

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS**

**LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.766
TO BE ANSWERED ON 26.06.2019**

FISHERMEN IN PAKISTAN'S CUSTODY

†766. SHRI NARANBHAI KACHHADIYA:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of fishermen in Pakistan's custody;**
- (b) the steps being taken by the Government to get these fishermen released; and**
- (c) the number of fishermen released during each of the last three years?**

ANSWER

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

(a) As per available information, currently 209 Indian and believed-to-be-Indian fishermen are in Pakistan's custody.

(b) & (c) Government of India has consistently taken up the issue of early release and repatriation of Indian fishermen along with their boats from Pakistan's custody. As a result of persistent efforts, release and repatriation of 1447 Indian fishermen has been secured since 2016. This includes 355 Indian fishermen who have returned this year. The year-wise details are as below:

Year	2016	2017	2018	2019 (till 20 June 2019)
Indian Fishermen released	410	508	174	355
