

INSPECTION NOTE OF SHRI A.B. TRIPATHY, I.P.S. (Retd), SPECIAL  
RAPPORTEUR, N.H.R.C. ON BHANJANAGAR SPECIAL SUB-JAIL.

I inspected the Special Sub-jail, Bhanjanagar on 28.3.05. The Superintendent alongwith his staff was present during my inspection.

Bhanjanagar is one of the oldest Sub-Divisions in the State in Ganjam district. The Sub-jail is classified as a Special Sub-jail as the leprosy patients of prisons of various jails in the State were kept in the Special Sub-jail. Now of course the arrangement is no longer there as leprosy has become fully curable. Many patients have been transferred to their parent jails.

2. PRISON POPULATION :

The scheduled capacity of this jail is 122, 116 males and 6 females. On the day of my visit the population was 234, 230 males and 4 females. Thus, the prison population remains overcrowded throughout the year.

234  
122  
112

On the day of my visit there were 155 U.T.Ps. including 3 females and 78 convicts including 1 female.

The category of the convicts is indicated below :-

	<u>Convicts</u>	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Total</u>
(i)	R.I. for life	58	01	59
(ii)	10 years & above	03	-	03
(iii)	5 years & above	08	-	08
(iv)	1 year & above	08	-	08
	Total:-	<u>77</u>	<u>01</u>	<u>78</u>

3. STAFF :

The position of the staff is indicated below :-

Sl.No.	Name of the Post	Yardstick	Sanctioned strength	Men in position	Vacancy
1)	Superintendent	01	01	01	-
2)	Medical Officer	01	01	-	01
3)	Asst.Jailor	01	01	01	-
4)	Sub-Asst.Jailor	02	02	01	01
5)	Pharmacist	01	01	01	-
6)	Teacher	01	01	-	01
7)	Weaving Dying Mistry	01	01	-	01
8)	Head Warder	03	03	03	-
9)	Warder	21	21	20	01
10)	Female warder	01	01	01	-
11)	Sweeper	02	02	01	01

It will be seen that the post of Medical Officer, one Sub-Asst.Jailor, one teacher, one Weaving & Dying Mistry, one warder and one sweeper are lying vacant. Since the Sub-jail keeps convicts there were vocational activities like Weaving & Tailoring but this has stopped as the post of Weaving & Dying Mistry is vacant. With a sizeable number of convicts, it is desirable that the vocational activities are resumed in the Sub-jail. The Supdt.gave me to understand that permission of Govt. will be necessary to start the vocational activities. It is not understood why such permission will be necessary when vocational activities were running in the jail in the past.

When I visited the wards, I found that most of the convicts were without their uniforms. As per the Jail Manual they are entitled to a particular scale of clothing which they have been deprived of in this jail. The Prison Hdqrs. may take immediate action for supply of prisoners clothing to Bhanjanagar Spl.Sub-jail.

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4. ACCOMMODATION :

*Panchayat*

The jail land covers about Ac.14.00. The built in area is Ac.3.00. There are 7 Wards & 6 Cells and other facilities like kitchen and hospital etc. The Wards remain highly congested. The condition of the Wards is also not good as no repair work has been taken up during last several years. The original building was built in 1936. It is necessary to keep the building in good shape by repairing the same.

There are proposals for construction of a 100 seated Ward. A site has been selected for starting construction. Similarly, a proposal is there to construct additional toilets. The living wards have ceiling fans. Some of the fans are not working, which should be repaired. Each living ward has a T.V.Set. 6 'F' type Qrs. and 2 'E' type Qrs. are under construction for the staff.

5. KITCHEN :

The kitchen is maintained by the Panchayat of prisoners. There was no complaint on the quality and quantity of food.

6. HYGIENE :

Each prisoner is given a Lifebuoy Soap every month. He is also given coconut oil and Detergent Powder every week as per the prescribed scale.

7. HEALTH :

The post of the Medical Officer is lying vacant. A Doctor from the local hospital visits the jail and looks after the treatment of the prisoners. There is a post of Pharmacist to take care of the day to day activities of the jail. There is an Indoor ward with 12 beds.

Some prisoners complained of inadequate treatment facilities in the jail. This was brought to the notice of the Supdt. for immediate action. For specialised treatment the

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prisoners are sent to Berhampur Medical College which is at a distance of about 30 Kms. Difficulties are experienced in sending the prisoners to the Medical College as no guarding staff is available for this purpose.

This jail was earmarked to house the leprosy prisoners of the State but over a period of time this arrangement had died as the disease has become curable and the patients prefer to go to the Jails nearest to their house.

8. HEALTH SHEET :

The health sheets prescribed by the N.H.R.C. are not maintained in the proforma. This is necessary and I have advised the Supdt. to start opening the health sheets in respect of the convicts. There are 5 nos. of Psychiatric patients in the jail. These patients are being treated by the Psychiatrist, who is posted in Berhampur Circle Jail. They are being kept in the Cells, away from the prisoners.

9. VOCATIONAL ACTIVITIES & EDUCATION :

The post of a teacher is lying vacant for more than a year. In his absence no literacy classes are being held. Similarly, in the absence of Weaving & Dying Mistry the vocational activities have come to a stop. The Addl.D.G.P. Prisons may look into this personally as these areas are relating to the welfare of the prisoners which remain totally neglected.

10. V.T.Ps. :

The classification of the V.T.Ps. is given below :-

<u>Sl.No.</u>	<u>V.T.Ps.</u>	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Total</u>
1)	Less than 6 months	62	-	62
2)	6 months to 1 year	30	-	30
3)	1 year to 1.6 year	12	-	12
4)	1.6 year to 2 year	19	-	19
5)	2 years to 3 years	23	03	26
6)	3 years to 5 years	06	-	06
7)	5 years to above	-	-	-
		<u>152</u>	<u>03</u>	<u>155</u>

It will be seen that there are 19 prisoners awaiting trial for 2 years, 23 prisoners for 2-3 years and 6 prisoners for 3-5 years. Some of the V.T.Ps. complained that the Police witnesses do not turn up, as a result of which the trial gets delayed.

There are 5 Courts before which the V.T.Ps. are produced they include 2 Sessions Courts. As far as provision of escort and vehicle is concerned, there is no problem on this score.

11. PRISONERS GRIEVANCES :

(i) Convict Trinath Sethi, who is suffering from T.B. complained that he is having Fistula which needs operation.

(ii) Convict Bipin Mohakud complained that he has already completed 12 years in the jail and his appeal is pending in the High Court about which he is in dark. The Supdt. informed that the prisoner has a lawyer in Cuttack who is not keeping the prisoner informed. The Supdt. may contact the lawyer personally and find out the latest position.

(iii) Convict Subal Naik complained that he has been convicted in 5 cases and the sentences are running consecutively. I have asked the Supdt. to examine the legal provision and take up the matter with the District Judge, if necessary. He should let me know immediately what he is doing.

(iv) Convict Upendra Naik complained that he has already completed 19 years in this Jail but is yet to be released. The Supdt. informed that earlier his two petitions were rejected by the Govt. A fresh petition for his release has been submitted.

(v) The female prisoners complained that there is no T.V. Set in their Ward. Prison Hdqrs. may look into this.

  
( A. B. TRIPATHY )  
SPECIAL RAPPORTEUR, NHRC.

INSPECTION NOTE OF SHRI A.B. TRIPATHY, I.P.S. (Retd), SPECIAL RAPPORTEUR,  
N.H.R.C. ON SUB-JAIL, ASKA.

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I Inspected the Aska Sub-jail on 28.3.05. The Supdt. alongwith his staff was present during my inspection. This is a new Sub-jail constructed in 1991, in the district of Ganjam.

2. PRISON POPULATION :-

The scheduled capacity of the Prison is 33, 27 for males and 6 for females. On the day of my visit the number was 74, all males, 73 U.T.Ps. and one convict.

3. AREA AND BUILDING :-

The Jail has been constructed over an area of Ac.3.70. The built in area is Ac.1.39. There is one living ward and 2 Cells. Thus, the jail remains over populated.

4. ACCOMMODATION :-

The living ward is in fairly good condition. There is a proposal to construct one additional ward for 100 prisoners. This should be sanctioned and taken up early. Similarly, there is a proposal to construct 20 nos. of additional latrines. There is no shortage of water in the Sub-jail.

5. STAFF :-

The Sub-jail has a sanctioned staff of one Jailor-cum-Supdt., 2 Sub-Asst. Jailors, 1 Pharmacist, 3 Head Warders, 10 Warders and one Sweeper. The entire staff is in position.

6. KITCHEN :-

The kitchen is managed by the U.T.Ps. There is one convict in the Jail, who generally supervises the kitchen activities. There was no complaint regarding quality and quantity of food, which is supplied according to the scale.

7. HEALTH :-

There is a post of Pharmacist to look after the day to day health care of the inmates. One Medical Officer from the Tahasil Hospital visits the Sub-jail periodically to treat the prisoners.

8. EDUCATION AND WELFARE :-

As it is a Sub-jail meant for U.T.Ps. there is no post of the teacher. Hence, no classes are being held. The living ward has one T.V. Set for the prisoners. They have been given Indoor games also.

9. VOCATIONAL ACTIVITIES :-

This being a jail meant for U.T.Ps. there is one vocational activity.

10. U.T.Ps. :-

The classification of the U.T.Ps. is given below :-

(i)	Bellow 1 year	-	49
(ii)	Upto 3 years	-	20
(iii)	Upto 7 years	-	04
(iv)	Upto 10 years	-	-
(v)	Above 10 years	-	-
(vi)	R.I.For life	-	01 (convict)

It will be seen that 20 U.T.Ps. are waiting for trial for 3 years and as many as 4 prisoners for 7 years. They are basically Sessions U.T.Ps. There are 5 Courts at Aska including 2 Sessions Courts for trial of the prisoners. No difficulty is being experienced in respect of escort and vehicle.

  
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