## PROCEEDING OF THE HIGH POWERED COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON 24.07.2021 AT 03:45 PM THROUGH BLUE JEANS PRUSUANT 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 Joymalya Bagchi, 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 A.P.

Sri Mohd. Ahsan Reza, IPS,
Director General of Prisons and Correctional Services,
A.P.

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Perused report dated 23.07.2021 from the Director General of Prisons. Out of 294 prisoners, who are eligible for release, 181 prisoners were released on *interim* bail; 17 prisoners were released on normal bail; 2 prisoners were given set-off on remand and 3 prisoners were released on expiry of sentence.

Report further shows that 18 prisoners are yet to be released. Director General of prisons informs the Committee due to various reasons such as lack of sureties, bail orders are yet to be received from the Courts, and bails not being granted since the prisoners belong to other States, the prisoners were not released.

1) Having perused the report with regard to prisoners, who have not been released as they were unable to furnish sureties before the Court, it is resolved the District Legal Services Authorities shall take steps to ensure the bail conditions are relaxed and such prisoners are released on personal bonds.

- 2) With regard to prisoners, who were not released on bail as the orders have not yet been received from the Courts, Secretaries of the District Legal Services Authorities concerned shall ensure the bail orders are forthwith sent to the prisons and such prisoners are released.
- 3) With regard to prisoner who is residing outside the State, Secretary of the District Legal Services Authorities concerned shall take steps to ensure that he may be released on bail on condition that he gives attendance to the Police Station within whose area the prisoner resides.
- 4) Report be filed with regard to compliance of condition Nos.1, 2 and 3 herein by the Director General of Prisons as well as the concerned District Legal Services Authorities.
- 5) It is further resolved that as per order, dated 16.07.2021, in Writ Petition (C) No.1/2020, passed by Hon'ble Supreme Court, the prisoners who were released on *interim* bail and/or parole shall not be called upon to surrender until further orders and necessary judicial/administrative orders in this connection be obtained.
- 6) It is resolved that RTPCR tests be conducted in respect of all new prisoners, who are admitted to prisons and those who test positive be isolated from other prisoners and be given medical treatment, if necessary.
- 7) All medical facilities and other social distancing norms like sanitation and arrangement of masks in the jails shall be continued.
- 8) Report of the DG, Prisons, shows that the facility of providing  $e^{-}$  mulakath through Deepija Telecom Private Limited as a Pilot project is under process, hence it is resolved that the process be completed as early as possible and further report to provide e-mulakath to the prisoners be filed on the next date.

9) Resolved that vaccination drive of the prisoners and prison staff be pursued and further report in that regard be furnished on the next date.

**10)** It is resolved that status report with regard to the number of prisoners/prison staff infected/recovered/case fatalities be filed by the Prison department on the next date.

11) Report of the DG, Prisons, shows that 102 prisoners who are above 65 years of age and/or suffering from serious/life threatening ailments like cancer, Tuberculosis, etc., were identified and their particulars were furnished to the concerned Court through the District Legal Services Authorities concerned. It is resolved that the District Legal Services Authorities shall ensure filing of bail applications on behalf of the above mentioned 102 prisoners before the Courts concerned for their release on bail on humanitarian grounds. Progress report be filed by the authorities concerned.

12) It is further resolved that the guidelines issued by NIMHANS to prevent the suicides of the prisoners in jails shall be followed and in this connection a report be filed to the next date.

13) It is resolved to hold next meeting on 24.08.2021.

HON'BLE SRI JUSTICE JOYMALYA BAGCHI,

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EXECUTIVE CHAIRMAN,

AP STATE LEGAL SERVICES

AUTHORITY,

**AMARAVATHI** 

PRINCIPAL SECRETARY (HOME)

HON'BLE SRI JUSTICE A.V.SESHA SAI,

CHAIRMAN,

HIGH COURT LEGAL SERVICES

COMMITTEE,

**AMARAVATHI** 

DIRECTOR GENERAL OF PRISONS