard presence in Indian waters and organised regular patrolling in the area to prevent any recurrence of such incidents.

(f) These incidents have created deep resentment and concern in Tamil Nadu.

[*English*]

**Allocation of N.E.C. Fund for Development of Municipal Areas of North Eastern Region**

\*5. SHRI AJOY BISWAS : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is any fund of North Eastern Council for the development of Municipal areas of North Eastern Region ;

(b) if so, allocation of fund State-wise ; and

(c) if not, whether the North Eastern Council propose to prepare any