

an>

Title: Need to take steps for rescue and relief of 17 Indian Sailors on board the Maharishi Bhavatrey off the Dubai Coast.

SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMCHANDRAN (VADAKARA): Mr. Chairman, Sir, thank you for giving me this opportunity.

I draw the serious attention of this august House to an important matter relating to the rescue and relief of 17 Indian sailors on board the Maharishi Bhavatrey off the Dubai coast.

The ship belongs to a Mumbai based company and is an LPG carrier registered in Singapore. The ship has been stagnant off the Dubai coast for almost two years now. The sailors are made to stay on board without power in the scorching summer heat and without proper drinking water, proper food or medicine. The hapless sailors are deprived of means of communication. They are thus undergoing physical and mental agony. One of the sailors, Mr. Dineshan Kinarullathil hails from Keezhariyur under my Parliamentary constituency and his family members including wife, children and aged and ailing father are put to great hardship and misery because of the harrowing experiences of Mr. Dineshan and other sailors.

I request the hon. Prime Minister, the Minister of External Affairs as also the Minister of Shipping to immediately intervene so that these sailors in distress are rescued from their present plight.

I once again urge upon the Government that the conditions of the sailors are precarious and anything may happen to them if there is any delay.