

Introduction



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Director General

Hon'ble Supreme Court in a number of judgments on various aspects of Prison Administration has laid down three broad principles for treatment of prisoners, which are :-

1. A person in prison does not become a non-person.
2. A person in prison is entitled to all human rights within the limitations of imprisonment.
3. There is no justification in aggravating the suffering already inherent in the process of incarceration.

The above principles are followed by Delhi Prisons Administration in letter and spirit. A prisoner is given every opportunity to maintain his self dignity and develop his inherent talents. He can learn vocational skills and also earn simultaneously. This enables him to rehabilitate himself in society after his release. Delhi Prisons are considered one of the best managed prisons in the country, particularly in the field of correctional administration and use of technology driven security devices.

In Delhi there are nine Central Jails at the Tihar campus and one District Jail at Rohini (North Delhi). These ten jails have a sanctioned capacity to keep 6250 inmates. However, against this, there remain, on an average, 10,500 prisoners lodged at any given time. **The year 2010 saw steady decline in the prisoner population as compared to earlier years on account of various reforms in criminal justice administration. The ratio of convict population rose from 20% (year 2009) to 25% (year 2010) because of better disposal rate of criminal cases and this also brought down the ratio of undertrial population from 80% of the previous year to 75%.**

During the year 2010 a number of new initiatives were taken to broaden correctional activities besides strengthening the security of the prisons. Some of the significant events, initiatives/achievements are narrated below :-

1. All India conference of correctional administrators

An All India Conference of Correctional Administrators was organized at the Vigyan Bhawan by the Ministry of Home Affairs, Govt. of India in association with Delhi Prisons Department on 8th and 9th September, 2010. The conference was attended by the Correctional Administrators of States and Union Territories. Mr. P Chidambaram, Hon'ble Union Home Minister inaugurated the Conference in the august presence of Mr. G.K. Pillai, Union Home Secretary, Ms. B. Bhamathi, Addl. Secretary (MHA), Mr. N.S.



Kalsi, Joint Secretary (MHA), Mr. B.K. Gupta, the then Director General (Prisons) and others. The valedictory speech was delivered by Mr. Ajay Maken, Minister of State (Home). The conference deliberated upon various issues confronting Prison Administration in the country.



2. Mobile phone jammers

Mobile Phone Jammers have been installed in the jails to prevent the use of mobile phones inside the Prison. These Jammers have been installed in six jails and the Prison administration is in the process of installing jammers in other jails also. These jammers block the communication in GSM 900/1800 and CDMS Band and also block other cellular activities like incoming and outgoing calls, SMSs, picture sending, web access etc.

The Jammers have now been updated to cover 3 G Mobile technology as well.

3. Phone facility for Tihar inmates

The Prison Administration has introduced "Tihar Inmates Phone Call System" which was inaugurated by Hon'ble Mr. Justice Madan B. Lokur, the then acting Chief Justice, Delhi High Court in Central Jail No.4 on 18.03.2010, in the august presence of Hon'ble Mr. Justice Pradeep Nandrajog, of Delhi High Court and Mr. B.K. Gupta, the then Director General (Prison).



Describing it as a 'progressive step', Justice Lokur said "The Supreme Court has always maintained in its judgements that a prisoner should not lose touch with his family and society. The facility introduced today is an implementation of the orders of the Supreme Court. It is an important step forward."

An inmate can avail of this facility twice a week. The permissible duration of call is five minutes. Conversations are recorded to prevent misuse of the facility and stored along with the date, time and name of the caller and can be retrieved, if required. The facility is available only to those inmate who maintain good conduct. It can be withdrawn temporarily or permanently, if misused.

4. Record annual turnover of jail factory

The Jail Factory is located in Central Jail No.2. Its primary objective is to impart training to the prisoners in different vocations so that they can find employment after their release. The products manufactured at the jail factory are marketed under the brand name of TJ's. **The Jail Factory has achieved a record annual turnover of Rs. 11 crore this year (2009-10) against the turnover of Rs. 6.65 crores of the previous year. The expected turnover for the current financial year 2010-11 is Rs.15 crores.** A website has also been launched on Tihar Products for a wider outreach.



5. Increased quantum of rehabilitation grant for the released convicts

Released convicts are entitled to rehabilitation grant under GNCT of Delhi schemes so that they can stand on their own feet. This grant has been increased substantially by notification dated 06.09.2010 and the amount has been revised as under :-

Earlier		Present	
One year to 5 years	Rs.5,000/-	Six months to 5 years	Rs.15,000/-
5 Years to 10 Years	Rs.7,000/-	5 Years to 10 Years	Rs.20,000/-
10 Years and above	Rs.10,000/-	10 Years and above	Rs.25,000/-

This increase would greatly help in the reintegration of released convicts with the society.

6. Launching of para legal training programme at Tihar

The Delhi Legal Services Authority, in association with Delhi Prisons, launched a Para-Legal Training Programme for Delhi Inmates on 3rd June, 2010. The National Legal Services Authority has formulated "Scheme for implementing the Project of Para-Legal Volunteers by the State Legal Services Authority" and to introduce the scheme an inaugural function was organized at Jail No.2, Tihar, New Delhi. The scheme was inaugurated by Hon'ble Mr. Justice Altamas Kabir, Judge, Supreme Court of India &

Executive Chairman, National Legal Services Authority in the distinguished presence of Hon'ble Chief Justice of High Court of Delhi Mr. Dipak Misra, Hon'ble Mr. Justice Madan B. Lokur, the then Judge Delhi High Court, Hon'ble Mr. Justice Vikramajit Sen, Judge Delhi High Court, Mr. B.K. Gupta, the then Director General, Delhi (Prisons) and a large number of judges from Hon'ble Delhi High Courts and Distt. Courts. On the occasion, a booklet containing information on the Legal Rights of Prisoners was released by Mr. Justice Altamas Kabir.



7. New parole and furlough guidelines

The Hon'ble Lt. Governor, Delhi has approved the guidelines to be followed in the matter of parole/furlough to the convicts. These guidelines are called parole/furlough guidelines - 2010 and have come into force w.e.f. 17.2.2010. The need for framing of these guidelines has arisen due to the orders of



Hon'ble Delhi High Court in writ petition (Criminal) No.1121 of 2009 titled Courts on its own motion Vs. State in which grievance of the prisoner in the matter of grant of parole / furlough were taken up by the Hon'ble Court. The guidelines have been prepared in consultation with Delhi Legal Services Authority and under the guidance of Hon'ble High Court of Delhi.

Under the new guidelines the disposal of parole / furlough application is to be done in a time-bound manner so that there is no delay in disposal of the application. The eligibility criteria for parole / furlough application have been laid down and only such

applications are to be sent to the Home Department, Govt. of NCT of Delhi, which are covered under these criteria. **The power for grant of furlough has been delegated to the Director General (Prisons) and for parole lies with Hon'ble Lt. Governor, Delhi.**

8. Construction of 200 staff quarters

200 new staff quarters have been added to augment the existing strength of family quarters for the prison staff. The new residential block was inaugurated by Mr. G.S. Patnaik, the then Pr. Secretary (Home) on 6.9.2010. The addition of these quarters has augmented the accommodation availability for the staff and will strengthen the security environment.



9. I.S.O. 9001 : 2008 Certifications for jails.

During the year, the Women's Jail i.e. Central Jail No.6, and Dist. Jail Rohini have been awarded ISO- 9001 :2008 certification by the Chief Executive Officer STQC Certification Services, Ministry of Communication & Information Technology, New Delhi. **The Women's Jail at Tihar is the only female Jail in the country accredited with the ISO certification.**

10. Recruitment and training of jail staff

180 new warders and 23 matrons were recruited and given induction training at Prison Training Institute Patiala (Punjab). Their deployment has strengthened security of the jails.



11. Visit of the Parliamentary Committee

The Select Committee of the Rajya Sabha on the Prevention of Torture Bill-2010 comprising of several Members of Parliament visited Tihar Jail on 18.11.2010. The Committee was given a presentation on the functioning of Delhi Jails and thereafter visited the CCTV Control Room at Prison Headquarters, Central Jail No.4 and, the Women's jail i.e. Central Jail No.6. The Committee interacted with prisoners to ascertain if any form of torture was meted out to them during police custody. Members were highly appreciative of the functioning of prisons in Delhi.



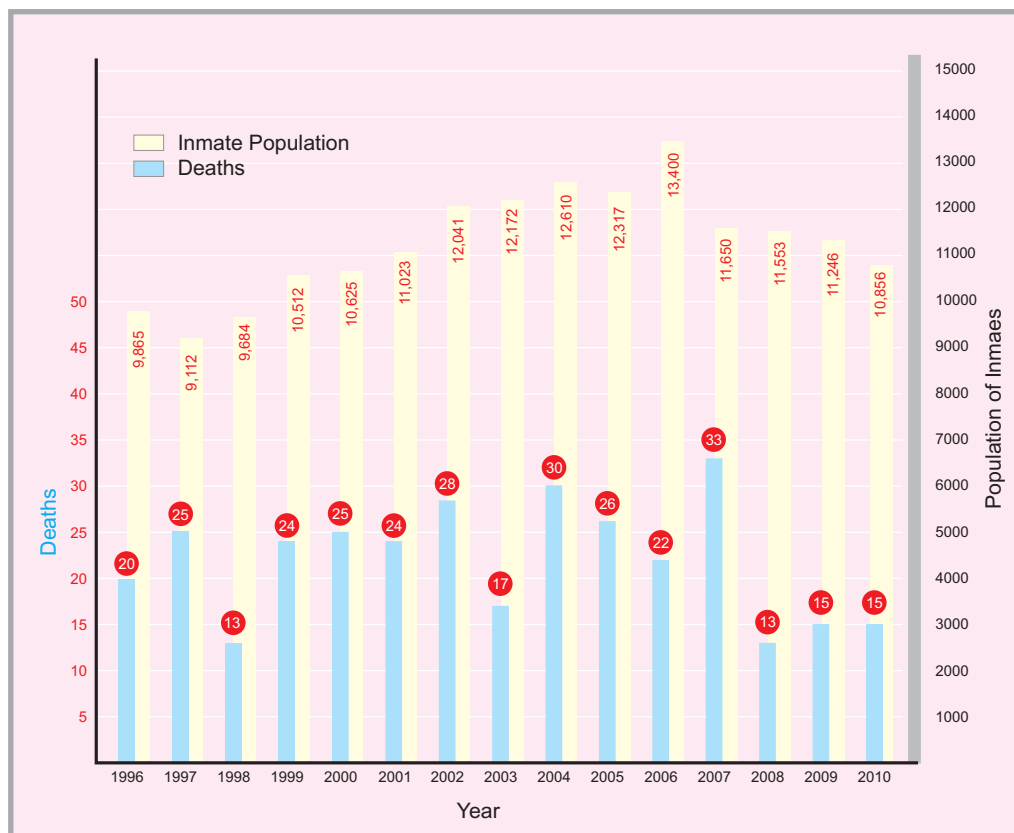
12. Painting exhibition of prisoners

A three-day exhibition of paintings offering a glimpse of the artistic streak in Tihar inmates opened at Shri Ram Bharatiya Kala Kendra, New Delhi on 17.12.2010. The exhibition was inaugurated by Mr. Rakesh Mehta, Chief Secretary, Delhi. On this occasion Mr. G.S. Patnaik, the then Pr. Secy. (Home), GNCT of Delhi, was also present. In the exhibition 100 paintings by prisoners were displayed and were appreciated by the visitors. In every jail, painting workshops are being organized to promote creativity amongst prisoners. **Paintings by Tihar inmates won an International award in a competition organized at Vienna in January, 2010, where paintings from 44 countries were displayed.**



13. Maintaining the low mortality rate

This year Delhi Prisons recorded 15 deaths maintaining a low mortality rate. Most of the prisoners come from the low economy strata of society and are already suffering from various kinds of diseases. Low mortality rate is achieved by special health care shown to the sick and old prisoners and better medical attention to the inmates. In addition to facilities of allopathic treatment, Ayurvedic, Homeopathic and Naturopathic treatments are also available in the jails.



14. Complete accomplishment of mandate

It is a matter of satisfaction that Delhi Prisons have successfully accomplished the mandate of safe and secure custody of Prisoners in view of the following facts:-

1. No prison escape.
2. No prison riots in any prison in Delhi.
3. Low mortality rate.