

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HOME AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA**

STARRED QUESTION NO:127
ANSWERED ON:03.08.2010
SECURITY MEASURES IN JAILS
Jagannath Dr. M.

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether there have been reports of surreptitious entry of contraband articles including mobile phones, sharp edged weapons in various jails in the country including National Capital Territory (NCT) of Delhi;
- (b) if so, the details thereof including the number of such articles seized during each of the last three years and the current year, State-wise including Tihar Jail in NCT of Delhi;
- (c) whether the Government has issued any advisory to the State Governments to strengthen security measures in the jails including the purchase and installation of full body scanners; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

MINISTER OF THE STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI AJAY MAKEN)

(a) to (d): A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (d) OF THE LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 127 FOR 03.08.2010

(a) & (b): 'Prison' is a State subject under List II of the Seventh Schedule to the Constitution and, therefore, Prison Administration including security measures in prisons is primarily the responsibility of the State Governments/UT Administration. Therefore, the State Governments/UT Administration are responsible to check entry of contraband articles including mobile phones, sharp edged weapons, etc. in prisons and take appropriate remedial measures in this regard. Data relating to number of such articles seized in various prisons are not maintained centrally. However the details of articles seized in the prisons of NCT of Delhi during the last three years and in current year are as under:

Year	Mobile phones (in numbers)	Sharp edged articles such as surgical blades, iron patti, nails etc. (Total in number)
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2007	Nil	95
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2008	Nil	71
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2009	05	69
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2010#	06	20
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(As on 30.4.2010)

(c) & (d): With a view to strengthen the security arrangements in prisons and to prevent entry of prohibited items like weapons, explosives, mobile phones, narcotics etc, the Government of India has issued advisories to State Governments/UT Administration on 21.9.1998 (Strengthening of security arrangement in jails), 17.8. 2006 (Tightening of security measures in jails), 16.10.2009 (improving of security measures in jails to avoid the incidents of jail breaking), 25.5.2010 (smuggling of drugs into prisons) and 7.6.2010 (Use of mobile phone in prisons). A comprehensive advisory covering all aspects of prison administration has also been issued to all the State Governments/UT Administration on 17.7.2009. In the advisory dated 17.7.2009 under the paper on Prison

Policy, all the State Governments/UT Administration have been asked to promote all modern electronic gadget in every prison. To check the influx of such articles, following measures are being adopted particularly at Tihar Jail in the NCT of Delhi:

- (a) Terrorists are kept in High Security Wards thereby restricting their interaction with other ordinary category prisoners;
- (b) Mobile phone jammers have been installed in jails;
- (c) All possible precautionary measures like intensive searching of inmates at the entry of jail by way of Door Frame Metal Detector (DFMD), Hand Held Metal Detector (HHMD) & X Ray scanners are being undertaken;
- (d) Close Circuit TV Camera (CCTV) are also installed to keep surveillance over the activities of the prisoners;
- (e) Video conferencing is done to avoid physical movement of prisoners between prisons and courts.