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* **IN THE HIGH COURT OF DELHI AT NEW DELHI**

+ **W.P.(C) 3371/2021**

ANJU SHARMA

..... Petitioner

Through: Mr. Subhash Chandran KR,
Advocate.

versus

UNION OF INDIA THROUGH: ITS SECRETARY
& ANR.

..... Respondents

Through: Mr. Ripudaman Bhardwaj, CGSC
with Mr. Kushagra, Advocate with
Mr. Vishnu Sharma, Director (MEA)
Dr.Farukh Khan, Amicus Curiae

CORAM:

JUSTICE PRATHIBA M. SINGH

ORDER

% **15.04.2021**

1. This hearing has been done through video conferencing.

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2. Mr. Vishnu Kumar Sharma, the Director, CPV Division of the Ministry of External Affairs, Union of India, has appeared today, and appraised this Court of the various developments that have taken place since the last order dated 8th April 2021.

3. He submits that the Ministry of External Affairs, and the Consulate officials have been in continuous touch with the concerned authorities in Saudi Arabia. The concerned authorities in Saudi Arabia are stated to have informed the Respondents that the geographical coordinates of the grave of the Petitioner's husband has been located by them. Mr. Sharma submits that efforts in that regard are continuing, and they are constantly coordinating with the Interior Ministry in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia.

4. Insofar as the Petitioner is concerned, she is also stated to have given a Power of Attorney to an official in the Consulate in Jeddah, and legal proceedings have already been initiated by the Indian Consulate on behalf of the Petitioner, in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, in accordance with law. However, the date of hearing is yet to be fixed.

5. Today, the Court has requested Dr. Farrukh Khan, Id. counsel, who is present in court, to assist in this matter. Accordingly, he is appointed as Amicus Curiae, and both, Counsels for the Petitioner as well as the Respondents, may seek his assistance as and when required. Dr. Farrukh Khan may extend assistance, as and when required, as to what could be the other steps that could be taken to expedite bringing the mortal remains of the Petitioner's husband back to India.

6. Ld. Counsel for the Petitioner submits that the payment which was to be received through the office of the District Collector, Una, Himachal Pradesh where the family of the deceased resides, is yet to be given to the Petitioner, and the office of the said District Collector is repeatedly informing the Petitioner that the said payment has not been received.

7. Mr. Vishnu Kumar Sharma, to coordinate this and to ensure that the cheque/ payment, which has been sent by the employer of the Petitioner's husband, is received by the Petitioner within the next three days, without any further delay.

8. List for hearing on 29th April, 2021 at the top of the Board.

PRATHIBA M. SINGH, J

APRIL 15, 2021
mw/AK