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Title : Need to release funds to the State Governments for providing better amenities to jail inmates.

DR. K. DHANARAJU (TINDIVANAM): I am to draw the attention of the Union Government through you, Sir, that the condition of prisons in India and the plight of the inmates are in a sorry state of affairs. Central Government should look into it. Jails of all States should be visited by the teams of Central Government. Very recently news regarding worst conditions of jails of the various States was in the newspaper. Security of jails should also be improved so that what happened in Bihar is not repeated. Recently, I was imprisoned for some political activity and kept in Vellore Jail in Tamil Nadu. There I happened to see a lot of inhuman activities. Mainly the quality of the food serviced to the prisoners drew my attention. Norms should be made and the implementation should be monitored. New laws should be enacted in tune with the times and the prisoners should be given a human touch. Jails should become an eye opener to such elements by imparting periodical lectures by eminent people to create a spark in their thinking with a positive note. There are so many welfare organizations/NGOs who are ready to preach them the values of life by organizing meditation camps. Jails should act in a way to transform the life of the culprits who are prisoners by the influence of time and atmosphere. When they come out of jail they should come out as new and good persons and thus live as good citizens. Their time spent in prisons can be well utilized by teaching them some vocational courses; they can also earn their own living. Lastly, I request you Sir, to form a new panel of eminent people from all walks of life and with their knowledge and guidelines, the present scenario, as explained may be improved. Union Government should issue guidelines to all State Government in this regard and also monitor the implementation of the guidelines. Union Government should give more funds to State Governments to improve the conditions of jails and also some Central force should also be provided for security of jails in States.

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