GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS
RAJYA SABHA
QUESTION NO 61
ANSWERED ON   08.02.2017

Low strength of women security personnel in jails

61   Shri Prabhat Jha

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

(a) whether the strength of women security personnel is not as per prescribed ratio in almost all the jails of the country due to which the condition of women inmates in jails remains deplorable;

(b) if so, the State-wise details thereof;

(c) whether a number of steps have been taken by Government during the last two years to improve the poor condition of women inmates, which has yielded positive results; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS
(SHRI HANSRAJ GANGARAM AHIR)

(a) to (d): A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.
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STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO THE RAJYA SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO.*61 FOR 8.2.2017.

(a): 'Prisons' is a State subject. The management and administration of prisons primarily falls in the domain of State Governments. As on 31.12.2015, against 17834 women prisoners in various jails of the country, the number of women jail staff is 4391. Therefore, the ratio of women jail staff to prisoners is approximately 1:4.

(b): The strength of women jail staff in various States and Union Territories is at Annex.

(c) & (d): A specific chapter in the Model Prison Manual has been dedicated on 'Women Prisoners', which lays down several steps for the safety, healthcare, accommodation, legal aid and welfare of women prisoners. Specific guidance has been provided in this chapter about the various levels of posts of female jail personnel to look after the matters of women prisoners. The Government has also issued advisories to State Governments from time to time, inter-alia, sharing recommendations of various Committees, Commissions, Working Groups and Court directions etc. aimed at improving the condition of women prisoners in jails. These are available at http://mha1.nic.in/PrisonReforms/advisiory.html.