

Minutes of the High Powered Committee Meeting held by circulation on 28.07.2021

(constituted for the compliance of the directions dated 23.03.2020 issued by the Hon'ble Supreme Court in Suo Moto Writ Petition No.01/2020 IN RE : CONTAGION OF COVID-19 IN PRISONS.)

The High Powered Committee Meeting (hereinafter mentioned as the Committee) has been attended by the following:-

1. Justice M. N. Bhandari, Acting Chief Justice, High Court of Judicature at Allahabad/Executive Chairman, UP State Legal Services Authority.
2. Awanish Kumar Awasthi, I.A.S., Additional Chief Secretary (Home/Prison), Govt. of U.P.
3. Anand Kumar, I.P.S., D.G. (Prison), Uttar Pradesh

The Committee has considered the Agenda and passed resolutions mentioned in the following table:-

| Sl. No. | Agenda | Resolution | | | | | | |
|------------------------------------|--|---|------------------------------------|------------------------------|-------|-------|------|-------|
| 1 | Actual status of Convicts and Under Trials granted Parole/Interim Bail and status of Vaccination of the Prisoners. | <p>The Committee has gone through the detailed report placed by the State Level Monitoring Team regarding the number of prisoners granted Parole and interim Bail till the evening of 15.07.2021, which is as follows:-</p> <table border="1"> <tr> <th>Prisoners released on Interim Bail</th><th>Prisoners released on Parole</th><th>Total</th></tr> <tr> <td>14402</td><td>2483</td><td>16885</td></tr> </table> <p>It has also been mentioned in the report of the State Level Monitoring Team that 91716 prisoners have got their first dose of COVID Vaccination. It has been further intimated that the request letter dated 25.06.2021 has been sent by the D.I.G. (Jail) to the Special Secretary, (Health) Govt. of U.P. for conducting health audit of all the jails of Uttar Pradesh.</p> | Prisoners released on Interim Bail | Prisoners released on Parole | Total | 14402 | 2483 | 16885 |
| Prisoners released on Interim Bail | Prisoners released on Parole | Total | | | | | | |
| 14402 | 2483 | 16885 | | | | | | |
| 2 | Extension of period of Interim Bail/Parole of Undertrial and | The Committee further considered, apprehending 3 rd Wave of Pandemic Covid-19, the request made by Sri Anand Kumar, D.G. (Prison) vide | | | | | | |

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|---|---|---|
| | Convicted prisoners. | <p>letter dated 25.06.2021 and letter dated 07.07.2021 of Sri Suresh Kumar Pandey, Special Secretary, Govt. of U.P. regarding the extension of period of parole of convicted prisoners for further 60/90 days, who have been earlier released as per the directions dated 26.04.2021 of the High Powered Committee.</p> <p>In the light of request made by the State Government and the Prison Authorities, in view of the possibility of third wave of Pandemic Covid-19 and overcrowding in Jails, the Committee resolves that the State Government is directed to extend the period of parole for further 60 or 90 days (as the case may be) to the aforesaid convicts from the date of their respective period of earlier parole expires.</p> |
| 3 | <p>Order dated 16.07.2021 passed by the Hon'ble Supreme Court in the Writ Petition No. 01/2020 regarding prisoner already released on Bail.</p> | <p>The Member Secretary, UPSLSA has drawn attention of the Committee that NALSA, vide letter dated 17.07.2021, communicated to UPSLSA the latest order (dated 16.07.2021) passed by the <u>Hon'ble Supreme Court in Suo Moto Writ Petition No.01/2020 IN RE : CONTAGION OF COVID-19 IN PRISONS.</u>, wherein certain directions have been made for the Prisoners, already released on Bail. The directions of Hon'ble Supreme Court is herein after quoted:-</p> <p>“..So far as those prisoners who have already been released on bail from the prison by virtue of orders passed by this Court from time to time and on the basis of recommendations of High Powered Committees constituted for the purpose are concerned, they shall not be asked to surrender to the prison, until further orders..”.</p> <p>The Member Secretary also apprised the Committee that a letter of request dated 20.07.2021 has already been sent to the Registrar General, High Court of Judicature at Allahabad to kindly place the copy of the aforesaid order dated 16.07.2021 before the Hon'ble High Court to get it circulated amongst all the Judicial Officers across the State for the compliance of directions of the Hon'ble Supreme Court.</p> |

Considering the directions dated 16.07.2021, issued by the Hon'ble Supreme Court, the Committee resolves that the reports regarding steps taken by the Registrar General, High Court of Judicature at Allahabad be placed before this Committee in the next meeting.

The Committee also resolves that the directions dated 26.04.2021, issued by the Committee regarding Interim Bail shall be continued for fresh/already released under trial prisoners and juveniles conflict with law, subject to the directions issued, time to time in future, by the Hon'ble Allahabad High Court or Hon'ble Supreme Court, in this regard.

Let all the concerned Authorities/officers be informed accordingly.



(Anand Kumar)
Director General (Prison),
Uttar Pradesh
28.07.2021



(Awanish Kumar Awasthi)
Addl. Chief Secretary (Home/Prison),
Government of Uttar Pradesh
28.07.2021



(Justice M.N. Bhandari)
Acting Chief Justice, Allahabad High Court
&
Executive Chairman,
UP State Legal Services Authority.
28.07.2021