

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
OVERSEAS INDIAN AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4249

ANSWERED ON:21.04.2010

DEATH PENALTY TO INDIANS BY SHARJAH COURT

Deora Shri Milind Murl;Muttamwar Shri Vilas Baburao;Shankar Alias Kushal Tiwari Shri Bhisma

Will the Minister of OVERSEAS INDIAN AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether 17 Indians have been sentenced to death allegedly for killing a Pakistani national by the United Arab Emirates;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the steps taken/being taken by the Government to provide financial and legal help to those convicts in order to save their lives?

Answer

MINISTER OF OVERSEAS INDIAN AFFAIRS (SHRI VAYALAR RAVI)

(a) & (b): Yes, Sir. The Indian mission in Dubai had reported the verdict pronounced by the Court of First Instance Sharjah, UAE awarding death sentence to 17 Indians for bootlegging and murder of a Pakistani national. The incident had happened during a clash in January, 2009 in Sharjah Industrial Area, due to a dispute between two groups of persons. The Court found 17 Indians guilty of murder of a Pakistani national besides injuring three other Pakistanis. The verdict was pronounced on 28-03-2010.

(c): Ministry of Overseas Indian Affairs has instructed the Indian Mission at Dubai to engage the services of a leading legal firm to defend the accused. The cost for engaging the legal firm would be borne by the Ministry of Overseas Indian Affairs.