

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS**

**RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2958**

TO BE ANSWERED ON THE 26TH MARCH, 2025/ CHITRA 5, 1947 (SAKA)

SUPPORT TO POOR PRISONERS

2958 SMT. PRIYANKA CHATURVEDI:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the targets set and progress made under the Support to Poor Prisoners scheme since 2023; and

(b) the budgetary allocation and utilization for the scheme since 2023?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS

(SHRI BANDI SANJAY KUMAR)

(a) and (b): The Ministry of Home Affairs had introduced the “Support to Poor Prisoners” Scheme in the year 2023. Detailed ‘Guidelines and Standard Operating Procedure’ to be followed by the States/UTs for implementation of the scheme were shared with all State Governments and Union Territory Administrations on 19.6.2023. The Central Government had made a provision for Rs 20 crores each for the Financial Years 2023-24, 2024-25 and 2025-26 for implementation of the scheme which aims at providing relief to poor prisoners, who are unable to secure release from prison due to non-payment of fine or for furnishing bond for release on bail. Funds were made available to the States/UTs through the Central Nodal Agency (CNA) Account and the States/UTs were advised to draw funds from the CNA account. As on date, 12 States have drawn funds of Rs. 22,84,451/- from the CNA account.
