Shin S. Jalaja UII2013

Enclosure 11 District Jail, Jamui

Jail Profile and History

The District Jail, Jamui was originally set up as a Sub-jail in 1885, and upgraded as District Jail in 2007.

Land and infrastructure

The jail is spread over one Bigha (less than an acre) of land the covered area of the original jail is 4 kaths.

The jail has seven male wards and one ward for females (together with 3 cells). A new jail is being constructed; the barracks, high security cells, Women's Cell and Kitchen are complete. However, the main entrance and the Administrative buildings are not ready because of which the Authorities are not able to shift the jail to the new premises. The second phase of construction is awaiting completion.

Jail capacity and occupancy

Sanctioned capacity of the jail is 188 (184 male 4 female) against which actual occupancy is 330 (319 men; 12 women).

Category-wise details of prisoners

303 out of 330 prisoners are under trials of which 09 are females. 20 male and 3 female convicted prisoners are undergoing rigorous Imprisonment. There are no other categories of prisoners like civil prisoners, mentally ill prisoners etc. 31 prisoners have been booked under CLA Act for alleged naxalite activities.

There are no children lodged in the jail.24 convicts who have completed 3 years in this jail have been shifted to Central Jails. Details of the male and female prisoners are given in Annexure-3. The list of alleged naxalite prisoners is at Annexure-4.

Manpower

Shri Arvind Kumar Mishra is the Superintendent of the jail.

The total sanctioned staff strength of the jail is 135; out of which107 posts are vacant (Annexure-5). The vacant posts include one post of Superintendent, two Medical Officers, three Assistant Jailors, one higher grade Cell attendant, 97 cell

Attendants, two Women Cell Attendants etc. As far as the security staff is concerned all posts have been filled up except the vacancy of seven Home Guards.

Under-trial Prisoners

There are altogether 303 under trial prisoners. 138 (135 male and 3 females) of the under trial prisoners are in jail under six months; 62 (60 male and 2 female) are for 6-12 months; 32 (30 male and 2 female) are for 2-3 years and 24 males are above three years.

Majority of prisoners (200 -189 male and11 female) are in the age group of above 21 years and the rest are in the age group 16-21.

Condition of prisoners.

This has already covered in the note common to all three jails.

Women Prisoners

There are only 11 female prisoners in the jail; no children are housed in the jail. No pregnant woman is present. I spoke to some of the women prisoners. Sadha Devi 60 is convicted for her involvement in a dowry-related case. Sonia 50 is also alleged to be involved in a similar case and is booked u/s 302 IPC. Manju Devi is allegedly involved in the murder of her husband and has been in jail for four months. Sadhanuni Tuddu 25 and Basanti Marandi 35 are alleged Maoists. They have been booked, along with their husbands, under the CIL Act. Whether they themselves are actually involved in naxal activities or have been booked only because their husbands, need to be ascertained.

Mentally ill prisoners

It was stated that no mentally ill prisoners are lodged in the jail. Screening was done on 10th January by a team of doctors. Keeping in view the conditions within the jail it is difficult to believe that no prisoner is suffering from mental illnesses. Screening of prisoners for mental illness ought to be carried out with the help of a reputed Mental Health Institution and mentally ill patients shifted to mental hospitals.

Custodial Deaths Only two custodial deaths have been reported in 2012. They were stated to be due to normal causes.

Escape of prisoners

It was stated that no incident of escape of prisoners was reported from the jail in recent times.

Basic amenities

Water supply and Sanitation

There are altogether 9 hand pumps one in front of each ward. The PHED has repaired hand pumps in front of wards numbers 3&4 recently. Drinking water supply is said to be satisfactory. 10 toilets are located inside the barracks and all are stated to be functional. There are 21 toilets outside the barracks; only 19 are functional. The toilet within the Mahila ward is in a sorry state. It was mentioned that the same is being repaired. The toilet to man ratio is 1:21. Bathing platforms are available.

<u>Power Supply</u> Power supply is erratic and not available for 2-3 hours at night. A backup generator of 7.5 KVcapacity is available.

Food Supply

Food is cooked with the help of a LPG Stove by the prisoners themselves. The food quality was generally satisfactory. According to the Jail Superintendent, food is provided to prisoners as prescribed in the Jail Manual. On special occasions sweets are distributed to the prisoners.

Education

Six prisoners have been identified for teaching purposes. In 2012 119 prisoners, including eight women have attended the *Prerna* program being run by the District Program Officer under the Directorate of Public Education Bihar. IGNOU courses will also be started soon. Training in English speaking is also being provided.

<u>Jail Hospital</u> There is no hospital set up within the hospital premises. However, two physicians have been engaged on contractual basis. One of the doctors has already joined duty. The Civil surgeon, Jamui has also deputed one doctor to the jail. The prisoners when ill are taken to the Sadar Hospital, Jamui for treatment.



Every two months a health camp is being organized in the jail. The last camp organized was on 10-1-2013.

<u>Video-conferencing</u> Video conferencing facility is available. 10-12 prisoners are being produced before the courts daily.

Legal Aid A Legal Aid Clinic is being organized every Sunday. It was inaugurated on 25-11-2012 by the District and Sessions Judge, Jamui. Shri Amit Kumar has been engaged as the Retainer for the jail and he provides legal counselling to prisoners so far have been given legal aid. An advocate provides legal counselling to prisoners and on his recommendation free legal aid is given to the deserving prisoners due to his efforts 3 of the prisoners had filed application before the Lok Adalat and their cases have been disposed of by the CJM.

<u>Lok Adalats</u> On the last Saturday of every month the CJM visits the jail and holds the Lok Adalat.

Parole

No application for parole was pending before the authorities.

Recreation

Library

There is no library for the use of prisoners in the jail.

Cultural programs

Cultural programs are organized on special occasions like the 15th August and 26th January.

Sports

There is no facility for outdoor sports due to limitations of space. Indoor facility for playing includes carom, Ludo, and chess is available.

Religious activities

There is a temple outside the jail building. Makeshift arrangements are made in respect of worship by other communities.

Yoga

Yoga classes were organized last year with the aid of Yogasthanam, Munger once last year.

Vocational Training

Computer training and typing have been taken up for male prisoners. Women prisoners are given training in tailoring.

Drug De-addiction program

This program has not been taken up in the jail.

Inspections

Regular inspections are being carried out by the CJM, DM and senior officers of the jail administration.

Security

For the external security of the jail, 38 Home guards are also been engaged, against a sanctioned strength of 45 numbers. BMP 1-4-16 is deputed. CCTV is also available to keep a watch on the prisoners.

Budget

Rs.1.371 crore was received by the jail administration under various budget heads out of which expenditure on establishment alone comes to Rs.67.31 lakhs.

<u>Observations/Recommendations</u>: - They have been included in the general comments at the beginning of this report.

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