

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO-2844
ANSWERED ON-20.02.2014
Fishermen arrested by Pakistan

2844 Shri Mansukh L. Mandaviya

- (a) the number of fishermen taken into the custody/arrested by Pakistan and out of which, number of fishermen still languishing in custody of Pakistan, year-wise;
- (b) the number of Indian fishermen who were in the custody by Pakistan as on date;
- (c) the number out of them who have been released and who are still languishing in Pakistan; and
- (d) the steps Government has taken to stop this illegal act by Pakistan Forces?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
(SHRI E. AHAMED)

(a) to (d) As per available information, the details of fishermen believed to be Indian who have been detained by Pakistan and Indian fishermen who have been released by Pakistan, in the last three years are as follows:

Year 2011 2012 2013

Fishermen believed to 476 250 349
be Indian detained by
Pakistan

Indian Fishermen released 103 667 390
by Pakistan

As on January 1, 2014, there are 232 fishermen believed to be Indian in Pakistani jails. Pakistani authorities have provided consular access to 98 of them, whom Indian nationality of 93 has been confirmed.

Government of India, on a continuing basis, monitors the status of Indian fishermen in Pakistani jails. The Government regularly takes up with Pakistan the issue of early consular access of fishermen believed to be Indian and their early release and repatriation. An India-Pakistan Judicial

Committee consisting of retired judges from both countries also visits the jails in both countries to ensure humane treatment and expeditious release of prisoners, including fishermen, who have completed their prison term.

Due to Government's efforts, 390 fishermen were released by Pakistan in 2013.
