

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
EXTERNAL AFFAIRS  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:889

ANSWERED ON:16.07.2014

DEATH OF INDIAN WORKERS ABROAD

Biju Shri Parayamparanbil Kuttappan;Sampath Shri Anirudhan;Singh Shri Sunil Kumar

**Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:**

- (a) whether the Government is aware that procedure of bringing back the dead body of Indian workers from abroad is time-consuming and cumbersome;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and reasons therefor;
- (c) whether the Government has received individual requests and complaints from widows and families of such deceased Indian workmen;
- (d) if so, the number of such complaints that have been received during the last three years along with the action taken by the Government in this regard; and
- (e) whether the Government proposes to simplify the aforesaid procedure in consultation with the countries concerned and if so, the time by which effective steps are likely to be taken in this regard?

**Answer**

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (GEN. RETD. V.K. SINGH)

- (a) The procedure for bringing back the mortal remains of Indian nationals from abroad differs from country to country.
- (b) In some cases, the concerned families take time in responding to the concerned Missions and Posts on whether to receive the mortal remains in India or to arrange local burial. While there is no undue delay in cases of natural deaths, the time taken in transporting the mortal remains to India is longer in the case of unnatural deaths, because of local procedures involved in those countries for investigation.
- (c) & (d) During the last three years, 91 requests for facilitation/complaints were received by Indian Missions and Posts abroad. All such requests/complaints were attended to promptly by the Indian Missions and Posts and action taken to facilitate the process in coordination with the local authorities.
- (e) Government is constantly in touch with the concerned Governments to expedite the process.