

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS**

**LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2494**

TO BE ANSWERED ON THE 09TH JULY, 2019/ ASHADHA 18, 1941 (SAKA)

CRIMINAL ACTIVITIES IN JAILS

†2494. SHRI SANGAM LAL GUPTA:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether concrete steps are likely to be taken to check operation of criminal activities from within jails in various parts of the country;

(b) if so, the manner in which it is likely to be done; and

(c) whether special police force is being deployed to ensure the security of district jails where people with serious criminal records are lodged?

ANSWER

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

(a) to (c) : 'Prisons' and 'persons detained therein' are State subjects as per Entry 4 of List II of Seventh Schedule to the Constitution of India.

The State Governments are thus responsible for custodial management and prison administration including security of Jails and curbing of criminal activities in prison premises. The State Governments are competent to ensure the safety and security of Jails housing inmates with serious criminal records. However, the Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA) has issued advisories to States and Union Territories for strengthening security arrangements in jails and to evolve a mechanism to carefully frisk the visitors of inmates, conduct regular checks of

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inmates returning from courts/hospitals, surprise checks and visits by senior officers. They have also been advised to install CCTV cameras and mobile jammers with State of the Art Prison's Surveillance System to manage prison security challenges and to appoint adequate number of jail staff to manage and supervise prisoners' activities.

MHA has also circulated the Model Prison Manual 2016 to all States and Union Territories, which has chapters on 'Custodial Management' and 'Inspection of Prisons'.

The Model Prison Manual 2016 also provides for a Quick Reaction Team (QRT) to remain in a state of readiness to meet any emergency in all Central and District prisons.
