

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HOME AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1947

ANSWERED ON:17.12.2013

MODERNISATION OF JAILS

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Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of jails functioning in the country and the number of prisoners/undertrials lodged in each jail vis-a-vis its capacity along with those who are still lodged in the jails even after completion of imprisonment period separately, gender and State-wise;
- (b) the total funds granted/utilised on modernisation of prisons and completion of various related projects along with the educational facilities provided to the children of women prisoners separately and the names of the States which have not fully utilised the funds along with the action taken in this regard, during each of the last three years and the current year, State-wise;
- (c) whether the Union Government has received proposals from various State Governments regarding enhancement of the capacity of jails and funds for modernization of jails etc.;
- (d) if so, the details of such proposals received along with the action taken by the Government thereon during the said period, State-wise; and
- (e) the measures taken by the Government to increase the capacity of jails, ensure full utilisation of funds and construction of more jails in the country along with the steps taken to improve the condition of jails and to keep the undertrials and sentenced prisoners in separate jails?

Answer

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

(a) As per data compiled by the National Crime Records Bureau (NCRB) at the end of 2012, there were total of 1394 jails in the country which included 127 Central Jails, 340 District Jails, 806 Sub Jails, 20 Women Jails, 46 Open Jails, 21 Borstal Schools, 31 Special Jails and 3 Other Jails. As against the total capacity of 3,43,169 prisoners in the country total number of prisoners lodged were 3,85,135 as at the end of 2012. The number of prisoners lodged in each State vis-a-vis its inmates capacity as on 30-11-2012 is given on the Ministry of Home Affairs website at the link http://cmsmha.nic.in/sites/upload_files/mha/files/NoOfPrisoners13122013.pdf.

(b) to (d) Funds totalling Rs 609 cr for modernisation and upgradation of prisons have been allocated by the Thirteenth Finance Commission 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). So far out of total allocation of Rs 609 cr a sum of Rs 261.61 cr has been released to these States.

Some States which still have not been able to fully utilize the funds allocated to them under the Modernisation of Prison Scheme which ended in 2009 are- Assam (Rs 1.25 cr), Chhattisgarh (Rs 6.41 cr), Maharashtra (Rs 6 cr), Sikkim (Rs 1.52 cr), Uttar Pradesh (Rs 0.20 cr) and they have been asked to expedite the utilization completely. 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. 30 States/UTs have sent their proposals on the above lines, while Tripura, Sikkim, Andaman & Nicobar Islands, Lakshadweep and Daman & Diu have not furnished proposals so far. These States/UTs have been asked to expedite their proposals.

(e): Although "Prisons" is a State Subject under Entry 4 of List II of the Seventh Schedule to the Constitution of India and the administration and management of prisons is the primary responsibility of the State Governments, the Government of India has been providing funding for prison modernisation through construction of more jails, barracks and staff quarters and monitoring the progress in this regard.