

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
LAW AND JUSTICE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1179
ANSWERED ON:03.03.2011
UNDERTRIALS
Maadam Shri Vikrambhai Arjanbhai

Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has formulated any plan to facilitate/release of two lakh undertrials in the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the State Governments have agreed to the decision of the Union Government to release undertrials?
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) the present status of juvenile courts and the number of pending cases during the last three years in the country?

Answer

MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (Dr. M. VEERAPPA MOILY)

(a)&(b): Hon'ble Minister of Law & Justice vide his letter dated 14th January, 2010, requested Chief Justices of all the High Courts to undertake a programme in Mission Mode for reducing the number of undertrials cases and to ease congestion in jails. The Mission sought to reduce 2/3rd of the undertrial cases from 26th January, 2010 to 31st July, 2010. It was also requested that the Legal Services Authority at the State, District and Taluka levels may be involved to assist in this programme. The Chief Ministers of the States were also requested to facilitate the Judiciary to make this Mission a success. This was followed by letters dated 10 March, 2010 and 2n July, 2010 addressed to Chief Justices of all the High Courts.

The primary purpose of the programme is the reduction of overcrowding in prisons and release on bail of those undertrial prisoners who are entitled to be so released.

(c)&(d): As per the information received till 28 February 2011, 4,52,999 undertrials have been released and 59, 815 undertrials have been discharged from the period starting from 26.1.10.

(e): The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.