

Mr. Somboon Uthaiwankul, Secretary to Speaker of the House of Representatives and Mr. Wasan Nuiprom, member of the political working group of Speaker of the House of Representatives, received the letter from Mr. Jirote Phuekliang, Chairman of the Artisanal Fishing Group and representatives of the Shellfish Culture Group, Surat Thani Province.

16 February 2021



On Tuesday 16th February 2021 at 11.20 hrs., at Press Room, 1st Floor, Parliament Building, Mr. Somboon Uthaiwankul, Secretary to Speaker of the House of Representatives and Mr. Wasan Nuiprom, member of the political working group of Speaker of the House of Representatives, received the letter from Mr. Jirote Phuekliang, Chairman of the Artisanal Fishing Group and representatives of the Shellfish Culture Group in Surat Thani Province, to lodge a petition against an injustice on the issues of the demolition of the shellfish raised huts and aquaculture area in Surat Thani Province. Due to the shellfish culture farmers in Surat Thani Province, the farmers have suffered and had the negative impact on the demolition announcement of intrusive construction (shellfish raised huts). In addition, the law enforcement and implementation of the officials of each Provincial Marine Department was inequality and cause the conflict with Department of Fisheries.

In this regard, the shellfish raised huts and bamboo fences were very essential for all kinds of shellfish culture and the farmers had exploited them for a long time. The claimants

demanded for the consideration on their proposals and claimed for justification of their interests as follows:

1. Government agencies gave urgent approval for shellfish raised huts construction in farming permit area and the Department of Fisheries considered on the request of legally culture area;

2. Government agencies, where demolished the shellfish raised huts should give the local farming back to the community for the community participation process, as well as, proposing a new culture zone, to be in time with the culture cycle, which would begin in April;

3. Relevant government agencies should study and promote intensively because scallops, oysters and many kinds of shellfish cultured in Surat Thani and other provinces in Thailand as livestock, which were beneficial to the country. Therefore, the government should promote and upgrade standards in all kinds of shellfish in Surat Thani Province to the world cuisine to achieve stability, prosperity, and sustainability in the future.

Mr. Somboon Uthaiyankul added that he would submit these petitions to Speaker of the House of Representatives to sort out the problems for people.

Translated by English Division

Bureau of Foreign Languages

Secretariat of the House of Representatives