

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HOME AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:56
ANSWERED ON:13.03.2012
MISUSE OF MOBILE PHONE BY PRISONERS
Panda Shri Baijayant;Pradhan Shri Nityananda

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether a number of instances of misuse of mobile phones by prisoners in jail/prison cells in the country have been reported;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Government has investigated such irregularities in depth to find out as to how such mobiles had entered the prison cells, fixed responsibility and punished the guilty staff;
- (d) if so, the details thereof alongwith the number of mobile phones confiscated in search operations;
- (e) whether the Government has installed mobile-jammers in the individual prison cells including in the high-security related prisons to control the said menace;
- (f) if so, the details thereof; and (g) the effective measures taken by the Government to stop such activities in future?

Answer

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

(a) to (g): 'Prison' is a State subject under Entry 4 of List II of the Seventh Schedule to the Constitution and, therefore, Prison Administration is primarily the responsibility of the State Governments. In the recent past, 120 mobile phones were confiscated from the prisoners during the searches conducted in various jails in Kerala by the prison officials. Government of India has issued a specific advisory on use of mobile phone in prisons dated 7.6.2010 to States/UTs for compliance which entails installation of jammers in jails to prevent cell phone transactions.