GOVERNMENT OF INDIA/BHARAT SARKAR
MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS/GRINH MANTRALAYA
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Dated the 16th October, 2009

To

   The Principal Secretary/
   Secretary Home (in-charge of Prisons),
   All States and Union Territories.

**Subject : <u>Improving of security measures in jails to avoid the incident of jail breaking.</u>**

Sir/Madam,

   As you are aware the Central Govt. has been advising from time tome to the State Governments  on strengthening the security measures in jails to avoid the incident of jail breaking in past some occurrence of jail breaking has come to notice of the Central Government.  This occurs only due to laxity in security measures in Jails.

2.   Recently, an incident of serious jail break took place in Distt. Jail Shillong, Meghalya on 31st May, 2009 wherein a group of 7 under-trial prisoners escaped from the jail.  This incident could happen only due to extreme security lapses and indiscipline atmosphere in the jail.  During the enquiry, many lapses were found. The provision of jails manuals were not being followed properly.  The Superintendent of jail did not visit the jail on the date of the incident.  There was extremely lax atmosphere and prisoners who had access to money were using it to purchase food, cigarettes, liquor etc; through wardens who were obliging them for financial considerations.  Gadgets like DFMD, telephones etc. were nor functioning.  There was no alarm to be sounded when the jail break occurred.  There was gross indiscipline among the wardens and no action was taken to rectify the situation.

3.   While the Ministry is aware that the State Governments are concerned with the aforesaid issues and would be adopting all possible security measures in their respective States, it is reiterated that the provisions of the Jail Manual may be followed strictly.  State Governments may take necessary action for adopting foolproof measure in their respective States to avoid any incident of jail breaking.

Yours faithfully,
Sd/-
**(Nirmaljeet Singh Kalsi)**
Joint Secretary to the Govt. of India