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Indorama Workers Seek Release Of Kidnapped Expatriates

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Workers of Indorama Eleme Petrochemicals Company Limited in Rivers State on Sunday pleaded with the government and relevant agencies to assist in the release of two of its expatriate workers kidnapped by militants from their residence, recently.

The names of the victims, whose abduction resulted in the death of their driver and two attachées were given as Mr. Debashish Kakoty and Mr. Sunil Dave.

The duo, who had already

spent nine days in captivity were kidnapped from their Elenlewo residence May 19, 2007 after unknown gunmen had blown the gate of the building with dynamites.

Till date their whereabouts remained unknown despite assurances from the Joint Military Task Force that the victims would soon breathe an air of freedom.

Operating under the aegis of Indorama Workers' Welfare Association, its Chairman, Mr. Kriss Natty Rissi and General Secretary, Prince Uzakah, said after an executive meeting weekend that the body resolved to speak up on the matter so as to

draw attention to the plight of the victims.

"The members unanimously agreed to speak up on this matter, and plead with the captors to release the two expatriates, Messrs Debashish Kakoty and Sunil Dave, who have already spent seven days in captivity," according to a statement issued by its Publicity Secretary, Mr. Charles Obe.

The Indorama workers noted that if the abductors wanted to make a political statement about the neglect of the Niger Delta Region, they have eloquently done so but argued that continuing to hold the two

expatriates was counter-productive to the struggle.

The workers also stated that the Indorama Group, which had invested much in financial and human resources to revive the dead Eleme Petrochemical Company, had also provided a lot of job opportunities for people of the Niger Delta.

"Their presence in Rivers State has impacted positively on many people. We don't need to drive them away. We sincerely believe that the company needs to be encouraged and supported rather than kidnapping the innocent workers for whatever reason," the workers said.