

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS**

**RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 47**

**TO BE ANSWERED ON THE 07TH DECEMBER, 2022/ AGRAHAYANA 16, 1944
(SAKA)**

WOMEN PRISONS IN THE COUNTRY

47. SHRI NIRANJAN BISHI:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) total fund allocated to women prisons in the country, State-wise;

(b) whether the number of actual prisoners is more than the space provided to them for their accommodation;

(c) if so, strategy outlined for tackling overcrowding of jails;

(d) whether instances of brawls or crimes against inmates have been recorded from women prisons;

(e) if so, details thereof; and

(f) whether Government has assessed safety conditions of women within these prisons, if so, details thereof?

ANSWER

**MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS
(SHRI AJAY KUMAR MISHRA)**

(a): National Crime Records Bureau (NCRB) compiles prison statistics reported to it by the States and Union Territories (UTs) and publishes the same in its annual publication "Prison Statistics India". The latest published report is for the year 2021. State/UT-wise details of funds allocated to prisons by the State Governments/UTs during the Financial

Year 2021-22 are given in Annexure-I. Details of funds allocated to women prisons is not separately maintained by the NCRB.

(b) and (c): State/UT-wise details of available capacity of prisons, inmate population and occupancy rate of women prisoners as on 31st December, 2021 are given in Annexure-II. 'Prisons'/ 'persons detained therein' is a "State List" subject under Entry 4 of List II of the Seventh Schedule to the Constitution of India. Administration and management of prisons is the responsibility of respective State Governments who are competent to ensure that prisons in their jurisdictions are not overcrowded.

The Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA) has taken several initiatives to address the issue of overcrowding in prisons. The Government of India inserted Section 436A in the Code of Criminal Procedure (CrPC), which provides for release of an under-trial prisoner on bail on undergoing detention for a period extending up to one half of the maximum period of imprisonment specified for an offence under any law. The concept of plea bargaining was also introduced by inserting a new "Chapter XXIA" on "Plea Bargaining" (Sections 265A to 265L of CrPC) which enables pre-trial negotiation between the defendant and the prosecution. E-prisons Software, which is a Prison Management Application integrated with Interoperable Criminal Justice System provides facility to State Jail authorities to access the data of inmates and helps them in identifying inmates whose cases are

due for consideration by the Under Trial Review Committee. State Legal Services Authorities have established Legal Service Clinics in Jails and have deployed Para Legal Volunteers to provide free legal assistance to persons in need.

The Model Prison Manual 2016, prepared and circulated to States and UTs by MHA, has a dedicated Chapter on “Legal Aid” which provides guidance in the matter of undertrial prisoners. MHA has also issued various advisories to the States & UTs for adopting appropriate measures to address the issue of overcrowding in prisons. These advisories are available on MHA’s website.

(d) and (e): Specific information in this regard is not maintained by NCRB.

(f): The recommendations made by the Ministry of Women and Child Development in its Report ‘Women in Prisons’ (2018) were shared with the jails authorities of all States and UTs for their perusal and implementation. The States and UTs have been requested to ensure that the recommendations made in the report are fully utilized for providing better living condition to women inmates.

State/UT-wise details of funds allocated for prisons
during the financial year 2021-2022

(Rs. in Crore)

S.No.	State/UT	Total Funds allocated
1	ANDHRA PRADESH	178.4
2	ARUNACHAL PRADESH	30.1
3	ASSAM	113.2
4	BIHAR	797.3
5	CHHATTISGARH	195.9
6	GOA	15.5
7	GUJARAT	198.1
8	HARYANA	392.3
9	HIMACHAL PRADESH	53.4
10	JHARKHAND	308.6
11	KARNATAKA	467.3
12	KERALA	193.0
13	MADHYA PRADESH	462.4
14	MAHARASHTRA	455.9
15	MANIPUR	34.0
16	MEGHALAYA	25.8
17	MIZORAM	25.8
18	NAGALAND	57.6
19	ODISHA	219.4
20	PUNJAB	328.1
21	RAJASTHAN	265.7
22	SIKKIM	10.5
23	TAMIL NADU	390.2
24	TELANGANA	122.0
25	TRIPURA	35.9
26	UTTAR PRADESH	1204.5
27	UTTARAKHAND	4.6
28	WEST BENGAL	345.5
29	A & N ISLANDS	10.6
30	CHANDIGARH	23.8
31	DNH & DAMAN DIU	1.7
32	DELHI	461.2
33	JAMMU & KASHMIR	179.9
34	LADAKH	2.3
35	LAKSHADWEEP	0.1
36	PUDUCHERRY	8.8
	TOTAL	7619.2

State/UT-wise available capacity, inmate population and occupancy rate of women prisoners in jails as on 31st December, 2021

SI no	State/ UT	Available capacity	Inmate population	Occupancy rate (in %)
1	ANDHRA PRADESH	921	404	43.9
2	ARUNACHAL PRADESH	24	9	37.5
3	ASSAM	767	431	56.2
4	BIHAR	2014	3067	152.3
5	CHHATTISGARH	609	899	147.6
6	GOA	50	19	38.0
7	GUJARAT	1156	573	49.6
8	HARYANA	971	777	80.0
9	HIMACHAL PRADESH	147	109	74.1
10	JHARKHAND	925	868	93.8
11	KARNATAKA	1372	602	43.9
12	KERALA	398	143	35.9
13	MADHYA PRADESH	1916	1892	98.7
14	MAHARASHTRA	1331	1368	102.8
15	MANIPUR	250	47	18.8
16	MEGHALAYA	55	25	45.5
17	MIZORAM	304	87	28.6
18	NAGALAND	180	22	12.2
19	ODISHA	2033	739	36.4
20	PUNJAB	2185	1368	62.6
21	RAJASTHAN	1757	622	35.4
22	SIKKIM	26	5	19.2
23	TAMIL NADU	2548	742	29.1
24	TELANGANA	703	472	67.1
25	TRIPURA	141	40	28.4
26	UTTAR PRADESH	3527	4995	141.6
27	UTTARAKHAND	160	286	178.8
28	WEST BENGAL	1920	1530	79.7
29	A & N ISLANDS	40	6	15.0
30	CHANDIGARH	120	46	38.3
31	DNH & DAMAN DIU	10	3	30.0
32	DELHI	680	556	81.8
33	JAMMU & KASHMIR	136	155	114.0
34	LADAKH	5	0	0.0
35	LAKSHADWEEP	0	0	-
36	PUDUCHERRY	45	11	24.4
	TOTAL	29426	22918	77.9
