

(c) whether Pakistan Government has assured safety of the Indian pilgrims visiting Nankana Sahib and other Hindu/Sikh pilgrimage spots in Pakistan?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI V. MURALEEDHARAN): (a) to (c) Following the reports of vandalism and desecration of the holy Gurudwara at Sri Nankana Sahib in Pakistan on 3 January 2020, the Government strongly condemned the reprehensible action. Pakistan's Charged' Affaires in New Delhi was summoned and India's strong protest was lodged against the wanton acts of vandalism and desecration of the holy Gurudwara Sri Janam Asthan at Nankana Sahib, Pakistan. India also shared strong concerns at the continued persecution of religious and ethnic minorities in Pakistan. Government of Pakistan was also called upon to ensure safety, security and welfare of the members of the minority communities in Pakistan, including their places of worship, and take immediate measures to expeditiously bring the perpetrators of such despicable and heinous acts to justice. Reports in Pakistan media stated that the prime accused in the matter was arrested subsequently.

Repatriation of Indians from neighbouring countries

541. SHRI K. SOMAPRASAD: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has reported that 292 Indians including civilians and fishermen are in the custody of Pakistan, if so, the details of the action taken by Government to repatriate these persons; and

(b) the details of effort and the number of Indian citizens reported in the custody of other neighbouring countries of India except Pakistan till date and the details of action taken to repatriate them?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI V. MURALEEDHARAN): (a) As per available information, 275 Indians, including fishermen, are presently believed to be in Pakistan's custody. However, as per the lists shared on 1 January 2020, Pakistan has acknowledged the custody of 262 of them. In addition, there is the issue of 83 missing Indian defence personnel, including Prisoners of war, whose custody has not been acknowledged by Pakistan, so far.

The Government, upon receipt of reports of apprehension of Indian citizens and fishermen, immediately takes up the matter with Pakistan through diplomatic channels and seeks consular access and their early release and repatriation. Government's

persistent efforts have succeeded in securing release and repatriation of 2133 Indian prisoners, including fishermen, from Pakistan's custody since 2014. This includes release and repatriation of 20 Indian fishermen on 6 January, 2020.

(b) As per available information, the number of Indian nationals and believed to be Indian nationals, including fishermen, in the custody of other neighbouring countries of India are as follows:—

Sl. No.	Country	No. of Indian Prisoners
1.	Bangladesh	95*
2.	Bhutan	95
3.	China	248
4.	Sri Lanka	108
5.	Maldives	16
6.	Myanmar	112
7.	Nepal	886

*Of these 95, Bangladesh Court has ordered the release of 23 fishermen.

The Government, upon receipt of reports of apprehension of Indian citizens or fishermen, immediately takes up the matter with the host country through diplomatic channels and seeks consular access with the view to expedite nationality verification and their early release and repatriation. The Indian Missions keep in constant touch with the authorities in the foreign countries concerned and provide consular assistance to the apprehended Indian nationals. Pending their release and repatriation, the authorities in the foreign governments are requested to ensure the safety, security and well-being of the Indian prisoners and fishermen in their custody.

Working staff in JNU

542. SHRI K. SOMAPRASAD: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the details and total number of teaching, non-teaching, daily wages and contract basis working staff of Jawaharlal Nehru University (JNU), New Delhi; and

(b) the details and total number of teaching, non-teaching, daily wages and contract basis working staff belonging to SC and ST categories in JNU at present with percentage of total strength?