

**Embassy of India
Kabul**

KAB/815/2/07

July 21, 2007

SECURITY ADVISORY

• **Increase in kidnapping of Foreign Nationals in Afghanistan**

Details

On July 18, 2007, two Germans and five Afghan nationals working on Sultan dam project in Central Afghanistan were kidnapped from Jaghatu district in Wardhak province. They were staffers of the United Nations Assistance Mission in Afghanistan (UNAMA).

2. On July 19, 2007, in the afternoon, 18 South Koreans (all Christians) including 15 women were kidnapped from Leewani Bazaar area of the Ghazni's Qarabagh district located on Kabul-Kandahar highway. A bus driver, a guide and the translators of these Korean nationals were also kidnapped. Taliban took responsibility of both the kidnappings.

3. Militants now have threatened to kill the German Engineers, if military operations in Jaghatu district are not stopped. Further, they have put forth their demand of withdrawal of South Korean troops (approximately 200) from Afghanistan fixing the deadline of the noon of July 21, 2007, or they would kill the abducted Koreans.

4. In view of these recent kidnapping of foreign nationals as well as regular threat warnings about kidnapping of foreigners including Indian nationals, all Indian nationals in Afghanistan are once again advised to avoid unnecessary exposure and limit their movement to essentials. They are also advised to remain extra vigilant at all times and avoid unnecessary exposure road journeys for their own safety and security. It is also reiterated that they must maintain a safe distance from Afghan Military and Police/NATO/CF convoys as these continue to remain primary targets of attacks. Further, they are also requested to keep themselves aware about the security scenario in the country through local visual/print media as well as through interaction with their fellow colleagues in various organizations. To ensure your safety and security a fixed pattern of movement in the city may also be avoided.

5. This security advisory may also please be circulated to your other friends/colleagues in Afghanistan. We are also enclosing a 'Registration Form' for the Indians in Afghanistan with a request to those who have not registered with the Embassy so far to get themselves registered as soon as possible to enable us to include their Email addresses in our regular security advisories.

**(Pranab Nanda)
Counsellor (PA)**

Encl.: Registration Form.