

Demand for Jail reforms in Andaman and Nicobar Islands

1066. SHRI MANORANJAN BHAKTA: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are considering the demand for jail reforms in the Union Territory of Andaman and Nicobar Islands;

(b) if so, what are the demands mentioned in the 90-point charter of demands and the action taken thereon; and

(c) whether Government propose to introduce the latest Jail manual as introduced in the mainland for the Andaman and Nicobar Islands; if so, when?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA): (a) to (c) The demands for Jail reforms in the Union Territory of Andaman & Nicobar Islands are under consideration. The Administration has enforced rules for grant of furlough, parole, emergency release of prisoners, grant of remission to prisoners, review of sentences to prisoners and discipline in prisons, based on relevant chapters in the Model Prison Manual.

2. The following demands were made amongst others in the 90-point charter of demands:—

- (1) Jail manual should be introduced.
- (2) Scales of pay of Warders and Head Warders are the same at present. Higher scale should be given to Head Warders. Further, their pay scales should be brought to the level of corresponding ranks in the Police. Free quarters to Jail staff should be given as given elsewhere all over the country.
- (3) System of wages should be introduced for labour done by

convicts in jails here as provided in Jails in all other parts of the country.

3. Steps are being taken to introduce the Jail manual based on the Model Prison Manual framed by the All India Jail Manual Committee. It is, however, not possible to indicate any time limit presently before which the Jail manual would be finalised. It is not a fact that the pay scales of the Warders and Head Warders are the same. The scale of pay of the Warders is identical to that of the scale of pay of the Police Constable though there is a disparity between the scale of pay of the Head Warders and that of the Head Constables of the Police Department. It has not been found possible to equate the pay scale of the Head Warders with that of the Head Constables in the Police Department. In view of the limited accommodation and the financial implications involved it is not possible to provide the Jail staff with free accommodation. As regards the introduction of the system of wages for work done, the population of long term convicts in the Jail being too small, it would not be feasible to introduce such a system.

Relief in Pension to Defence Civilians

1067. SHRI N. E. HORO: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a five per cent relief to the old pensioners was sanctioned from 1st December, 1979 to the Defence civilians;

(b) if so, whether it is also a fact that no payment has yet been made to the Defence civilians;

(c) whether it is also a fact that the banks or treasuries are still awaiting the letter authorising payment; and

(d) if so, the efforts Government are making in this regard as the delay is causing necessary hardships?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI C. P. N. SINGH): (a) Orders were