

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HOME AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:204

ANSWERED ON:27.02.2007

DRUG ADDICTS PRISONERS IN TIHAR JAIL

Chowdhury Shri Adhir Ranjan;Jha Shri Raghunath;Singh Shri Uday

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether most of the inmates in Tihar Jail are drug addicts;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government has received any complaint against jail officials for running drugs and extortion racket in Tihar Jail;

(d) if so, the action taken by the Government against the corrupt jail officials involved in drugs racket; and

(e) the steps taken/proposed to be taken to check the entry of drugs in Tihar Jail premises and provide de-addiction treatment to the drug addicts ?

Answer

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

(a) & (b): No, Sir. About 8 to 10% of the inmates of Tihar Jails are drug addicts.

(c) & (d): The Jail authorities had received a complaint from one of the prisoners to this effect which, on inquiry, was found to be false and baseless. The same prisoner has also filed a similar complaint before the Court of Additional Chief Metropolitan Magistrate, New Delhi, which is presently sub-judice.

(e): The Prison Administration has taken several steps to check entry of drugs inside the prisons which include searching and frisking of staff and visitors before they enter and leave the jail premises, surprise searches under the supervision of senior officers, use of gadgets like X-ray scanners, multi-zone doorframe metal detectors, detailed enquiries of every complaint of drug trafficking, shifting of prisoners with history of drug addiction to detoxification center in the jail and providing counseling and rehabilitative therapies to prisoners. In addition, a 120 bed integrated drug de-addiction center has recently been opened in the jail hospital for extending medical and counseling treatment to the drug addicts in which services of NGOs are also utilized.