GOVERNMENT OF INDIA HOME AFFAIRS LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2441 ANSWERED ON:04.08.2015 NHRC Report on Prison Rao (Avnthi) Shri Muthamsetti Srinivasa

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether a National Human Rights Commission (NHRC) report based on data collected from Indian prisons between 2007 and 2011 has revealed that a majority of suicides in the jails were because of samesex rapes by fellow prisoners;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the total number of such cases reported during each of the last three years and the current year, Statewise; and

(c) the corrective steps taken to check such cases in future?

Answer

Minister of State in the Ministry of Home Affairs (SHRI KIREN RIJIJU)

(a) & (b): The National Human Rights Commission's (NHRC) Publication, 'Suicide in Prison' is based upon the data obtained from National Crime Records Bureau (NCRB). NHRC has not collected such data itself.

The NHRC's publication 'Suicide in prison' reflects on the problem of suicide in prison, legal position and preventive measures that can be initiated to check suicide. Suicide cannot be attributed to a single factor. The publication 'Suicide in Prison' nowhere concludes or reveals that the same sex rape is one of the main reasons behind suicide in prisons.

(c): Pursuant to the guidelines laid down by the National Human Rights Commission, every death in judicial custody is to be reported to the Commission within 24 hours of its occurrence. While sending such intimation the reason for suicide is not stated and hence, NHRC has no data in the matter.