

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HOME AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2368
ANSWERED ON:21.07.2009
PRISONERS IN JAILS
Nahata Smt. P. Jaya Prada;Sidhu Shri Navjot Singh

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of jails in the country alongwith the capacity, State-wise;
- (b) the number of prisoners including minors, lodged in the jail under various unlawful activities prevention laws separately,State-wise;
- (c) the reasons for detention of minors under such harsh act;
- (d) whether the Government has taken any corrective action in this regard;
- (e) if so, whether the Union Government has issued any direction to the State Governments in this regard; and
- (f) if so, the details thereof and the reaction of the State Governments in this regard?

Answer

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

(a) & (b): As per statistics compiled by the National Crime Record Bureau, there were 1276 prisons in the country at the end of 2007 with the total authorized capacity of 277304 prisoners. The total number of prisoners lodged in the prisons was 376396. The State-wise detail of total number of jail, the authorized capacity and the total number of prisoners lodged is given as per Annexure.

(c) to (f): No minor prisoner is kept in the prison. As per the provisions of juvenile Justice (Care & Protection of Child) Act 2000, the minors are lodged only in remand homes/observation houses/juvenile homes run by the Department of Social Welfare of the concerned State in collaboration with the prison department. Only the children under 6 years of age are permitted to be in jail with their mother as per the order of Hon'ble Supreme Court.

The Model Prison Manual for the superintendence and management of prisons prepared by the Government of India,also provides against lodging of juvenile in prisons. The manual was circulated to all the States/ UTs on 31.12.2003 for its adoption. Further, advisories are also issued to the State Governments from time to time in this regard. The State Governments are responsible for implementing the provisions of law.