

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:5008
ANSWERED ON:13.08.2014
INDIAN FISHING BOATS
Thota Shri Narasimham

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Pakistan has agreed to release 57 Indian fishing boats; and
- (b) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS [GEN. (DR) V. K. SINGH (RETD)]

(a) & (b) On the eve of Pakistan Prime Minister Nawaz Sharif's visit to India on 26-27 May 2014 to attend the swearing-in ceremony of the new government, Government of Pakistan announced the decision to release 150 Indian fishermen and 57 boats. Subsequently, a nine-member delegation comprising officials and fishermen/fishing vessel owners visited Pakistan on 18-20 July 2014 to examine the condition of the 57 fishing boats and work out the modalities for the return of the boats. Further steps are being taken for the return of these 57 fishing boats.