



Animal Husbandry, Dairying
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Letter No: 981/FS-6/2015 Dated: 9.2.2015

From

Dr S. Vijayakumar, IAS
Secretary to Government

To
Shri Y.K.Sinha
High Commissioner of India in Sri Lanka,
Colombo, Sri Lanka.

Sir,

Sub: Fishermen's issue between India and
Sri Lanka-Release of boats -Reg.

Ref: 1. From the Joint Secretary(SM&IOR), Ministry of External
Affairs, Government of India letter No:
153/JS(SM&IOR)/2015,
dated: 19.1.2015

2. Letter from the Counsellor (Cons), High Commission of
India, Colombo dated: 5.2.2015


I invite your attention to the reference 1st and 2nd cited above.

2. **On earller occasions the release of boats was made simultaneously with the release of fishermen in order to ensure that their livelihood was not affected. Hence, the Government of Tamil Nadu requests you to kindly take up the matter once again with the Sri Lankan authorities to release the boats without insisting on filing any applications in the court.**

3. In the event such a release is not possible, in consonance with the procedure indicated in the letter of the Counsellor (Cons), High Commission of India, Colombo, dated 5.2.2015, that the boat owners are required to engage a lawyer to file a motion in the respective courts for preponing of the dates of hearing of the cases and requesting release of the boats, **it is requested that arrangements may be made to engage lawyers to take up the matter at the Sri Lankan Courts for an early release of the boats and the legal expenses for the same will be borne by the Government of Tamil Nadu. The Government of Tamil Nadu will also be deputing the Assistant Director of Fisheries, Rameswaram along with an Inspector of Fisheries with the power of attorney from the boats owners to follow up with the Sri Lankan courts for the release of fishing boats.**

4. You are requested to render all possible assistance to secure the release of the fishing boats at the earliest.

Yours sincerely,


for Secretary to Government 9/2/2015