

Unclaimed body of Indian prisoner rots in morgue

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Human Rights

By Shahnawaz Khan

LAHORE: The body of an Indian national has been in the city morgue for three months and has begun decomposing because the Indian consulate has been unwilling to claim it.

Gopal Singh was arrested a few years ago at the border at Ganda Singh Wala for trespassing without travel documents. He was imprisoned in Kot Lakhpat Central Jail and died there of tuberculosis on October 28 last year.

Kot Lakhpat Station House Officer Syed Akhtar Abbas told Daily Times the police had written to the Indian consulate in November to inform them the body of an Indian national was in the morgue and should be picked up. "We sent them reminders as well, but they still haven't responded," Mr Abbas said.

He said Mr Singh could not be given a proper funeral until the Indian authorities gave written approval.

Sources in the Prisons Department said this wasn't the first time the body of a foreign prisoner had been left to rot in the mortuary.

A Nigerian man arrested for drug smuggling died in Kot Lakhpat jail in 1997. The Nigerian consulate did not take the body and it rotted in the morgue, the sources said. In 2001, an Indian Muslim died in Kot Lakhpat jail. His body was not claimed by the Indian consulate either, the sources said.

According to the sources, there are 113 foreigners, including 75 Indians, serving time in the overcrowded Kot Lakhpat jail. Jail Superintendent Mian

Name	Address		
1 Ghulam Rabbani	Dhool Pal Gunj, Atar Dina district, Javer, Calcutta.	37 Ram Dass Chand	Assam
2 Shobash Chandar	Kapur Thalla, Nawan Shehr, Jammu district	38 South Ber	Jaja
3 Jagjeet Singh	Kapur Thalla	39 Ganga Ram	Jaja
4 Kundan	Mitrapur Sundargarh	40 Kirishna	Jaja
5 Rakesh Chand	Nanglas Darars	41 Hakim Singh	Jaja
6 Seeta	Sato Khar	42 Wami	Gujrat
7 Beldeve Kumar	Rangoli, Karnal	43 Kamel	Illahabad
8 Kalash Kumar	Kamliypur, Fatehpur, Utter Pardesh	44 Muhammad Saeed	Saharanpur
9 Nasim Pall	Ganjam Marsha Aroosa	45 Gullahram	Delhi
10 Chitran Dess	Bhonpur, Sunderpur	46 Rajnikant	Madras
11 Piru Diyai	Piranlal	47 Vegana	Banaras
12 Muhammad Hussain	Hajinagar	48 Rashi Pall	Shabbirpur
13 Roban Masih	Dhariwall Mill	49 Muhammad Nasir	Madras
14 Shamashuddin	Banaras	50 Zahir Ali	Delhi
15 Phokhan	Khokher	51 Ajay Singh	Kashganj
16 Swarsh Lal Kahotra	Setawari	52 Mohanlal	Ratlam
17 Karamat Rahi	Fatehgarh, Gurdasspur	53 Abdul Siddique	UP
18 Gurjan Jeet Singh	Karimpur Amritsar	54 Natti	Chindoli, Banaras
19 Gajan Singh	Chak Allah Baksh, Ambala	55 Teena Peekka	Mumbai
20 Bahram	Amritsar	56 Fatima	Mumbai
21 Muslim Din	Calcutta	57 Naema Shabnam	Calcutta
22 Ujezar Sing	Amritsar	58 Muhammad Latif	Rajwari
23 Muhammad Saleem	Shahjehan Pur	59 Muhammad Hanif	Rajwari
24 Rahat	Chitari Biland Sher	60 Bashir Masih	Amritsar
25 Kalkeet Singh	Ferozepur	61 Sukhe	Amritsar
26 Radhay Sham	Jammu and Kashmir	62 Muhammad Bashir	Jammu Kashmir
27 Vijay Kumar Sharma	Udhampur	63 Ghulam Mustafa	Hajinagar, Kapwara
28 Shahid Ali	Delhi	64 Manjeet Singh	Amritsar
29 Kirishana Ram	Behrampur	65 Karpal Singh	Gurdasspur
30 Mehal Singh	Gujrat	66 Surinder Kumar	Gurdasspur
31 Babu Ram	Heranagar	67 Ashook Kumar	Gurdasspur
32 Dubindar Singh	Heranagar	68 Surjeet Singh	Ferozepur
33 Pretum Singh	Kerala	69 Guru Ram	Ferozepur
34 Rami Ram	Dathian	70 Kaideep Singh	Jammu Kashmir
35 Bisu	Ramehi	71 Mangaram	Kalyan
36 Dave Dass	Dheengapur, UP	72 Shahab Din	Jammu Kashmir
		73 Kaldeep Kumar	Chandinagar
		74 Harbanslal	Delhi
		75 Mana Masih	Amritsar

1 Rukhamuddin	Bangladesh	21 Yahya Hassan	Tanzania
2 Hamyn	Iran	22 Umar Saeed	Tanzania
3 Bahzad	Iran	23 Abdul Rehman	Tanzania
4 Muhammad Mahmood	Angola	24 Susan	Kenya
5 Harrison	Tanzania	25 Kipalu Kibago	Congo
6 Muhammad Siddique	Tanzania	26 Rebut Baka Yeka	Liberia
7 Shaibu Ali Toloba	Ghana	27 Motavi	Uganda
8 Jose Adelino Assuto	Mozambique	28 Kul Bahadar Tamang	Nepal
9 Hussain Mubaka	Congo	29 Christopher	United States Of America
10 Denisohieng	Kenya	30 Abuehi	Nigeria
11 Nixon Muniywein	Kenya	31 Joshua Chigbous	Nigeria
12 Rashid Ali	Kenya	32 Okeke Jonathan	Nigeria
13 Crawford Ladi Relford	Guinea	33 Afolabi	Nigeria
14 Dienabous Berry	Guinea	34 Eytayo	Nigeria
15 Hassanatous	Guinea	35 Atama Funu Gabriel	Nigeria
16 Dialo Aissatou	Guinea	36 Augustina Uzoma	Nigeria
17 Binte Toure	Guinea	37 Kurbat Hassan	Nigeria
18 Frank Elis Senga	Tanzania	38 Peni Abenan	Nigeria
19 Muhammad Suleman	Tanzania		
20 Gordon Lavanda	Tanzania		

(Tables compiled on data from sources in the Prisons Department)

Salik Jalil said they are kept in cubicles separate from Pakistani prisoners.

"Most of them were arrested for smuggling drugs or traveling on fake documents or without documents, particularly the Indians. Many have completed their sentences but are

unable to pay their fines. But none of them have received a word from their consulates,"

Mr Jalil said.

Asked what happened to these prisoners when their sentences were over, Mr Jalil said, "Once their sentences are over, they are free to

return to their homelands with the help of their consulates. We have to release the non-Indian nationals and they continue to live in Pakistan, illegally, but we can't do anything about that. Our job ends when their sentence is over," he said.