

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.53
TO BE ANSWERED ON 18.07.2018

INDIANS MISSING IN BENIN

53. SHRIMATI VASANTHI M.:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether a ship with 22 crew members of India has gone missing from Benin coast in West Africa;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Government has taken any steps to trace the missing Indian crew members of the lost ship; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
(SHRI M. J. AKBAR)

(a) to (d) Yes. Merchant vessel M.T. Marine Express (IMO 9403322) was released on 06 February 2018 after relentless pursuit of the matter by the Indian High Commission in Abuja (Nigeria) in collaboration with the navies of Nigeria, Benin & Ghana. It went missing on 01 February 2018. The ship was released on 06 February 2018 with all 22 Indian crew members safe and sound without any ransom paid.
