

OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR GENERAL (PRISONS), CENTRAL JAIL
TIHAR, NEAR LAJWANTI GARDEN CHOWK,
NEW DELHI - 110 064.

Standing Order No. 35

A large number of inmates do not get any visitors. Such inmates may be under mental stress, depression and low morale. They may also be in dire need of financial assistance to meet their day-to-day expenses and personal needs. While some Superintendents and NGOs are taking steps on their own, there is need to put an institutional mechanism in place for the care of such inmates.

A new programme called "Sparsh" (स्पर्श) may be started under which the following steps taken:

1. Every Superintendent (Jail) must have a list of all inmates, whether convicts or undertrials, who do not get any *mulaquat*.
2. Personal interaction with them should be made by the Welfare Officer or Asstt. Superintendent (Welfare) under the supervision of the Superintendents to find out specific requirements of such inmates. They may need financial assistance to meet their day-to-day expenses or counselling or medical support.
3. For those who require financial assistance, we can either involve a NGO or give them items of daily need worth Rs.500/- per month from PWF to meet their day-to-day requirements.
4. Such inmates who require counselling or expert medical opinion should be referred to our Psychiatrist. NGOs can also be involved in providing Counsellors for counseling such inmates.
5. A number of inmates on release do not have enough money to go home which may be in far off places, therefore, we should act as per the provisions of Delhi Jail Manual Chapter III paragraph No. 102 which are enumerated as below :-

(1) Every prisoner whose home is situated more than five kms. from the jail from which he is released within the Union Territory of Delhi and who is not in possession of more than two rupees (exclusive of what he may have been awarded while confined in jail), shall at the time of his release, be provided with the local fare to his home.

(2) Every other released prisoner whose home is on or near any railway station and is situated more than five miles from the jail of his release or from the nearest railway station shall be entitled to:-


(a) a free railway pass of second class to the station nearest to his home; and

(b) conveyance allowance equivalent to the actual bus fare.

Provided that Government may, at any time, direct that in the case of any prisoner or class of prisoners no railway pass or bus fare shall be given on release from jail after completion of their sentence.

Hence, Superintendents must ensure that Deputy Superintendents on duty at the time of release, make enquiries from them and in case of needy inmates provide them financial assistance/railway warrants.

The above steps would ensure that inmates, who do not get any visitors, are not under financial or emotional stress. It is expected that all Superintendents (Jail) will take personal interests in making the scheme a success.


(NEERAJ KUMAR)
DIRECTOR GENERAL (PRISONS)

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