

Resolutions adopted by 5th National Conference of Heads of Prisons of States/UTs on Prison Reforms

1. The nomenclature of Prisons Department in the States should be changed to “Department of Correctional Services”, which should have integrated prison, correctional and probation services.
2. All States should have Probation services/Officers in prisons. Every state should establish a Welfare Wing under Prison Department Comprising Welfare Officers, Law Officers, Counselors and Probation Officers.
3. A National Prisons Mission on the lines of National Police Mission or a Micro Mission on Prisons should be set up.
4. In order to ensure basic uniformity in prison rules, regulations, standards, procedures and their implementation in different states and Union Territories, the states should revise their existing Prison Manuals by adopting the provisions of Model Prison Manual, 2016 prepared by the Ministry of Home Affairs.
5. Govt. of India may consider establishing additional Regional Institutes of Correctional Administration for each region of India and one National Correctional Administration Academy.
6. Govt. of India may formulate a ‘Modernization of Prisons Scheme – Phase II’ as a follow up to the ‘Modernization of Prisons Scheme’ which was very successful in improving the Prison infrastructure in the country.
7. National Conference of Heads of Prisons/Correctional Administrators should be held annually like DGsP and IGsP Conference.
8. All Prisons should be linked with Courts through video conferencing for expeditious trial and to save the costs in escorting the undertrial prisoners to Courts.

9. Prison e-system should be integrated with CCTNS as well as e-courts on priority basis.
10. The existing vacancies in all ranks of Prison Departments should be filled up expeditiously.
11. Combined training of Prison, Police, Health Department and Judiciary on Undertrial Management and separate training course on De-radicalization of prisoners should be conducted.

Several delegates were of the view that an All India Service namely Indian Correctional Service should be constituted and developed as a professional career service. This suggestion needs to be further deliberated upon.
