

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.3942
TO BE ANSWERED ON 17.07.2019

INDIANS IN PAKISTANI JAILS

†3942. SHRI GOPAL CHINNAYA SHETTY:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) the estimated number of Indian fishermen and other citizens imprisoned in the jails of Pakistan as on date;
- (b) the number of Indian fishermen and other citizens released by Pakistan during the last three years till date;
- (c) whether the Government has taken any steps to get released Indian fishermen and other citizens imprisoned in the jails of Pakistan; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER
MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
[SHRI V. MURALEEDHARAN]

(a) As per available information, there are 64 Indian and believed-to-be Indian civilian prisoners and 209 Indian and believed-to-be Indian fishermen in Pakistan's custody. Pakistan has, on 1 July 2019, acknowledged the custody of 52 civilian prisoners and 209 fishermen.

(b) Year-wise details regarding release and repatriation of Indian civilian prisoners and fishermen during the last three years are as follows:

Year	2016	2017	2018	2019 (till 11 July)
Indian Fishermen released	410	508	174	355
Indian Civilian Prisoners released	02	07	05	07

(c) & (d) The Government attaches high importance to the safety, security and well-being of Indian nationals abroad and consistently takes up with the Government of Pakistan the matter of early release and repatriation of all Indian civilian prisoners and fishermen, along with boats. As a result of persistent efforts, the Government has been successful in securing the release and repatriation of 2110 Indian prisoners, including fishermen, from Pakistan's custody since 2014. This includes release and repatriation of 362 Indian prisoners, including fishermen, this year, so far.
