

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HOME AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4390
ANSWERED ON:07.12.2010
CONTRABAND ITEMS IN JAILS
Saroj Smt. Sushila

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of contraband items seized from prisoners in various jails of the country during each of the last three years, State-wise;
- (b) whether the said items are brought into the jails with the connivance of Jail officials;
- (c) if so, the details thereof and the total number of accused arrested alongwith the action taken against them during the said period, State-wise; and
- (d) the steps taken by the Government to improve the security of jails and to check such incidents in future?

Answer

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

(a) to (c): 'Prisons' is a State subject under List II of the Seventh Schedule to the constitution and, therefore, Prison Administration is primarily the responsibility of the State Governments. It is for the State Governments to check entry of contraband articles including mobile phone, sharp edged weapons etc. in prisons and take appropriate remedial measures in this regard. Data relating to number of such articles seized in various jails and the number of accused arrested in this regard are not maintained centrally.

(d): With a view to strengthen security arrangement in jail and to prevent entry of prohibited items like weapons, explosives, mobile phone, narcotics etc, the Government of India has issued advisories to States/UTs on 21.9.1998, 17.8.2006, 25.5.2010 and 7.6.2010. A comprehensive advisory on all aspects of prison administration has also been issued to all the States/UTs on 17.7.2009.