

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:661

ANSWERED ON:22.10.2008

HIJACKING OF JORDANIAN VESSEL

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Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether a Jordanian vessel with crew members including Indians was hijacked off Somalian coast recently;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the steps taken by the Government for the safe release of Indian crew members?

Answer

MINISTER OF SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS(SHRI T.R. BAALU)

(a) to (c): As per information available with the Ministry of Shipping, a Jordanian vessel M.V. "Victoria" was hijacked by pirates on 17.5.2008, 40 miles off Mogadishu at 0508 Hrs. There were 10 Indians in the vessel. The vessel was taken towards Habyo, 500 Kms. north of Mogadishu. The vessel was later released by the pirates on 23.05.2008.