GOVERNMENT OF INDIA MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS

LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 3303

TO BE ANSWERED ON THE 7^{TH} AUGUST, 2018/SHRAVANA 16, 1940 (SAKA)

CCTV CAMERAS IN JAILS

3303. DR. KIRIT P. SOLANKI:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether CCTV cameras have been installed in all the prisons across the country, if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor;
- (b) whether any measures have been adopted to curb the increasing suicide rates among inmates and if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the steps taken to ensure the health and safety of inmates;
- (d) whether the data of custodial deaths collated by the National Crime Records Bureau (NCRB) and National Human Rights Commission(NHRC) respectively differ significantly, if so, the details thereof and the action taken to resolve this problem; and
- (e) the mechanism established to ensure regular and fair inspections in prisons?

 ANSWER

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

- (a): As per latest information available with the National Crime Records Bureau, 10,360 CCTV cameras have been installed in the prisons across the country as on 31.12.2016.
- (b) to (e): 'Prisons' is a 'State' subject under Entry 4 of List II of the Seventh Schedule to the Constitution of India. The administration and management of prisons is, therefore, the responsibility of respective State Governments, who take suitable steps to control and prevent such incidents and ensure safety and security of prisoners. However, the Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA) has circulated a Model Prison Manual, 2016 to all States & UTs which, inter-alia, has a specific

chapter on 'Custodial Management' providing instruction for safety and security of prisons and prisoners. The Model Prison Manual also has a chapter on 'Medical Care' to prison inmates.

NHRC has informed that there is no significant difference between their data and that of NCRB. However, NHRC had noticed that there was some under reporting to NHRC from the States of Haryana and Madhya Pradesh and the matter has been taken up with respective State Governments as also with NCRB for re-conciliation and coordination.

NHRC has informed that the Special Rapporteurs of the Commission carry out visits to various jails from time to time and their reports are examined by the Commission and appropriate recommendations are made by it to the concerned State Governments for taking remedial measures.
