

Title : Alleged excesses on Indian fishing workers in Jubail, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia.

SHRI A.V. BELLARMIN (NAGERCOIL): Sir, I would like to draw the attention of the Government to the brutal atrocities perpetrated upon the Indian fishing workers engaged in Jubail, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia by the Fishing Post and by the Jubail Port Police and Coast Guards. Out of nearly 15,000 fishermen from Chennai to Quilon hailing from the coastal line of Tamil Nadu and Kerala nearly 4000 people are engaged in fishing at Jubail fishing port alone. They are venturing into the sea in nearly 1000 boats daily, sailing within Saudi limits and outside up to Iran and Iraq hunting for fish.

An undesirable incident took place some time ago in which a group of five persons under the leadership of a Saudi national, was apprehended by the Coastal Guard for drug trafficking. They were put in jail. Following the incident, the Saudi Police and Jubail Port Guards are hunting the innocent fishermen and torturing them inhumanly. They are beaten up, causing bleeding injuries. They are being put in queue for hours together under scorching sun in the name of security check. Any sense of resentment or inquisition felt by the fishermen is met with severe beating by the police.

I request the Government and the hon. Minister concerned to urgently come forward to seize the situation. I request them to initiate action through diplomatic mechanism with the Saudi Government and restrain the police from perpetrating incarceration over the innocent Indian nationals who have gone there for earning their livelihood while bringing the actual culprits to book and punishing them suitably.

Also I would like to invite the attention of the Government urgently that today I received a phone call from the Damam Jail informing that hundreds of workers of Indian origin were jailed in Damam-91 Jail for more than four months for petty reasons. This also should be attended to by the Government immediately [\[r60\]](#).