

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS**

**LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1641**

TO BE ANSWERED ON THE 02ND JULY, 2019/ ASHADHA 11, 1941 (SAKA)

SUICIDE IN JAILS

1641. DR. UMESH G. JADHAV:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of prisoners committing suicides/attempted to commit suicide in jails during the last three years, State-wise;**
- (b) whether there has been an increase in the number of such cases;**
- (c) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor; and**
- (d) the corrective steps taken by the Government in this regard?**

ANSWER

**MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS
(SHRI G. KISHAN REDDY)**

(a): National Crime Records Bureau (NCRB) compiles prison statistics in its publication "Prison Statistics India". Published reports are available till the year 2016. State/UT-wise details of prisoners who committed suicide in prisons during 2014 to 2016 are given in Annexure.

(b) to (d): The cases of suicide in prisons during 2014 to 2016 do not indicate any such trend. However, the Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA) has circulated a Model Prison Manual, 2016 to all States & UTs which, inter-alia, has chapters on 'Medical Care' and 'Welfare of Prisoners' focusing on health, counseling, mental wellbeing, psychotherapy, cognitive

behavior etc. of prison inmates. Besides this, the Ministry of Home Affairs has also issued various advisories to States & UTs for taking care of the psychological health/needs of the prisoners. The Ministry of Home Affairs has also circulated the following guidelines/documents to all States and UTs on 10.10.2017:

- i) The monograph prepared by National Human Rights Commission (NHRC) entitled “Suicide in Prison - Prevention strategy and implication from human rights and legal points of view”.**
- ii) Guidelines on custodial deaths issued to all States & UTs by NHRC from time to time.**
- iii) The Nelson Mandela Rules - United Nations Standard Minimum Rules for the Treatment of Prisoners.**
- iv) The Guidelines on “Investigating Deaths in Custody” issued by the International Committee of the Red Cross.**

‘Prisons’ and ‘persons detained therein’ are State subjects as per Entry 4 of List II of Seventh Schedule to the Constitution of India. The administration and management of prisons is the responsibility of respective State Governments. The States and UTs have been asked to make all efforts to reduce and possibly eliminate unnatural deaths in prisons.

ANNEXURE
L.S.US.Q.NO. 1641 FOR 02.07.2019

State/UT- wise Suicide of Inmates in Prisons during 2014-2016

Sl. No.	State/UT	2014	2015	2016
1	ANDHRA PRADESH	2	6	4
2	ARUNACHAL PRADESH	0	0	0
3	ASSAM	1	2	1
4	BIHAR	2	1	3
5	CHHATTISGARH	2	0	0
6	GOA	0	0	0
7	GUJARAT	3	2	3
8	HARYANA	4	2	9
9	HIMACHAL PRADESH	0	0	0
10	JAMMU & KASHMIR	2	0	1
11	JHARKHAND	2	1	0
12	KARNATAKA	15	9	3
13	KERALA	3	0	4
14	MADHYA PRADESH	3	4	4
15	MAHARASHTRA	6	6	7
16	MANIPUR	0	1	1
17	MEGHALAYA	0	1	0
18	MIZORAM	1	0	0
19	NAGALAND	1	0	0
20	ODISHA	1	2	3
21	PUNJAB	10	4	8
22	RAJASTHAN	6	2	8
23	SIKKIM	0	0	0
24	TAMIL NADU	5	5	9
25	TELANGANA	0	0	4
26	TRIPURA	0	1	0
27	UTTAR PRADESH	18	9	20
28	UTTARAKHAND	0	2	0
29	WEST BENGAL	9	10	6
	TOTAL (STATES)	96	70	98
30	A & N ISLANDS	0	2	1
31	CHANDIGARH	0	0	0
32	D & N HAVELI	0	0	0
33	DAMAN & DIU	0	0	0
34	DELHI	5	4	3
35	LAKSHADWEEP	0	0	0
36	PUDUCHERRY	0	1	0
	TOTAL (UTs)	5	7	4
	TOTAL (ALL-INDIA)	101	77	102

Source: Prison Statistics India