

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3609

ANSWERED ON:24.08.2011

DEATH OF WORKERS ABROAD

Bali Ram Dr. ;Majumdar Shri Prasanta Kumar;Tirkey Shri Manohar;Vasava Shri Mansukhbhai D.;Yadav Shri M. Anjan Kumar

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

- (a) whether the Government receives requests/complaints from the families of Indians including workers who died abroad;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the number of such complaints received in the year 2010-11, UN date; and
- (d) the manner in which the Government takes up such cases?

Answer

MINISTER OF OVERSEAS INDIAN AFFAIRS (SHRI VAYALAR RAVI)

(a) & (b): From time to time requests from the family members of deceased Indian nationals are received regarding sending of the mortal remains or seeking assistance to get the compensation due to them. Such requests are also received directly in the Indian Missions abroad.

(c): Information received from the Indian Missions abroad is at Annexure

(d): On receipt of information about death of an Indian national, the Ministry of Overseas Indian Affairs immediately gets in touch with the Indian Mission, which then gets in touch with the sponsor and sponsoring companies impressing them to complete formalities immediately and to send death related documents expeditiously for issuing No Objection Certificate (NOC) for transportation of the mortal remains. The Mission issues NOC once the complete documents are presented by the sponsor or the attorney authorized by the family of the deceased. After obtaining NOC, the sponsor or the attorney, obtains clearance from the local authorities and completes the formalities for transportation of the body to India.

In cases, where death compensation is due, the Ministry ensures that the Mission follows up the cases on priority with the foreign employers concerned, local Govt. authorities and even the local courts, whenever necessary. Upon finalization, the amount of death compensation is immediately forwarded to the State Govts. for payment to the family of the deceased after following prescribed procedure.

Similarly, in cases of death caused by accidents, Ministry of Overseas Indian Affairs ensures that the Indian Mission informs the next-of-kin of the deceased about the entitlements of death compensation and advises/ guides them to appoint a lawyer to represent the legal heirs of the deceased to claim compensation amount. For this purpose, legal heirs of the deceased either appoint a lawyer on their own or authorize the Mission to appoint a lawyer on their behalf by sending Power of Attorney in favour of the Mission.