

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
DEFENCE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1971
ANSWERED ON:19.08.2013
MISSING SOLDIERS
Shukla Shri Balkrishna Khanderao Balu Shukla

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether many defence personnel had gone missing during the war of 1965 and 1971 and are presently imprisoned in Pakistan jails;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the action being taken by the Government in this regard?

Answer

MINISTER OF THE STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI A.K. ANTONY)

(a) & (b) Fifty four (54) missing defence personnel of 1965 and 1971 Wars (including one from Border Security Force) are believed to be in the custody in Pakistan.

(c) The Government has repeatedly been taking up the matter with the Pakistan Government. However, Pakistan does not acknowledge the presence of any such personnel in its custody. A delegation of 14 relatives of missing defence personnel also visited 10 Jails in Pakistan during 1st June, 2007 – 14th June, 2007. The delegation, however, could not conclusively confirm the physical presence of any missing defence personnel.