

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HOME AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2772
ANSWERED ON:12.12.2006
UNDERTRIAL IN TIHAR JAIL
Singh Shri Sugrib

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) Whether a large number of prisoners who have served 75% or more of their term are languishing in Tihar Jail and are waiting for High Court to hear their appeals as reported in Times of India dated October 09, 2006;
- (b) If so, the details and the reaction of the Government in this regard;
- (c) The number of prisoners who have completed their full sentence without their appeals being heard by High Court; and
- (d) The action taken/proposed to be taken in this regard?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRIS. REGUPATHY)

(a) to (d): There were 234 convicts lodged in Delhi Prisons who had been in jail for more than seven years as on 5th August, 2006. Out of these, 42 prisoners had spent more than half of their sentence while their appeals were pending. Nine prisoners, whose first appeals were pending before the High Court of Delhi, were released during the period from 2004 to 2006 (till 22nd November) on completion of their sentence. As per information received from the High Court of Delhi, all these appeals have been accorded priority and are being listed for hearing and disposal, regularly before a specially constituted Division Bench. In addition, two more single Benches have also been allotted to hear such appeals.