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Title: Regarding release of Indian student arrested in Kenya.

SHRI KODIKUNNIL SURESH (MAVELIKKARA): Madam Speaker, I would like to invite the attention of the hon. Minister of External Affairs to a very urgent matter.

One Shri Praveen, a Marine Engineer, was arrested by the Kenyan Police and remanded in custody at Shemolo Taiva Jail, Mumbasa, Kenya. Shri Praveen belongs to Pathanapuram Taluk, Karavoor Village in my Parliamentary Constituency. He was a student at Alpha Marine Service in Delhi, and after completing the course has joined the Park Manson Shipping Company, New Delhi for practical training. He joined for training at MSV Ameen Dharia owned by the Park Manson Shipping Company. During the course of their training in 2014, the Company has sold the ship to a Pakistani company.

At that time, Shri Praveen and another student, Shri Vikas Balwan, from Delhi asked for permission to leave the Company. However, the Company did not allow the same telling that the training requires two more months and on completion of the same they will be relieved. During February, the ship was going from Iran to Sharjah with cement. In the Kenyan sea area, the ship was inspected by the Kenyan authorities and a huge quantity of drugs was detected in the ship. The workers and student trainers, including Shri Praveen, have been taken into custody by the Kenyan police. Now, he is in the Kenyan Jail.

I would like to request the hon. Minister of External Affairs, through you, Madam, to make efforts to get him released early. His father and mother are very much in shock. His mother is mentally upset and is admitted in a hospital because her son is in jail in Kenya. For the past two years, he is in the Kenyan jail. I have submitted a memorandum to the hon. Minister of External Affairs, Madam Sushma Swaraj, to intervene in this matter. Thank you.