GOVERNMENT OF INDIA EXTERNAL AFFAIRS LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:237 ANSWERED ON:24.02.2010 INDIANS LANGUISHING IN FOREIGN JAILS Balram Shri P.;Ponnam Shri Prabhakar

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Indian prisoners in jails in various countries, country-wise, offence-wise and gender-wise;

(b) whether the government has taken up the issue with the respective countries to secure release of the prisoners from foreign jails;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

Answer

MINISTER OF THE STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (Dr. SHASHI THAROOR)

(a) A statement showing details of Indian prisoners in foreign jails is annexed.

(b) to (c) Yes. The Government of India, through its Missions/Posts abroad, makes all possible efforts with the Foreign Governments to provide necessary assistance to Indians imprisoned in foreign jails, which include requesting local authorities for speedy trials, seeking remission of sentence, seeking consular access to detainees and prisoners, providing advice and guidance in legal and other matters, ensuring fair and humane treatment in foreign jails and repatriation to India of those who are released. The Indian Missions/Posts abroad remain in regular touch with the families of the arrested Indians.

(d) Does not arise.