

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS**

**LOK SABHA  
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1593**

**TO BE ANSWERED ON THE 12<sup>TH</sup> DECEMBER, 2023/ AGRAHAYANA 21, 1945  
(SAKA)**

**SHIFTING JAILS OUT OF CITY**

**†1593. SHRI GUMAN SINGH DAMOR:**

**Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:**

**(a) whether most of the jails being in the heart of the city adversely affect the minds of the general public;**

**(b) if so, whether there is a plan to shift the jails out of the city;**

**(c) if so, the details thereof and if not, whether the Government proposes to consider it;**

**(d) the prescribed capacity of prisoners in the district level jails in Madhya Pradesh and the actual number of prisoners vis-a-vis the prescribed capacity;**

**(e) whether there is a plan to increase the capacity of prisons and if so, the details thereof and if not, whether the Government proposes to consider it; and**

**(f) whether there is a plan to provide legal aid to many illiterate and economically weaker prisoners to present their case in courts and get bail in bailable offences and if so, the details thereof and if not, whether the Government proposes to consider it?**

**ANSWER**

**MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS  
(SHRI AJAY KUMAR MISHRA)**

**(a) to (c): “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 is the responsibility of respective State Governments, who are competent to take appropriate decision in this regard in their respective jurisdictions.**

**(d): 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 annual publication "Prison Statistics India". The latest published report is of the year 2022. As on 31<sup>st</sup> December, 2022, the District Jails in Madhya Pradesh had a total capacity of 9,672 prisoners against which 15,720 prisoners were lodged therein.**

**(e): 'Prisons' being a 'State-list' subject, the States/Union Territories are competent to take appropriate decision for enhancing the capacity of prisons as per local need and requirement for the same.**

**(f): The State Legal Services Authorities have established Legal Service Clinics in jails, which provide free legal assistance to persons in need. These Legal Service Clinics are managed by Empanelled Legal Services Advocates and trained Para-Legal Volunteers. These clinics have been established to ensure that no prisoner remains unrepresented and legal aid and advice is provided to them. The National Legal Services Authority also holds awareness generation camps in jails to generate awareness about the availability of free legal aid, plea bargaining, Lok Adalats and legal rights of inmates, including their right to bail, etc.**

\*\*\*\*\*