

**Consulate General of India  
Jaffna**

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**PRESS RELEASE**

**Humanitarian Assistance to Fishermen Societies**

**Mullaitivu Government Agent's Office**

**28<sup>th</sup> May 2025**

High Commissioner of India, H.E. Santosh Jha along with Mr. Nagalingam Vethanayahan, Governor of the Northern Province participated in the distribution of high-quality fishing nets and deep freezers to the fishermen community of Mullaitivu district on 28<sup>th</sup> May 2025. Mullaitivu Government Agent Mr. A. Umamaheswaran and representatives of fishermen societies took part in the event.

2. Speaking at the event, High Commissioner H.E. Santosh Jha said that this support marks an important step toward better and more sustainable livelihoods for the fishing community. He shared that the fishing nets were made at the Gurunagar Fishing Net Factory in Jaffna, which was upgraded with Indian assistance in 2013. Indian government had provided LKR 166 million to upgrade the factory's facilities, including the supply of modern plant and machinery. This upgrade has enabled the factory's production which subsequently grew from 60 to 300 metric tonnes per year, helping both fishermen and the local economy.

3. He also mentioned that deep freezers are being given to help preserve the day's catch, which improves seafood quality, reduces waste, and opens up access to bigger markets. This will in turn increase the income capability and livelihood of the fishermen community.

4. High Commissioner said that India's support is not just about giving equipment, it's about empowering communities and building strong friendships. He praised the spirit of the fishermen of the district and assured them that India will always be a trusted friend and partner in their journey toward a better and more secure future.

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28<sup>th</sup> May, 2025