

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2423  
ANSWERED ON:05.02.2014  
REPATRIATION OF DEAD BODIES  
Meghwal Shri Arjun Ram

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

- (a) whether the procedure to bring back the mortal remains of persons of Indian origin, who die abroad, is cumbersome;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the average number of days taken for completion of procedures in case of natural and unnatural death;
- (d) whether the Government, in consultation with various countries, proposes to simplify the said procedure and if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) if not, the reasons therefor?

**Answer**

MINISTER OF OVERSEAS INDIAN AFFAIRS (SHRI VAYALAR RAVI)

(a) & (b): No, Madam.

(c): It varies between 1-3 working days in case of natural death and 1-7 working days in case of unnatural death, if documentation is complete, except in Jordan and Lebanon where it varies between 10-21 working days. In Saudi Arabia, despatch of mortal remains takes 4-6 weeks in cases of natural death, and 16 weeks, or even more, if the death occurs due to unnatural reason, like road traffic accident, industrial mishap and murder.

(d) & (e): The procedure is as per local laws of the host countries.