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Title: Problems being faced by the Indian evacuees from Libya and prevailing plight of Indians in other similarly placed countries.

SHRI M.K. RAGHAVAN (KOZHIKODE): Sir, I thank you for the opportunity given to me to raise the burning and serious issues in the august House relating to the evacuation from Libya.

The turmoil in Egypt has spread across the nations and Libya for instance is on the verge of collapse. We are receiving conflicting reports on the state of affairs of that country and we hope calm soon prevails in these countries.

Our Government has done commendable work in evacuating those stranded people in Libya. This august House should appreciate the tireless effort undertaken by the hon. Ministers of Defence, External Affairs and Overseas as also the officials under the able guidance of our hon. Prime Minister, Dr. Manmohan Singh. It is understood that about 12,000 persons out of 18,000 persons have so far been evacuated from Libya but lot many more are still to be evacuated. While it is admitted that some areas are not reachable due to on-going in-fights, yet the Mission in Tripoli should use the first opportunity to reach the stranded Indians.

Back home, these persons will be completely cut off from the society as they have returned penniless. The education of their children, health and employment are some of the major concerns which the Government has to ponder over.

We have a commitment for their welfare. Unlike the Kuwait War returnees, I believe these returnees are not eligible for any UN assistance.

It is felt that almost all the children of the entire evacuees would have lost their school certificates, etc. My request is that, as a special case, both the Central and the State Governments should consider admitting them in the nearby Kendriya Vidyalayas, or State Government schools or private schools without demanding any proper School Leaving Certificate, with fee exemption and provision of free books, uniform, etc.

Secondly, the Government should consider extending bank loan facilities on subsidised rates for them to begin life afresh.

Thirdly, good health coverage to the entire evacuees must be ensured at least through free health insurance.

I would like to conclude my submission by requesting the Government, through you, to take immediate steps to minimise their legitimate misery. Thank you.