



ABSTRACT

Home Department - Prisons and Correctional Services - Constitution of District Level Committee to examine the needs and infrastructure of the Jails in the respective Districts in order to comply the orders of Hon'ble Supreme Court of India dated 30.01.2024 in W.P.(C)No.406 of 2013 - Orders - Issued.

HOME (PRI-III) DEPARTMENT

G.O.(Ms).No. 253

Dated: 01.04.2024

சோபகிருது, பங்குனி 19ம் நாள்
திருவள்ளூர் ஆண்டு 2055

Read:-

1. Orders dated 30.01.2024 of Supreme Court of India in Writ Petition (Civil) No.406 of 2013.
2. From the Director General of Prisons and Correctional Services, Chennai-8 letter No.38719/PW3/ 2013, dated 26.02.2024.
3. From the Director General of Prisons and Correctional Services, Chennai-8 letter No.38719/PW3/ 2013, dated 18.03.2024.

ORDER:-

The Hon'ble Supreme Court of India in its order first read above has directed as follows:-

xxxxxxxxxxxx

6. xxx it would be appropriate to issue directions to constitute a Committee in each District of the States/Union Territories to do the following:-
 - i. Assess the available infrastructure in jails and take a decision on the number of additional jails to be constructed in the Districts;
 - ii. to assess the current capacity of the existing jails and requirement of constructing more jails or enhancing the capacity of existing jails to meet the standard laid down in the Model Prison Manual, 2016.
 - iii. Besides the above, the Committees shall also keep in mind the requirement of incorporating Artificial Intelligence and introducing video conferencing for conducting Mulakaats and tele-medicine facilities for the ease of the inmates.
7. Each State Government/Union Territory is directed **to set up a Committee comprising** of (i) Principal/ District Judge (Chairperson of the District Legal Services Authority), (ii) District Magistrate (In-charge Administrative Head of the District on Executive Side), (iii) Senior Superintendent/ Superintendent of Police, (iv) Secretary of the District Legal Services Authority and (v) Superintendent(s) of Jail. **The said Committee**

shall be notified by the State Governments/Union Territories within one week from the date of receipt of this order. The Secretary of the District Legal Services Authority shall be the convenor of the Committee. **The Committees shall convene the first meeting within two weeks from the date of their constitution.**

8. The Committees shall initiate steps to examine the requirement of expanding the existing jails and acquiring land to set up new jails within the District, depending on the current capacity, occupancy and future demands of the District and come up with firm proposals. The Committees will also take an update on the status of all the ongoing projects/proposals that are pending in the Districts and **ensure** that milestones are set down for completing the ongoing projects. Wherever a project has yet to take off for want of land, steps be taken identify the land for the purposes of acquisition and the report be tabled before the Chief Secretary of the State Government/Union Territory for obtaining necessary approvals and fast tracking the process. The Committees are permitted to examine the needs of the respective Districts and make proposals over and above of those that have been laid down the Model Prison Manual. **However, the minimum requirements prescribed under the said Manual shall not be compromised.** Future projections shall span over in a period of at least 50 years for implementation.

2. In the letter second read above, the Director General of Prisons and Correctional Services has sent necessary proposal and has requested for constitution of Committee as directed by Supreme Court of India with the following composition:-

S.No	Designation
1.	Principal/District and Session Judge (Chairperson of the DLSA)
2.	District Collector
3.	Senior most women judicial officer in the District
4.	Superintendent of Police of the District
5.	Secretary of the DLSA
6.	Superintendent of Prisons

3. In the letter third read above, the Director General of Prisons and Correctional Services has stated that the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India in its orders dated 16.02.2024 in Writ Petition (Civil) No.406/2013 has also directed as follows:-

"The senior most lady judicial officer in the District may also be included as a part of the Committee to give a fair assessment of the available security measures/hygiene measures/health care infrastructure/welfare of women prisoners/facilities for children lodged with their mothers in jails/barracks in each district. The said Committee may also include the Superintendent of Women Jails/women barracks, wherever possible".

4. The Director General of Prisons and Correctional Services has therefore requested that senior most women judicial officer may also be included in the

