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Title: Need to initiate action for safe passage of remaining Indian citizens stranded in Iraq and to rehabilitate them who have come back.

SHRI KODIKUNNIL SURESH (MAVELIKKARA): Sir, the living and working conditions of Indians employed in Iraq are harrowing after the outbreak of civil war in Iraq and thousands of Indians are affected. A majority of them are nurses from Kerala and they find it very difficult to survive. Indians in Iraq are leading a miserable life with no food, water and other basic facilities. The nurses had gone there for their livelihood after spending lakhs of rupees for paying huge amounts to agents for jobs and visas. Some of them have taken education loan also.

Thanks to the bold initiative of the Government, especially our Minister for External Affairs, Shrimati Sushma Swarajji. I thank her for taking a bold stand. However, many nurses are still waiting there for the mercy of the God. The Government should immediately make necessary arrangements for their safe return to Kerala. Since they do not have any other means of survival and livelihood as also they have lost everything that they had earned in Iraq, the Government should take action for their rehabilitation. This is the most important thing because hundreds of nurses came back from Iraq. They have lost everything. They took loans from banks. So, this is a very important issue which I have to raise for their rehabilitation. The Government should rehabilitate those nurses who have come back from Iraq.