

death has been prescribed as one of the punishments, has been under detention for a period extending to one-half of the maximum period of imprisonment provided for the alleged offence, he should be released on personal bond, with or without sureties. It also provides that in no case will an undertrial prisoner be detained beyond the maximum period of imprisonment for which he can be convicted for the alleged offence;

(ii) Amendment to Section 436 (1) of the Code of Criminal Procedure, 1973 to make a mandatory provision that if the arrested person is accused for a bailable offence and he is an indigent and cannot furnish surety, the Court shall release him on his execution of a personal bond without sureties;

(iii) Setting up of Fast Track Courts for disposal of long pending cases;

(iv) Introduction of scheme of Plea Bargaining;

(v) Holding of Jail Courts (Lok Adalat);

(vi) Enactment of Repatriation of Prisoners Act, 2003 which allows foreign prisoners imprisoned in the Indian Prisons or *vice versa* to be repatriated to their country of origin for serving the remaining period of their sentence.

The Government of India has also issued a comprehensive advisory on 17.7.2009 to all the States/UTs covering all aspects of prison administration.

Revamping Civil Defence

3592. SHRI K.V.P. RAMACHANDRA RAO: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that Government is in the process of revamping the Civil Defence;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the targets fixed for the same; and
- (d) the achievements made during the last year?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN): (a) and (b) A Centrally Sponsored Scheme is under implementation during the 11th Five Year Plan for Revamping Civil Defence set up in the country at a cost of Rs. 100 crore.

(c) The Scheme envisages (i) upgradation of existing seventeen Civil Defence Training Institutes in the States/Union Territories in terms of physical infrastructure, transport and equipment.

(ii) Setting up of ten new Civil Defence Training Institutes. (iii) Pilot Project for involving Civil Defence in internal security and law & order situations in forty selected towns, (iv) re-orientation and strengthening of Civil Defence in 100 selected Multi-hazard Districts and making them District Centric from Town Centric, (v) weeding out inactive volunteers and enrollment of new volunteers.

(d) During 2009-10, Rs. 14.80 Crore have been released to the State Governments under the above Scheme.

(i) Out of seventeen States twelve States have finalized their plans for upgradation of existing Training Institutes.

(ii) Out of ten States identified for setting up of new Training Institutes only Chhattisgarh has allotted land and the remaining States/UTs are in process of acquiring land. This component is to be implemented during 2010-11.

(iii) Under the Pilot Project, 212 Master Trainers have been trained in National Civil Defence College, Nagpur and 1196 volunteers have been trained by Master Trainers in various States.

(iv) A total of 56,705 volunteers have been weeded out and 35,643 have been enrolled.

Conferring Civilians Award to workers or Trade Union Leaders

3593. SHRI RAMA CHANDRA KHUNTIA: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether any worker or Trade Union leader has ever got the civilian award like Padma Bhushan or Padma Vibhushan; and

(b) whether Government could consider to recommend such best workers and Trade Union leaders for conferring Padma Bhushan or Padma Vibhushan award?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN): (a) and (b) In terms of extant policy and procedure regulating Padma awards, the awards are given in all disciplines/fields of activities, viz. Art, Social Work, Public Affairs, Science & Engineering, Trade & Industry, Medicine, Literature & Education, Sports, Civil Service, and Others. The workers and Trade Union leaders are covered under the aforesaid broad fields. However, it is not the practice to maintain record of any sub-discipline or sub-field.