

Anil Pradhan, IPS (Retd.) Special Rapporteur, North-East Zone National Human Rights Commission

New Delhi



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Dear Shi Kochler,

Enclosed, please find a report on my visit to the Central Jail, Silchar on August 28, 2014. I was accompanied by Shri. M.K. Hazarika, Dr. T. Upadhyai and Shri. M.N. Sharma, Jailor.

N.H.R.C. PRPAP DIVISION DS (A) LINIT

With best wakes,

2 2 SEP 2014

MDy. No.

Yours

「dgl/dl/ (Anil Pradhan)

Shri. J.S. Kochher Joint Secretary (P&A)

Manav Adhikar Bhawan Block 'C', GPO Complex

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- Date of Visit: I visited Central Jail, Silchar on August 27th, 2014, around 11:15 AM. I was accompanied by Shri. M.K. Hazarika, Dr. T. Upadhyai and Shri. M.N. Sharma, Jailor.
- 2. Introduction: This jail was established in 1881 just opposite the Police Reserve. It was last visited by Shri. R. Baruah, Chief Judicial Magistrate, Gauhati on 29/07/2014. Prior to that, he had visited this jail almost every month on 25/05/2014 and 30/04/2014. Shri. M.C. Saikia, DIG (Prisons) had paid a visit here on 27/01/2014 and Shri. P.P. Baruah, Inspector General of Prisons on 10/11/2013.

The jail is situated in the heart of the town, close to the offices of the Deputy Commissioner and the Superintendent of Police. There is a very busy road just outside the perimeter wall of the jail.

3. **Prison Population**: This jail is meant to accommodate 435 (M=408; F=27). Today, there are 470 (M=463; F=7). As such, there is overcrowding in this jail in the male section.

The breakup of the inmate population is as follows:

CATEGORY	MALE	FEMALE	TOTAL
Condemned Prisoners	2	0	2
Haflong UPTs	10	0	10
Remand	138	1	139
' Sessions (UTP)	17	0	17
SI (Convicts)	5	. 0	5
RI (Convicts) Foreigners	236	4	240
NDPS	25	0	25
Negotiable Instruments Act	2	0	2
Foreign National UTP	3	0	3
Foreigners for Deportation	25	2	27
TOTAL	463	7	470

4. **Staff:** There are 49 staff members in the Central Jail, Silchar. This includes the Senior Medical and Health Officer but not the District Executive Force (DEF) personnel of Silchar district who man the Watch Towers. One post of Chief Head Warder and 15 (fifteen) posts of Warders are lying vacant here. Also, a Nurse from here has been on

CENTRAL JAIL, SILCHAR, ASSAM

continuous deputation to District Jail, Jorhat since 09/07/2009. The sanctioned strength and actual strength is given below:

Staff	Sanctioned Strength	Actual Strength	Vac.
Superintendent	1	1	
Jailor	1	1	·
Asst. Jailor	5	4	1
Female Asst. Jailor	1	1	
Chief Head Warder	1	0	1
Head Warder (M)	3	3	
Head Warder (F)	1	0	1
Warder (M)	29	15	14
Warder (F)	4	2	2
Doctor	1	1	
Pharmacist	1	1	
Nurse	1	1 (deputation)	
Lab. Technician	1	1	:
Teacher	1	1	
Driver	1	1	
TOTAL	52	33	19

5. Land and Building: The area of the jail complex is 31.5 bighas. Of this, 8.5 bighas hold the jail complex while the remaining 23 bighas house the employees' quarters, marshy land and cultivable land. There is a temple, a mosque as well as an Id-gah here. I am informed that devoted prisoners built these from their own resources many years ago.

The jail is divided into three parts: 1 part is for the female inmates while the other two parts are for the male prisoners.

There is a high wall enclosing the entire jail complex. A total of 4 iron Watch Towers also exist. A component of the District Executive Force (DEF), man the watch towers.

CENTRAL JAIL, SILCHAR, ASSAM

There are 14 wards here. This includes the hospital and a segregation area for TB patients.

6. **Sanitation**: The overall sanitary condition in the jail premises is satisfactory. However, there is no running water in the latrines inside the wards. This causes discomfort to those incarcerated inside the wards after being locked up for the night.

The main source of water here is through two bore wells. The Municipality and the PHE supply of water are both erratic and inadequate. The inmates are expected to clean the entire place themselves.

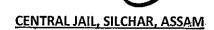
- 7. Food and Kitchen: There is one kitchen for the whole jail complex. Food for the female inmates is also cooked here and taken to the Female Ward. However, the kitchen has no running water supply. Also, there is no sanctioned post of Cook. UTPs and Convicts help in the daily cooking of food. Non-veg. food is served to the inmates on Wednesdays and on Saturdays during dinner time. Firewood is used here as cooking gas is not yet installed.
- 8. Clothing and Bedding: There are no uniforms for the convicts who are supposed to wear a convict's uniforms as per Rule 235 of the 'Rules for Management of Jails in Assam' contained in 'Assam Jail Rules' Part III made under the Prisoners Act, 1894, (Annexure 'A'). Other pieces of bedding items are issued as per scale.
- 9. **Education**: There is a school inside the jail premises. Inmates are taught to read and write. There is also a library. The teacher informed that currently 16-18 inmates are undergoing his classes. The classes are held from 8 am to 10 am and again from 2 pm to 4 pm.
- 10. **Prison Industries**: There is no Craft Instructor here but the inmates have learnt to work the 2 (two) handlooms. They produce 'gamochas', a typically Assamese piece of white cloth, roughly 2 feet wide and 4 feet in length with a red designed border used to greet guests as well as to use in and around the house. The Department of Handloom and Textiles, Government of Assam, supply the raw materials.
- 11. **Interviews**: This facility is granted everyday to the inmates from 10 am to 3 pm with a limit time of 25/30 mins, per inmate. As there is no Interview Room, the office room of the Asst. Jailor is used. The visitor and the inmate speak to each other through a wire-netted window in the presence of a prison official. Visitors are required to submit an application to the Superintendent and obtain his permission beforehand.
- 12. **Correctional programme**: There are no Counsellors in this Jail. However, spiritual avenues are available to the inmates in the form of a 'mandir' and a mosque. Also, Lions Club, Rotary Club and Lioness Club arrange moral lectures and medical treatment for the eyes to the inmates. Missionaries of Charity and ISKON also organise moral lectures.



Besides these, Disha Foundation, an NGO carries out regular deaddiction programmes. Also, a life convict, on eventual release, is given an amount of Rs. 10,000/- (Rupees ten thousand) only from the Social Welfare Department and the Jail Department for starting a new life.

- 13. **Recreational Activities**: Indoor and outdoor games like chess, ludo, carom, volley-ball, are available for both male and female inmates. Two Bengali, one Assamese and one English newspaper are available here. Colour TVs are also provided inside the wards.
- 14. **Health and Hospital**: The doctor informed that most of the cases he treated were gastro-enteritis owing to the age factor of the inmates. Others were respiratory tract infection and hyper-tension. Besides these, 32 inmates suffered from psychosis (M=29; F=3). For them, a Specialist from Silchar Medical College visited the jail every 15 days. Those inmates requiring hospitalisation were referred to Silchar Medical College.
- 15. **Remission**: Remission is practised in the jail as per Rules for convicts only. The IG (Prisons) can grant remission of 60 days, the Superintendent 30 days while the Government grants remission not only for 30 days but also on the occasion of Republic Day. General remission of 2 days is also granted both for good behaviour and for good work. All this information is written in the History Ticket of each convict who are locked away for more than one year.
- 16. **Leave and Parole:** This is being practiced here for convicts only. The CJM grants 20/30 days leave on an emergency request after a satisfactory report is obtained from the concerned police station. Earlier, the IG (Prisons) was authorised to sanction this privilege but after 68 or 69 prisoners failed to return to the jail on expiry of their leave or parole period, a more lengthy procedure was put in place.
- 17. Pre-mature Release: There are 34 (thirty-four) life convicts in the Central Jail who have prayed for pre-mature release after completing more than 20 years in jail, including remission period. Their cases are all pending either with the Government or the CJM or with the local police stations. A list is at Annexure 'B'. Twenty-four convicts wrote a joint petition the day I was visiting the Central Jail. In their appeal, they have prayed for premature release after having served their time. Their petition is at Annexure 'C'. Also, as Silchar is declared as a Detention Centre for Bangladesh nationals before their deportation to Bangladesh, 19 (nineteen) of them are illegally lodged here as the formalities for their deportation have not yet been completed Annexure 'D'. Besides them, 8 (eight) Myanmar nationals are similarly lodged here Annexure 'E'. One of the, Sain Pain Laugh has been languishing here since 17/05/2010.

The problem of release from jail after completion of 20 years imprisonment, including remission period, appears to have cropped up after September, 2013. The IG (Prisons), Assam vide Memo No.



PRI.268/2012/71 dt. 06/09/2013, conveyed the following Supreme Court order (**Annexure `F'**):

"There is a misconception that a prisoner serving life sentence has an indefeasible right to release on completion of either fourteen years or twenty years imprisonment. The prisoner has no such right. A convict undergoing life imprisonment is expected to remain in custody till the end of his life, subject to any remission granted by the appropriate Government under section 432 of the Cr.P.C. The grant of remission is statutory. However to prevent its arbitrary exercise, the legislature has built in some procedural and substantive checks in the statute. These need to be faithfully enforced.

Remission can be granted under section 432 of the Cr.P.C in the case of a definite term sentence. The power under this Section is available only for granting "additional" remission, i.e. for a period over and above the remission granted or awarded to a convict under the Jail Manual or other statutory rules. If the term of sentence is indefinite (as in life imprisonment), the power under Section 432 of the Cr.P.C. certainly be exercised but not on the basis that life imprisonment is an arbitrary or notional figure of twenty years of imprisonment.

Before actually exercising the power of remission under Section 432 of the Cr.P.C. the appropriate Government must obtain the opinion (with reasons) of the presiding Judge of the convicting or confirming Court. Remission can, therefore, be given only on a case-by-case basis and not in a wholesale manner."

In other words, the proposal of the IG (Prisons) to the State Government should contain the view of the convicting or confirming court. This appears to have resulted inordinate delay, thus **violating the human rights of the convicts**. The remedy to this problem may lie in processing the case of such convicts a few months in advance.

18. Status of Investigation and Trial pending against UTPs:

There are many inmates whose cases have not been decided by the investigation officers of different police stations. There appears to be a strong need to appeal to the Magistrates concerned to release those inmates who are behind bars for over 60 or 90 days as per provisions of 167 CrPC. This would not only look after the human rights of these inmates but would also de-congest this jail.

19. **Appeal**: Two appeals are pending in the High Court, Gauhati. One belongs to Assam Convict (AC) No. 9114, Salim uddin and the other to AC No. 7472 Hifjur Rehman. Both are accused of 302 IPC in two separate cases.

- 20. **Legal aids for inmates**: Almost all the inmates with whom I interacted complained that the advocates assigned to them by the Assam State Legal Services Authority (ASLSA) hardly met them. This is a **gross human rights violation** as these indigent inmates have no other recourse to legal redressal.
- 21. **Board of Visitors**: The Board of Visitors lapsed in February 2014. It has not been re-constituted, I believe. Earlier also, hardly any visits were made by the Board. Notification No. HMB.89/82/Pt.I/46 dt. 04/02/2014 is at **Annexure 'G**'.
- 22. **Departmental Inspections**: The Inspection Register has been mixed up with the Visitor's Book. Rule 11 and Rule 12 of the 'Rules for Management of Jails in Assam', contained in 'Assam Jail Rules' Part III made under the Prisoners Act, 1894, contain instructions regarding Inspections of jails by the Inspector-General and its transmission to the Superintendent of the concerned jail (**Annexure 'H'**).
- 23. **Interaction with inmates:** Most of the inmates I interacted with had just one complaint their appointed advocates hardly met them. Also, truly pathetic were the cases of old inmates. Their details are:

1. A/C No. 7826 Mustafa Ahmed	- 86 years	7
2. A/C No. 9103 Namor Ali	- 85 years	· ·
3. A/C No. 7470 Nabadwip Baisnab	- 66 years	(ا
4. A/C No. 7468 Shyam Charan Bais	nab 62 years	

24. Summary and Recommendations:

- The jail is over-crowded and in the heart of the city. It is an ancient structure of 1881 vintage. Most of the wards are in a dilapidated condition. The inmates deserve to be treated with due human dignity. Some other place, away from the town, may be earmarked for a more modern Correctional Home.
- There are 19 vacant posts here, including 14 posts of Male Warders

 the most important wing of the jail administration. These may be filled up early.
- 3. Water supply to the latrines inside the wards may be improved to obviate the foul smell during the night.
- 4. The kitchen needs immediate improvement by way of basic renovation, running water supply and a switch-over to gas.
- 4. Convicts may be issued their proper uniforms. Currently, all the inmates are dressed in casual civilian clothes and all of them are mixed together. In other words, UTPs and convicts mix about freely and there is no segregation.
- 5. There are no Counsellors assigned to this Jail. There is a special need for them here.
- 6. The cases of pre-mature release contained in **Annexures 'B'** and their joint petition in **Annexure 'C'** may be decided early. Also, the Bangladesh nationals enumerated in Annexure 'D' and the



Myanmar citizens contained in Annexure 'E', may be deported expeditiously. An element of unlawful detention appears to have crept in here.

- Police investigation needs to be speeded up. A number of UTPs are detained beyond the prescribed legal period.
- 8. The cases of the two convicts who have appealed to the High Court, Gauhati may also need attention.
- 9. Government may like to examine the efficacy of the Assam State Legal Services Authority (ASLSA) as the inmates are not getting any succor. Similar is the case with the Board of Visitors.
- 10. An Inspection Register as provided for in Rule 11 and Rule 12 of the 'Rules for Management of Jails in Assam' contained in 'Assam Jail Rules' Part III made under the Prisoners Act, 1894 may be maintained.
- 11. The cases of the 4 (four) inmates who are in their 60's and 80's need immediate attention. They hardly seemed a threat to society, judging by their sallow complexion, worn-out human frame and despair writ large on their faces.
- 12. The Superintendents of the various jails may begin the task of release of convicts who have completed 20 years in jail, including remission period, a few months in advance. Their proposal of such release to the IG (Prisons) must contain the views of the convicting or confirming court for speedy disposal of the convict's case.

(Shri. A. Pradhan) IPS (Retd.)
Special Rapporteur, NE Zone
National Human Rights Commission



Extract of Rules 235 of the 'Rules for Management of Jails in Assam' contained in 'Assam Jail Rules' Part III made under the Prisoners Act, 1894

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ANNEXURE 'A'

Rule 235. **Clothing for Convicts.** Every prisoner sentenced to rigorous imprisonment shall be provided with jail clothing according to the scale laid down in Chapter XXII.



List of Convicts whose release proposals sent to the Authority (As on 27-08-2014)

SI No	Name of Prisoner (Convict)
1	AC/7369-Sajal Roy
2	AC/8531- Parijat Kusum Nath @ Bidhan Nath
3	AC/7826- Mustafa Ahmed
4	AC/7339- Hasmat Ali Mazarbhuiya
5	AC/7400- Rahmat Ali Mazarbhuiya
6	AC/8485- Nizam Uddin
7	AC/7423- Parbin Ali
8	AC/7424- Kamar Uddin
9	AC/8728-Bhubon Tanti
10	AC/7470-Nabadeep Baishnob
1.1	AC/7392-Dilip Nayek
12	AC/7224-Jakir Hussain Choudhury
13	AC/7374-Matibur Rahman Borbhuiya
14	AC/8047- Montu Dusad
15	AC/ 7437 Nikhil Nath
16	AC/7471- Sunil Baishnab
17	AC/7472- Hiralal Baishnob
18	AC/7468- Shyam Charan Baishnob
19	AC/7469- Sona Kumar Baishnob
20	AC/8934 Kumud Deka
21	AC/7526 Mohilal Das
22	AC/7523- Rana Deb
23	AC/7670- Taibur Rahman Mazumdar
24	AC/8871- Maklish Ali
25	AC/7592- Kartik Mal
26	AC/8530 Partha Pratim Nath @ Babla
27	AC/7574- Mohanial Mal
28	AC/7576- Sunil Mal
29	AC/7525- Dipak Nandi
30	AC/7524 – Dilip Nandi @ Dulu
	Release proposal not sent
31	AC/7575 -Duba Mal @ Dilip Mal
32	AC/7666 -Ramu Dushad :
33	AC/7668 -Chunilal Rabidas
34	AC/7667 -Paltu Duchad

Superintendent Central Jail Sichar Central Jail Sichar 12

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The Horble Repporteur,

Mational Human Rights Commission,

New Delki,

Through the Superintendent, Central tail, Silcher, Assorn,

Sale: - Prayer for baking Ikind steps forciblishmissed of the brophosal of the Central Gost. - that victim's family should be heard while deciding the remission of life convicts after pathology the condition of 433-A Cr. P. E. LUI) for our release.

Reofrected Sir,

He beg most respectfully to make lay before before you the following few facts for favour of your kind consideration & recessary action;—

Shot Sie, we the undersigned life convicts, Rove already completed more than 20 years of imprisonment (Minimum 14 years of actual imprisonment + Maximum a years of eared remission with grad conduct & everts in prison) and one proposals for release were sent by the Enferintendent, central Jail, Sikhar, Assam, through proper channel for the destination of the Appropriate Anthority in the good.

But Sie, unfortunately none of us have been released from frison since the year 2012 possing one or well as one formily members already illfated liver, those family members and have been eagerly waiting for one release from prison all these long 14 years I more with the hope of one going beek to them I give them a normal social life like others in the society, a towards the zone of faither darkness of inscentify I inscensity.

Those Constitutional Beach of one Afrex Court headed by the Horible Chief Instice Mr. Lodka in going to decide the

abouted to the after NE

0.T.P

Sate & guideline of release of life convicts in India, presently opining a restrain order on the remission of the life convicts of the all the states I umon territories in India & in the process , the control good has laid down its view that the victimo family should be leard while decidary the remission of life convicts.

But Sir, the very enmity, that between the victim's family 2 the convict which get goodnally burried down in there long 14 years & more all be dug out of its grave by this decision of the Cartral Good, and tohan the victims family come to know that they can decide the fate of the life convict oversight the prevent law of our complets. How decision will ratioally be governed by the attitude of revenge again after these long years of improporment of life convicts & one can very easily understand the fate of the undersigned convicts h their respective families.

Hence, He body to you to Kirdly do something to save we as well as our families from lier of pushed deet into the dorkent zone of the fate by being funished tenice for one offence and for that Kirdness from your Kirdnelf, we shall remain ever prof.

Dated: Sildar. 27 H August, 2014

yours faithfully 可可知可多

(i) (MUSTAFA AHMED)

Parijot Known North (I) JAFIJAT KUSUM NATH)

(HIPALAL BAISHMAS)

CAN: 3240 Orman anario Expor

(AKINH RAHLAM IJA TAMHAR) (M) Parth Paralin Napa (Y) (PARTHA PRATIM NATH) M-242/21/12/24-1

(VI) (MABADIP BAISHWAS)

(XXX) (SUMIL BATSHAUB), (Forts anys)

(XXVI) (MOHIT LAL DAS)

DISHATON SMON (XXVII) (BONIT WAL) पीवार रेको

(XXXIII) (DI BAK MANDI)

(XXXX) (DILIB NANDI)

Latin Husson's Onouthing (VID) (JAKIR HUSSAIN CHOUDHURY)

6750161 3 mat (MIDDIN) Suri Bajal Roy.

(X) (SAJAL ROY)

क्रिक्र विकासिक

(A)(HASMAT ALL MAJHARBHUJYA)

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(XXIII) (MOHAN

(XXIV) CSHYA

BANGLADESHI NATIONAL LODGED IN DETENTION CENTRE AS ON 27-08-2014

SI. No	Name & Father's Name	Address	Date of admission
1	Md. Kamal Uddin @ Nizam S/O Lt. Bati Mia	Vill-Kumarshail, P.S & Dist-Sylhet Bangladesh	1,6-05-2013
2.	Anowar Hussain @ Munna S/O Saddique Hussain	Vill: Khadiman P.S: Jokiganj Dist: Sylhet Bangladesh	12-11-2013
3.	Abdul Latif S/O Late Roshan Ali	Vill: Laluwa P.S: Pancdwara Dist: Balanagar Kulas Bangladesh	14-11-2013
4	Musst. Jasrana Begam W/O Sobar Ali	Vill: Fatepur P.S: Kotwali Dist: Jessore Bangladesh	02-01-2014
5	Rofique S/O Late Motosin Ali	Vill : Irani Nagar P.S : Borlekha Dist.: Moulabi Bazar Bangladesh	21-02-2014
6	Kabi Usman S/O Kala Mia	Vill: Nawakhali P.S: Begramganj Dist: Nawakhali Bangladesh	10-03-2014
7	Rayaj Uddin S/O Abdul Noor	Vill : Bachisigul P.S : Borlekha Dist: Moulabi Bazar Bangladesh	10-03-2014
8	Abdul Rahim S/O Late Isak Ali	Vill: Demai P.S: Borlekha Dist: Moulabi Bazar Bangladesh	20-03-2014
9	Devdas S/O Kangal Rabidas	Vill : Badra (Muchipara) P.S : Badra Dist : Sylhet Bangladesh	20-03-2014
10	Ahmed Uddin S/O Abdul Ali	Vill : Mastapur PS : Sadhan Dist : Sylhet Bangladesh	01-04-2014
11	Abdul Hekim S/O Abdul Hamid	Vill : Hazipur (Pasehimpara) PS : Gopalganj Dist : Sylhet Bangladesh	09-04-2014
12	Babloo Rai Ghatwar S/O Lt Prabhat Rai Ghatwar	Vill : Pachim Tilla (Nirjapur Bazar) PS : Srimongal Dist : Maulabibazar Bangladesh	26-04-2014

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13	Sablu Ahmed	Vill : Sunacha	30-06-2014
	S/O	PS : Jakiganj	
	Abdul Rozak	Dist : Sylhet	
		Bangladesh	
14	Anisur Rahman	Vill Kailkapur	12-07-2014
	Ś/O	PS Bancharampur	
1.	Md Almas Mia	Dist : Bindtabarin	ŀ
		Bangladesh	
15	Enam Uddin	Vil: Ayor	19-07-2014
	S/O	P.S Jokiganj	
1	Motosin Ali	Dist Sylht	
		Bangladesh	
16	Ali Hussain	Vill. Motor Groung	19-07-2014
	S/O	PS Jokiganj	
	Abdul Hannan	Dist Sylht	
		Bangladesh	
17	Jamal Uddin	Vill: Bhulagram	08-08-2014
1	S/O	P.S Kanaighat	
	Motaheir Ali	Dist Sylht	
		Bangladesh	
18	Musstt Jahida Begam	Vill: Colacanda	15-08-2014
1	D/O	P.S.& Dist: Moulabi Bazar	
	Mamon	Bangladesh	
		3	
19	Abdul Noor @ Rana	Vill: Mesta	22-08-2014
	S/O	P.S Mithamoin	
1.	Late Abdul Hekim	Dist: Kesharganj	
1		Bangladesh	

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Annexure 'E'

6

MYANMAR NATIONAL LODGED IN DETENTION CENTRE AS ON 27-08-2014

Sl. No	Name & Father's Name	Address	Date of admission
1	Sian Pain Langh S/O Lt. Khupaza Langh	Vill: Teedin P.S: Gawang Dist: Chin, Myanmar	17-05-2010
2.	Md Jamal S/O Md Sukkur	Vill: Keito (Badarpur) P.S Keito Dist: Faida, Myanmar	29-07-2012
3.	Makbul Khan S/O Late Jafar uddin	Vill: Keito (Badarpur) P.S Keito Dist: Faida, Myanmar	29-07-2012
4.	Jamal Hussain S/O Ahmed Hussain	Vill: Keito (Badarpur) P.S: Keito Dist: Faida, Myanmar	29-07-2012
5.	Md Inus S/O Md Mahummud	Vill: Keito (Badarpur) P.S: Chaptak (Keito) Dist: Faida, Myanmar	29-07-2012
6.	Md Sabir Ahmed S/O Kabir Ahmed	Vill: Buma P.S: Chaptak Dist: Faida, Myanmar	29-07-2012
7	Rahim Uddin S/O Md Nizam Uddin	Vill: Keito P.S: Keito Dist: Faida, Myanmar	29-07-2012
8.	Md Salam S/O Md Illias	Vill: Keito P.S: Keito Dist: Badarpur, Myanmar	29-07-2012

Supposintendent Suphan



Chief was

GOVERNMENT OF ASSAM FFICE OF THE INSPECTOR GENERAL OF PRISONS, ASSAM

No. PR1.268/2012/71

Dated Guwahati the 06/09/2013

OFFICE MEMORANDUM

Government of India; Ministry of Home Affairs (CS Division) has issued advisory vide No. V-17013/2/2013-PR dated 01/02/2013 to all State Governments in respect of granting of remission which is quoted below:

Section 433-A of the Cr.P.C. reads as follows:

433-A. Restriction on Powers of Remission or Committation in certain cases.

Notwithstanding anything contained in section 432, where a sentence of imprisonment for life is imposed on conviction of apperson for an offence for which death is one of the punishments provided by law, or where a sentence of death imposed on a person has been commuted under section 433 into one of imprisonment for life, such person shall not be released from prison unless he had served at least fourteen years of imprisonment.

The Supreme Court decided that:

There is a misconception that a prisoner serving life sentence has an indefeasible right to release on completion of either fourteen years or iwenty years imprisonment. The prisoner has no such right. A convict undergoing life imprisonment is expected to remain in custody till the end of his life, subject to any remission granted by the appropriate Government under section 432 of the Cr.P.C. which in turn is subject to the procedural checks in that Section and the substantive check in Section 433-A of the Cr.P.C. The grant of remission is statutory. However to prevent its arbitrary exercise, the legislature has built in some procedural and substantive checks in the statute. These need to be faithfully enforced.

Remission can be granted under section 432 of the Cr. P.C. in the case of a definite term sentence. The power under this Section is available only for granting "additional" remission, i.e. for a period over and above the remission granted or awarded to a convict under the Jail Manual or other statutory rules. If the term of sentence is indefinite (as in life imprisonment), the power under Section 432 of the Cr. P.C. can certainly be exercised but not on the basis that life imprisonment is an arbitrary or notional figure of twenty years of imprisonment.

Before actually exercising the power of remission under Section 432 of the Cr.R.C.

the appropriated Government must obtain the opinion (with reasons) of the presiding Judge of the convicting or confirming Gours. Remission can Therefore, be given only on a case-by-case basis and not in a wholesale manner."

As per advisory issued, State Governments has directed to take action in conformity with the advisory of the Government of India vide letter No. HMB:85/2005/Pt-11/180 dated 04/09/2013. All the Superintendents are torobtain application from the convicts or from their relatives when necessary, at least three months before completion of actual imprisonment of 14 years and sentence of 20 years including remission earned. In doing so, the Superintendents should apply their mind and process every individual case on merits supported by proper records including remission cards. Further, Superintendents should obtain the opinion of the Presiding Judges from the convicting courts and enclose their opinion along with the proposal submitted to the Inspector General of Prisons, Assam in case the convict has been in Jails away from the jurisdiction of the convicting court, the Superintendent of Jails where the convict has been detained should route the proposal through the Superintendents of the Jail located in the jurisdiction of the convicting court to obtain views from the presiding officers of the convicting courts. In case, it is required to obtain views from the presiding officer of the confirming court, Inspector General of Prisons, Assam shall take steps for obtaining views in such cases. After the processing and considering all the aspects stated in the Government of India's advisory? the Inspector General of Prisons, Assam shall submit the proposal to Government for issue of orders for remission.

Inspector General of Prisons, Assam

Memo No. PR1.268/2012/71-A

Dated Guwahati the 06/09/2013

- 1) The Secretary to the Government of Assam, Dispur for information and necessary action
- 2) All the Dv. Inspector General of Prisons of Range and Headquarter for information
- All Superintendents of Jails for information. Dist. Jail/Central Jail

DEFUTY COMMISSIONER CACHAR, SILCHAR.

GOVERNMENT OF ASSAM HOME (B) DEPARTMENT

ORDERS BY THE GOVERNO

NOTIFICATION

Dated Dispur, the 4th Feb/2012

No.HMB.89/82/Pt.I/46

Under Rule 20 read with Rule 25 of the Assam Jail

Manual, the Governor of Assam is pleased to constitute the following Boards of Visitors for Jails in Assam for a period of 2 (two) years with immediate effect.

1, Superintendent Central Jail, Silchar

1. District Magistrate, Silchar	Chairman
2. Chief Judicial Magistrate, Silchar	Member
3. Sri Alok Sankar Dutta, Nag-Naha Lane, Silchar	ct.
4. Sri Atindra Mohan Sinha, Kali Mohan Road, Silchar	"
5. Sri Dibyajyoti Barua, President, Cachar Zila Parishad,	66
Koombhar T.E., Silchar	
6. Smti Trishna Nandi, College Rioad, Silchar	**

L. District Magistrate, Dipnu	Chairman
2. Chief Judicial Magistrate, Diphu	Member
3. Sri Anil Ch. Hazarika, Barbilgaon, Hawraghar, Diphu	"
4. Sri Kahai Bey, Dongkamakam, Baithlangso, Diphu	"
5. Sri Praloy Kr. Choudhury, M.G.Road,	11
Opp.Latika Cinema Hall, Diuphu	
6. Ssmti Sika Beypi, Rukasen, Diphu	••

3. Superintendent Sub Jail, Hamren

1. Sub-Divisional Officer, Hamren	Chairman
2. Sub-Judicial Magistrate, Hamren	Member
3. Sri Richard Hause, Hamren	ec .
4. Smti Rika Timengpi, Dongkamakam, Baithalangsho	£ f

4. Superintendent Central Jail, Tezpur

District Magistrate, Tezpur	Chairman
2. Chief Judicial Magistrate, Tezpur	Member
3. Dr.Manoj Mirdha, Ward No.5, Ramsing Roiad, Tezpur	66
4. Sri Batharam Mahanta, Rangamati Bihaguri, Tezpur	
5. Sri Ashok Basu, Balipara Town, Tezpur	££
6 Smti Ranjana Chakravarty Advocate Dhekiajuli Teznur	ts.

5. Superintendent District Jail, Marigaon

1. District Magistrate, Marigaon	Chairman
2. Chief Judicial Magistrate, Marigaon	Member
3. Samsul Haque, Bhuragaon, Marigaon	**
4. Habibur Rahman Siddiique, Nagabandha, Marigaon	ŧe .
5. Sri Babul Das, Jhargaon, Jagiroad, Marigaon	
6. Smti Smriti Rekha Gohain, Gohaigaon, Ward No.5, Marigaon	44



	Chairman
6. Superintendent Central Jail, Nagaon	Member "
1. District Magistrate, Nagaon	Menner
2. Chief Judicial Magistrate, Nagaon	
3. Sri Bijoy Chakravarty, Jogijan, Nagaon	***
3. 5th fully Charlet Magne House	**
4. Md. Faizul Haque, Gopal Nagar, Hojai	,, .
5. Sri Biprodas Paul, Lanka, Nagaon	**
6. Smti Abida Begum, Islam Nagar, Hojai	
7. Superintendent District Jail, Mangaldoi	Mairman
1. District Magistrate, Mangaldoi	Chairman
a. chiat Indiaid Manistrate, Manualtol	Member
3. Md.Fazlul Haque Saikia, Ward No.2. Mangaldoi	**
4. Sri Jyoti Prasad Saharia, Bhuktabari, Sipajhar	* *
5. Md. Fazrul Rahman, Buri Geon, Khampetia	**
5. Md. Fazrui Kaninan, Dun Chop, Kaningson	• • •
6. Mrs. Preetilekha Barua, Upahupara	
8. Superintendent District Jail, Biswanath Chariali	Chairman
1 District Magistrate, Sompur	
2 Chief Indicial Magistrate, Soutpur	Member
3. Smti Bijoya Devi, Golia, Panibharal, Sonitpur	
4. Sri Uma Basumatary, Lao Dalani, Sonitpur	***.
4. 511 Olita masairman), take as willing	
Total Carimanni	•
9. Supérintendent Distrie Juil, Karimgani	Chairman
1. District Magistrate, Karimgani	Member
2. Chief Indicial Magistrate, Karimganj	11 .
3. Sri Satu Ray, President DCC, Karinganj	11
4. Sri Ketaki Prasad Dutta, Ex-MLA, North Karimganj	11
5 Dr. Kamaladdin Ahmed, Reid, Principal, Karingani Conego	1 31
6. Mrs. Anjali Dutta Chondhury, AP Member, R.K. Nagar	
10. Superintendent District Jail, Goalpara	
1. District Magistrate, Goalpara	Chairman
2. Chief Indicial Magistrate, Goalpara	Member
3. Prob. Ranjoo Choudhury, Retd. Principal	**
3, Pron. (Canjoo Chiquanary, Reid. 1 thiorphil	13
4. Pruh. ASR Ahmed, Vice Principal	111
5. Abdul Based, Reld, Addl. S.P.	. 11
6. Shri Prahlad Das, Ex- Chairman, SC	
	•
11. Superintendent District Jail, Sivasagar	Chaimson
1. District Magistrate, Sivasagar	Chairman
2. Chief Judicial Magistrate, Sivasagar	Member
3. Shri Anil Ch. Dutta, Advocate	. ,
4. Shri Sankar Agarwala, Social Worker	
5. Shri Rajani Chankakaati, Retd. Manager	1)
C. Mar. Historian	1 :
6. Mrs. Hiranmoyee	
12. Superintendent District Jail, Barpeta	. Chairman
1. District Magistrate, Barpeta	Member
2. Chief Judicial Magistrate, Barpeta	Welling
3. Shri Arjun Ch. Das, Public Utility	7.3
4. Smt. Prity Das, Advocate	**
5. Shri Harun Ojha, Advocate	
6. Sahri Ranjit Das, Advocate	19
of the transfer teach a constant	•

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, mark to X 0 XX-Delevedi	•
13. Superintendent District Jail, Hailakandi	Chairman
1. District Magistrate, Hailakandi	Member
2. Chief Judicial Magistrate, Hailakandi	MODE
3. Shri Nurul Huda Laskar, Advocate	17
4. Shri Ujjal Kr. Das, Advocate	,,
5. Shri Basun Kr. Singha, Retd. Professor	**
6. Smti Yasmin Choudhury, Social Worker	•
14. Superintendent District Jail, Nalbari	
1. District Magistrate, Nalbari	Chairman
2. Chief Judicial Magistrate, Nalhari	Member
3. Shri Dahren Das, Retd. Lecturer	"
4. Sshri Kishore Hazarika, Advocate	••
5. Shri Rangeela Dutta, Retd. HM	
6. Smti Bharati Deka Patgiri, Advocate	.,
15. Superintendent District Jail, North Lakhimpur	
1. District Magistrate, Lakhimpur	Chairman
2. Chief Judicial Magistrate, North Lakhimpur	Member
3. Shri S L Baruah, Retd. Engineer, PWD, NLP	**
4. Shri Arup Borah, Advocate	
5. Shri Hemanta Kr. Baruah, Retd. Principal	**
6. Smti Rekha Phukon, Retd. Principal	**
16. Superintendent District Jail, Haflong	Chalman
1. Sub-Divisional Officer, Haflong	Chairman Member
2. Sub-Judicial Magistrate, Hallong	Weinuci
3. Shri T. Changsan	
4. Shri Tthangllai Daulagupu	
and the second of the Second S	
17. Superintendent District Jail, Majuli	Chairman
1. Sub-Divisional Officer, Majuli	Member
2. Sub- Judicial Magistrate	"
3. Shri Josheswar Hazarika, Lecturer	
4. Sshri Arup Borah, Advocate	
10 C to the District Infl Timenkin	
18. Superintendent District Jail, Tinsukia 1. District Magistrate, Tinsukia	Chairman
2. Chief Judicial Magistrate, Tinsukia	Member
3. Shri Mantosh Dutta, Advocate	1)
4. Shri Kartick Dutta, Advocate	**
5. Smti Sangeeta Sharma, Advocate	33
6. Ahri Santanu Das, Retd. Principal	**
6. Ann Sanand Das, Red. Timoipar	
·	
19. Superintendent District Jail, Abhayapuri	
1. Sub-Divisional Officer, Abhayaouri	Chairman
2. Sub-Judicial Magistrate, Abhayaouri	Member
3. Shri Bijoy Bhagabati, Retd. Principal	"
4. Mrs. Marami Barthakur, Eminent poet	"
20. Superintendent Central Jail, Jorhat	Chairman
1.District Magistrate, Jorhat	Member
2. Chief Judicial Magistrate, Jorhal	77
3. Shri Prafulla Rajguru	**
4. Shri Jagat Ch. Barthakur	**
5. Shri Bhaba Goswami	1)
6. Smti Binita Dutta	

21. Superintendent District Jail, Dhemaji Chairman District Magistrate, Dhemaji Member 2. Chief Judicial Magistrate, Dhemaji 3. Shri Sabeswar Chuti 4 Dr. H M Dewri 5. Smti Binita Garidia Choudhuri 6. Shri Dev Das 22. Superintendent District Jail, Dhubri Chairman 1. District Magistrate, Dhubri Member 2. Chief Judicial Magistrate, Dhubri 3. Smti Manja Goswami 4. Shri Tezmel Haque, Social Worker 5. Shri Binoy Bhattacharjee, Social Worker 6. Shri Paresh Ch.Das, Social Worker Sd/- G.D.Tripathi, Secretary to the Govt. of Assault Home Department Dated Dispur, the 4th Feb/201? Memo No.HMB.89/82/pt.1/46-A Copy to:-1. The P.S. to the Hon'ble Chief Minister, Assam. 2. The P.S., to Hon'ble Ministe2r, Jail for appraisal of Hon'ble Minister. The Inspector Clene ral of Prisons, Assazm, Khanapara, Guwahati-22. 6. The Sub Divisional Officer (Civil), 7. The Sub Divisional Judicial Magistrate,

Joint secretary to the Govt. of Assaul

By order etc.,

Home Department
Memo.No.CAJ.9/99/46 -A Dated Silchar the 8th June, 2

8. All Superintendents of above named Jails, -----

10. The Superintendent, Assam Govt Press, Bamunimaidam, Guwahuti-21 for publication of the notification in the next issue of Assam Cazette.

9. All Members above named.

The Superintendent, Central Jail, Silchar for information necessary action.

Cachar, Silchar.

(23)

Extract of Rules 11 and 12 of the 'Rules for Management of Jails in Assam' contained in 'Assam Jail Rules' Part III made under the Prisoners Act, 1894



- 11. **Inspection of jails by Inspector-General** (1) He shall inspect all departments of every jail at district headquarters and at Shillong at least once a year and of every jail at sub-divisional headquarters and at Tura, Kohima and Aijal at least once in two years.
- (2) During each inspection he shall personally see every prisoner then in confinement in the jail, he shall give every prisoner a reasonable opportunity of making any application or complaint and shall investigate and dispose of such as relate to jail discipline.
- (3) He shall inspect the yards, wards, cells, worksheds, and other enclosures, shall examine the garden, enquire into the character of the water-supply, the conservancy arrangements, and the medical administration, shall see the food and ascertain that it is of proper quality and quantity, and generally satisfy himself that the building and premises are in proper order.
- (4) He shall inspect all journals, registers and books maintained in every department of the jail, and initial or countersign them in token that he is satisfied that they are maintained in accordance with rules. He shall satisfy himself that the orders of Government regarding the arrangement and periodic destruction of records are observed.
- (5) He shall inspect the warder establishment, satisfy himself as to its proficiency in drill and musketry, inspect its arms and accourrements, and test the ability of each jail officer of the upper subordinate establishment to drill the guard.
- 12. **Memorandum of inspection to be supplied to Superintendent** Immediately after the inspection the Inspector-General shall furnish the Superintendent with a memorandum embodying his opinion of the manner in which the jail is administered, the extent to which the officers appear familiar with their duties, together with any suggestions or order for the quidance of the Superintendent.