GOVERNMENT OF INDIA HOME AFFAIRS LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2039 ANSWERED ON:17.12.2013 CONVICTED FOREIGN NATIONALS . Viswanathan Shri P.

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of foreigners lodged in various jails and the details of facilities provided to them, State-wise;

(b) whether the Government has any proposal to allow NGOs and individual citizens to adopt those foreign nationals who have no place to go after the completion of their prison terms;

(c) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor;

(d) whether such a proposal to accommodate the foreign convicted nationals will not pose security threat to our nation; and

(e) if so, the steps taken by the Government to deport them to their respective countries instead of keeping them in India?

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 at the end of 2012 there were 2483 foreign convicts, 3984 foreign under trial prisoners and 95 foreign detenues lodged in various prisons of the country. A statement showing state wise break up is at Annexure. Foreign prisoners are given the same facilities as Indian prisoners.

(b) &(c): There is no such proposal.

(d): Does not arise.

(e) The Government since 2005 has signed bilateral agreements with 21 countries viz U.K., Mauritius, Bulgaria, Cambodia, Egypt, France, Bangladesh, Korea, Saudi Arabia, Iran, Sri Lanka, UAE, Maldives, Thailand, Italy, Turkey, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Israel, Brazil, Vietnam and Russia under the provisions of the Repatriation of Prisoners Act 2003 which provides for repatriation of the convicted foreign prisoners in Indian prisons back to their own countries for undergoing the remainder of their sentence. So far foreign prisoners in Indian prisons belonging to the UK, France and Israel have been repatriated back to their countries.