GOVERNMENT OF INDIA MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.645 TO BE ANSWERED ON 16.09.2020

BRINGING BACK DEAD BODIES

† 645. SHRI HANUMAN BENIWAL:

Will the Minister of External Affairs be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government proposes to make any rules regarding bringing back immediately the dead bodies of the Indian citizens engaged in labour works or in other works abroad in case of their death there;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Government proposes to issue any circular to immediately inform a concerned Member of Parliament of the actual position in case the Member forwards a letter/e-mail to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs for bringing the dead body of any Indian citizen who dies abroad and if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS [SHRI V. MURALEEDHARAN]

- (a) & (b) Government of India attaches high priority to addressing issues pertaining to transportation of mortal remains of Indian nationals including workers who die abroad. As soon as the Embassy comes to know of any such unfortunate death of any Indian citizen, the Consular Wing of the Mission/ Post immediately gets in touch with the family/ relative of the deceased Indian national as well as the local authorities to facilitate the transportation of the mortal remains in accordance with the wishes of the family of the deceased at the earliest possible. Indian Missions/ Posts abroad extend all possible help in transportation of mortal remains of Indians to India.
- (c) In accordance with Government's instructions, the communications received from Members of Parliament are attended promptly. The Ministry and Indian Missions/ Posts abroad keep the concerned Member of Parliament posted about status for transportation of mortal remains whenever such communications are received.
