

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
DEFENCE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4124
ANSWERED ON:20.04.2000
ARREST OF INDIAN FISHERMEN BY PAKISTAN
DAHYA BHAI V. PATEL

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government are aware that Coast Guard failed in giving proper warning signals to fishermen in Daman and Diu;
- (b) whether this failure on the part of Coast Guard results in the arrest of fishermen by Pakistan Army invariably; and
- (c) if so, the steps taken to ensure that the warning system is streamlined and proper and timely warning and signals are given to the fishermen?

Answer

MINISTER OF DEFENCE SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES)

(a) to (c): Coast Guard (CG) Stations regularly interact with fishing community ashore especially those who operate close to the maritime boundary with Pakistan. In addition regular instructional lectures are conducted to indicate maritime boundaries and safety precautions to be taken. These issues are brought to the knowledge of respective state administration and fisheries departments for strict compliance. CG ships on routine Exclusive Economic Zone surveillance also direct fishing vessels operating close to International Boundary Line to fish well within the Indian waters. Despite these instructions, some fishermen continue to disregard the advice and occasionally get apprehended by Pak Maritime Security Agency when operating within the Pak waters.