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Fishermen warned off

Burma seas

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THE Foreign Ministry yesterday warned Thai fishermen not to venture into Burmese territorial waters because Rangoon has started implementing stiffer jail terms.

Foreign

Ministry

spokesman Saroj Chavaviraj said some of the 400 Thai inmates recently released from Burmese jails said foreign fishermen would in future face stiffer penalties.

They would no longer be charged with illegal entry, which carries a one- to two-year jail term, but with violation of laws of the state, an offence that carries sentences ranging from five to 20 years, the released inmates said.