

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS**

**LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 4909**

TO BE ANSWERED ON THE 23rd JULY, 2019/ SHRAVANA 01, 1941 (SAKA)

OVERCROWDING IN JAILS

4909. SHRIMATI NAVNEET RAVI RANA:

DR. (PROF.) KIRIT PREMJI BHAI SOLANKI:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of jails in the country, State-wise;**
- (b) the number of persons lodged in the jails, State-wise including Maharashtra;**
- (c) the total number of jails where the occupancy rate is more than 100 per cent, State/UT-wise; and**
- (d) whether the Government has formulated any plan to reduce overcrowding in jails and if so, the details thereof?**

ANSWER

**MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS
(SHRI G. KISHAN REDDY)**

(a) & (b) : National Crime Records Bureau (NCRB) compiles prison statistics in its publication "Prison Statistics India". Published reports are available till the year 2016. State/UT-wise number of jails in the country and number of inmates lodged in the jails are given in Annexure.

(c) : Specific information on the number of jails where the occupancy rate is more than 100 percent is not maintained by the NCRB. However, State/UT-wise occupancy rate of jails as on 31.12.2016 are given in Annexure.

(d) : 'Prisons' and 'persons detained therein' are State subjects as per Entry 4 of List II of Seventh Schedule to the Constitution of India. Administration and management of prisons is the responsibility of State Governments. However, the Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA) has issued advisories to States & UTs for steps to be taken by them for providing free legal aid to undertrials and for setting up Lok Adalats / Special courts in prisons for expediting the review of cases of undertrials.

MHA has also circulated the Model Prison Manual 2016 to all States and Union Territories, which has a chapter on 'Legal Aid' which provides for facilities which may be provided to undertrials viz. legal defence, interview with lawyers, signing of Vakalatnama, application to Courts for legal aid at Government cost etc. The National Legal Services Authority (NALSA) provides free legal service to all under trial prisoners through its legal service clinics running in jails all over India. NALSA had recently prepared guidelines in the form of "Standard Operating Procedure (SOP) for Under-Trial Review Committees". The SOP has been circulated by the Ministry of Home Affairs to all States and UTs on 18.2.2019.

**State/UT-wise No. of Jails, Inmate Population and Occupancy Rate of Jails
as on 31st December, 2016**

Sl. No	State/UT	Total No. of Jails	Inmate Population	Occupancy Rate (in %)
1	ANDHRA PRADESH	112	7267	81.8
2	ARUNACHAL PRADESH	2	214	100.9
3	ASSAM	31	8611	100.3
4	BIHAR	58	33102	87.6
5	CHHATTISGARH	30	18631	189.9
6	GOA	2	448	37.5
7	GUJARAT	27	12438	100.4
8	HARYANA	19	17654	97.6
9	HIMACHAL PRADESH	14	2192	116.6
10	JAMMU & KASHMIR	14	2688	89.6
11	JHARKHAND	29	17173	111.0
12	KARNATAKA	102	14843	107.9
13	KERALA	54	7073	114.3
14	MADHYA PRADESH	123	37649	136.0
15	MAHARASHTRA	154	31438	119.5
16	MANIPUR	5	624	54.4
17	MEGHALAYA	5	833	132.2
18	MIZORAM	7	1161	88.6
19	NAGALAND	11	413	28.5
20	ODISHA	91	15303	85.0
21	PUNJAB	26	22598	100.3
22	RAJASTHAN	126	20363	102.4
23	SIKKIM	2	324	131.7
24	TAMIL NADU	138	14873	65.7
25	TELANGANA	49	6219	88.0
26	TRIPURA	13	929	42.8
27	UTTAR PRADESH	70	95336	164.1
28	UTTARAKHAND	11	4200	124.3
29	WEST BENGAL	59	22969	109.7
	TOTAL (STATES)	1384	417566	112.6
30	A & N ISLANDS	4	183	40.8
31	CHANDIGARH	1	768	68.6
32	D & N HAVELI	1	120	200.0
33	DAMAN & DIU	2	59	36.9
34	DELHI	12	14058	179.8
35	LAKSHADWEEP	4	7	10.9
36	PUDUCHERRY	4	242	58.2
	TOTAL (UTs)	28	15437	153.0
	TOTAL (ALL-INDIA)	1412	433003	113.7

Occupancy Rate = $\frac{\text{Inmate Population}}{\text{Total Capacity}} \times 100$

Occupancy Rate <100 shows space available for inmates in prisons.
Occupancy Rate >100 shows overcrowding in prisons.

Source: Prison Statistics India

