

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
HOME AFFAIRS  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3909  
ANSWERED ON:16.12.2014  
MERCY PETITIONS  
Joshi Shri Pralhad Venkatesh

**Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:**

- (a) the total number of convicts lodged in various jails awarded the death sentence in the country;
- (b) the total number of such prisoners who have filed mercy petitions along with the number of petitions pending for disposal; and
- (c) the time by which such mercy petitions are likely to be cleared?

**Answer**

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI HARIBHAI PARATHIBHAI CHAUDHARY)

- (a): The National Crime Records Bureau has informed that the number of death convicts in the country at the end of 2013 is 382.
- (b): During the last 34 years about 123 Mercy Petitions were received under Article 72 of the Constitution of India, for consideration of the Hon'ble President. All these Mercy Petitions have been considered/disposed of except the following 3 Mercy petitions:
  - 1. Balwant Sing Rajoana of Chandigarh,
  - 2. Tote Dewan @ Man Bahadur Dewan of Assam and
  - 3. Antony of Kerala.

These petitions have been processed for submission to the Hon'ble President of India for his consideration.

- (c): Under Article 72 of the Constitution there is no limitation of time within which the power conferred may be exercised. However, the mercy petitions are disposed off as expeditiously as possible.