

Embassy of India  
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Security Advisory

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- Threat of kidnapping by anti-Government elements and criminals in Afghanistan including Kabul City
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In recent past in Afghanistan, some incidents of kidnapping and abduction in various parts has been observed which shows an increase in the criminal and militant activities. Some of major incidents are given below:

1. In Herat Province, Karukh District, Bokhor Nakhor area, a group of militant stopped public transport vehicles. Two employees of an INGO were abducted and released shortly after. One commercial truck was set on fire and one Land Cruiser vehicle was taken away.
2. In Paktya Province, Gardez District, Wach Khash area, approximately 12 km from Gardez City, a group of armed men abducted 16 de-miners working for the Mine Detection and Dog Centre (MDC).
3. In Kandahar Province, Kandahar City, District 7, a business man was abducted along with two of his colleagues by armed men in ANP uniform.
4. In Herat Province, Shindand District, during the day, a local businessman abducted on 1 July 09, was rescued by ANP. Three suspects were arrested.
5. In Wardak Province, Saydabad District, an employee of a local TV station was abducted by militant from his home village.
6. In Herat Province, Karukh District, Masjid Chobe area, during the day, a local construction engineer en route to Herat was abducted by militant.
7. In Herat Province, Guzara District, Kurt Shah Khana area, in the afternoon, three NGO national staff members were abducted by militant. Two of the abductees were later released.
8. In Herat Province, Herat City, District 9, Jibrahil area, approximately 2000 hours, ANP arrested two criminals and rescued an 11 year old boy who had been abducted earlier.
9. In Kunar Province, Chapa Dara District, Dosaraka area, militant abducted two private construction company engineers (foreign nationals) and three labourers.
10. In Paktia Province, Chamkanay District, Lwara area, militant searched civilian vehicles in the area and abducted six civilians.

11. In Kabul Province, Kabul City, PD 9, a son of a high-ranking GoA official was reportedly abducted on the way to school by unidentified armed persons.

12. In Wardak Province, Chak District, Gowkosh area, five local elders were abducted by militant on the access route to the DAC.

13. In Kandahar Province, Panjwayi District, Spirwan Village, militant captured an ANP officer along with a machine gun. Locals of the village have assured ANP officers that the abducted was alive and is in the hands of militant.

14. In Paktya Province, Wuza Zadran District, District Centre, during the night, unknown gunmen attacked a road construction company. Three workers were injured during the attack and 13 other employees were abducted.

2. Besides, the fresh inputs received suggest that the kidnappers are planning to kidnap rich people in District Eleven Khair Khana area in Kabul City. Another report indicates that these elements are in possession of a Cruiser vehicle to kidnap rich and well to do people for ransom. In their targets, apart from the local businessmen, the Government employees and their relatives as well as none Afghani employees working in foreign mission. According to another input, there is a threat to the engineers/employees of the company engaged in construction work at Gardage Khost Road Project. The militants active in Gardage-Paktia could be involved in planning to abduct Indian engineers.

3. It has also been reported that at least 65 businessmen has been kidnapped so far in whole of Afghanistan by these criminals as well as anti-Government elements. This year, so far some of them have been released after receiving ransom and others may still in the captivities because their whereabouts are not known. Earlier, the militant and criminal activities were generally based in western and southern Afghanistan but nowadays Kabul and its surrounding areas are also being affected.

4. In view of the above inputs and incidents, all Indian nationals residing in Afghanistan are requested to maintain special vigilance during the coming period. It is advised that from time to time road movements without security components may please be avoided. It is also emphasized that unnecessary movement in the city including crowded areas, market may please be avoided. It is also suggested that you should always move in pair or group. In case of any eventuality, your companion can report the incident to the concerned authorities. You are also advised to constantly change your routes, timings within the city so as not to form a fixed pattern of movement. Awareness of prevailing security scenario via local visual/print media as well as their counter-action with fellow colleagues is also suggested.

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All Indian in Afghanistan (through Email)