

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS**

**LOK SABHA  
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1502**

**TO BE ANSWERED ON THE 29<sup>TH</sup> JULY, 2025/ SRAVANA 7, 1947 (SAKA)**

**POOR PRISONERS' SCHEME**

**1502. SHRI RAJA RAM SINGH:**

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

**(a) whether the support of Poor Prisoners' Scheme was launched by the Government in 2023 to provide cash bail of upto Rs. 40000/- and penalty payment of upto Rs. 25000/- per prisoner, to reduce overcrowding of prisons and help poor prisoners to get released and if so, the details thereof;**

**(b) the number of people benefited from to Poor Prisoners' Scheme floated by the Government since its inception, State and year-wise;**

**(c) the total amount sanctioned and utilised by each State Government under this scheme during the said period, State and year-wise; and**

**(d) the reasons for people not being released under the said scheme and the steps taken by the Government to ensure better implementation of the scheme?**

**ANSWER**

**MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS  
(SHRI BANDI SANJAY KUMAR)**

**(a): With the objective of providing financial assistance to poor prisoners, who are unable to pay the fine imposed on them or are unable to secure bail due to financial constraints, the Government of India had launched the "Support to Poor Prisoners" Scheme in the year 2023. Detailed "Guidelines and Standard Operating Procedure" to be followed by the States/UTs for**

implementation of the scheme were shared with all State Governments and Union Territory (UT) Administrations on 19.6.2023. The “Guidelines and Standard Operating Procedure” are available on the Ministry of Home Affairs’ website: [www.mha.gov.in](http://www.mha.gov.in) .

(b): State/UT-wise and year-wise number of prisoners who benefitted from this Scheme are given in Annexure-I.

(c): For implementation of the Scheme, the Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA) had provided an Annual financial outlay of Rs. 20 crore for three Financial Years - 2023-24, 2024-25 and 2025-26. National Crime Records Bureau (NCRB) was designated as the Central Nodal Agency (CNA) for the implementation of the scheme. States and UTs were informed that the funds have been made available in the CNA account, from where the States/UTs can draw the amount required by them and can provide relief to poor prisoners. States and UTs were advised to take full advantage of the scheme and extend the benefit of the same to all eligible prisoners. States/UTs were informed that full expenditure in this regard will be borne by the Central Government. As per available records, State/UT-wise and year-wise details of the funds utilized by the States/UTs for implementation of the Support to Poor Prisoners Scheme are given in Annexure-II.

**(d): “Prisons”/ “persons detained therein” is a “State-list” subject under Entry 4 of List II of the Seventh Schedule to the Constitution of India. Administration and management of prisons and prisoners is, therefore, the responsibility of respective State Governments/UT Administrations, who are required to take necessary action for providing the benefit of the Central Government Scheme to eligible persons. MHA, on its part, has regularly reviewed the progress of the implementation of the Support to Poor Prisoners scheme with the States/UTs and has provided the required guidance and clarification to them. MHA has recently again reiterated to all States and UTs for issuing suitable directions to concerned State functionaries for raising awareness about the scheme and ensuring that regular meetings of “Empowered Committees” are held to maximise coverage under the scheme.**

\*\*\*\*\*

**State/UT-wise and year-wise number of prisoners who benefitted from the Support to Poor Prisoners Scheme**

<b>S. No.</b>	<b>State/UT</b>	<b>FY 2023-24</b>	<b>FY 2024-25</b>	<b>FY 2025-26 (till July, 2025)</b>
1	Andhra Pradesh			
2	Arunachal Pradesh	6		
3	Assam			
4	Bihar			
5	Chhattisgarh			
6	Goa		5	1
7	Gujarat		4	
8	Haryana			
9	Himachal Pradesh			
10	Jharkhand			
11	Karnataka			
12	Kerala			1
13	Madhya Pradesh	8	25	2
14	Maharashtra		33	23
15	Manipur			
16	Meghalaya			
17	Mizoram			
18	Nagaland			
19	Odisha		3	
20	Punjab		3	
21	Rajasthan			
22	Sikkim		1	
23	Tamil Nadu			
24	Telangana		5	
25	Tripura		3	
26	Uttar Pradesh			
27	Uttarakhand	3	11	7
28	West Bengal			
29	A & N Islands			
30	Chandigarh			
31	DNH & Daman Diu			
32	Delhi			
33	Jammu & Kashmir			
34	Ladakh			
35	Lakshadweep			
36	Puducherry			
	<b>Total</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>93</b>	<b>34</b>

**State/UT-wise and year-wise details of the funds utilized by States/UTs for implementation of the Support to Poor Prisoners Scheme**

<b>S. No.</b>	<b>State/UT</b>	<b>FY 2023-24</b>	<b>FY 2024-25</b>	<b>FY 2025-26 (till July, 2025)</b>
1	Andhra Pradesh			
2	Arunachal Pradesh	₹34,000/-		
3	Assam			
4	Bihar			
5	Chhattisgarh			
6	Goa		₹60,000/-	₹10,000/-
7	Gujarat		₹85,000/-	
8	Haryana			
9	Himachal Pradesh			
10	Jharkhand			
11	Karnataka			
12	Kerala			₹30,000/-
13	Madhya Pradesh	₹55,618/-	₹6,65,288/-	₹23,133/-
14	Maharashtra		₹5,27,500/-	₹3,84,000/-
15	Manipur			
16	Meghalaya			
17	Mizoram			
18	Nagaland			
19	Odisha		₹24,311/-	
20	Punjab		₹5,15,000/-	
21	Rajasthan			
22	Sikkim		₹75,000/-	
23	Tamil Nadu			
24	Telangana		₹72,000/-	
25	Tripura		₹85,000/-	
26	Uttar Pradesh			
27	Uttarakhand	₹32,000/-	₹1,08,067/-	₹81,369/-
28	West Bengal			
29	A & N Islands			
30	Chandigarh			
31	DNH & Daman Diu			
32	Delhi			
33	Jammu & Kashmir			
34	Ladakh			
35	Lakshadweep			
36	Puducherry			
	<b>Total</b>	<b>₹ 1,21,618/-</b>	<b>₹ 22,17,166/-</b>	<b>₹ 5,28,502/-</b>