

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HOME AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:68
ANSWERED ON:13.03.2012
UNDERTRIALS IN JAILS
Mani Shri Jose K.

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether there are reports of undertrials forming major portion of the prison population in the country due to delays in initiating and conclusion of trials;
- (b) if so, the steps taken and the progress made in this regard during the last three years;
- (c) whether instances of denial of bail to undertrials due to high bail amount and violation of bail norms have been reported in the past; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof and the action taken by the Government in this regard?

Answer

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

(a) & (b): As per prison statistics compiled by National Crime Record Bureau (NCRB), the undertrial population at the end of 2010 was 2,40,098 (65.1% of total inmates). "Prison" 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. However, 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 which includes creation of new jails and creation of additional barracks to reduce overcrowding which has come down to 15.1% (in 2010) from 22.8% (2009). Active efforts are made by the State Governments to minimize detention period of undertrials. 13,65,522 undertrials were released during the year 2012.

(c) No data relating to denial of bail is maintained at the Centre or States and hence cannot be commented upon.

(d) Does not arise.