

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS**

**LOK SABHA  
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.2294  
TO BE ANSWERED ON 15.03.2017**

**INDIANS JAILED ABROAD**

**2294. SHRI MD. BADARUDDOZA KHAN:  
COL. SONARAM CHOUDHARY:  
SHRI P. KUMAR:  
SHRI MOHD. SALIM:**

**Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be please to state:**

- (a) the number of Indians imprisoned in various foreign jails particularly in Pakistan, Sri Lanka, Bangladesh and the articles seized from them;**
- (b) the details of various mechanisms to check them cross International Border;**
- (c) whether the Government is aware of herdsmen rearing cattle on Indo-Pak border particularly the border adjoining Rajasthan being lodged in Pakistan jails and being awarded punishment by Pakistan courts, if so, the details thereof; and**
- (d) whether the Government is taking any concrete action to get the Indian captives released and if so, the details thereof?**

**ANSWER**

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

- (a) Due to the strict provisions of privacy laws, the United States of America, Canada, Australia and many countries in Europe do not share information about Indian nationals in their prisons. However, as per information available, 7059 Indian nationals are lodged in foreign jails. A list showing country-wise details is attached at Annexure. Various articles seized from them include VOIP set along with SIM cards, fake passports, narcotic drugs, fake currency, boats, GPS, stimulating tablets, foreign currency and gold.**

**(b) Our immigration authorities and security forces monitor the movement across the international borders of the country.**

**(c) There are two prisoners from Rajasthan in the jails in Pakistan who are not herdsmen.**

**(d) As soon as the information about detention/arrest of an Indian national is received by an Indian Mission/Post, it gets in touch with the local Foreign Office and other concerned local authorities to get consular access to the detained/arrested Indian national to confirm their Indian nationality and ensure their welfare. In some countries where pro bono lawyers are available, the Mission arranges legal assistance to the Indian prisoners. Government of India also provides initial legal assistance to distressed Indian nationals in deserving cases.**

**Steps taken by our Missions include requesting local authorities for speedy trials, seeking remission of sentence, providing advice and guidance in legal and other matters, ensuring fair and humane treatment in foreign jails, issue of emergency certificates and repatriation to India of those who are released. In some countries, our Mission also requests the local government for grant of amnesty to the arrested Indians and if any mercy petition for remission of sentences is received from the family members of the Indian prisoners, the Mission forwards them to the local authorities for consideration. India has signed Treaties for Transfer of Sentenced Persons with 42 countries, under which Indian prisoners have been brought back to India from some of these countries.**

**In those cases where Indian nationals complete their sentences and are waiting for completion of deportation formalities, Indian Missions and Posts in those countries take up with the respective foreign governments the speeding up of the process, including issue of final Exit Visas, waiver of penalties imposed on Indian workers, etc. from the concerned authorities and for the early return of the Indian nationals to India. Where required, the Indian Missions and Posts abroad also provide airfares for facilitating the return of the Indian prisoners who have completed their sentences, to India.**

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## ANNEXURE

SI No.	Name of Country	Indian imprisoned in various foreign jails
1	Armenia	1
2	Austria	5
3	Australia	61
4	Azerbaijan	2
5	Bangladesh	39
6	Belgium	15
7	Bhutan	45
8	Cambodia	4
9	Canada	72
10	China	203
11	Cote D' Ivoire	1
12	Cuba	1
13	Cyprus	2
14	Denmark	8
15	Egypt	1
16	Ethiopia	2
17	Fiji	2
18	Ghana	2
19	Germany	114
20	Indonesia	21
21	Iran	74
22	Iraq	2
23	Ireland	1
24	Israel	4
25	Italy	228
26	Japan	6
27	Jordan	2
28	Kenya	2
29	Korea (Republic of)	1
30	Kuwait	520
31	Kyrgyzstan	1
32	Lebanon	7
33	Libya	1
34	Malawi	1
35	Malaysia	342
36	Maldives	9
37	Mauritius	6
38	Mexico	2
39	Mozambique	2
40	Myanmar	123

<b>41</b>	Nepal	950
<b>42</b>	Netherlands	1
<b>43</b>	Nicaragua	1
<b>44</b>	Nigeria	1
<b>45</b>	Oman	99
<b>46</b>	Pakistan	362
<b>47</b>	Panama	2
<b>48</b>	Philippines	10
<b>49</b>	Portugal	4
<b>50</b>	Qatar	159
<b>51</b>	Russia	5
<b>52</b>	Saudi Arabia	1709
<b>53</b>	Singapore	86
<b>54</b>	Slovak Republic	1
<b>55</b>	South Africa	7
<b>56</b>	Spain	33
<b>57</b>	Sri Lanka	101
<b>58</b>	Suriname	3
<b>59</b>	Thailand	46
<b>60</b>	Togo	1
<b>61</b>	Uganda	2
<b>62</b>	UK	2
<b>63</b>	Ukraine	1
<b>64</b>	United Arab Emirates	1214
<b>65</b>	U.S.A	322
<b>66</b>	Uzbekistan	1
<b>67</b>	Yemen	1
	<b>Total</b>	<b>7059</b>

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