

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HOME AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3530

ANSWERED ON:19.03.2013

USE OF MOBILE PHONE BY PRISONERS

Gowda Shri D.B. Chandre;Jeyadural Shri S. R.;Pradhan Shri Nityananda

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether instances of prisoners having mobile phones, narcotics in their possession in Tihar Jail have come to the notice of the Government;

(b) if so, the details of such cases reported and the action taken against the guilty during each of the last three years and the current year; and

(c) the preventive steps taken by the Government to check such cases in future along with the financial assistance provided/utilized for installation of jammers during the said period?

Answer

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

(a) & (b): During the last three years and the current year (upto 10.3.2013), there have been 38 instances when mobile phones have been sneaked into the Tihar Jail by the prisoners and six instances of narcotic drugs smuggling came to notice.

The prisoners having mobile phones were punished as per provisions of Delhi Jail Manual like stoppage of mulakat facility etc. In cases where narcotic drugs were recovered from the prisoners, the matter was reported to Delhi Police and FIR was lodged against the guilty prisoners.

(c): The Government has taken the following steps to check such cases in future.

(i) 32 cell phone jammers have been installed in jail to rule out any possibility of use of mobile phones by inmates in jail.

(ii) 258 CCTV cameras have also been installed in Delhi jails to keep surveillance over the activities of prisoners.

(iii) Door Frame Metal Detectors, Hand Held Metal Detectors, X-Ray Scanners have been provided at the access points and in the "deodhies" (entry lounges) of the jails for proper screening of all articles brought by the prisoners.

(iv) Personnel of Tamil Nadu Special Police has been deployed at the "deodhies" of the jails for searching and frisking of prisoners, staff, visitors and articles brought by them.

(v) Centralised Teams are constituted for carrying out surprise searches in the jails.