GOVERNMENT OF INDIA HOME AFFAIRS LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:176 ANSWERED ON:22.11.2011 CONDITION OF JAILS Reddy Shri Modugula Venugopala ;Swamygowda Shri N Cheluvaraya Swamy

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has recently reviewed the conditions of various jails in the country;

(b) if so, the outcome thereof, Statewise;

(c) whether the Government has any proposal to modernise the jails;

(d) if so, the details thereof and the total funds granted/released/ utilised alongwith the special financial assistance provided for education of children of women inmates during each of the last three years and the current year, State-wise;

(e) whether the Union Government has received fresh requests from various State Governments to provide more funds for modernisation of jails; and

(f) if so, the details thereof State-wise and the decision taken by the Union Government on these requests?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI JITENDRA SINGH)

(a) & (b) "Prisons" is a State subject as per entry 4 of List II of the Seventh Schedule to the Constitution of India. Therefore, the administration and management of prisons is primarily the responsibility of the State Governments. However, as ongoing process a meeting was held in this Ministry on 16.9.2011 with the State Governments/UT Administrations.

(c) & (d) A scheme for modernization of prisons was launched by the Government of India in the year 2002-03 with a total outlay of Rs 1800 crore in 27 States (excluding Arunachal Pradesh) on a sharing basis of 75:25 between the Central and State Governments respectively. The scheme covered construction of additional barracks, improvement in sanitation and water supply and construction of living accommodation for prison staff.

(e) & (f) The Union Government had received some proposals from various State Governments. This Ministry submitted a scheme for second phase of Modernisation which was not approved by the Ministry of Finance.