

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HOME AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1352
ANSWERED ON:29.11.2011
SCUFFLES IN TIHAR JAIL
Mahajan Smt. Sumitra

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether cases of possession of illegal objects and frequent scuffles between inmates have been reported in Tihar Jail recently;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor alongwith the action taken against the responsible security officials;
- (c) whether the Government has conducted any inquiry in this regard;
- (d) if so, the details and the outcome thereof;
- (e) whether the High Court has sought a report in this regard from Tihar Jail Authority;
- (f) if so, the details thereof; and
- (g) the measures taken by the Government to check such cases in future?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN)

(a) & (b): There have been a total of 656 instances of prisoners being found with illegal objects like tobacco, currency notes, threatening the staff, scuffle between inmates etc. during the current year till date. The prisoners were given punishments as permissible under the Jail Manual/Delhi Prison Act by the Jail Superintendents. Further, during the year 2011 departmental action has been taken against 10 jail officials for dereliction of duty in connection with recovery of prohibited items and scuffles between inmates.

(c) & (d): The enquiries are conducted in every case and appropriate action under Delhi Prison Act/Jail Manual/CCS (CCA) Rules, 1965 is taken against the delinquent prisoners and officials.

(e) & (f): Hon'ble Delhi High Court has taken suo moto cognizance in Writ Petition (Crl.) No. 1151/2008- Court on its own motion Vs. State in which the Hon'ble Court has directed Prison Department to take certain precautionary steps for avoiding use of prohibited articles like mobile phones, misuse of blades etc. inside the Jail.

(g) The efforts made by the Government to check the smuggling of prohibited articles and to stop scuffles between the prisoners in the Jail, include the following:

- (i) Stringent searching and body frisking of every prisoner visitor and Jail staff;
- (ii) Installation of door frame metal Detectors;
- (iii) Installation of CCTV Cameras to keep surveillance over the activities of the prisoners;
- (iv) Installation of 11 Mobile phone jammers in Delhi Jails;
- (v) Separation of repeated offenders and first time offenders to prevent scuffles;
- (vi) Identifying and keeping round the clock surveillance over habitual jail offenders and violent prisoners.