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Title : Need to ensure safety of Indians working in Afghanistan.

SHRI VARKALA RADHAKRISHNAN (CHIRAYINKIL): Sir, I rise to bring the attention of the Central Government to the need to provide sufficient security to Indians employed in Afghanistan. The Government of India has made it clear that there is no question of withdrawal from Afghanistan. In that context, it is the primary responsibility of the Central Government to give protection to all those Indians employed in Afghanistan in developmental activities.

We have the sad memory of Manikanthan from Kerala who was working in Afghanistan and was brutally killed by the Taliban forces. The company which employed him had made many promises but those promises have not been fully met till date. His family is still in panic. They have not been compensated adequately. That is one aspect.

Recently, an Engineer from Andhra Pradesh, K. Suryanarayana was also brutally killed by the Taliban forces in Afghanistan. There is television news saying that ISI of Pakistan was also involved in the killing of the Engineer from Andhra Pradesh. Some agency has condemned it but it is still a fact that in all these killings ISI is having a role. We are now in peace talks with Pakistan. However, in the television reports from Afghanistan, it has been claimed by a Commando of Taliban forces that K. Suryanarayana was murdered at the instance of ISI.

This is a very serious question. The Government will have to inquire about the statement on brutal killings. Pakistan Government has not so far denied the fact. What exactly is the situation now? There are many Keralities and Andhrites working in Afghanistan. They are not directly employed by the US imperialists but they are employed by some companies functioning there. Unfortunately, the Government is not taking proper steps to give sufficient protection to all those people who are employed there. It is their primary duty to protect them. Or else, the Government should straightaway withdraw all those who are working in Afghanistan. At that same time, they say that there is no question of withdrawal. In that case, the Government should seriously consider these brutal killings by Taliban. If it is done at the instance of ISI, it is a very serious matter. It has to be viewed with all its seriousness by the Government of India, and our Mission in Afghanistan should be given strict direction for providing sufficient protection. Afghanistan Government may also be contacted to give sufficient protection to Indian employees there.

Hence, I once again request the Government to make a response for the brutal killings of Indians in Afghanistan. Killing is being continued. Shri Manikantan has lost his life. But so far nobody has given sufficient compensation to that poor employee.

With these words, I once again urge the Government to take serious view of the matter and do all that possible for giving protection to the Indian employees in Afghanistan. ...(*Interruptions*)

SHRI KHARABELA SWAIN (BALASORE): Me and my Party had passed a Resolution in the Assembly to release Shri Abdul Hasad Masani, who is an ISI agent. Why do you not ask him to contact ISI? ...(*Interruptions*)

SHRI VARKALA RADHAKRISHNAN : My Party and I are asking the Central Government to give protection, not you. ...(*Interruptions*)

MR. CHAIRMAN : Nothing will go on record.

(*Interruptions*) â€*

* Not Recorded.