

**REPORT ON VISITS TO DISTRICT PRISONS NALCONDA AND
MAHBUBNAGAR AND SUB JAIL, NAGARKURNOOL IN TELENGANA
FROM 18-2-2018 to 23-02-2018**

----- S. Jalaja, Spl. Rapporteur, NHRC

Jails in Telengana

The State of Telengana was formed on 2nd June 2014. In the newly formed state, the Prisons Administration is functioning under the overall control of the Home Department. The administrative set up comprises of the Director General of Prisons and Correctional Services as the Head of the Department and is assisted by an Inspector General of Prisons at Headquarters and 02 Deputy Inspectors General of Prisons, at Range Level.

According to jail administration, there are altogether 90 jails in Telengana- 03 central jails; 07 district jails and 33 sub-jails, a women's jail, a Borstal school, an open jail and 04 special jails. At present 5,474 prisoners are reportedly lodged in different jails in the State, out of which 1,861 persons are convicts, 3,087 are under trials, 128 are *detenues* and 398 are women prisoners.

Visit to jails

I visited District Prisons, Nalconda and Mahbubnagar, as well as Sub Jail Nagarkurnool during the period from 19-02-2018 to 23-02-2018 . It may be mentioned that no Jail has been set up so far in Wanaparthi district.

Given below are general observations /recommendations concerning all three prisons (Part-1 of this report). Also included are specific observations/ recommendations in respect of each of the prisons (Parts II, III & IV), in order to facilitate follow up action by prison authorities concerned.

PART-1

General Observations/ Recommendations

1. Prison Infrastructure

All three prisons visited are some of the oldest prisons in India, set up during the Nizam period, with their buildings having withstood the test of time. Set up in 1872, District Prison, Mahabubnagar is the oldest prison in Telengana. It is seen that new portions are being added to existing old infrastructure. A new jail each is planned to be set up in Wanaparthi and Mehbubnagar districts.

A good effort has been made to provide a pleasant ambience in jails by landscaping and developing gardens around them under *Harithaharam* program, a flagship scheme of Telengana Government.

2. Jail capacity

The jail population is low in the prisons visited. It was learned that provision under section 41(a) Cr PC is being strictly implemented. Criminals sentenced to less than 07 years of imprisonment are released on bail.

Against a sanctioned capacity of 160 (153 male ; 07 female), occupancy reported was 146 (132 male and 14 female and 02 children) in District Jail, Nalconda ; against a sanctioned capacity of 90 (all male), occupancy reported was only 17 (04 convicts; 13 UT) in Sub Jail, Nagarkurnool ; in District Prison Mahbubnagar sanctioned capacity reported was 147 (131 male 16 female) against which occupancy was 203 (139 male; 31 female and one child). There was segregation of convicts and under trial prisoners. By and large no overcrowding was noticed.

3. Manpower

The three jails visited reported some shortage of staff. It is seen that *the post of Superintendent of the prison is not sanctioned* in any of the three jails.

4. Living conditions

In all five prisons barracks were in found to be in good condition. Basic facilities like drinking water, regular power supply, bathing and toilet facilities are available to inmates in all three jails. Articles of daily use have also been provided. A new diet plan is under implementation. Food supply appeared to be good.

5. Under trial prisoners

Undertrials constitute majority of the prison population in all three jails- (90% in Nalconda, 80% in Nagarkurnool and 82% in Mahbubnagar). As per data provided by jail authorities on length of stay of under trial prisoners, in District Jail, Nalconda, only 02 UTs have spent 01 or more year in jail; 03 prisoners six months or more, and, 09 prisoners for 03 months or above;. In Nagarkurnool jail no prisoner has completed more than six months and in Mahbubnagar only 02 prisoners have spent more than a year in jail and 03 prisoners above six months.

6. Access to justice

As of February, 2018 most, if not all, of the undertrials could be produced before courts in all three jails. Barring one or two, all prisoners have spent less than one year in jail, which is indeed a remarkable achievement. Legal aid is seen provided to all needy prisoners. District Legal Services Authority (DLSA) is seen providing necessary legal support to prisoners.

Video-conferencing facility is available in Nalconda and Mahbubnagar jails. Nagarkurnool being a sub jail does not have this facility at present. It is planned to set up this facility in the jail shortly. Attention needs to be paid on efficiency of daily production and the quality of time spent by each prisoners before the courts.

There were one or two isolated case of prisoners who have secured bail, but unable to deposit security. They could perhaps be released on personal bonds. DLSA concerned ought to help such prisoners. Progress in individual cases also needs to be tracked. Data on appeals filed by prisoners ought to be maintained .

7. Parole & Furlough

It was stated that parole is sanctioned as per rules. Remission is sanctioned under sub section (1) of section 432 of Crpc,1973. Ordinary remission provides for two days a month for good conduct and attendance to rules and regulations, and, three days per month for industry and good performance. Any prisoner eligible for the above two categories of remission are entitled for 20 days annual good conduct remission in addition. Special remission is sanctioned by the Superintendent - 06 to 30 days and by IG/ DG not exceeding 60 days per year. No complaints were received about non sanctioning/ delayed sanctioning of parole or furlough in these jails.

9. Custodial deaths/jail break/custodial violence

It was reported that custodial deaths showed a declining trend in the state-from 64 deaths in 2014 to 58 in 2015, 37 in 2016 to 13 in 2017. No custodial deaths due to unnatural causes were reported in the three prisons visited, in the last three years. No incident concerning jail break or violence was reported in any of the jails.

10. Incarceration of women

It is seen that in Telengana there are altogether only 398 women prisoners. Women prisoners were present only in two of the prisons-Nalconda (14) and

Mehbubnagar (31). Two children were staying with their mothers in Nalconda and one child in Mahbubnagar. District Police ought to be sensitive about incarceration of women prisoners, especially with children. Extent of women's involvement in crimes reported against them and the need to have them in custody ought to be carefully assessed and fully justified, before their detention.

11. Status of women prisoners

It is seen that efforts have been made by the State Government to provide better infrastructure and facilities for women prisoners. Despite better living conditions in jails, traditional discrimination against women prisoners continue to persist.

Women in jail are generally handicapped by limited educational /health care /cooking /sports/ library facilities. Their access to law is difficult.

It was pointed out that women prisoners sentenced to more than one month's imprisonment are transferred to Special Prison for Women in Hyderabad. Even then basic facilities ought to be provided to children in jails near their homes. Women's OPD ought to be set up in the women's section. If no lady doctor or Gynecologist is available at least a female Nurse/Nursing Orderly ought to be deputed to the prisons. No regular teachers are posted for teaching women prisoners even in district jails. Either services of provisional teachers or that of security staff are seen utilized for this purpose. Women's participation in religious/cultural/ sports activities need to be encouraged.

Barring adequate educational facilities and health care, it appears that other facilities are being provided to children. Guidelines issued by the Apex Court in *RD Upadhyay Vs the State of Andhra Pradesh* need to be *fully* complied with.

12. Mentally ill prisoners

No mentally ill prisoners appear to be lodged in any of the three jails. It may be pointed out that as per directions issued by the Commission mentally ill prisoners ought to be shifted to a mental health facility for proper treatment and care. Although services of psychiatrists are available, for long term treatment, those affected need to be shifted to mental hospitals. The purpose is to provide them a suitable environment which helps their healing. Periodic screening of both male and *female prisoners* is also necessary.

14. Right to education

A special scheme called *Vidyadana* is being taken up in all jails of the state. It is claimed that 28,526 prisoners were made literate in the state in 2016 and 32,514 in 2017. However, as already pointed out, no regular teachers are posted for teaching even in district jails. Therefore, quality of education imparted by Warders or other staff members needs to be tested.

15. Right to Health Only rudimentary health care facilities are available in the jails visited. The jails mainly depend on nearby District Headquarters Hospitals for treatment of patients. Facilities like pathology lab, X-ray are not currently available in the jail campuses. Every time a patient falls ill he or she has to be taken out for which police escort is necessary. Besides, it is difficult to get timely and satisfactory treatment in busy government hospitals. Services of gynecologist/lady doctor is not available. Posts of para medical staff have not been created in all prisons or they have not been posted in these jails.

- A proper, well-aired, hygienic and functional hospital should be set up in all district prison campuses, having separate isolation facilities. They should have adequate diagnostic facilities.
- A separate OPD for women ought to be set up.
- **Screening for mental conditions** may be undertaken with the help of reputed mental health institutions. Mentally ill prisoners, after their identification, ought to be transferred to mental health institutions.
- Health cards of long staying prisoners should be maintained; they need to be computerized and updated from time to time. Some of the convicted prisoners could be trained in this item of work.
- **AYUSH medical facilities** should be provided in all District jails, especially to older patients. An AYUSH doctor ought to be posted at least in central prisons.

16. Vocational training

Vocational training facilities have been taken up in Nalconda and Mahbubnagar jails. However no vocational trainings are seen taken up for women prisoners.

In this context it may be pointed out that in Bihar and Jharkhand prisoners are allowed to keep 1/3 of their remuneration, 1/3 goes to the victim's family and the balance 1/3 for prisoner welfare activities. This practice could be followed in the jails of Telengana too.

17. Prisoner Welfare

Welfare measures, including liberal sanction of parole, telephone facility, facilities for meeting with family members and canteen facilities help in improving the quality of prisoners' lives.

Communication with family members is very important for prisoners. Telephone facilities are available *only in district jails*. A modern telephone system ought to be introduced in all jails without any further delay.

Facilities for visitors are available in all three prisons. Entry by visitors ought to be regulated by token systems, as in the case in banks. *E-Mulakat System ought to be introduced, starting with Central prisons.*

Board of visitors have been constituted in the two district prisons. It is generally seen that even when the Board is notified, Members do not visit the jails regularly. This system should be made more efficient.

Canteen facilities are available in all three jails.

Limited sports facilities are available in district prisons. It is, however, seen that no outdoor sports facilities are available for female prisoners, perhaps due to paucity of space.

Prisoners are allowed to follow their own religious practices. Prison administration has introduced a very good initiative of having Parade, drill and yoga every morning at fixed timings. It was stated that cultural programs are regularly organized in all three prisons.

Unnati program

Unnati, a program for bringing about cognitive behavioral change, has been taken up in jails. This too is a welcome initiative. It has 17 modules and is run by trained inmates. Services of convicted /released prisoners are utilized in running the program.

18. Complaints Management

In all three jails mechanism for complaint management is available, including complaint boxes, regular interface with the inmates by the Superintendent and feedback from prisoners when released. A complaint cell is set up at the Jail Hqrs. for receiving complaints. It is seen that out of 12 complaints received in 2017, 08 were disposed of; 04 were found to be false. Since District Magistrates are the custodian of the jails, necessary instructions need to be issued to all DMs by the

State Government to visit the prisons periodically. Prisoner's Durbars need to be jointly organized by DM/SP at times. District Level Committee headed by the District Judge, with DM and SP as members, ought to meet and prisoner's complaints, if any, ought to be discussed in that forum.

19. Rehabilitation

Preparing prisoners for their eventual release from jail, equipping them with necessary life skills to enable their rehabilitation, giving emotional support for facing the outside world are onerous tasks for the jail administration. It is, however, seen that jail authorities in Telengana have excelled themselves in taking up an innovative and unique employment generation program for released prisoners named *Mahaparivarthan*. Note book making, LED Bulb making, Phenyl Making, running plant nurseries, food courts, Ayurveda units, opening prison outlets in Malls, managing petrol bunks by released convicted prisoners are only some of them.

In Mahbubnagar jail the prison outlet is said to have earned a profit of Rs 62,472 in 2017. An IOCL Retail Outlet is run by released prisoners. For 2016 and 2017 total sales worth Rs.26,11,34,431 were reported earning a profit of RS.73.18 lakhs. Total 183 released prisoners were given employment outside the jail. This is indeed a remarkable achievement.

20. Corruption free jails

Prisons Department of Telengana declared all jails corruption-free! According to the Department, if anyone can provide proof otherwise they would be rewarded with Rs.10,000. Further, officers and staff of the jail department have been directed to take a pledge daily against corruption. It is difficult to believe that this declaration and challenge issued by jail authorities (also the pledge) can in any way minimize corruption in jails. To achieve this goal it would be necessary to identify vulnerable points (for e.g. visitor's meetings/ telephone calls/purchases/ payment of wages to prisoners/production before courts/ going to hospitals etc) and minimize chances of corruption, especially by use of new technology.

21. Use of Solar energy /water harvesting

Many of the prisons in Telengana are located in water scarcity areas. Rain water harvesting and recycling ought to be made mandatory in all jails.

23. Services of NGOs

It is seen that services of NGOs have been put to limited use in all jails visited. Since NGOs have the flexibility and prisoner-friendly approach, their services could be effectively utilized in counseling/teaching/training/vocational training and in a variety of other activities.

24. Budget

Budget allotment is considered to be adequate by the jail authorities of all three prisons. As per data published by the Ministry of Home affairs 2016-17, Most states spend Rs 4,000 to Rs 8,000 on an average on each prisoner. The relatively newer state of Telangana, spends as little as Rs 1,997 on each inmate, achieving better results.

25. Prison Manual

A new Jail Manual needs to be put in place by incorporating human rights principles and humane treatment of prisoners. It could be based on the Model Jail Manual circulated by Govt. of India. Moreover, salient provisions of the new Manual ought to be shared with the prisoners. Jail staff should be properly trained in implementing the provisions of the Manual.

26. Prison reforms Government of Telangana has introduced certain far-reaching prison reforms in the state by involving all three wings of the criminal justice system:

- Prison population has been brought down to manageable levels by strictly implementing Sec 41 (a) Cr PC. The department intends to reduce crime by 10 per cent every year and make it 50 per cent less over the next five years by starting a state-wide awareness campaign for mutual resolution of disputes.
- There is no under trial prisoner who has spent more than 01 year in the jails visited.
- There are reports that five sub jails have been closed in the state and 09 are planned to be closed soon. The staff working there would be rationalized, transferring them as per the vacancy position with the permission of the Court concerned, as they have become unviable having more staff than the prisoners or undertrials.
- There are only 398 women prisoners in the state at present.

- A rehabilitation program called *Mahaparivartan* has been initiated. for Providing basic facilities to prisoners and focused attention on their welfare
- Providing better quality of life by introducing Yoga/Parade/drill for physical fitness.
- introduction of *Ummati* program for reformation and transformation.

The only areas to be taken care are, improvement of healthcare, quality education, use of technology and better communication facilities. All round development of prisoners would be possible if the same enthusiasm is continued by the jail administration in the state.

(PTO)

PART-11

REPORT ON VISIT TO DISTRICT PRISON, NALCONDA, TELENGANA ON 19-02-2018

-- S. Jalaja, Special Rapporteur, NHRC

Profile of the district

With an area of 14,240 sq.km and a population of 34.88 lakh (2011 Census) Nalgonda district stands 9th position in terms of area and ranks 14th in terms of population.

Crime profile of the district

As per report of the Telengana State Police 2016, Nalgonda district recorded 5066 (high) cognizable crimes under IPC and the crime rate reported was 313.0.

Jail Profile and history

This prison was constructed in 1916 in the Nizam era. During freedom struggle many freedom fighters were stated to have been confined to this jail. After the formation of the state of Andhra Pradesh, it was downgraded as sub jail Grade 11. Superintendent of the District Head Quarter Hospital was made the Superintendent of the jail. The post of Superintendent was created in 1980 and the jail was upgraded as District jail. It was renovated in 2003. Today it is generally used for housing short term prisoners.

Land and infrastructure

The prison is spread over an area of approximately 10 acre, with covered area of 06 acres. The jail infrastructure comprises of 1) the old jail with 04 barracks for prisoners, including one for female prisoners and kitchen 2) The new jail comprises of 04 barracks for prisoners, including a dispensary, canteen, library and computer lab. Open land is available within the jail enclosure. A new barrack is being constructed. The jail campus has 16 staff quarters.

Efforts have been made at landscaping and beautification of prison surroundings, with local resources. *Harithaharam*, a flagship program of Telengana Government is taken up in this jail too. A nursery is maintained under this program.

Manpower

It is seen that against a sanctioned staff strength of 44, only 32 posts are filled up; 12 posts are stated to be vacant. *The post of Superintendent of the prison has not been sanctioned.* A Deputy Superintendent is in charge. One post of jailor is filled up. The post of Medical Officer is vacant.

Out of 41 posts of Non-gazatted staff only 30 are filled up. 01 post of chief Warder and 09 posts of Warder are vacant. All posts, especially the posts of Warders, need to be filled up quickly as they are involved in maintaining security within the jail.

Jail capacity and occupancy

Against a sanctioned capacity of 160 (153 male and 07 female), 146 (132 male and 14 female) prisoners are lodged in this prison. 02 children are staying with their mothers. As the prison population is within the capacity sanctioned, there is no over-crowding in this jail.

Category-wise details of prisoners Out of a total population of 146 prisoners only 20 are convicted prisoners (all male). Under trials comprise of 126 prisoners (112 male and 14 female). 02 prisoners are reported to be mentally ill. 02 are elderly prisoners. There are no high security prisoners in this jail.

Open Air Jail

Inmates convicted for life or for more than 05 years of sentence are allowed to be in Open prison. Such prisoners have a proven record of good behavior and have completed 21/2 years in jail. 16 of the convicted prisoners (one on furlough) are

currently working in the kitchen, industry, petrol bunk, Ayurveda unit and in the canteen.

Under-trial Prisoners Under trial prisoners constitute only about 90 % of the prison's population. According to data provided by the prison administration regarding length of stay of under trial prisoners 02 are staying for one year and above; 03 prisoners six months and above and 09 prisoners 03 months and above.

Condition of prisoners.

I went around the barracks and had interactions with some of the inmates. 05 barracks are located in the old part of jail and 04 barracks in the new jail. The old part of the jail is somewhat dark due to less number of windows. Against a sanctioned capacity of 25, on the average 24 prisoners are seen accommodated. The wards were large/long halls with barred doors and windows which provide enough ventilation. They were found to be generally clean. Lights and fans were in working condition. The condition of toilets inside was satisfactory. Drinking water (RO) was available. TV sets have been provided in every ward. It was mentioned that the inmates are also provided all essential items of daily use like clothing, linen, blankets, mat, towels, soaps etc.

Among the convicted prisoners, two male prisoners (Sheik Hussein 396 IPC and V. Shankar 302 IPC) have spent one year or more in jail; 03 have been in jail (Neelshikari Sharukhan 379 IPC, Besupagu Samson 454/380 IPC and Thakur Bharath Singh 457, 380 IPC) and 09 prisoners for more than 06 months. All are under trial/Remand prisoners.

Gulab Singh Chauhan 42 is from MP and is an accused in a dacoity case. Nagesh Ergoda 36 is mentally ill. The Medical officer stated that he has recovered and is normal. He has been booked in a case u/s 498 IPC. Some are involved in POCSO cases. Sydra D has been booked in a case under the SC/ST (POA), Act.

Women Prisoners

14 female prisoners are lodged in the new part of the jail. It is seen that the female enclosure is sufficiently large and spacious. Two children are staying with their mothers. No pregnant women were present. The female barrack looked clean and well kept. Barracks had windows which gives sufficient ventilation. Lights and

fans were also in working condition. A TV set is installed for their entertainment. Two bath rooms and 02 toilets are available for their use. One toilet is inside the barrack for night use.

I spoke to some of the women prisoners. Chinna Padma 35 stated that she along with her husband and son were booked in a case under section 354/ 504-506 IPC and the POCSO Act. Her daughter in law Punnamma is also with her in jail along with her one year old son for her involvement in the same case. Padma stated that her daughter was in love with a boy. The family was opposed to it. K. Roja w/o K. Shiva 24 has a case registered against her u/s 317/370/273/373 IPC and sections 80 and 81 of JJ ACT for illegal purchase of a child. She has a infant with her in jail who is an year and a half old. B. Padma 40 and 07 members of her family also have a case registered against them u/s 354/504/506IPC and sec 12 of POCSO Act. She stated that her son fell in love with a minor. The girl's family has filed the case. It is not clear why all members of a family have been incarcerated for an offence involving their son.

I also spoke to Elamma, the female Home Guard posted in the women's barrack. She said that she has been in this post for last 20 years.

The health care of women prisoners is taken care of by the jail hospital. There were no female doctor or a Nurse posted in the hospital. It was stated that female prisoners sentenced to more than one month, pregnant women and other women prisoners with serious illnesses are sent to Special Prison for Women. No isolation ward is also seen set up for women within the women's enclosure. It was mentioned that special diet is given to needy women.

A teacher is appointed by the District Collector to give basic education to women prisoners. No vocational training is available to women.

It was also mentioned that special care of children below 06 years staying with their mothers is taken. Regular check -ups are carried out by doctors. Special diet is provided to them. They are also provided clothes and all other essential items. Toys are also distributed to children.

Although indoor facilities like carom are stated to be available, no outdoor sports activities are, however, being organized for women prisoners.

The Apex court in RD Upadhyay Vs State of Andhra Pradesh (Writ Petition (civil) 539 of 1994 dated 13-4-2006) has issued detailed guidelines on the care of women and children incarcerated in jails. Although these guidelines are stated to be followed, in the area of health care and education *full* compliance is needed.

Custodial Deaths /violence

Custodial deaths/ violence were reported as nil during the last three years.

Escape of prisoners/jail break

It was stated that no jail break incident has taken place in the jail in recent times.

Basic amenities

Water supply and Sanitation

It was mentioned that pipe water is being supplied to the jail. RO facilities are available. Safe drinking water is provided round the clock to the inmates by establishing 02 Mineral water plants (1000& 2000 ltrs capacity) in jail premises. As far as sanitation facilities are concerned, every barrack has a cage toilet. Adequate number of toilets are available for the use of prisoners. Prisoner to toilet ratio reported was 1:10. Water was available in the toilets. Toilets were generally clean and well maintained. Bathing space is also adequate.

Power Supply

24 hour power supply is available in the jail. A generator of 62 KV capacity is installed as back up.

Food supply

The jail kitchen is located in the older part of the jail but is quite spacious. Lighting was insufficient due to the building being old. Ventilation is available. Exhaust fans are fitted on the walls. LPG is available for cooking. Steam cooking facilities are available. RO water is used for cooking. The kitchen needs renovation and modernization. It was mentioned that Rs 7/- lakhs have been allotted for this purpose.

It was mentioned that the inmates are provided three main meals, including breakfast, lunch and dinner. A variety of diet is reportedly provided as per modified diet plan which is being implemented. Mutton is provided every first

Sunday, and chicken in the remaining Sundays and eggs every Wednesday. Quality of food served to the prisoners appeared to be satisfactory. Per head cost of food was reported as Rs.84/-

Besides supplying food to the prisoners on daily basis, the jail is also supplying food at subsidized rates (Rs.10/-) to the public and to also all hospitals. A food court is run outside the jail by released prisoners.

A Prisoner Property Cash Register (PPC) is maintained wherein their earnings are deposited. Convicted prisoners are allowed to use 50% of the amount deposited for personal use.

Education

It was stated that 43 out of 153 male prisoners are illiterate. Among the females 07/14- 50%- are illiterate. It was stated that "Thump in and Sign out" is the motto of administration. A program called Vidyadanam Yojana is being implemented to make all prisoners literate. Literacy classes are conducted every day, by using services of jail staff and SGT Teachers deputed by DEO, Nalconda. Jail authorities claimed that literacy percentage has improved from 87% in 2015 to 92% in 2017.

Health care

A 2 bedded mini hospital is seen set up in the jail. The hospital is manned by a Medical Officer and a pharmacist. Medicines are supplied by Central Drug Store, Sanat Nagar, Hyderabad a PSU under the Central Government. The hospital appeared to be dependent on the Government Head Quarters Hospital, Nalconda for referral purposes. It was pointed out that within 07 days of admission prisoners undergo complete health check up. An AYUSH Hospital also available in the premises wherein Yoga, Meditation and Panchkarma facilities have been provided.

Mentally ill prisoners Only one prisoner Nagesh Ergoda is identified as mentally ill. He is undergoing treatment at IMH, Erragadda.

Video-conferencing

Video-conferencing facility is available in the jail. It was installed as of 18-04-2015. 11 courts with prison jurisdiction are linked by the facility. Up to now 1678 prisoners were produced before courts using VC facility.

Legal Aid It was stated that legal aid is being provided to prisoners. District Legal Services Authority (DLSA) is stated to be active. 04 Advocates from DLSA visit the jail 04 times a week and provide counseling and legal aid. 03 Para legal volunteers aid the prisoners in legal matters. 436 prisoners have been provided legal aid so far.

Sanction of bail

It was stated that appeals have been filed by all convicted prisoners and that no prisoner is languishing in jail after getting bail, for want of sureties.

Lok adalats

It appears that *Lok Adalats* are not being organized in the jail.

Production before courts

Prison authorities claimed that special attention is being given to production of prisoners before courts. In 2017 1933 productions were made before courts within the district and 1211 before courts outside the district. Only 12 prisoners were not produced before the courts in the districts and 67 not produced before courts outside the district.

Parole/ Furlough/ Remission

It was stated that parole is sanctioned as per rules. Remission is sanctioned under sub section (1) of section 432 of CrPC, 1973. Ordinary remission provides for two days per month for good conduct, three days per month for industry and good performance. Any prisoner eligible for the above two categories of remission are entitled for 20 days annual good conduct remission. Special remission is sanctioned by the Superintendent 06 to 30 days and by IG/ DG not exceeding 60 days per year.

PCOs/Telephone facility/waiting room/visitors

It is seen that telephone facilities are available to both convicted and under trial prisoners for communication with their families. Prisoners are allowed to speak to their family members twice a week for 15 minutes.

Meeting with family members is seen facilitated. A new visitors room has been taken up for construction.

Board of visitors A Board of visitors with 03 non official Members has been set up for a period of two years. It was reported that one of the Members is no more.

Complaints management

It was pointed out that a complaint box has been installed by DSLA to receive Complaints. The box is opened by DSLA. Complaints are received by the Superintendent during his rounds. Feed back is also taken from those who are released.

Library

A library with around 802 books is set up in the jail for use of prisoners.

Cultural programs

It was learned that cultural programs are being regularly organized for recreation of the inmates in the jail on the last Saturday of every month. Film shows are regularly organized. Film shows on themes like HIV/AIDs, Drug addiction, reformation of prisoners are shown. Every barrack is provided with a TV set for entertainment..

Sports Sports facilities are available for prisoners. A Sports Run was organized for prisoners on the occasion of 125 years of setting up the jail.

Religious activities

It was stated that religious activities are organized in the jail. Prisoners are allowed to have their own religious practices. Moral classes are also held daily for prisoners by eminent persons.

Yoga and other activities

PT, Drill and parades are conducted daily in the morning at fixed time. For this purpose prisoners are segregated into groups on the basis of their period of stay. Mass Yoga program for prisoners has been started w-e-f 21 February, 2018

between 4 and 05 pm on daily basis. Training is provided by trained warders and others who are from outside the jail.

Recreation It is seen that color TV sets have been provided in all wards for the entertainment of prisoners. News papers are being supplied to convicted prisoners one for every 20 convicted prisoners, including women prisoners..

Canteen

It is seen that canteen facilities are available to the inmates. Under trial prisoners can avail the facility up to Rs.3000/month and convicted prisoners Rs 1500/-per month. Different kinds of food items, sanitary items, articles of daily use are available in the canteen.

Unnati program

Unnati is a program designed by Prof. C. Beena of Osmania University for bringing about cognitive behavioral change being taken up in the jail. It has 17 modules and is run by trained inmates. Services of Bala Mallaiah, a convicted prisoner and T. Nagaiah, a released convicted prisoner are utilized for running this program..

Accounts

Savings bank accounts have been opened for 335 UT prisoners and convicted prisoners who earn wages under Jan Dan Yojana. They are covered by insurance schemes-Prime Minister's Suraksha Bhima Yojana and Jeevan Bhima Yojana.

Computer Training

Computer training is also being organized both male and female prisoners. Training is conducted in a large hall. Those prisoners who have passed 7th class are given training. Up to now 575 inmates have been provided training.

Vocational activities/ employment

It is seen that the jail has taken up several vocational/ industrial activities to keep the prisoners engaged,

The jail has initiated a unique employment generation program for released prisoners named Mahaparivarthan. In 2017 18 released prisoners were provided employment-03 in Phenyl making unit, 06 in Note Book making Unit (mechanized), 02 in Manufacture of cement rings, 02 in LED Bulb making unit, Nursery-04, food Court-09 a Ayurvedic village- 01+3 and IOCL Retail Outlet-petrol Pump-12. A Prison outlet is stated to be functioning in the local Shopping Mall. Jail made items worth approximately Rs 21.38 lacs were sold at the outlet till date .

The released prisoners are provided wages at the rate of Rs.9000/- per month. Semi-open prisoners are paid Rs.100/-per day.50% are deposited in their ledgers and the balance in bank accounts.

Drug De-addiction program

No Drug De-addiction program is being organized in the jail. Since drug addiction is common among prisoners, it would be necessary to conduct a special drive to find out the number of prisoners involved. Those involves ought to be provided necessary counseling and treatment.

Role of NGOs

It was stated that services of Non Governmental Organizations (NGOs) are not being utilized in the prison .

Inspections

It was stated that regular inspections are conducted by IG (prisons), DIG (Prisons) and other senior officials. District Judge and CJM visit the jail regularly.

Security

Security is considered adequate in the jail.

Corruption free jails

Prisons Department of Telegana declared all jails corruption- free. If anyone can provide proof otherwise they would be rewarded with Rs.10,000.

Solar Lighting/water harvesting

Solar lighting/heating facilities have been not yet been introduced in the jail.

Training

It is learned that regular training programs are being organized for officers and all senior officers are provided basic training at the Academy of Prisons and Correctional Administration, Vellore for a period of 09 months. Security staff like Warders are also provided basic training for 09 months. Refresher courses are also organized for staff. Training programs are also organized in different subjects, including human rights. prison staff.

Budget

It was confirmed that sufficient funds are available for jail activities. Rs. 66.45 lakhs have been provided for in the budget 2017-18 under non-plan and Rs.1.35 crore under plan. Regular auditing of funds received ought to be carried out. Civil construction works ought to be closely monitored.

Modernization

It was stated that several initiatives have been taken for modernization of the Jail. New infrastructural projects including a new prisoner's block to accommodate 90 inmates at a cost of Rs 67.77 lakhs, steel factory unit at a cost of Rs.18 lakhs for vocational training, Modern soap factory and visitor's Lounge at a cost of 18 lakhs are proposed. Modernization also includes use of technology. Some prisoners in the Maharashtra has introduced new systems including Prison Management (PRISM) and Tele- medicine. The Prison Department of Maharashtra has launched PRISM program through which data is collected from prisons across the state on prisoners is maintained by making use of their photographs and finger prints. Tele-medicine facility has been in use since June, 2017. Other important reforms like *e-Mulakat* (computerized programs for communication with family members) ought to be taken up.

Observations/ Recommendations:-

General recommendations/suggestions have been included in part-1 of this report. Specific recommendations in respect of this jail are summarized below.

1. Posting a regular Jail Superintendent

2. Women prisoners/children-full compliance of SC-directions
3. Posting a Nurse urgently to attend to women and children
4. Set up a jail hospital with modern facilities
5. Periodic mental health screening of inmates
6. Education: go beyond literacy program
7. Setting up modern Telephone Management System/introduction of E. mulakat
4. Use technology to prevent corruption at all levels.
5. Involvement of NGOs in various activities
6. Regular inspections and follow up action
7. Installation of solar lighting/heating /water harvesting /recycling facilities.

----- (PTO)

111. REPORT ON VISIT TO NAGARKURNOOL, TELENGANA ON 20-11-2018

-----S.Jalaja, Spl. Rapporteur, NHRC

With an area of 6,545.00 km² Nagarkurnool district is situated in the southern part of Telangana. After the formation of Telangana state, Nagarkurnool was bifurcated from Mahbubnagar district and formed as a separate district. As per 2011 Census it has a population of 8.9 lakhs.

Crime profile of the district

As per report of Telangana State Police, with a record of 1581 cognizable crimes under IPC, in 2016 the district reported a crime rate of 183.5 (low).

Jail Profile and history

This jail was originally set up as a Remand Prison during Nizam period for housing male remand prisoners and prisoners convicted for a month. After the

formation of the state of Andhra Pradesh the prison came under the control of judicial administration. It was handed over to the Prison Department in 2002 and was renovated. It was established as sub jail under the Prisons Department on 17-06-2005,

Land and infrastructure

The jail is constructed on an area of 0.21 *guntas* (1 *gunta* = 121 sq. yards). The entire jail is well maintained. The jail infrastructure comprises of 01 barrack for prisoners, kitchen and store in the old jail and 02 barracks for prisoners in the new jail. It is seen that landscaping and beautification are also taken up by jail administration.

Manpower

It is seen that no Gazetted officer is posted in this jail. It has a skeletal staff of 08. The posts of Superintendent and Deputy Superintendent of the prison have not been sanctioned. A Deputy Jailor is in charge of the jail.

Jail capacity and occupancy

Against a sanctioned capacity of 90 male prisoners, only 04 convicted and 13 under trial prisoners are accommodated in the jail. No female prisoner is lodged here.

Category-wise details of prisoners

Out of 17 prisoners, 13 (all male) are under trials. 04 convicted prisoners are lodged in the jail. No high security prisoners/life convicts are lodged here. Civil prisoners were also absent. No extremist prisoner is lodged in this prison. There are 03 elderly prisoners.

Under trial prisoners

As per data provided by jail administration regarding length of stay of under trial prisoners no prisoner has stayed for 06 months or more in this jail.

Mentally ill prisoners

It was reported that *no mentally ill prisoners are present in this jail*. It was stated that screening for mental health is done at the time of admission.

Condition of prisoners.

I visited the different barracks and had interactions with the inmates. It was seen that against a sanctioned capacity of 90 in barrack-2 in the new part of the jail, only 17 prisoners were lodged. The barrack is large and spacious and seen provided with pipe water, fans and exhaust fans. A set of 09 day toilets and open bathing space are seen provided. The condition of toilets inside was satisfactory. Place for hand wash is seen provided. RO water was available. It was mentioned that the inmates are also provided all essential items of daily use like clothing, linen, blankets, mat, towels, soaps etc. TV sets have been provided. It was stated that personal hygiene of prisoners is given attention by the authorities. Prisoners were seen provided with indoor games facility.

I spoke to some of the prisoners. G. Maddileddi 30 is lodged in jail for drunken driving. He has been in jail for 07 days. K. Rajani Kumar 37 and M. Narasinha Yadav 42 are also booked for drunken driving. K. Mallesh 37 has a case against him u/s 498 IPC. He has been in jail for last one month. Mohan Goud, 30, P. Srisailam, P. Niranjan Goud 50 are allegedly involved in a murder case. B. Shanker 30 and B. Ramakrishna 22 are involved in a murder case and came to the jail on 22-1-2018. B. Yeranna 30 has a case against him u/s 302 IPC. He has been granted bail. B. Narasimlu 32 is booked u/s 380 in a theft case. He came to the jail on 3-2-18. Five prisoners, D. Mallesh 32, Venkallai 52, G. Parusha Ramudu 28, M. Meditelli 50, K. Meditelli 50 are involved in a case u/s 326 IPC. Rajesh 24 is booked for the murder of his mother.

It is seen from jail reports that the prisoners are regularly being produced before the court. In 2016 prisoners were produced before local courts 246 times (outside courts 64) in 12 months. Prisoners were taken to hospital 394 times in 12 months. In January and February 2017 prisoners were produced 26 times in local courts (10 times outside courts) and 40 times prisoners were taken to hospitals.

Women Prisoners

As mentioned, no female prisoners are lodged in this jail. They are housed in Special prisons for women in Hyderabad.

Custodial Deaths /violence

No custodial death was reported in the jail in last three years.

Escape of prisoners/jail break

It was stated that no escape/jail break incident has taken place in the jail so far.

Basic amenities

Water supply and Sanitation

It was mentioned that pipe water is being supplied to the jail. A RO plant installed provides safe drinking water. As far as sanitation facilities are concerned every barrack has a cage toilet. Toilets outside for day use are available in adequate numbers. Water was available in toilets. Toilets were generally clean and well maintained. Bathing space is seen provided for prisoners.

Power Supply

24-hour power supply is available in the jail. A generator is installed as back up.

Food supply

The jail kitchen is located in the old jail building. Kitchen has adequate space with two small windows for adequate ventilation. Tap water supply is available for cooking, washing and cleaning purposes. LPG is available for cooking. Water from RO plant is used for cooking purposes.

Cooking is done by two prisoners. They are not being paid any wages, as they are remand prisoners.

It was mentioned that the inmates are provided three main meals, including breakfast, lunch and dinner and that modified diet plan has been introduced. Non vegetarian items like chicken, mutton and eggs are also served. On the day of visit rice and egg plant curry were being served for dinner. Dal was served for lunch.

Quality of food appeared to be satisfactory.

Education

It was reported that Vidyadanam project for making all prisoners literate is taken up with the help of prisoner volunteers. However, no regular teachers are posted, perhaps due to the fact that prisoners stay only for very short periods.

Health care

No regular hospital facilities are available in the jail. It was stated that one doctor from nearby Govt. hospital visits the jail twice a week. A doctor is available on call during emergencies. He is paid Rs.5000/as honorarium. No Para- medical staff is available. The jail also has no pathology laboratory. The jail mostly depends on the Government Headquarters, Hospital for indoor treatment. It was stated that getting escorts for prisoners to hospital is not a problem. Moreover, prisoners who stay for more than seven days and convicted prisoners are sent to the Government hospital for a full check up.

Medicines are reportedly supplied by the prisons Department. At present no shortage of medicines was reported.

Video-conferencing

Video-conferencing facility is not available in the jail. It is learned that a proposal has been sent to the Head quarters for sanction of this facility.

Legal Aid

It was stated that free legal aid is being provided to prisoners. There is no District Legal Services Authority in Nagarkurnool district, but it operates from Mahbubnagar. One advocate from Mandal Legal Services Authority visits the jail four times a week and provides counseling and legal aid.

Sanction of bail

It is understood that there are no prisoners who are languishing in jail after getting bail, for want of sureties.

Lok Adalats

There were no reports about *Lok Adalats* being organized in the jail.

Parole/ Furlough/ Remission

It was stated that parole is sanctioned as per rules. Remission is sanctioned under sub section (1) of section 432 of CrPC,1973. Ordinary rules provide for two day remission in a month for good conduct and observing rules and regulations; three

days per month for industry and good performance, Any prisoner eligible for the above two categories of remission is entitled for 20 days annual good conduct remission. Special remission is sanctioned by the Superintendent for 06 to 30 days and by IG/ DG not exceeding 60 days per year.

PCOs/Telephone facility/waiting room/visitors

It is seen that no Telephone facilities are not available to prisoners for communication with their families. Meeting with family members is facilitated. The interview hall is small with wire mesh separating the visitors from the prisoners is utilized for this purpose.

Board of visitors

No non official Members have been nominated as visitors by the state Government probably because this is only a remand jail.

Complaints management

It was explained that certain internal mechanisms have been put in place by the administration for receiving complaints from the inmates. Daily rounds are taken by the Superintendent to learn about the problems faced by the inmates. A complaint box has been installed by the Mandal Legal Services Authority (MLSA) to receive complaints. The box is opened by MLSA. Besides, every inmate upon his release is provided with a feedback form which is forwarded to the Control Room at Prison Hqrs. Legal Aid Counsels visit the jail four times a week. Prisoners are free to express their problems relating to legal issues.

Library

A library with around 77 books is set up in the jail for use of prisoners.

Cultural programs

It was learned that cultural programs are being regularly organized in the jail. Film shows are regularly organized.

Sports Outdoor games like volley ball are played by the prisoners. Indoor facilities for playing chess and carom are available.

Religious activities

It was stated that religious activities are organized in the jail. Prisoners are allowed to have their own religious practices. Moral classes are also held daily for prisoners.

Yoga and other activities

PT, Drill and parades are conducted daily morning as per fixed time table after segregating prisoners into groups on the basis of their period of stay.

Recreation It is seen that color TV sets have been provided in all wards for the entertainment of prisoners. News papers are being supplied to prisoners.

Jail Canteen

It is seen that canteen facilities are available to the inmates. Under trial prisoners can avail the facility up to Rs.3000/month and convicted prisoners Rs 1500/-per month. Different kinds of food items, sanitary items, articles of daily use are available in the canteen.

Vocational activities/ employment

Since this is a remand prison industrial activities have not been taken up in the jail to keep the prisoners engaged,

This jail has also initiated an employment generation program for released prisoners named *Mahaparivarthan*. 03 released prisoners have been provided employment in 2017.

Drug De-addiction program

No Drug De-addiction program is being organized in the jail.

Role of NGOs Services of Non Governmental Organizations (NGOs) are not being utilized in the prison for various items of work.

Inspections

It was stated that regular inspections are conducted by jail authorities. District Judge and CJM visit the jail regularly.

Security

It was stated that this is a minimum security jail. It was further stated that section 41 Cr pc is being strictly implemented in the jail. Criminals sentenced to less than 07 years of imprisonment are released on bail. Prisoners accused of crimes like Robbery, Dacoity, NDPS are not brought to this jail.

Corruption free jails

Prisons Department of Telangana declared all jails corruption-free. If anyone can provide proof otherwise they would be rewarded with Rs.10,000. Besides all officials and staff are to take an anti-corruption pledge every day. It is doubtful however, whether corruption could be tackled through these measures. Identifying vulnerable points and taking anti-corruption measures, especially by use of technology can minimize corruption.

Solar Lighting/water harvesting

Many jails in the country have shifted to alternate energy uses for a variety of purposes. Solar lighting/heating have been not yet been introduced in the jail. Rainwater harvesting facility and recycling waste water are very important as the jail is situated in water scarcity area.

Training

It is learned that regular training programs are being organized for officers and staff. All senior officers are provided basic training at the Academy of Prisons and Correctional Administration, Vellore for a period of 09 months. Security staff like Warders are also provided basic training for 09 months. Training programs are organized in different subjects, including human rights.

Refresher courses are also organized for prison staff.

Budget

It was confirmed that sufficient funds (total allocation: 3,53,716/-) are available for jail activities in the budget 2017-18. A provision of Rs.2,38,987/- has been made towards the cost of ration/diet charges. Regular auditing of funds received ought to be carried out. Civil construction works ought to be closely monitored.

Modernization

Apart from modernization of infrastructure, attention needs to be paid to the use of new technologies like Prison Management (PRISM) and Tele-medicine. Maharashtra has launched PRISM program through which data collected from prisons across the state on prisoners is maintained by making use of their photographs and finger prints and a beginning has been made in Tele-medicine facility too. Other important reforms like e-Mulakat (computerized programs for communication with family members) ought to be taken up.

Observations/ Recommendations:-

. General recommendations/suggestions have been included in part-1 of this report.

Since this is a sub jail where essentially remand prisoners are housed, there are not many suggestions about its functioning except that a regular Jail Superintendent ought to be posted. No telephone facilities are available to the inmates. The facility ought to be provided without any delay. Regular inspections and follow up action are also important

(PTO)

PART-1V

REPORT ON VISIT TO DISTRICT JAIL, MAHBUBNAGAR ON 22-4-2018

----- S. Jalaja, Spl. Rapporteur, NHRC

Mahabubnagar is the largest district in Telangana State in terms of area (5,285.1 sq. km) covered. It is also known as Palamoor. As of 2011 Census of India, the district has a population of 1.32 lakhs.

Crime profile of the district

As per report of Telangana State Police, Mahbubnagar district had a record of 2498 cognizable crimes under IPC, with a crime rate of 168.2 (lowest in Telangana) in 2016.

Jail Profile and history

Established in 1872 by the Nizam, District Prison, Mahabubnagar is the oldest prison in Telengana. It was later on taken over by the Government of Andhra Pradesh. It was headed by the Superintendent of the Government Head Quarters Hospital un till 1980. It was a high security jail under Nizam. During the Nizam period, Emergency and the Telengana Movement many eminent leaders were lodged in this jail. This jail also was considered to be the second Andaman Jail as political prisoners and hard core criminals were lodged here.

Urdu was used for communication by the jail administration till late 1960s. Later on, English and Telugu were brought in as official languages. In the recent years a new female block and new barracks were constructed.

Land and infrastructure

The jail is spread over an area of five and a half acres. The entire jail campus is well maintained. The jail infrastructure comprises of 05 barracks for male prisoners and 01 barrack for women prisoners. Besides a hall and 03 store rooms are available. As far as accommodation for officers and staff is concerned, 15 staff quarters are available. Since there is constraint of space in this jail to accommodate more than 200 prisoners, a new jail is proposed to be constructed near National Highway No.7

It is seen that attention has been paid to landscaping and beautification by planting trees and plants. Under *Harithaharam*, a flagship program of the State government the jail has successfully planted 8200 in 2014, out of which 7650 have reportedly survived.

Manpower

Against a sanctioned staff strength of 37, 34 posts are filled up; only 03 posts are stated to be vacant. The post of Superintendent of the prison is filled up by Deputation. It is seen that altogether 18 officers/staff are deputed from other institutions., which include 01 superintendent, 02 Jailors, 01 Chief Head Warder, 03 Head Warders, 07 Warders 02 Pharmacists and 02 Jail Assistants.

Jail capacity and occupancy

Against a sanctioned capacity of 147 (131 male and 16 female), 203 (139 male and 31 female) prisoners are lodged in the jail. One child (boy) is staying with his mother. Pregnant women prisoners were absent.

Category-wise details of prisoners

Out of 203 prisoners, 170 (139 male and 31 female) are under trials. 33 convicted prisoners are lodged in the jail. Among the convicted prisoners 12 are (one furlough) undergoing life imprisonment (LI). No high security prisoners are lodged here. Civil prisoners were also absent. No extremist prisoner is lodged in this prison. There is only one elderly prisoner.

Under trial prisoners Under trial prisoners constitute around 82% of the prison population. As per data provided by the jail administration regarding length of stay of under trial prisoners only 02 have stayed for more than a year and 03 have stayed for 06 months or more. Authorities ought to make continued efforts to reduce U/T population, by increased production of UTs through video-conferencing, proper tracking of cases, providing legal aid to UTs, regular organization of *Lok Adalat* and getting petty cases disposed of etc.

Mentally ill prisoners

Prisoners generally suffer from a variety of mental illnesses like Schizophrenia, depression, anxiety disorders, bipolar disorder, dementia etc. It was reported that screening for mental illness is conducted at the time of admission and that *no mentally ill prisoners are kept in this jail*. It was stated that screening for mental health is done at the time of admission and no case of mentally ill prisoner was reported. Screening needs to be conducted on a regular basis, with the help of a team from nearby mental hospital.

Open Prison

An Open prison is functional as a part of this jail. Inmates convicted for life or have spent more than 05 years of sentence with a proven record of good behavior and hard work are selected, after completion of 2 1/2 years in jail. There are 10 open jail prisoners who work outside the jail in patrol Bunk or are engaged in gardening.

Condition of prisoners.

I visited some of the wards and had interactions with the inmates. It was seen that against in the barrack where 31 convicted prisoners were lodged has a sanctioned capacity of 20. 10 of convicts are to be release shortly. The wards were generally clean and were seen fitted with grilled doors, which let in air. Lights and fans were

in working condition. All wards were seen provided with pipe water, fans and exhaust fans. The condition of two toilets inside was satisfactory. RO water was available. TV sets have been provided. Prisoners were provided with indoor games facility. It was mentioned that inmates are also provided all essential items of daily use like clothing, linen, blankets, mat, towels, soaps etc. Two LI prisoners from Warangal were brought here. One was released by a court. 20-25 prisoners from Wanaparthi district. Vanshi Raj is a student who was caught by the police for drunken driving. Ranjit 34 is a B Tech student, was found drinking with 20 of his friends. In UT ward against a sanctioned capacity of 20, 27 were found staying. Mahinder 29 is booked under 304 IPC for the death of his wife. Krishnaiah 24 and his mother are in jail for the alleged killing of his uncle. A bail application has been filed before the court.

Women Prisoners

As mentioned, 31 female prisoners are lodged in the female section. Only one child is present at the time of visit.

Female barrack is quite large and spacious. It has a sanctioned capacity of 16 against which currently 31 prisoners are accommodated. It was stated that their large number is only temporary-on the average only 15-18 are present. Lights and fans were in working condition. Pipe water supply is available. For drinking purpose, water is supplied from RO system installed in the jail. The bathroom, 02 toilets inside (for night use) and 05 toilet outside for day use were in fairly good condition. A TV set is installed for their entertainment.

31 women lodged in the prison were under trials. Yadamma 25 has a case registered against her u/s 306. In the same case, her daughter Sushma 25 is co-accused. She has 04 children back at home. They were in jail in connection with the death of her co sister. A 03 year old boy is staying with them. Khaja bi, Hussein bi and Rasul bi are involved in the same theft case. Manorama, her daughters Kalavathy and Narmada are allegedly involved in the dowry death case of her daughter in law. Apart from them six women in the age group 18-19 years were allegedly involved in cases u/s 307 IPC. Chinnamma 30 is in jail for allegedly killing her grandmother. Yadamma 70 is booked in a case u/s 302. Bhagyamma 40 is allegedly involved in a murder case She got bail, *but in the absence of security*

she is languishing in jail. DSLA ought to assist her in getting released on personal bond. Most of the other women were involved in petty cases. They do have access to lawyers and are being produced in courts regularly.

More than 50% women prisoners are illiterate. However, no regular teacher is posted. Some of the inmates who are literate have volunteered to teach them. As for health care of women prisoners is concerned, no woman doctor or nurse is posted. Separate kitchen is not available for women. It was mentioned that those women who are seriously ill and those who are sentenced to more than month imprisonment are sent to Special Prison for Women, Hyderabad. It was stated that children are given special diet. Milk and fruits are provided. Toys are supplied.

No vocational training is currently being organized for women prisoners, as all women are under trials.. Although indoor facilities like carom are stated to be available, no outdoor sports activities are, however, being organized for women prisoners.

As far as rehabilitation of women are concerned, 2000 released women prisoners from different prisons are stated to be gainfully employed in the state.

The Apex court in RD Upadhyay Vs State of Andhra Pradesh (Writ Petition (civil) 559 of 1994 dated 13-4 2006) has issued detailed guidelines on the care of women and children incarcerated in jails. These guidelines ought to be strictly followed.

Custodial Deaths /violence

No custodial death was reported in the jail in last three years.

Escape of prisoners/jail break

It was stated that no jail break incident has taken place in the jail so far.

Basic amenities

Water supply and Sanitation

It was mentioned that pipe water is being supplied to the jail . A RO plant installed provides safe drinking water to nearly 250 prisoners but also to families of officers and staff of the jail. As far as sanitation facilities are concerned every barrack has a cage toilet. Toilets outside for day use are available in adequate numbers (1:5 ratio). Water was available in the toilets. Toilets were generally clean and well

maintained. Bath rooms are available for female prisoners and bathing platforms provided for male prisoners.

Power Supply

24 hour power supply is available in the jail. A generator of 65 KV capacity is installed as back up.

Food supply

The jail kitchen is located in the old section. It has two rooms-one is used in cooking the other for storage. Ventilation is available. Exhaust fans are fitted on the walls. Tap water supply is available for cooking, washing and cleaning purposes. LPG is available for cooking.

Cooking is done by Lt Ramaraja (case u/s302 IPC) and 04 other under trials. Steaming facilities are available. It was mentioned that the inmates are provided three main meals, including breakfast, lunch and dinner. For breakfast items like idli, pongal etc are served. For lunch rice, dal and vegetables are served. For dinner rice, curd and vegetables are served. It was claimed that the jail is implementing a modified diet plan. Mutton is served on the first Sunday of the month and chicken on the remaining Sundays. Egg is served every Wednesday. Per head cost of food was reported as Rs.70/- Rice and wheat are supplied by the State Civil Supplies Corporation. No kitchen garden is seen maintained in the prison. Medical diet is prepared for about 20-30 prisoners.

Unskilled workers are paid Rs.30/-; skilled workers Rs.50/- Open Jail Prisoners are paid Rs 70/-per day. Those who work in petrol pumps are paid Rs 110/- per day. It is proposed to revise the rates to Rs.140/ per day for the unskilled and Rs 350/- for skilled workers. Final decision has to be taken by Government in the matter.

Education

It was stated that a literacy program called Vidyadana is under implementation in all prisons of Telengana. However no regular teachers are posted. Volunteers from among female and male prisoners/security staff teach the prisoners. 10-15 of the prisoners are said to be well qualified. But this arrangement is only a poor substitute for teaching by regular teachers. It was reported that 720 prisoners in

2014, 2556 prisoners in 2015, 1557 in 2016 and 1516 in 2017 were made literate under Vidyadana Scheme. Jail administration should go beyond just literacy programs. Efforts ought to be made to provide opportunity for higher education and degree accreditation through Indira Gandhi Open University (IGNOU) and other universities, however short the prisoner's stay in the jail be. Some of the jails have reported that apart from imparting formal education, prisoners are also trained in social skills and urged to take up good personal habits like personal hygiene, good house - keeping, use of library and reading news papers, good communication, self discipline and having a helpful attitude etc. This could be introduced in this jail too.

Health care

No regular hospital facilities are available in the jail. Only a Mini hospital with OPD facilities and 03 beds is available. The hospital was housed in a large hall. It was renovated recently spending Rs.03/-lakhs. Isolation ward is not seen set up. Only one doctor is posted. No Para- medical staff is available, except two Pharmacists on deputation. The jail also has no pathology laboratory. The jail mostly depend on the Government Hqrs. Hospital for indoor treatment. It was stated that getting escorts for prisoners to hospital is not a problem. Moreover, prisoners who stay for more than seven days and convicted prisoners are sent to the Government hospital for a full check up.

As far as incidence of various diseases is concerned, no skin problems are reported. No case of Leprosy, TB or Hepatitis is reported either. 3-4 cases of HIV/AIDs are reported. Chronic cases like diabetes, hypertension are prevalent. A team of specialists also ought to visit the jail at least on monthly basis. Jail administration ought to organize medical camps for general problems, skin diseases, eye camps, dental camps etc from time to time.

Medicines are reportedly supplied by Central Drug Store (a PSU under GOI), Sanat Nagar, Hyderabad. In emergency local purchases are also made. Sufficient funds are allotted for buying medicines (Rs.54,000/- this year).Emergency provision for purchase of medicines(Rs 1000/-per day) is also available. At present no shortage of medicines was reported.

Since more than two hundred prisoners are lodged in this prison, it is essential to post a medical officer on regular basis. A post of MO ought to be created for this purpose on long term basis.

Video-conferencing

Video-conferencing facility is available in the jail. On the average 15-20 prisoners are produced before the courts using this facility. All local courts are connected. Focus should be not only on numbers, but also on the quality of production of prisoners through video-conferencing.

Legal Aid

It was stated that free legal aid is being provided to prisoners. District Legal Services Authority (DLSA) is stated to be active. One advocate visits the jail and provides counseling and legal aid. The legal aid counsel visits the jail four times a week. It was stated that 50% of the prisoners have received legal aid, including women. Secretary DLSA is said to be visiting the jail once a month. Counseling is also provided to women prisoners. DLSA needs to be more actively involved in legal counseling and assistance to the inmates.

Sanction of bail

It is understood that there are some prisoners who are languishing in jail after getting bail, for want of sureties. One female prisoner also is facing this problem. DLSA Ought to look into these cases.

Lok Adalats

There were no reports about *Lok Adalats* being organized in the jail.

Parole/ Furlough/ Remission

It was stated that parole is sanctioned as per rules. Remission is sanctioned under sub section (1) of section 432 of CrPC, 1973. Ordinarily rules provide for two day remission in a month for good conduct and discipline and three days per month for industry and good performance. Any prisoner eligible for the above two categories of remission are entitled for 20 days annual good conduct remission. Special

remission is sanctioned by the Superintendent for 06 to 30 days and by IG/ DG not exceeding 60 days per year.

PCOs/Telephone facility/waiting room/visitors

Telephone facilities are available to both convicted and under trial prisoners for communication with their families. Prisoners are allowed to speak to their family members twice a week for 15 minutes. Meeting with family members is facilitated. The interview hall was good. Around 30 prisoners were waiting there. A new visitors room has been taken up for construction.

Board of visitors

03 non official Members have been nominated as visitors by the state Government for a period of two years.

Complaints management

It was explained that certain internal mechanisms have been put in place by the administration for receiving complaints from the inmates. Jail Welfare Officer listens to complaints by prisoners. Complaints can be entered in the Grievance Register maintained by administration. Rights and Duties pamphlets are circulated among prisoners. Daily rounds are taken by the Superintendent to learn about the problems faced by the inmates. A complaint box has been installed by DSLA to receive

complaints. The box is opened by DSLA. Besides every inmate upon his/her release is provided with a feedback form which is forwarded to the Control Room at Prison Hqrs. Legal Aid Counsels visit the jail four times a week. Prisoners are free to express their problems relating to legal issues.

Library

A library with around 994 books is set up in the jail for use of prisoners.

Cultural programs

It was learned that cultural programs are being regularly organized in the jail. Film shows are regularly organized.

Sports Outdoor games like volley ball are played by the prisoners. Indoor facilities for playing chess and carom are available. However, only indoor sport facilities are available to women prisoners. A prisoner's run was organized in the jail last year

Religious activities

A temple is available for worship. It was stated that religious activities are organized in the jail. Prisoners are allowed to have their own religious practices. Moral classes are also held daily for prisoners by eminent persons.

Yoga and other activities

PT, drill and parades are conducted daily morning at regular time as per fixed time table after segregating prisoners into groups on the basis of their period of stay. Mass Yoga program for prisoners has been started w-e-f 21 February, 2018 between 4 and 05pm on daily basis. Training is provided by Trained warders and others who are from outside the jail.

Recreation It is seen that color TV sets have been provided in all wards for the entertainment of prisoners. News papers are being supplied to prisoners.

Jail Canteen

It is seen that canteen facilities are available to the inmates. Under trial prisoners can avail the facility up to Rs.3000/month and convicted prisoners Rs 1500/-per month. Different kinds of food items, sanitary items, articles of daily use are available in the canteen. Wet canteen facilities are available

Unnati program

Unnati is a program for bringing about cognitive behavioral change being taken up in the jail. It has 17 modules and is run by trained inmates. Prof. Beena, former Dean of Osmania University has been guiding the program. 08 batches of 30 prisoners each (total 240) were trained so far. Only one prisoner came back. The course involves interaction with police, family union etc which helps the reformation of the prisoners. Trainings are conducted in a n air conditioned hall. At present this course is run by Vadde Raju, a convicted prisoner, under the supervision of the Prison Welfare Officer.

Bank Accounts

Savings bank accounts have been opened for UT and convicted prisoners who earn wages under Jan Dhan Yojana. They are covered by insurance schemes-Prime Minister's Suraksha Bhima Yojana and Jeevan Bhima Yojana.

Computer Training

Computer training is also being organized both male and female prisoners. Training is conducted in a large hall.

Vocational activities/ employment

It is seen that the jail has taken up several vocational/ industrial activities to keep the prisoners engaged,

The jail has initiated a unique employment generation program for released prisoners named Mahaparivarthan. Job Mela was conducted for released prisoners by locating companies located near Mahabubnagar which is a continuous process. In 2017 181 released prisoners were provided employment- 04 in Phenyl making unit, 15 in Note Book making Unit (mechanized), 02 in Manufacture of cement rings, steel industry-10, Nursery-03 and IOCL Retail Outlet 01-petrol Pump-25. They have earned a profit of Rs 600300/- in Note book making and Rs 3150/- in Phenyl Making in 2017. 30-40 prisoners are engaged in carpentry and furniture making, steel unit, Note Book and Phenyl Making. Rs.45 lakh worth goods were produced.

A Prison outlet is stated to be functioning in the local Shopping Mall. Jail made items worth approximately Rs 6.7 laks were sold at the outlet till date. The outlet earned a profit of Rs 62,472 in 2017. An IOCL Retail Outlet is run by released prisoners. For 2016 and 2017 total sales worth 26,11,34,431 were reported earning a profit of RS.73.18 lakhs. Total 183 released prisoners were given employment outside the jail HPCL has promised to engage 90 prisoners after 06 months.

Drug De-addiction program

It was learned that prevalence of drugs is very high in Mehbubnagar. However, no Drug De-addiction program is being organized in the jail. Since drug addiction is common among prisoners, it would be necessary to conduct a special drive to find

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out the number of prisoners involved. Those involves ought to be provided necessary counseling and treatment.

Role of NGOs Services of Non Governmental Organizations (NGOs) are not being utilized in the prison.

Inspections

It was stated that regular inspections are conducted by IG (prisons), DIG (Prisons) and other senior officials. District Judge and CJM visit the jail regularly.

Security

It was stated that security arrangements are adequate in the jail. 26 CCTVs have been installed. All were said to be functional. Security is managed by the staff of the jail. Jail security needs to be reviewed, as only limited staff is available in the jail.

Corruption free jails

Prisons Department of Telangana declared all jails corruption-free. If anyone can provide proof otherwise they would be rewarded with Rs.10,000. Moreover prison officials and staff take a daily pledge against corruption. It is doubtful whether such steps alone can eliminate corruption, which is entrenched in the system in any way. There is need to identify all vulnerable points and use different means including use of technology to minimize corruption.

Solar Lighting/water harvesting

Many jails in the country have shifted to alternate energy uses for a variety of purposes. Solar lighting/heating have been not yet been introduced in the jail. Although no rainwater harvesting facility is set up, soak pits have been constructed in the prison for recycling waste water. Their number and quality need to be improved.

Training

It is learned that regular training programs are being organized for officers and staff. All senior officers are provided basic training at the Academy of Prisons and Correctional Administration, Vellore for a period of 09 months. Security staff like

Warders are also provided basic training for 09 months. Training programs are organized in different subjects, including human rights. Refresher courses are also organized for prison staff.

Budget

It was confirmed that sufficient funds are available for jail activities. in the budget 2017-18 A provision of Rs.20,4275.00 has been made under the head Wages; Rs.64,807 for medicines; Rs.2,84,69,58 towards the cost of ration/diet charges. Regular auditing of funds received ought to be carried out. Civil construction works ought to be closely monitored.

Modernization

It was stated that several initiatives have been taken for modernization of the Jail. 45 acres have been allotted for a new jail. New infrastructural projects including a new prisoner's block to accommodate 60 inmates at a cost of Rs.60. lakhs, steel factory unit (cost-not indicated) for vocational training and visitor's Lounge for seating 25 visitors at a cost of 18 lakhs. Apart from infrastructure, attention also needs to be paid to the use of new technologies in prison management like Prison Management (PRISM) and Tele- medicine. Maharashtra has launched PRISM program through which data collected from prisons across the state on prisoners is maintained by making use of their photographs and finger prints. A beginning has been made in Tele-medicine facility. Video conferencing facility ought to be fully utilized for easy production of prisoners before the courts. Other important reforms like e-Mulakat (computerized programs for communication with family members) ought to be taken up. New technology also need to be utilized in improving jail security.

Observations/ Recommendations:-

General recommendations/suggestions have been included in part-1 of this report. Specific recommendations in respect of this jail are summarized below.

1. Posting a regular Jail Superintendent

2. Filling up of vacancies/creation of new posts, especially Medical/educational/administrative staff

4. Women prisoners/children-full compliance of SC-directions
 5. Setting up modern Telephone Management System/introduction of E. mulakat
 6. Involvement of NGOs in various activities
 7. Regular inspections and follow up action
 8. Use technology to prevent corruption at all levels.
 9. Installation of solar lighting/heating /water harvesting /recycling facilities
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