

Extradition requests pending with Government

4338. SHRI K. R. ARJUNAN: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has taken any action to trace out persons against whom complaints were received in the form of extradition requests;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the number of requests, so far, pending with Government which are yet to be fully complied with?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS [GEN. (RETD.) V. K. SINGH]: (a) and (b) The Ministry of External Affairs takes necessary action once an extradition request is received from the concerned law enforcement agency. The law enforcement agency prepares an extradition request according to the provisions of the extradition treaty/arrangement with that particular country where the fugitive has been located.

(c) As on date, there are in total, 150 extradition requests pending with various foreign countries. The Ministry of External Affairs has recently received 16 more extradition requests which are under process and will be sent to the concerned foreign country if the request is found in order as per the provisions under the bilateral extradition treaty/arrangement and Extradition Act, 1962.

Judicial Committee mechanism for release of prisoners

4339. SHRI A. K. SELVARAJ: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that as a first sign of a thaw between India and Pakistan the neighbours have agreed to release and return elderly prisoners, women and those with special needs;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Pakistan had also accepted Indian proposals on revival of a Judicial Committee mechanism which would oversee the speedy release of prisoners; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS [GEN. (RETD.) V. K. SINGH]: (a) to (d) The External Affairs Minister, in October 2017, suggested to the High Commissioner of Pakistan that the two sides could work together to resolve humanitarian issues related to elderly, women and mentally unsound