

F.N.17013/13/2010-PR
Government of India
Ministry of Home Affairs

New Delhi, the 25th May 2010

To

Principal Secretary (Prisons)/ Principal Secretary (Home-in charge of prisons)
All State/ Union Territories

Sir

Subject: Smuggling of drugs into prisons- regarding

Drug abuse is a social evil. It destroys not only vitals of the society but also adversely affects the economic growth of the country.

2. Prisons though are one of the most secured premises, but even they have been hit by this menace. Many a times the drug traffickers manage to smuggle drugs in the prison premises. Drug addiction amongst people breeds crime and these criminals come back to prison and expand the market for drugs within the prison premises. Drug addicts often resort to crime to get money required to sustain their habit. The relationship between drug and crime is now too well known and drug addicts are likely to commit more offences every year. Thus drug addition is not only a problem in itself but is also a precursor for increase in crime rate in the society. Hence drug addiction among prison population, needs to be tackled effectively. This would need, not only the treatment of such prisoners who are drug addicts, but also by way of curbing/ eliminating the sale of drugs in the prison premises.

3. In order to address this issue, following steps are suggested:

- (1) Prison staff need to be sensitized about the drug related issues and its implications;
- (2) Prison staff need to be trained in detecting and apprehending drugs;
- (3) Wherever necessary, prisons are to be equipped with sniffer dogs to check the visitors and packages for drugs;
- (4) All addicts within the prison shall be registered and compulsorily sent for drug de-addiction.

(5) Every new entrant into the prison be tested for addiction and if need be sent for de-addiction.

The aforesaid steps are only indicative and not exhaustive.

4. All the State Governments/ UT administration are requested to take effective measures in the light of the recommendations made by the various committees/court judgments, the Model Prison Manual and advisories issued by the Government of India from time to time for the effective and smooth functioning of the prisons.

5. The receipt of this letter may please be acknowledged.

Yours faithfully

Sd/-

(Dr. Nirmaljeet Singh Kalsi)
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