

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS**

**LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 3231**

TO BE ANSWERED ON THE 21ST MARCH, 2023/ PHALGUNA 30, 1944 (SAKA)

ALLEGED SEXUAL ABUSE OF FEMALE INMATES

3231. SHRI KARTI P. CHIDAMBARAM:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the details and number of female inmates who faced physical abuse, sexual abuse, rape and torture in prisons while serving their sentences during the last five years, State/UT-wise;

(b) the details and number of babies born in prisons to women inmates who experienced sexual abuse while under incarceration during the said period State/UT-wise;

(c) the details of prisons having cradles, crèche and nursery facilities for children located outside the prison premises, State/UT-wise;

(d) whether the Government has commissioned any study to assess the social, cognitive and psychological development of children of women prisoners;

(e) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor; and

(f) the number of children below 18 years of age who faced physical abuse, sexual abuse, rape and torture in juvenile homes during the said period, State/UT-wise?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS

(SHRI AJAY KUMAR MISHRA)

(a) to (c): The National Crime Records Bureau compiles prison statistics reported to it by the States and Union Territories and publishes the same in its annual publication "Prison Statistics India". The latest published report is of the year 2021. Specific data in this regard is not available centrally.

(d) and (e): '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 prisoners, including the children of women prisoners in jails, is the responsibility of respective State Governments who are competent to undertake any study to assess the social, cognitive and psychological development of the children of women prisoners. However, the Ministry of Home Affairs has issued an advisory to all States and Union Territories forwarding the guidelines for the welfare of the children of women inmates. These guidelines, inter-alia, provide that the children of prison inmates should be provided access to education, recreational facilities, food, shelter and medical assistance etc. The Model Prison Manual 2016 circulated by the Ministry of Home Affairs to all States and Union Territories has a specific chapter on 'Women Prisoners', which, inter-alia, provides that prison administration should ensure holistic development of the children of women inmates. The Manual provides that the prison administration should strive to create a suitable environment for the children's upbringing, which should be as close as possible to that of a child outside prison. The Ministry of Home Affairs had also circulated a report to the States/ Union Territories titled 'Women in Prisons' prepared by the Ministry of Women and Child Development. The report, inter-alia, contains specific recommendations on 'children of women prisoners' and 'better living arrangements' for women inmates and their children, etc.

(f): Specific data in this regard is not available centrally.