

No.V-17013/07/2020-PR
Government of India
Ministry of Home Affairs

Women Safety Division, 2nd Floor,
Major Dhyan Chand National Stadium,
India Gate, New Delhi-110002
February 25, 2020.

To
The Chief Secretary/Principal Secretary (Home).
DG/IG (Prisons) of All States/Union Territories.

Subject: Actionable points arising out of the speech of the Hon'ble Union Home Minister on the occasion of the 49th Foundation Day of the BPR&D.

Sir,

During his speech on the occasion of 49th Foundation Day of Bureau of Police Research & Development (BPR&D) on 28.8.2019, Hon'ble Home Minister had, inter-alia, observed that there is a need to bring change in the approach of Jail officials towards prisoners. He had observed that there should be emphasis on reforming the prisoners who should get a chance to improve and reform themselves so that when they come out of the Jail, they can become good citizens. The Jail authorities should therefore make efforts in the direction of reforming the prisoners while they are in custody, for which they may be provided necessary training to bring an attitudinal change in Jail officials towards prisoners.

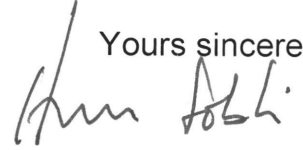
2. The Model Prison Manual 2016 circulated to all States and UTs by the Ministry of Home Affairs in May, 2016 also provides that prison discipline shall be given a human face by:-

- (i) Sympathetic and patient understanding of the predicaments of the inmates, with follow-up guidance and counseling, which will act as an emotional support base to them. Counseling will also act as a preventive measure against despondency in their psyche.
- (ii) Introducing a system of incentives and rewards which will be accorded to the deserving inmates making rapid progress on the path of correction.
- (iii) Exemplary conduct on the part of the Superintendent, Deputy Superintendent and other prison personnel will go a long way to encourage prisoners to return to the society at large and make it a better place for posterity.

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3. You are requested to take note of the observations/directions of Hon'ble Home Minister and lay emphasis on bringing attitudinal change in prison officials towards prisoners while organising training programmes/workshops of prison personnel in your jurisdiction.

Yours sincerely,



(Arun Sobti)

Deputy Secretary (PR&ATC)

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