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DEPARTMENT OF WOMEN & CHILD DEVELOPMENT
GOVERNMENT OF N.C.T. OF DELHI
(CHILD PROTECTION UNIT)

5th Floor, ISBT Building, Kashmere Gate, DELHI-110006

F.61(1375)/SMWP(C)1/2020/DD(CPU)/DWCD/2019-20/28085-89 Dated:-17.03.2020

Sub:- Suo Motu Writ Petition(Civil)No. 01/2020- Contagion of COVID-19 virus in Prisons
(and Remand Homes)


In reference to the aforementioned subject matter, it is informed that the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India has taken Suo Motu cognizance regarding possible threat of COVID-19 VIRUS in Prisons and remand homes and has issued notices to all the States/UTs to show cause as to why direction should not be issued for dealing with the present health crisis arising out of corona virus and to suggest immediate measure, which should be adopted for medical assistance to the prisoners in all jails and juveniles lodged in the remand homes.

On the above issue, it has been observed that number of juveniles lodged in Observation Home for Boys, Sewa Kutir and Place of Safety/Special Home for Boys, Majnu ka Tila exceeds the capacity and therefore, it is challenging to enforce reasonable distancing among the inmates which is considered to be the most effective way of stopping the contagion of COVID-19 virus.

It is also added here that the Department vide its circular dated 04.03.2020 also issued necessary directions to the Child Care Institutions catering to children in need of care & protection and juveniles in conflict with law for prevention and control of COVID-19 virus. Another circular dated 17.03.2020 has further been issued which give more detail guidelines.

Thus, in view of above unusual situation and extraordinary prevailing circumstances, it is expedient to take following actions by the Superintendents of the Observation/Remand homes where children in conflict with law are lodged:-


1. Wherever any application for bail is pending, the JJB may be requested to expeditiously dispose it off. In this regard, detail orders dated 10.02.2020 of the



Hon'ble Supreme Court in WP (Criminal) No. 102/200, IA no. 24585 of 2020 on bail for Juvenile Justice may be referred for guidance and compliance.

2. Where a case, for some reason, is not in regular hearing, the JJB may be requested to take up the matter on regular basis for expeditious disposal.
3. In cases, where the legal assistance is not forthcoming, the services of the such DSLSA appointed legal functionaries may be taken who could help in taking the matter forward for expeditious trial in the JJB.
4. Wherever, the matter is pending for want of records and reports, those will be completed on top priority in order to assist JJB to expedite disposal.

All the above suggested measures or any other measures which can help in expeditious disposal of the cases of the juvenile lodged in the observation/remand homes may be taken up on priority.


(S.B. Shashank)
Director, WCD

Copy for necessary action:-

1. Superintendent of all Observation/Remand Homes.
2. Deputy Director(CPU), WCD.

Copy for information:-

1. Registrar, Juveniles Justice Committee, Delhi High Court.
2. Principal Magistrate of JJB-I/JJB-II/JJB-III/JJB-IV/JJB-V/JJB-VI.
3. Secretary, DSLSA.