

Title: Demanded compensation for the families of the soldiers who were killed or injured in the Kargil war.

***SHRI T. GOVINDAN (KASARGODA):** Sir, I would like to draw the attention of this House and the Government to the pathetic plight of the families of those who made the supreme sacrifice or were maimed for life during the Kargil operations. Our nation has just paid homage to those martyrs and our memories are still ripe with its pictures. It is true that their contributions were recognised by all means and grateful tributes were paid to them. The Government had promised decent compensation package to the bereaved families with the promise of job to the dependents. But even after one year, in many cases, these promises remain a mirage for the kith and kin of those who laid down their lives for the country or were handicapped defending it. This is really very unfortunate. I could personally narrate the experience of the families of Subedar Major Nalinakshan of Kazhikode and Payyannor Sarat Chandran of 138 Regiment. It is quite natural if their families allege this Government and society with moral insincerity and hypocrisy. So I request this Government through you Sir that the promised compensation be given to them without any further delay, even at the cost of other important financial obligations. Because this is more important than anything else. The dependents should be given the job promised to them immediately. In fact, the Nayanar Government of Kerala deserve kudos in this regard. But it seems that for the Central Government, it is another political camouflage and Kargilised nationalism is another shortcut to grab votes. But it would be wise to remember that the hot tears of the widows and mothers of these Kargil martyrs will dawn as a curse on this Government.

*Translation of the speech Original laid in Malayalam.