

of the Lok Sabha and Legislative Assembly seats in Jammu and Kashmir which has not been done till now and due to which the voters of Jammu and Kashmir and Leh Ladakh do not get the opportunity to choose their representatives in the society freely, and if so, by when?

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI D.V. SADANANDA GOWDA): The last delimitation of constituencies had been carried out as per the provisions of the Delimitation Act, 2002 on the basis of 2001 Census which do not include the State of Jammu and Kashmir. As regards delimitation of Assembly Constituencies in the State of Jammu and Kashmir, the Jammu and Kashmir Constitution was amended by the State Legislature in 2002 to provide that Assembly Constituencies as delimited by the Jammu and Kashmir Delimitation Commission on the basis of 1981 Census would not be further/ delimited till the first Census to be taken after 2026.

#### **Innocent people suffering in prisons**

†1493. SHRI NARESH AGRAWAL: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether lakhs of Innocent people are suffering punishments in the prisons of the country ;
- (b) if so, the action plan of Government to release them at the earliest;
- (c) whether such cases are proposed to be decided through Fast Track Courts;
- (d) if so, by when this task would be completed; and
- (e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI D.V. SADANANDA GOWDA): (a) to (e) The persons arrested under the relevant provisions of the Criminal Procedure Code and detained under judicial remand are called undertrials. As per the prison statistics India, 2013 published by the National Crime Records Bureau (NCRB), out of 4.12 lakh different types of prison inmates in jails, 2.78 lakh are undertrials. In order to reduce the number of undertrials in prisons, the Chief Justices of the High Courts have been requested to advise the district judiciary to review all cases where under-trials are eligible for bail under Section 436 and 436A of CrPC, and take *suo moto* action for their release. They have also been advised to set up a mechanism in the High Court for periodic monitoring of the release of undertrials prisoners. Transfer of cases to Fast Track Courts's in the domain of the High Courts. The Chief Ministers and the Law Ministers have also been requested to use software applications to generate data of under-trial prisoners and review their cases periodically.

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.