

**Revoking of Haj Quota for MPs**

†1285. SHRI NAZIR AHMED LAWAY: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has revoked the Haj Quota given to the Members of Parliament, if so, the reasons therefor; and

(b) when would Government reassign Haj Quota to the Members of Parliament?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS [GENERAL (RETD.) V.K. SINGH]: (a) Consequent to the judgement of Hon'ble Supreme Court dated 23rd July, 2012 in Writ Petition (Civil) No. 283, Government has revoked the Haj quota given to the Members of Parliament. The Hon'ble Supreme Court has fixed the quota to be allotted on the recommendation of dignitaries as 300, to be distributed as follows :

President of India	:	100	Seats
Vice President of India	:	75	Seats
Prime Minister	:	75	Seats
Minister of External Affairs	:	50	Seats

(b) Haj Quota to the Members of Parliament cannot be reassigned unless Hon'ble Supreme Court reviews its judgement of 23rd July, 2012.

**Chinese objections on PM'S visit to Arunachal Pradesh**

1286. SHRI NEERAJ SHEKHAR:

SHRI ARVIND KUMAR SINGH:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Chinese Government has raised objections regarding Indian Prime Minister's visit to Arunachal Pradesh; if so, the details thereof and response of Government thereto; and

(b) whether Government has made clear its stand about Arunachal Pradesh to Chinese Government and if so, the details thereof and response of Chinese authorities thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS [GENERAL (RETD.) V.K. SINGH]: (a) and (b) China has raised the matter of Prime Minister's visit to Arunachal Pradesh with the Government. Chinese side

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

took up this matter on February, 20, 2015 and on February, 21, 2015 with the Ministry of External Affairs in New Delhi and with the Embassy of Republic of India in Beijing respectively. China disputes the international boundary between India and China. In the Eastern Sector, China claims approximately 90,000 square kilometers of Indian territory in the State of Arunachal Pradesh. The State of Arunachal Pradesh is an integral and inalienable part of India. Indian leaders visit Arunachal Pradesh from time to time, as they visit other parts of India. This has been conveyed to the Chinese side on several occasions including at the highest level. This was reiterated to the Chinese side again on February 20, 2015 and February, 21, 2015.

### **Fishermen and boats in foreign custody**

1287. SHRI PARIMAL NATHWANI: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of Indian fishermen and their boats in the custody of Pakistan, Sri Lanka and Bangladesh at present;

(b) the number of fishermen released recently from these countries;

(c) the details of the steps taken/being taken by Government to secure release of all the fishermen; and

(d) the steps taken/being taken by Government to rehabilitate fishermen and their families whose boats have been confiscated by neighbouring countries?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS [GENERAL (RETD.) V.K. SINGH]: (a) and (b)

Sl.No.	Country	No. of Indian fishermen and fishing boats in custody	No. of Indian fishermen released recently
1	3	3	4
1.	Bangladesh	The total number of Indian fishermen and their boats in the custody of Bangladesh at present are 37 and 3 respectively	Since October 2014, a total of 212 Indian fishermen were arrested in fifteen different arrests. Out of these our Mission has secured release of 168 fishermen and 44 fishermen including 9 fishermen arrested on February 4, 2015.