

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HOME AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:6488
ANSWERED ON:07.05.2013
DISCONTINUATION OF PROGRAMME FOR MODERNISATION OF PRISONS
Semmalai Shri S.

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the programme for modernisation of National and State prisons started in 2003 has been discontinued from 2009 onwards; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI R.P.N SINGH)

(a)to(b) "Prisons" 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, in order to reduce overcrowding and improving the condition of prisons and prisoners, the Central Government had initiated a Non Plan scheme for modernization of prisons in the year 2002-03 for a period of 5 years 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 was extended for two years without additional funds to enable the State Governments to complete their activities by 31.3.2009. The scheme has ended on 31.3.2009.