

PROCEEDING OF THE HIGH POWERED COMMITTEE MEETING
HELD ON 25-04-2022 AT 4.45 P.M., BY PHYSICAL MODE
PURSUANT TO THE ORDER OF
THE HON'BLE SUPREME COURT OF INDIA DATED 07-05-2021
IN SUO-MOTU WRIT PETITION (C) NO. 1 OF 2020

PRESENT

Hon'ble Sri Justice Ahsanuddin Amanullah,
Executive Chairman, APSLSA, Amaravati

Hon'ble Sri Justice A.V.Sesha Sai,
Chairman, APHCLSC, Amaravati

Sri Kumar Vishwajeet, IPS,
Principal Secretary, Home Department,
Government of Andhra Pradesh.

Sri Mohd. Ahsan Reza, IPS,
Director General of Prisons and Correctional Services,
Andhra Pradesh.

* * *

The Committee perused the letter No.Jud-2/40/2020 dated 21.04.2022 and its enclosures, submitted by the Director General of Prisons and Correctional Services. Report shows that adequate medical facilities are being extended to the inmates and staff.

The report further shows that all the prisoners, who are tested positive, are being provided with medical treatment. The report also shows that **16,966** RTPCR tests were conducted on the prisoners, **7,593** prisoners were given 1st dose

vaccination and **5,083** prisoners were given 2nd dose vaccination, and that **982** RTPCR tests were conducted on the prison staff, **1,935** prison staff were given 1st dose vaccination and **1,902** prison staff were given 2nd dose vaccination. It also shows that a pilot project on providing e-Mulakath to inmates of District Jail, Vijayawada through video calling was conducted in two spells on 27.07.2021 and 07.09.2021 and M/s. Deepija Telecom Pvt. Ltd., Hyderabad has been requested for extending e-Mulakath facility to all central prisons and district jails in Andhra Pradesh.

The report further shows that still there are 24 aged/ailing prisoners to be released, and out of them 4 prisoners were not willing to go on *interim* bail and 16 prisoners were not selected by the scrutiny committee. It also shows that proposals were submitted to the concerned DLSAs for release of **3** such prisoners in which orders are awaited.

1. Having perused the report, it is resolved that the Director General of Prisons and Correctional Services shall continue to take necessary steps in conducting RTPCR tests in respect of new prisoners, who are admitted to Prisons and those who test positive be isolated and be given medical treatment.

2. It is further resolved that vaccination drive of all the prisoners and prison staff be carried out, including the booster dose and continued till it reaches the last person.

3. It is further resolved that the Director General of Prison shall take necessary steps for implementation of e-Mulakath facility to Central prisons and other District Jails in the State as early as possible, as it is noticed that there is no progress in the matter pursuant to the meeting dated 03.02.2022.

4. It is further resolved that installation of zero shadow Closed-Circuit Television (CCTV) system in all the Jails in the State be expedited, as resolved in the earlier Meeting dated 03.02.2022, and status report be submitted.

5. In the visit of Central Prison, Rajamahendravaram by the Hon'ble Executive Chairman on 23.04.2022, it was noticed that because of low pay scale, no psychologist or psychiatrist is coming forward to evaluate the mental health condition of the prisoners. Hence, it is resolved that the Director General of Prisons and Correctional Services shall send proposals for enhancement and fixation of a realistic pay of the psychologists / psychiatrists to the Government, and on such proposal, the Principal Secretary, Home Department shall take appropriate action at the earliest.

6. The Director General of Prisons and Correctional Services informed that he is taking steps to send a proposal to A.P. State Legal Services Authority for extending the facility of Interim Bail to life convicts. As per the previous proceedings of this Committee and as per the guidelines given by the Hon'ble Supreme Court, referred to in the earlier proceedings of this Committee, as of now, such facility cannot be

extended to life convicts. However, it is resolved that if such proposal is received from the Director General of Prisons and Correctional Services, the same would be examined by A.P. State Legal Services Authority, and if necessary, it would be transmitted to the National Legal Services Authority for taking necessary steps.

7. The Director General of Prisons and Correctional Services shall submit action taken report on each of the resolutions referred to above in detail by the next date of High Powered Committee Meeting.

8. It is resolved to hold next Meeting of the High Powered Committee on **12.07.2022**.

Sd/-	Sd/-
HON'BLE SRI JUSTICE AHSANUDDIN AMANULLAH	HON'BLE SRI JUSTICE A.V.SESHA SAI
EXECUTIVE CHAIRMAN,	CHAIRMAN
A.P.STATE LEGAL SERVICES AUTHORITY	A.P.HIGH COURT LEGAL SERVICES COMMITTEE
AMARAVATI	AMARAVATI

Sd/-
PRINCIPAL SECRETARY

Sd/-
DIRECTOR GENERAL OF PRISONS