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Title: Need to take steps to evacuate Indian citizens stranded in strife-torn Libya.

SHRI S.S. RAMASUBBU (TIRUNELVELI):

Madam, after days of anti-regime unrest in Egypt, violence in Libya has aggravated in the past few days and became uncontrollable. In the series of gunfire during anti-government violence, large numbers of people were killed and many of them injured. There are about 18,000 Indians working in various sectors in and around Tripoli in Libya and they are stranded there. Besides, few of them are working as doctors and nurses in various hospitals. They are grandly suffering and staying indoors without adequate water, food, etc. for the past few months. Among them is a group of 24 semi-skilled workers belonging to Thalaivakottai village of my Tirunelveli Constituency, Tamil Nadu. Two of the contract workers have died.

Our Union Government has acted swiftly, initiated necessary steps to evacuate the Indian by sending flights and ships after getting necessary clearance from Libyan authorities. As they are struggling for their lives and have left all their belongings there, I request the Union Government to bring them back free of cost or not to charge more than nominal charge for their evacuation and render all kinds of assistance viz., food, medicines, etc. till their reaching to their hometown.

The families of deceased are in deep distress and their bodies have not yet reached.

I shall, therefore, urge upon the Union Government to take necessary steps for airlifting the bodies of contract workers who have died from my Tirunelveli District in violence in Libya and sanction necessary financial assistance to the bereaved family for their livelihood.