

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
EXTERNAL AFFAIRS  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:225  
ANSWERED ON:03.12.2003  
ARREST OF INDIAN CITIZENS IN IRAN  
TUFANI SAROJ

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

- (a) whether Iranian Officers have arrested Indians illegally entering Iran;
- (b) if so, the number of people arrested;
- (c) whether the Union Government have taken any initiative for release of such Indians;
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) the number of Indians released so far?

**Answer**

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH)

(a) Yes

(b)-(e) Two Indian nationals were arrested by Iranian authorities in 2003 while illegally entering Iran from Turkey. They were released ten days later. Government invariably take up with Iranian authorities the question of early release and repatriation of apprehended Indian nationals.