

**Embassy of India  
Kabul**

**KAB/815/2/07-Pt**

**August 5, 2007**

**SECURITY ADVISORY**

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• **Threat of Kidnapping of Foreign Nationals in Afghanistan**

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In the past few months, kidnapping of foreigners and members of International community has been resorted to as a tool to secure release of arrested cadres by the Taliban in Afghanistan. In the recent past, this phenomenon has put members of the International community helping in the process of redevelopment and reconstruction of Afghanistan at greater risk. To add, the method employed by Taliban has generated tremendous fear psychosis.

2. Indians are involved and working in various GoI assisted projects, private enterprises and International organizations. Their work would entail road travel inside Afghanistan, also in areas which are presently disturbed due to military operations. It is during the course of road journeys that an individual or group is at a very high risk. Hence, if a road journey has to be performed certain basic security precautions must be taken for your own safety and well being. These would include:

- Taking security detail as an escort during road journeys
- Keeping your programme secret and sharing on a need to know basis
- Keeping no fixed date and time for movement
- Keeping your trusted and close associates informed of your movement
- Informing your close associates intermittently by phone during your movement
- Avoiding unnecessary road journeys between places connected by air

3. Indian citizens visiting various provinces in Afghanistan are requested to keep their close associates informed about their road journeys and movement. They are further requested to urge their friends/associates to follow good security practices. It is learnt that many Indians are also working in small numbers in private organizations and their whereabouts are not known to the Embassy. Hence, it is requested that you may like to inform such individuals who are in your contact to get themselves registered with the Embassy of India, Kabul or the Indian Consulates at Kandahar, Jalalabad, Mazar-e-Sharif and Herat. This would prove beneficial in case of any exigency and help could be rendered by the Embassy to those needing it.

4. As advised from time to time, in view of an increase in the militant activities of all kinds, all Indian nationals in Afghanistan are advised to remain extra vigilant at all times for their own safety and security. It is also reiterated that a safe distance must be maintained from Afghan Military and Police/NATO/CF convoys as these continue to remain primary targets of militants.

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

**All Indians in Afghanistan (through Email)**