

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HOME AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:389

ANSWERED ON:06.08.2013

PROPOSALS ON JAIL REFORMS

Rajaram Shri Wakchaure Bhausahab;Sainuji Shri Kowase Marotrao;Thakor Shri Jagdish

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Union Government has received proposals from various State Governments to provide financial assistance for modernisation of jails and jail reforms in their respective States;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the number of such proposals received along with the action taken by the Union Government thereon during each of the last three years and the current year, State-wise including Gujarat; and
- (c) the other measures taken by the Union Government to improve the living conditions of prisoners in the jails?

Answer

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

(a)&(b): Following detailed discussions with all the States/UTs on 18th April 2013 on providing financial assistance to them for modernisation of prisons, specific proposals were sought from all States/UTs for consideration for the 2nd Phase of Scheme of Modernisation of Prisons covering four major areas viz. increasing capacity of correctional homes, improving the living conditions of the inmates, increasing re-integrative capacity of correctional homes and improving security of the prisons. 27 States/UTs including Gujarat have sent their proposals on the above lines, while Assam, Manipur, Tripura, Sikkim, Dadra & Nagar Haveli, Andaman & Nicobar Islands, Lakshadweep and Daman & Diu have not furnished proposals so far.

(c): The Thirteenth Finance Commission has also allocated Rs. 609 crore for prisons to the following eight States – Andhra Pradesh (Rs. 90 crore), Arunachal Pradesh (Rs. 10 crore), Chhattisgarh (Rs. 150 crore), Kerala (Rs. 154 crore), Maharashtra (Rs. 60 crore), Mizoram (Rs. 30 crore), Odisha (Rs. 100 crore) and Tripura (Rs. 15 crore). The Government of India has also issued various advisories to States/UTs which include Comprehensive Advisory on Prison Administration on 17.7.2009, Advisory on the policy for the treatment of terminally ill prisoners/ inmates (TIPs) on 13.8.2010 and Advisory regarding guidelines for educational programme for prison inmates on 15.6.2011. In addition to reduce overcrowding in prisons an advisory dated 17.01.2013 on use of section 436A of the Cr.P.C was issued which mandates the States/UTs to take up cases in the review committees of those undertrials who have completed more than one-fourth of the maximum sentence.