

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:371
ANSWERED ON:03.12.2003
INDIAN PRISONERS IN PAK JAILS
ALAKESH DAS;KAMAL NATH;P.D. ELANGO VAN;PUTTASWAMY GOWDA

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of Indian fishermen and labourers languishing in Pak jails as on date;
- (b) the number of Indian prisoners released by Pakistan during the current year and till date ; and
- (c) the steps being taken by the Government for the release of the remaining prisoners?

Answer

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

- (a) As per available information, 28 Indian fishermen are currently under detention in Pakistan.
- (b) & (c) Pakistan, till date, has released 623 Indian fishermen and 38 civilian prisoners during the year 2003. Government continues to take appropriate and necessary steps to secure the release of Indian prisoners languishing in Pakistani jails.