

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.2688
TO BE ANSWERED ON 10.03.2021

RELEASE OF FISHERMEN

2688. SHRI NITESH GANGA DEB:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Indian fishermen who have been kept illegally by neighbouring countries and Iran were released recently; and
- (b) if so, the number of fishermen released by these countries and their details, State-wise?

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

(a) & (b) From time to time, Indian fishermen are apprehended by neighbouring countries on charges of fishing in their territorial waters.

As soon as cases of apprehension of Indian fishermen by neighboring countries are reported, immediate steps are taken by the Indian Missions there towards seeking consular access. All possible assistance, including legal assistance, is extended to the fishermen for their early release and repatriation.

Government attaches the highest priority to the welfare, safety and security of Indian fishermen. As a result of our persistent efforts, the following Indian fishermen have been released by neighbouring countries during 2020-21:

Pakistan

State	Gujarat	Andhra Pradesh	Uttar Pradesh	Daman and Diu	West Bengal	Assam	Total Released
Year							
2020	0	19	0	0	0	1	20

Sri Lanka

State	Tamil Nadu	Puducherry	Total Released
Year			
2020	49	0	49
2021	52	0	52

Bangladesh

State	West Bengal	Andhra Pradesh	Total Released
Year			
2020	117	8	125

Iran

State	Tamil Nadu	Total Released
Year		
2020	12	12
