

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS**

**LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.1225
TO BE ANSWERED ON 23.11.2016**

PRISONER EXCHANGE PROGRAMME

1225. SHRI K. N. RAMACHANDRAN:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government is contemplating to initiate prisoner exchange programmes with various countries, particularly Gulf countries;**
- (b) if so, the details thereof;**
- (c) whether India has already signed some agreements to this effect with any country; and**
- (d) if so, the details thereof along with the steps taken to expedite the programme with other countries?**

ANSWER

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

(a) to (d) India has signed agreements with the following 39 countries for transfer of sentenced persons:

United Kingdom, Mauritius, Bulgaria, France, Egypt, Sri Lanka, Cambodia, South Korea, Saudi Arabia, Iran, Bangladesh, Israel, UAE, Italy, Turkey, Maldives, Thailand, Russian Federation, Kuwait, Belize, Brazil, Canada, Chile, Costa Rica, Ecuador, El Salvador, Guatemala, Mexico, Nicaragua, Venezuela, Paraguay, United States, Uruguay, Panama, Kazakhstan, Mongolia, Qatar, Bahrain and Estonia.

The prisoners of these countries in India and Indian prisoners in these countries can apply for repatriation in terms of the guidelines issued by the Ministry of Home Affairs, Government of India for processing requests of such prisoners.
