

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
OVERSEAS INDIAN AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2823
ANSWERED ON:16.12.2015
Prisoner Exchange Programme
Ashok Kumar Shri K.

Will the Minister of OVERSEAS INDIAN AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government is contemplating to initiate prisoner exchange programmes with various countries, particularly Gulf countries;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether India has already signed some agreement to this effect with any country; and
- (d) if so, the details along with the steps taken to expedite the programme with the rest of the countries?

Answer

(a) to (d): The Government of India has bilateral/multi-lateral agreements with 43 countries, as given in the Annexure, for transfer of Sentenced Persons, under the guidelines of the Repatriation of Prisoners Act, 2004. The prisoners of these countries in India, or Indian prisoners in these countries, can apply for repatriation in terms of the guidelines issued by the Ministry of Home Affairs, Government of India, for processing requests of such prisoners.