

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HOME AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1962
ANSWERED ON:05.12.2006
JAIL REFORMS
Pathak Shri Brajesh

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the funds disbursed by the Union Government to State Governments were sufficient to cater to the reforms to be carried out in jails in the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the funds sanctioned in 2002-2003 under non-plan scheme is being regularly disbursed; and
- (d) if so, the steps taken/proposed to be taken to monitor the jail reforms and to ensure that the funds released are not misutilised?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MANIKRAO HODLYA GAVIT)

(a) & (b): `Prisons` is a State subject as per List II of the Seventh Schedule to the Constitution and therefore the responsibility for construction, maintenance and management of jail lies with the State Government. However, recognizing the need of improving the conditions of prisons, prison staff and the prisoners, the Central Government launched a non-plan scheme in 2002-03 over a period of five years (2002-07) with an outlay of Rs. 1800 crore on cost sharing basis in the ratio of 75:25 between the Central and State Governments respectively. The scheme has since been extended by another two years w.e.f. 1.4.2007 without affecting the total outlay. Funds were allocated to the State Governments on the basis of their approved perspective plans.

(c): Funds are released to the States on the basis of their performance and submission of utilization certificates.

(d): The implementation of the scheme is monitored through review meetings, periodical reports, site visits etc. which has resulted in considerable improvement in the pace of implementation of the Scheme.