

of Sri Lanka granted full remission of the sentence and the five fishermen returned to India on 20 November, 2014.

(e)

Year	No. of fishermen arrested	No. of fishermen released
2010	33	33
2011	198	198
2012	197	197
2013	676	676
2014	730	706

As on 22 November, 2014, there are 24 Indian fishermen currently under detention/arrest in Sri Lankan jails on charges of alleged fishery related violation.

#### **Chinese submarines docked in Sri Lankan port**

516. SHRI H.K. DUA:

SHRI PAVAN KUMAR VARMA:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that Chinese submarines have been docking at Sri Lankan ports;
- (b) whether such dockings have continued in spite of Government of India having conveyed to Sri Lanka its concerns in the matter;
- (c) whether it is also a fact that China has by now replaced Japan as Sri Lanka's number one donor; and
- (d) if so, the reasons Government ascribe to these developments and whether there are any steps it is planning to take in response?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS [GEN. (RETD.) V.K. SINGH]: (a) to (d) A conventional (diesel-powered) Chinese submarine berthed at Colombo Port from 7-13 September, 2014 and 31 October- 6 November, 2014. Government of India closely monitors foreign military presence in India's neighbourhood. India and Sri Lanka share a strong and multi-faceted relationship, and cooperate closely on various issues, including defence and security aspects. In this context, the Government has taken up with the Government of Sri Lanka the recent visits of the Chinese submarine to Colombo. Government of Sri Lanka has informed that the submarine visited Colombo

for replenishment purposes, and has reassured that the Government of Sri Lanka would not do anything against the security interests of India. Government of India will continue to take all necessary measures to safeguard India's security and sovereignty.

China has been one of the important economic partners of Sri Lanka since the end of the conflict in Sri Lanka in 2009. As per available information, China has overtaken Japan as Sri Lanka's largest donor over the last few years. Sri Lanka-China bilateral trade reached US\$ 3.085 billion in 2013 (second only to India).

#### **Infiltration by Chinese army**

517. SHRI PARIMAL NATHWANI: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether there have been incidents of infiltrations by the Chinese Army into the Indian border;
- (b) if so, the details thereof during the last three years and the current year, year-wise; and
- (c) the action taken/being taken by Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS [GEN. (RETD.) V.K. SINGH]: (a) to (c) There is no commonly delineated Line of Actual Control (LAC) in the border areas between India and China. From time to time, on account of differences in the perception of the LAC, situations have arisen on the ground that could have been avoided if we had a common perception of the LAC. Government regularly takes up any transgression along the LAC with the Chinese side through established mechanisms including border personnel meetings, flag meetings, meetings of Working Mechanism for Consultation and Coordination on India-China Border Affairs and diplomatic channels.

#### **China using stapled visa for Jammu and Kashmir**

†518.DR. SANJAY SINH: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether China still uses stapled visa for the Indian residents belonging to Jammu and Kashmir, if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor;
- (b) the number of Indian citizens who have been issued stapled visa by China during the past three years;

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.