

exclusion from and other modifications in the orders specifying lists of Scheduled Tribes. According to these modalities, only those proposals are processed which have been recommended and justified by the concerned State Government/Union Territory Administration and concurred with by the Registrar General of India (RGI) and the National Commission for Scheduled Tribes (NSCT). The proposal of Assam Government of inclusion of “Bodo Kachari” in list of STs of Assam has been processed as per the modalities. The RGI has agreed to the proposal. The comments of RGI have been sent to the NCST. The concurrence of NCST to the proposal is awaited.

(b) to (d) The State Government is providing the amount, decided every year on population ratio basis, as grants-in-aid. The Central Government is also providing funds for development works to be undertaken by the Bodoland Territorial Council (BTC) through the Government of Assam.

Steps to improve condition of jails

†229. SHRI NARESH AGRAWAL: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the capacity of inmates in the total established jails of the country and number of inmates who are in excess of the capacity in the present condition;

(b) whether it is a fact that the number of inmates imprisoned in the jails presently are three times of their capacity and they are being treated in an inhuman manner; and

(c) if so, the steps being taken to improve the condition of the jails and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI HARIBHAI PARTHIBHAI CHAUDHARY): (a) and (b) As per the data compiled by the National Crime Records Bureau, the total numbers of jail inmates as on 31.12.2013 is 4,11,992 against the total authorized capacity of 3,47,859 inmates which implies overcrowding by 18.4%.

(c) “Prisons” is a State subject as per entry 4 of List II of the Seventh Schedule to the Constitution of India. Therefore, the administration and management of prisons is primarily the responsibility of the State Governments. However, the following measures have been taken by the Government to reduce the overcrowding in jails:

(i) An Advisory has been issued by the Government of India on 17.1.2013

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

to States/UTs regarding use of section 436A of the Cr.P.C. to reduce overcrowding of prisons. The same is available at the link:

http://mha.nic.in/sites/upload_files/mha/files/AdvSec436APrisons-060213_0.pdf

- (ii) The Union Home Minister has written to Chief Ministers/LG of States/UT on 3.9.2014 regarding use of section 436A of Cr.P.C. to reduce overcrowding in jails of the country.
- (iii) The Hon'ble Supreme Court in its order dated 5.9.2014 in the Writ Petition No. 310/2005 – Bhim Singh *Vs* Union of India and Other relating to the undertrial prisoners, has directed for effective implementation of Section 436A of the Code of Criminal Procedure. The DG (Prisons)/IG (Prisons) of all States/UTs have been requested on 22.9.2014 to take necessary action to comply with the order of the Hon'ble Supreme Court in the matter.
- (iv) An Advisory dated 27.9.2014 has been issued by the Government of India to the States/UTs on reckoning half-life of time spent in judicial custody of Undertrial prisoners under Section 436A of Cr. P. C. which is available at the link:

http://mha.nic.in/sites/upload_files/mha/files/GuidelinesForRreckoningHalfLife_161014.pdf

**Doing away with biometric data of foreigners
before issuance of travel documents**

230. SHRI VIJAY GOEL: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that the proposal to do away with the biometric data of foreigners wanting to travel to India on normal tourist visa before issuance of travel documents to them is being considered; and
- (b) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI KIREN RIJJU): (a) and (b) There is no proposal to do away with the capturing of biometric of foreigners traveling to India on normal tourist visa.

At present IVFRT (Immigration Visa Foreigners Registration and Tracking) project is being implemented for smoothening the Visa applications and issuance process in Indian Missions abroad as well as strengthening the tracking of movement