

17 JANUARI 2017

Malaysian in Singapore seeks govt intervention

NewStraitsTimes • TUESDAY, JANUARY 17, 2017

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DEATH ROW

MALAYSIAN IN SINGAPORE SEEKS GOVT INTERVENTION

Man and his mother file for judicial review to compel authorities to take case to ICJ

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A MALAYSIAN convicted of drug trafficking, who is on death row in Singapore, has filed an application for judicial review to compel the foreign minister and the government to institute proceedings in the Interna-

tional Court of Justice (ICJ) to stop his execution.

S. Prabakaran, 30, and his mother V. Eswary, 54, filed the application at the High Court Registry here yesterday through their lawyer, N. Surendran.

They are seeking a mandamus order to direct the respondents (foreign minister and government) to institute legal proceedings against Sin-

gapore in ICJ.

They are also seeking a declaration that the respondents were legally obliged to protect Prabakaran's right to a fair trial.

On July 22, 2014, Prabakaran was convicted by the High Court of Singapore of trafficking in 22.24g of diamorphine (heroin), an offence under Section 7 of the Misuse of Drugs Act (MDA) and was sentenced to death on Sept 22 the same year.

He appealed to the Court of Appeal to set aside his death sentence, but his motion was dismissed on Dec 2 last year.

Surendran said his client had exhausted all domestic legal avenues in Singapore and a fair trial process had been denied to him.

“That is why Malaysia has to take this case to the ICJ, saying that a fair trial process was denied to the first applicant (Prabakaran) in Singapore.”

Surendran urged the government and foreign minister to take action before the application was heard.

“His mother had sent a memorandum to the ministry, but there was no response. Therefore, we have no choice but to go to court.”