

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HOME AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4108

ANSWERED ON:15.12.2009

FUNDS FOR MODERNISATION OF PRISONS

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Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the objectives for which Modernisation of Prisons scheme was initiated;

(b) whether the objectives have been met, the details thereof alongwith the modernisation work undertaken in various States during each of the last three years and the current year, State-wise; and

(c) the funds allocated under the scheme and utilised during the above period, Statewise?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS(SHRI AJAY MAKEN)

(a) & (b) 'Prison' 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 improve the condition of prisons, prisoners and the prison staff, the Central Government launched a non-plan scheme namely "Modernization of Prisons" in 2002-03 in 27 states with an outlay of Rs.1800 crore on a cost sharing basis in the ratio of 75:25 between the Central and State Governments respectively in respect of following four components:

(i) construction of new prisons/ additional barracks to reduce overcrowding

(ii) repair and renovation of existing prisons

(iii) Providing of living accommodation for prison personnel

(iv) improvement in sanitation and water supply and

The above mentioned scheme has closed on 31.3.2009.

The Government of India regularly monitors implementation of the scheme by way of review meetings with the State Governments at senior level, paying field visits etc.

In order to assess the objectives of the scheme of modernisation of prisons, the Government of India has got the evaluation of the scheme done by a Consulting agency viz Ernst & Young India Private Limited. The evaluation report since been submitted by the Consultant has indicated that the objective of the scheme has been achieved considerably.

A statement of work to be undertaken by the State Governments under the scheme alongwith work completed statewise is at Annexure-I.

(c) A statement showing release of funds along with the utilization done by the State Government under the scheme during the last three years State-wise is at Annexure-II.