GOVERNMENT OF INDIA MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS

LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 462

TO BE ANSWERED ON THE 19th DECEMBER, 2017 /AGRAHAYANA 28, 1939 (SAKA)

REHABILITATION OF WOMEN UNDERTRIALS/CONVICTS

462. SHRI A.P. JITHENDER REDDY:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the policy formulated for the rehabilitation of women undertrials and convicts;

(b) the details of the policy formulated for the education and care of children below the age of six years staying in prison alongside their mothers; and

(c) the details of the social security schemes, if any, applicable to women prisoners, children inside the prisons alongside their mothers and children of prisoners outside the prisons?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI HANSRAJ GANGARAM AHIR)

(a) to (c): Prisons is a State 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 State Governments.

The Government of India has been providing guidance to the States in prison management through various advisories issued from time to time. The Ministry of Home Affairs had issued an advisory to all States and Union Territories on 15.5.2006 sharing the guidelines issued by Supreme Court on facilities for the children of women prisoners; advisory dated 17.7.2009 sharing the best practices adopted all over India in the matter of female prisoners and welfare of their children and advisory dated 8.11.2010 sharing the recommendations of National Expert Committee on Women Prisoners.

Besides the advisories issued from time to time, Model Prison Manual 2016 was also forwarded to all States and Union Territories in May 2016, which is intended to serve as a guide for the States and to adopt the best practices provided in the Manual. The Prison Manual has dedicated chapters on 'Welfare of Prisoners', 'After-care and rehabilitation' and 'Women Prisoners' for the guidance of all prison authorities. The advisories and the Prison Manual 2016 are available on the website of the Ministry of Home Affairs at: http://mha1.nic.in/PrisonReforms/home.html.

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