

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS**

**RAJYA SABHA  
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2005**

**TO BE ANSWERED ON THE 5<sup>TH</sup> AUGUST, 2026/ SRAVANA 14, 1948 (SAKA)**

**OCCUPANCY IN PRISONS**

**2005. SHRI ABDUL WAHAB:**

**Will the Minister of Home Affairs be pleased to state:**

- (a) State-wise/UT-wise sanctioned capacity and actual occupancy of prisons, along with the total number of inmates, during the last five years;**
- (b) number of prisons operating beyond their sanctioned capacity and extent of overcrowding therein;**
- (c) details of financial assistance released by Union Government during the last five years for prison modernisation, infrastructure upgradation and construction of new prisons to address overcrowding;**
- (d) whether Government has assessed the impact of overcrowding on prisoners' rights, health, legal aid and rehabilitation, if so, details thereof; and**
- (e) the measures taken by Union Government, in coordination with the States, to ensure humane prison conditions?**

**ANSWER**

**MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS**

**(SHRI BANDI SANJAY KUMAR)**

- (a) & (b): The National Crime Records Bureau (NCRB) compiles prison statistics reported to it by the States and Union Territories (UTs) and publishes the same in its publication "Prison Statistics India" every year. The latest published report is of the year 2024. State/UT-wise details of total**

available capacity of prisons and actual occupancy as on 31<sup>st</sup> December of the years 2020 to 2024 are given in Annexure. As per the latest data of the year 2024, 609 prisons were operating beyond their sanctioned capacity. Since “prisons/persons detained therein” is a State-list subject under Entry 4 of List II of the Seventh Schedule to the Constitution of India, the administration and management of prisons, including augmentation of prison capacity through expansion of existing prisons and construction of new prisons to address the issue of overcrowding, falls exclusively in the jurisdiction of respective States/Union Territories.

(c): The Ministry of Home Affairs released funds to the tune of Rs. 608.6 crores to the States and UTs during the last five financial years under the Modernisation of Prisons project for construction of High Security Prisons (HSPs), upgradation of security infrastructure of prisons and improving the correctional administration through programmes/ initiatives on skilling, rehabilitation of inmates, etc.

(d) and (e): As administration and management of prisons and prisoners is the responsibility of respective States/UTs, it is for them to take note of the impact of overcrowding on prisoners' rights, health, legal aid and rehabilitation and take necessary measures to ensure humane prison conditions. However, the Ministry of Home Affairs has also been

**supplementing the efforts of States and UTs in this regard. The Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA) had also shared the United Nations (UN) Standard Minimum Rules for Treatment of Prisoners with all States and UTs which prescribe minimum international standards for ensuring humane treatment of prisoners.**

**MHA had also prepared and shared a Model Prison Manual 2016 with all States and UTS as a guiding framework for prison administration, with a view to promoting humane prison conditions and ensuring the welfare, rehabilitation, and reintegration of prisoners. The Manual provides comprehensive guidance on varied aspects of prison management, including on medical care, legal aid, after-care and rehabilitation, etc.**

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**State/UT-wise details of total available capacity and actual occupancy as on 31<sup>st</sup> December of the years 2020 to 2024**

| S. No. | State/UT          | 2020                     |                  | 2021                     |                  | 2022                     |                  |
|--------|-------------------|--------------------------|------------------|--------------------------|------------------|--------------------------|------------------|
|        |                   | Total Available Capacity | Actual Occupancy | Total Available Capacity | Actual Occupancy | Total Available Capacity | Actual Occupancy |
| 1      | Andhra Pradesh    | 8760                     | 7375             | 8761                     | 7950             | 8659                     | 7254             |
| 2      | Arunachal Pradesh | 333                      | 253              | 333                      | 251              | 333                      | 335              |
| 3      | Assam             | 8938                     | 9274             | 8938                     | 10079            | 9564                     | 11592            |
| 4      | Bihar             | 45862                    | 51934            | 47750                    | 66879            | 47750                    | 64914            |
| 5      | Chhattisgarh      | 13704                    | 18068            | 13500                    | 20061            | 14143                    | 20451            |
| 6      | Goa               | 624                      | 524              | 624                      | 551              | 624                      | 681              |
| 7      | Gujarat           | 13762                    | 15217            | 13999                    | 16597            | 14065                    | 16611            |
| 8      | Haryana           | 19306                    | 18309            | 19999                    | 24158            | 20953                    | 25471            |
| 9      | Himachal Pradesh  | 2264                     | 2427             | 2417                     | 2876             | 2528                     | 2881             |
| 10     | Jharkhand         | 17333                    | 22190            | 17501                    | 21257            | 17671                    | 19615            |
| 11     | Karnataka         | 14550                    | 14308            | 15385                    | 15473            | 15589                    | 16203            |
| 12     | Kerala            | 7321                     | 6049             | 7920                     | 7111             | 8369                     | 8883             |
| 13     | Madhya Pradesh    | 28675                    | 45484            | 29571                    | 48513            | 29715                    | 48857            |
| 14     | Maharashtra       | 24722                    | 31825            | 24772                    | 36853            | 25443                    | 41070            |
| 15     | Manipur           | 1272                     | 625              | 1272                     | 611              | 1272                     | 855              |
| 16     | Meghalaya         | 650                      | 1007             | 680                      | 1089             | 680                      | 1137             |
| 17     | Mizoram           | 1623                     | 1049             | 1420                     | 1116             | 1364                     | 1580             |
| 18     | Nagaland          | 1450                     | 391              | 1450                     | 500              | 1490                     | 469              |
| 19     | Odisha            | 20819                    | 18881            | 20987                    | 20804            | 22855                    | 18962            |
| 20     | Punjab            | 23776                    | 18470            | 26556                    | 26146            | 26556                    | 30801            |
| 21     | Rajasthan         | 22907                    | 22063            | 22897                    | 22938            | 22963                    | 24659            |
| 22     | Sikkim            | 260                      | 452              | 260                      | 434              | 260                      | 387              |
| 23     | Tamil Nadu        | 23592                    | 14302            | 23592                    | 18015            | 24342                    | 18806            |
| 24     | Telangana         | 7845                     | 6114             | 7997                     | 7316             | 7997                     | 6497             |
| 25     | Tripura           | 2179                     | 870              | 2204                     | 1033             | 2365                     | 1194             |
| 26     | Uttar Pradesh     | 60685                    | 107395           | 63751                    | 117789           | 67600                    | 121609           |
| 27     | Uttarakhand       | 3540                     | 5969             | 3741                     | 6921             | 3741                     | 6858             |
| 28     | West Bengal       | 21476                    | 25863            | 21476                    | 25769            | 21476                    | 28789            |
| 29     | A & N Islands     | 309                      | 331              | 319                      | 267              | 319                      | 258              |
| 30     | Chandigarh        | 1120                     | 968              | 1120                     | 897              | 1120                     | 1195             |
| 31     | DNH & Daman Diu   | 130                      | 157              | 170                      | 185              | 170                      | 176              |
| 32     | Delhi             | 10026                    | 15995            | 10026                    | 18295            | 10026                    | 18497            |
| 33     | Jammu & Kashmir   | 3660                     | 4105             | 3586                     | 4970             | 3629                     | 5314             |
| 34     | Ladakh            | 80                       | 26               | 155                      | 20               | 155                      | 30               |
| 35     | Lakshadweep       | 64                       | 3                | 64                       | 5                | 64                       | 6                |
| 36     | Puducherry        | 416                      | 238              | 416                      | 305              | 416                      | 323              |
|        | <b>Total</b>      | <b>414033</b>            | <b>488511</b>    | <b>425609</b>            | <b>554034</b>    | <b>436266</b>            | <b>573220</b>    |

**State/UT-wise details of capacity of prisons and inmate population as on 31<sup>st</sup> December of the years 2020 to 2024**

| S. No. | State/UT          | 2023                     |                  | 2024                     |                  |
|--------|-------------------|--------------------------|------------------|--------------------------|------------------|
|        |                   | Total Available Capacity | Actual Occupancy | Total Available Capacity | Actual Occupancy |
| 1      | Andhra Pradesh    | 8831                     | 7889             | 8659                     | 7861             |
| 2      | Arunachal Pradesh | 383                      | 360              | 533                      | 468              |
| 3      | Assam             | 10120                    | 10652            | 10330                    | 11674            |
| 4      | Bihar             | 49019                    | 53076            | 49090                    | 51990            |
| 5      | Chhattisgarh      | 14383                    | 18421            | 14733                    | 18798            |
| 6      | Goa               | 624                      | 568              | 624                      | 615              |
| 7      | Gujarat           | 14065                    | 17265            | 14108                    | 17766            |
| 8      | Haryana           | 22045                    | 25833            | 22838                    | 24756            |
| 9      | Himachal Pradesh  | 2560                     | 2816             | 2580                     | 2984             |
| 10     | Jharkhand         | 17671                    | 18862            | 17671                    | 16201            |
| 11     | Karnataka         | 14237                    | 15236            | 14317                    | 14450            |
| 12     | Kerala            | 7823                     | 9920             | 7823                     | 10307            |
| 13     | Madhya Pradesh    | 29875                    | 45543            | 30644                    | 45092            |
| 14     | Maharashtra       | 26281                    | 40805            | 27110                    | 39003            |
| 15     | Manipur           | 1160                     | 535              | 1160                     | 450              |
| 16     | Meghalaya         | 680                      | 1283             | 860                      | 1406             |
| 17     | Mizoram           | 1386                     | 1957             | 1386                     | 1556             |
| 18     | Nagaland          | 1490                     | 591              | 1270                     | 514              |
| 19     | Odisha            | 24666                    | 18170            | 25176                    | 16617            |
| 20     | Punjab            | 26543                    | 31529            | 26543                    | 30663            |
| 21     | Rajasthan         | 23288                    | 22737            | 23454                    | 24310            |
| 22     | Sikkim            | 260                      | 318              | 358                      | 302              |
| 23     | Tamil Nadu        | 24342                    | 19738            | 24513                    | 20400            |
| 24     | Telangana         | 8037                     | 5853             | 8013                     | 6782             |
| 25     | Tripura           | 2348                     | 1329             | 2348                     | 1761             |
| 26     | Uttar Pradesh     | 65866                    | 98849            | 76162                    | 86762            |
| 27     | Uttarakhand       | 3761                     | 6885             | 3921                     | 5548             |
| 28     | West Bengal #     | 21476                    | 25774            | 21476                    | 25774            |
| 29     | A & N Islands     | 319                      | 373              | 479                      | 395              |
| 30     | Chandigarh        | 1120                     | 1069             | 1120                     | 939              |
| 31     | DNH & Daman Diu   | 170                      | 145              | 180                      | 114              |
| 32     | Delhi             | 10026                    | 20077            | 10026                    | 19512            |
| 33     | Jammu & Kashmir   | 3629                     | 5400             | 3629                     | 5383             |
| 34     | Ladakh            | 155                      | 46               | 155                      | 51               |
| 35     | Lakshadweep       | 64                       | 3                | 64                       | 5                |
| 36     | Puducherry        | 416                      | 426              | 416                      | 333              |
|        | <b>Total</b>      | <b>439119</b>            | <b>530333</b>    | <b>453769</b>            | <b>511542</b>    |

#- Due to non-receipt of data from West Bengal for 2024, data furnished for 2023 was used