Best Practices in Telangana Prisons
## Institutional Set up

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Central Prisons</th>
<th>District Prisons</th>
<th>Special Prisons for Women</th>
<th>Prisoners Agricultural Colony</th>
<th>Borstal School</th>
<th>Special Sub Jails</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hyderabad</td>
<td>Adilabad</td>
<td>Hyderabad</td>
<td>Cherlapally</td>
<td>Nizamabad</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cherlapally &amp; Warangal</td>
<td>Sangareddy Nalgonda Nizamabad Karimnagar Mahabubnagar Khammam</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
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</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Sub Jails: 33
As on 26.1.2019 the details of Prisons Lock up

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Convicted Prisoners</th>
<th>Remand Prisoners</th>
<th>Others</th>
<th>Total</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Male</td>
<td>2016</td>
<td>2998</td>
<td>300</td>
<td>5256</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Female</td>
<td>155</td>
<td>230</td>
<td>26</td>
<td>394</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>2171</td>
<td>3228</td>
<td>326</td>
<td>5725</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
In Telangana State Prisons department has been a neglected child over years. Due to Shortage of budget, less manpower, lack of infrastructure plagued the department

Vision 2025 started with the realization that crying and cribbing doesn’t help. We have to help ourselves

We resolved to make Telangana State Prisons as one of the best prisons in the Country

To observe the best practices in the other state prisons in the country The Director General of Prisons& Correctional Services, Telangana State visited-Tamilnadu, Kerala, UP, Bihar, Gujarat, Punjab, New Delhi(Tihar), Rajasthan, MP, Odisha and Pondicherry
Infrastructure before Year?

- No proper maintenance of prison buildings
- Roof leakages in many prison buildings
- Badly maintained residential quarters
- Ill-equipped/ ill-furnished offices
- Insufficient illumination in prison premises
- Insecure door and window grills
Status of Infrastructure now

- Jails like resorts.
- Well maintained buildings through our own efforts.
- High tech visitor lounges at all Central Jails and District Jails.
- State of the art Head quarters is constructed in 2014-2015 with the help of renowned architect and Interior designer.
- New Guesthouses and classrooms etc constructed in 2015-2016.
- Chambers of all officers refurnished and air conditioned to change the organizational climate and improve self esteem and efficiency.
- All prison buildings, residential quarters and perimeter walls painted with Uniform color code - a glossy look.
New Prisons Headquarters, Hyderabad
DISTRICT JAIL, NIZAMABAD

Prior view

Present view
STAFF QUARTERS: CENTRAL PRISON, HYDERABAD

Prior view

Present view
Open auditorium at CPCH
District jail Sangareddy
Inside view of District Jail, Sangareddy
District Jail Khammam
Sub jail Huzurnagar
Visitors Lounge at Central Prison Hyderabad
Contraband items

➢ **Past scenario**- Cell phone, Ganja and other contraband articles were regularly found.

➢ An adverse news telecasted in local Telugu news channel regarding usage of cell phones by prison inmates.
Current scenario

➢ No such contraband items found in many recent surprise raids conducted by DG Prisons task force in Central Prison, Hyderabad, Central Prison Cherlapally, Central Prison Warangal and other jails.

➢ This achievement was spectacular because we didn’t have any technical gadgets till recently.
Mobility

➢ In the past mobility in our Jails was very poor.

➢ Now we have purchased around 117 vehicles of which 56 are four wheelers and 61 are two wheelers.

➢ All these vehicles have been purchased out of Prison Development Fund.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>S.No</th>
<th>Name of the Vehicle</th>
<th>Before June 2014</th>
<th>After June 2014</th>
<th>S.No</th>
<th>Name of the Vehicle</th>
<th>Before June 2014</th>
<th>After June 2014</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Skoda Octavia</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>Swaraj Mazda bus</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Toyota Innova</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>Eicher Van</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Honda City</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>Tata Turbo (407)Escort Van</td>
<td>3</td>
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<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Mahindra Scorpio</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>17</td>
<td>Swaraj Mazda Ambulance</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Mahindra Bolero</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>Tata Sumo Ambulance</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>Tata Sumo Gold</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>19</td>
<td>Maruthi Echo Ambulance</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>Maruthi Ertiga</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>Maruthi Omni Ambulance</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>Tata Sumo victa</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>21</td>
<td>JCB 3DX Excavator</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>Toyota Qualis</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>22</td>
<td>Tractor</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>Ambassador car</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>23</td>
<td>Tractor Trailer</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11</td>
<td>Tata Indica</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>24</td>
<td>Motor Cycles</td>
<td>19</td>
<td>61</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12</td>
<td>Maruthi Van</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>Battery Operative vehicle</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13</td>
<td>Force Traveller</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>26</td>
<td>Tata Ace Auto</td>
<td>12</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

➢ Before June 2014- Total 87 vehicles
➢ After June 2014- Total 117
MOBILITY
Technology

❖ On Technology front Telangana Prisons Department made tremendous progress.

❖ Videoconferencing facility is extended to all Central, District Jails and Sub Jails.

❖ CCTV Camera’s with Command control rooms are established in all Central Prisons, District Prisons and Special Sub Jails

❖ All Jails are provided with LCD projector for the Prisoners training.

❖ Telephone facility for inmates is provided in all Central and District Jails.

❖ E Prisons (PIMS) project with the collaboration of NICS started in 2015 in all Telangana jails

❖ E- mulakhath facility is introduced in all Jails.

❖ Having seen the improvement in Telangana Prisons, the Government has sanctioned 30 crore rupees for Modernization and Technology upgradation.
Command & Control room
Corruption free Jails

- Prisons Department, Telangana State, declared itself a corruption free Department
- First Department to have the courage to do so
- 4 stage process to control corruption
- All staff takes oath on every Monday
- More than 1 Lakh posters are posted throughout the state
- Third party call system: takes feedback from released Prisoners
Declared reward of Rs.10,000/- (Rupees Ten thousand) to any one whose complaint of corruption against Prison officials proved true.
Health

Past scenario

➢ Many vacancies of Doctors in Jails.

➢ High Inmate deaths in Jails.

➢ Hon’ble High Court of Hyderabad expressed displeasure.

➢ Prisoners protested at recurring deaths.

➢ Press & media portrayed Prisons in very poor light for the lack of health facilities.
### Deaths of Prisoners data

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year (Jan to Dec)</th>
<th>Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2013</td>
<td>53</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2014</td>
<td>56</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2015</td>
<td>32</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2016</td>
<td>24</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2017</td>
<td>17</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2018</td>
<td>08</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Current facilities

➢ Many measures undertaken to improve Health facilities.

➢ **Mandatory Master Health checkup to those who spend more than 7 days in jails.**

➢ Smoking banned in all jails in 2015.

➢ Personal responsibility of Superintendent and Medical Officer.

➢ Senior officer to visit prisoners daily if they are in Hospital.

➢ Warders and others being taken as Lab technicians to create facility of pathology tests.

➢ Free supply of medicines through Prison Development Fund.

➢ Medical camps organized in Jails and visits of specialist Doctors arranged.

➢ Government filled up the posts of Doctors at our request.
Prisoner deaths on the decline in Telangana

YUNUS Y. LASANIA

HYDERABAD: The number of deaths across various prisons in Telangana has come down by more than half in the last few years. Senior officials said that a couple of recent initiatives including extension of quick medical relief to help prisoners has brought the number of casualties down.

According to V. K. Singh, Director General of Prisons and Correctional Services, there were a total of 53 deaths in 2013, 56 in 2014, 32 in 2015 and only 19 in 2016, so far. “Also, only three suicides took place in about three years. Now, every new prisoner has to go through seven-day master health check-up so that we can ascertain his condition,” he added.

Mr. Singh stated that previously there was an issue in getting funds to treat prisoners who needed to be rushed to hospitals, due to which the casualties were higher.

“Now, we utilise the Prison Fund for medical expenditure. Thanks to the petrol pumps we started, the department earned Rs. 3 crore through that alone this year,” he told The Hindu.

Another reason behind the reduction in deaths is the complete smoking ban in prisons in the State, pointed out Mr. Singh. The ban was put in place a year-and-a-half ago, prior to which inmates could buy cigarettes from the canteen itself.

“Some inmates almost revolted initially, but we told them to give us a month’s time and now they are okay with it,” he added.

Thanks to the revenue the department earned through its six petrol pumps and other established work for inmates, it has been able to purchase 100 new vehicles including two-wheelers. It is one of the reasons why medical care can be provided immediately to any prisoner when needed, mentioned Mr. Singh.

“We hope to improve the revenue even further and become self-sufficient in the coming years. Another aim is to set up about 100 more petrol pumps in the State to provide more employment to prison inmates and also for rehabilitating those who are released,” said Mr. Singh.

As of now, the Prisons Department has six petrol stations in Hyderabad, Cherlapally, Nalgonda, Mahabubnagar, Warangal and Khammam.
Past scenario of Industries in Telangana Prisons

- Industries were in moribund stage.
- Only around 5% of the prisoners getting work, if we include under trials.
- Only two Central prisons viz., CP Cherlapally and CP Warangal had Industries.
- No marketing, no outlet, no quality control and no money for raw materials.
- Very poor skills or rather totally unskilled prisoners.
## INDUSTRIES

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Turnover</th>
<th>Profit</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2014</td>
<td>149 Crores</td>
<td>Rs. 3.04 Crores</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2015</td>
<td>165 Crores</td>
<td>Rs. 5.01 Crores</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2016</td>
<td>297 Crores</td>
<td>Rs. 7.14 Crores</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2017</td>
<td>399 Crores</td>
<td>Rs. 12.85 Crores</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2018</td>
<td>495.85 Crores</td>
<td>Rs. 16.72 Crores</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2020</td>
<td></td>
<td>Expected profit</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>100 crores</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Current status of the Industries

➢ We are aiming at 100 Crores annual profit by 2020. We will be self sufficient financially by 2020.

➢ All jails now being made Industrial hubs.

➢ New ventures like Ayurvedic Village, plywood furniture taken up in different Jails.

➢ We run 16 Petrol Pumps in different districts of Telangana. We have a plan to open about 100 petrol bunks.

➢ Prison Development Fund being used to rejuvenate industries.

➢ New Machines are being purchased.

- Public Private Partnerships in many areas. Like PPP with SS industries for steel manufacturing and MOU with Himalaya Drugs.

- We have opened more than 300 MY NATION outlets for sale of Prison products across the state. Now we have no problem of demand.
## My Nation Village Outlets

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Total No. of Village Outlets established throughout Telangana State</th>
<th>2018 Total Sales</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>980</td>
<td>Rs. 93,65,199-00</td>
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</table>
Jails in Telangana State set to become manufacturing hubs

Prisons to be made self-sufficient in funds and turned into reformation centres

Special Correspondent

HYDERABAD: In a few months from now, jails in Telangana State will have their own outlet to sell products made by prisoners, and that too with a brand name -- ‘My Nation’.

This would be one of the steps to make prisons self-sufficient in funds and transform them into reformation centres, said Telangana Prisons and Correctional Services DG Vinay Kumar Singh on Tuesday.

Addressing a press conference, Mr. Singh said that he hopes the Rs. 1 crore annual budget allocation made to the department would be returned to the Government by next year by making jails manufacturing hubs.

The first outlet to sell goods like soaps, blankets, furniture and bakery items made by prisoners would come up at Chanchalguda central prison in a few months. Soon, each of the seven district jails in Telangana would have similar stores. “Our prisoners make good soaps but they are not packed or made to look beautiful like other companies. Better marketing and brand image will surely increase their revenues,” Mr. Singh said.

Thrust was not only on enhancing revenues of prisoners but to focus on their all-round development. From Friday, ‘Vidyadanam Yojana’ would be launched with the help of Director of Adult Education and Tata Consultancy Services (TCS) to make illiterate prisoners literate.

More corporate companies would also participate in the project. Educated prisoners would teach the illiterate inmates of jails while the literate and educated would be imparted skills in vocational training. Illiterate prisoners would be taught and prepared to appear for 10th standard exam through Open School.

Adult education

In the second phase, prisoners educated through this project would be asked to set up adult education centres and take up literacy programmes after their release. Motivational classes with experts from different fields like films, health, police, environment and spiritual would be held for them.

Two teams of Telangana prisons officials had gone to study the systems adopted to reform prisoners at Yerawada jail in Maharashtra and Tihar jail in Delhi. They would suggest measures to improve functioning of jails in Telangana.
Hyderabad: The 5th national conference of heads of prisons of states and Union Territories on prison reforms will be held by Bureau of Police Research and Development (BPR&D) in New Delhi on September 29-30.

Telangana prison authorities will talk about best practices in prisons with special reference to agriculture and industry. Other topics that will be dealt with by officials from across country include rehabilitation and re-integration of inmates, technology and security in prisons.

A Narasimha, DIG prisons, Telangana told TOI that one of the main things that will be spoken about would be setting up and operating of petrol bunks in jails.

“Apart from the existing five petrol bunks, another five will be opened. The prisons department has chalked out a plan to open a total of 100 petrol bunks throughout the state that would fetch a revenue of Rs 200 crore per annum,” Narasimha said.

Narasimha, who will represent Telangana at the conference, said unlike existing petrol bunks attached to prisoners which are operated by convicts, the proposed new petrol bunks would also employ prisoners who have served their terms to help them rehabilitate better.

Recently in Uppal, the IOC handed over operations of a petrol bunk to the prisons department. Also, a steel manufacturing unit was set up at Open air jail at Cherlapally on public-private partnership (PPP) basis. More than 100 prisoners helped set up the unit. Authorities said both government and private parties placed orders worth Rs 20 crore for manufacture of steel furniture. The Cherlapally central prison also got a Rs 2-crore order to supply steel furniture to chief minister K Chandrasekhara Rao’s constituency Gajwel.

There are power looms in prisons, carpet-making units, bakeries and other units, apart from agriculture that is undertaken. Inmates of the open air jail are for the first time also running a service centre for bikes, scooters and four-wheelers. A lorry weigh bridge is also operated at the place.

According to DIG Narasimha, a multi-colour offset printing machine has also been planned for the open air jail under the PPP mode.
Country’s jails may take lessons from TS prisons

Bureau of Police Research and Development impressed with practices adopted by Telangana government

M. Srinivas
Hyderabad

Impressed with the initiatives of the Telangana State Prisons Department, Bureau of Police Research and Development (BPRD) working under the Ministry of Home Affairs sought more information about the practices adopted in prisons here for implementing the same in jails across the country.

Informing this to the media at an annual press meet in the city on Monday, Prisons Director General VK Singh said BPRD appreciated the best practices implemented in Telangana prisons. He said BPRD officials wanted more details about the various initiatives taken up by the Prisons Department during his recent visit to New Delhi.

**Tucking away profit**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Central Prisons</th>
<th>District Prisons</th>
<th>Special Prisons</th>
<th>Other Jails</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2014</td>
<td>3,07 cr</td>
<td>5,15 cr</td>
<td>7,34 cr</td>
<td>15 cr</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2015</td>
<td>5,15 cr</td>
<td>7,34 cr</td>
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<tr>
<td>2016</td>
<td>7,34 cr</td>
<td>7,34 cr</td>
<td>7,34 cr</td>
<td>15 cr</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2017</td>
<td>7,34 cr</td>
<td>7,34 cr</td>
<td>7,34 cr</td>
<td>15 cr</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**GROUND FACTS**

3 Central Prisons
7 District Prisons
4 Special Prisons
36 Other Jails
50 Total no. of prisons

**Department’s initiatives pay off**

The Prisons Department generated revenue of over Rs 15 crore in 2017 through its petrol filling stations, an Ayurveda outlet and stores run under the banner of ‘My Nation’ in villages.

The revenue was generated through 13 fuel stations, an Ayurveda shop and 40 ‘My Nation’ outlets. Prisons Director General VK Singh said on Monday. He said the prisoners were making a variety of products — apparel, vegetables, baked food, towels, soaps — and selling them through the department’s outlets.

**Number of deaths in prisons reduces**

CITY BUREAU
Hyderabad

The number of deaths of prisoners in jails was significantly coming down, Director General of Prisons Department VK Singh said on Monday.

Around 17 deaths were recorded in 2017, while 24 were recorded in 2016. In 2015 and 2014, Singh attributed the dip to implementation of certain measures such as smoking ban, yoga, ensuring proper food and master health check-ups. Several prisoners were already suffering from ailments such as cancer, kidney issues and AIDS, he said.

Telangana prisons registered 68,303 admissions in 2017, of which 5,474 prisoners are in jails. Out of these, 2,816 are convicts, 3,078 undertrials, 128 deities and 586 women prisoners.

The total accommodation capacity of all jails is 6,848 prisoners, Singh said.

To get real-time feedback from the released prisoners, the department started a third-party call centre. After contacting 1,290 released prisoners in 2017, only 20 had complaints and 134 spoke well about the department. The complaints were mainly about bad behaviour, and delay in bail and food, he said.

**Going in detail**

Apart from this, Prisons officials gave a power-point presentation during the annual conference of Director Generals of Prisons conducted in the city last year. Stating that senior officials from BPRD attended the meeting, Singh said the Bureau now wanted more details about the initiatives taken up in all States.

“We explained in detail about the programmes that were launched for the welfare of prisoners, apart from other reforms,” he said. The department also explained the maintenance of prisons without additional funds.

**Vidyadham and Umnati**

Vidyadham and Umnati, launched in November 2014, visited the department’s Anand Ashram. Of them, 1,013 were released on the statement that they would not resort to begging again. As on January 8, 3,292 beggars, including 101 women, were released from Anand Ashram.

For beggars

Singh also clarified that the department did not pick up owners of the traditionally decorated bull, Gangireedu, visiting houses during Sandrathi. “We don’t count them as beggars,” Singh said.

**CITY BUREAU**

Hyderabad

The Prisons Department generated revenue of over Rs 15 crore in 2017 through its petrol filling stations, an Ayurveda outlet and stores run under the banner of ‘My Nation’ in villages.

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## Employed Prisoners details

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>S.No</th>
<th>Total no of Convicts</th>
<th>No of Convict Prisoners employed</th>
<th>Total no of Under trials</th>
<th>No Of UT’s employed</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>1952</td>
<td>1428</td>
<td>3015</td>
<td>399</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

- Now 73% of convicted Prisoners are employed in Prison Industries.
- Efforts are being put to provide employment to 90% convicts and 50% UT’s.
Employed released women prisoners at Petrol pump at Chanchalguda
STATE CARE

TS runs nursery for prisoners’ children

RAHAEL MATHEW | DC
HYDERABAD, SEPT. 2

A booming prison nursery is one among the countless initiatives started by the Telangana State prisons in the recent years. Programs within penitentiaries extending to the care of children whose mothers are incarcerated is rare across other prisons in the country.

Basheera Begum, the Superintendent of Special Prison for Women, said, “Currently there are six children who attend the local English medium school. The younger children attend a small care-centre that teaches them the basics like ABCs and where other elementary and nursery activities are conducted. Apart from housing the children in special mother-child cells to encourage the motherly bonding which is known to positively impact the growing and upbringing of children, there are also other programs aimed at the educational aspect of a child’s well-being.”

Children below the age of three years in the state prison have attend a prison run day-care centre filled with numerous activities to enhance their cognitive development at an early age. In addition, children below six years are sent to an English medium school outside the prison to begin their formal education. A prison personnel is assigned as an escort to transport them from the prison to their schools on a daily basis.

Speaking about the short-term and long-term impact on children of growing up without parents, Dr. Purnima Nagaraja said, “In the short-term, parental separation leaves children struggling emotionally. Anger and sadness are normal, regardless of your child’s age, even if they are adults. Sadness can lead to isolation, loneliness, and social difficulty. Anger can also be seen as children grapple with feelings of abandonment, guilt, worry or blame towards another parent.”

She said, “Another important short-term challenge is that children often believe they are responsible for their parent’s separation. They are particularly vulnerable to these kinds of thoughts between the ages of three and eight.”

“Coming to the long-term impact, it leaves an enduring legacy in the lives of children. The ones from broken homes are more likely to experience higher incidence of drug use, criminality, broken marriages in their own lives and depression. On every well-being indicator, kids who come from broken families do worse, in general, than children from intact, functioning families. Ongoing parental conflict has substantial impact on children’s long-term outcomes. No matter what happens, separation and divorce will have a negative impact on your children, but the longer the conflict lasts, the greater the impact is,” she concluded.
Women prisoners live their dreams through children

BAYAN SRINIVAS REDDY
HYDERABAD

Savita and Asha (names changed), inmates of the Telangana Special Prison for Women at Chanchalguda here, are now happy mothers. Why? Despite being in jail, they are able to live out their dreams of sending their children to school and providing them a normal life, thanks to a novel initiative undertaken by the State Prisons Department.

Billed as the first such experiment in the country, the department is ensuring that children of women prisoners get a normal upbringing in a healthy and secure atmosphere, without suffering any consequences owing to misdeeds of their parent. The children get to go to schools located within the prison premises as also outside.

There are also play homes and Anganwadi centres in the jail premises to give basic education to kids. Children, who go out of the jail for their primary education, are escorted by constables to their schools in a van and picked up in the evening after school.

Speaking to The Pioneer, Basheera Begum, Superintendent, Special Prison for Women, said: “We have 12 children who are going to Anganwadi School in the jail premises. Some kids, who are below three years of age, are sent to a play school started by the jail authorities within the jail premises. We have recruited a teacher to teach them basics like numbers, colours and identification of alphabets. They get to play with some toys too.”

Kids who have completed their basic education in play schools and Anganwadi centres in jail premises go to nearby English medium schools outside the jail for their primary education. “We have six kids who are going to a school located outside the jail,” the official said.

The Prison Department bears the fees and other expenditures of the children of women prisoners. There are around 250 women prisoners here. Of them, 150 are convicts while the remaining are under-trials. Most of the prisoners are convicts in murder cases. The State Jail for Women was established in Hyderabad in 1994 on recommendation of the National Expert Committee on Women Prisoners. The jail is entirely managed by women.

“We have started this novel initiative as children of women prisoners too have a right to access good education and nutritional food as per the directives of the Supreme Court. Kids should not suffer for the misdeeds of their parent,” said V Saidath, Deputy Inspector General of Police (Prisons). A park and playground have also been developed in the jail premises for the benefit of children.

‘No helmet, no petrol’ at Prisons Dept-run bunks

NEELAM SHAW
Hyderabad

In its attempt to make commuters aware of basic road safety measures, in the coming days, the Prisons Department would stop selling petrol to commuters on two-wheelers who do not wear a helmet. An order to this effect is expected to be issued by the Prisons Department in the coming days, officials said.

VK Singh, Director General Telangana Prisons said, “The sole objective is to reduce accidents in the city. The decision may hit our revenue, but one has to take such initiative aimed at a social cause.”

The Prison Department owns 13 petrol bunks across the State and eight more are in the process of getting ready which would be functional within one to two months, said VK Singh.

“About 90 per cent of the accidents occur due to people not wearing helmets. For us, this is not just an initiative but a social message which we want to implement throughout” he said.

The top officials said that action will be taken on employees, in case they are found to be providing service to two-wheeler owners who have arrived without wearing a helmet. The Prison Department already has kept the employees of the petrol bunk under surveillance through CCTV cameras.

The order is expected to be issued on Tuesday. Singh also expressed hope that other private bunks will follow the same. Prisons wing will be the first to have taken up such an initiative.
Inside Ayurveda village
VIDYADANA YOJANA

➢ A Unique Program adopted in the year 2014.
➢ Jails as Sainik school
➢ Every Prisoner who cannot sign is taught to sign his name.
➢ Every Prisoner is provided with basic education.
➢ Basing on the Prisoners education level, they are divided into classes from Class-I to Class X.
➢ Exams are conducted regularly to monitor the progress of the Prisoners.
➢ **Trimester system**: After every three months, Prisoner is promoted to next class.
➢ Those who fail have to take backlog exams.
➢ Prisoners who have qualification above class-X are given computer education.
➢ Computers are provided to all Jails including Sub Jails.
Inmates who gone through the education programme inside the Prison

- 2014: 7%
- 2015: 10%
- 2016: 11%
- 2017: 13%
- 2018: 9%

TOTAL: 50%

Other: 59%
State jails turn schools by educating illiterate prisoners

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
@ Hyderabad

SINCE September 2014, jails in Telangana have been transformed into schools under the Vidyadaana Yojana programme as part of the Mahaparivarthan. Though teaching and learning in jails is not a new concept, converting jails into schools with a strict schedule, from sports to yoga and also other classes is an innovation by the Telangana State Prisons Department. On Thursday, World Literacy Day, Express took a look at how Telangana jails are turning into schools, revealing that out of 32,143 illiterate prisoners 28,526 turned literates in 2015 and out of 16,950 illiterate prisoners 15,778 turned literates in 2016.

“While those who have spent a significant amount of time are able to read newspapers, those who have spent little time can sign their names,” said V K Singh, Director General of Prisons and Correctional Services.

“We work with the concept — thumb impression out, signature in. One prisoner, who must be more than 65-years-old, convicted for dowry harassment, learnt how to sign. She was showing her son and they were both overwhelmed. It was a sight to watch,” he added.

A total of 3,132 prisoners are now trained in some kind of vocational courses, 881 in computers and 569 in higher education through Open University and other modes of education.

“Some are B Tech graduates too. We have selected such qualified prisoners to conduct classes,” Singh added.

“Classes are mandatory unless they are sick,” he added. “They have weekly tests and assessments every month. Most of them are happy by the time they leave,” added Singh. “Last year, the number of prison deaths came down from 56 to 14. They are fitter as they go through physical training every day,” Singh said.
Bars are no bar for education

RAHUEL MATHEW I DC
NEW DELHI, AUG. 23

Serving my jail sentence changed my life, says a minor convict who was given life imprisonment for murder by the metropolitan sessions judge II, Nanakpally court. Pradip D, a native of Tripura, was sentenced to seven years in the Chanchalguda Central Jail. He was later acquitted in 2016. One year imprisonment has changed his life for the better.

Pradip is working in the prison library, where he helps other prisoners in their studies. "I was once a lawyer in Mainland China, but being brought up in an area with a stone in a fit of rage, Pradip started the cell with a drinking habit, but it was around midnight that our brawl began. Pradip attacked me following an argument and he killed me. My friends, Sanjeev and Deepak, came to fight. The scuffle escalated to a level where I was known to have killed Deep with a stone.

Next morning, Pradip went to work as scheduled, unaware that Deep had died at the hospital. An officer who was on duty at the time, while his work, the police entered Mainland China, and was grilled regarding the night of the brawl. I was shocked as I learnt about Deep's death. I was completely shocked. I was charged with murder. I was acquitted at my place of work and taken to prison. Whenever I thought of the police, I was not possible to do anything. I was given some documents, proving my age and name. I was kept in the juvenile section of the jail. Now, the jail describes itself as a ‘correctional home’.

Pradip luckily was able to talk to his parents, with the help of his lawyer, Narsimha, Inspector of Prisons, and Sai Nath, Deputy Inspector General of Prisons. They allowed him to visit the prison and be with his family.

Pradip's first job inside the jail was to work as a tailor: While working at this job, he would often pass the desk of the factory where he would learn how to work on a computer. He requested the permission of the jailer to take classes, but he turned down his request. Pradip's interest grew and he requested to begin studying. Pradip no longer held a bachelor's degree.

Pradip was released on April 29, 2016, from the Chanchalguda Central Jail. Pradip immediately returned home to meet his family. Pradip says, "My parents were heartbroken when I went to jail. I had lost my job and my name and family's name. But my mother's eyes filled with pride when she came to know that I was released on bail, and when I told her I had actually studied inside the prison walls and had a job waiting for me on the outside."

Raju taught other prisoners in prison

DC CORRESPONDENT
HYDERABAD, Aug. 23

Raju Reddy (name changed), 56-year-old ex-con, was sentenced to one lifetime in prison for theft. He had been active in the metal trade due to property quarrels.

Raju was a fit of rage, a side job that he gave to educated people like me, who were living in the top 10% of the community. I had knowledge of those who were not so fortunate. He was not literate and his knowledge was limited to the lower grades. One of the people who argued with him was Pradip, a boy who had been associating with the murder of a rich man.

Pradip was to be a part of his studying, but when you see him now, he is still pursuing his education.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sl. No</th>
<th>TIMINGS</th>
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</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>6.00 AM TO 7.00 AM</td>
<td>Unlocking, fresh up &amp; Tea</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>7.00 AM TO 8.00 AM</td>
<td>P.T  &amp;  Parade</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>8.00 AM TO 9.00 AM</td>
<td>Breakfast, Cleaning &amp; Bathing</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>9 AM TO 11.00 AM</td>
<td>Vidyadanam - Education  classes to prisoners</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>11.00 AM TO11.45 AM</td>
<td>Lunch</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
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<td>Mid-day Census</td>
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<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>12.15 PM  TO 1.00 PM</td>
<td>Rest &amp; Tea</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>1.00 PM  TO 3.00 PM</td>
<td>Vidyadanam - Education  classes to prisoners</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>3.00 PM TO 4.00 PM</td>
<td>Moral Classes - Guest Lectures, Short Films through Projector</td>
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<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>4.00 PM TO 4.45 PM</td>
<td>Mass Yoga</td>
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<td>5.00 PM TO 5.45 PM</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>12</td>
<td>5.45 PM TO-6.00 PM</td>
<td>Lock Up</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13</td>
<td>7.00 PM TO 8.00 PM</td>
<td>Study Hour ( for weak students) / TV hours</td>
</tr>
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</table>
Mahaparivarthan
Project Mahaparivarthanan was launched in August, 2015 which aims at complete transformation of a Prisoner in all aspects.

The programme aims to reduce Recidivism and thereby crime in the society.
Unnati Programme

❖ Cognitive – Behavioural Skill Development Program called ‘UNNATI’ is a one month counselling program for prisoners.

❖ Prof. C. Beena and Team is conducting training programs for Prison inmates who are habitual and high risk offenders at Central Prisons and District Prisons.

❖ CT Inmates are being trained under T.O.T (Training of Trainers) to counsel / motivate the fellow Inmates to lead a crime free life.

❖ This specially designed counseling program “UNNATI” is yielding good results in reforming the offending behavior.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>S.no</th>
<th>Number of Prisoners attended</th>
<th>Number of Prisoners released</th>
<th>Number Of participants returned to prison</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1.</td>
<td>5092</td>
<td>4246</td>
<td>76</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

- From 2015 till date **186** batches conducted in all 10 prisons
**Convicts turn reformers in jail**

**Times News Network**

**Hyderabad**: Criminals reforming other criminals? It may sound incredible, but this is happening at the Cherlapalli central prison.

Perhaps for the first time in the country, or anywhere in the world, hardcore criminals, undergoing life imprisonment, have had a change of heart in jail and are counselling repeat offenders to shun the path of crime and violence.

As many as 130 convicts who went through counselling showed clear signs of change in attitude if psychological tests conducted on them are any indication. Having turned a new leaf, these convicts are persuading others against continuing with a life of crime.

At the height of the separate Telangana struggle, several students were counselled against committing suicide by Sahyam Psychological Counselling Centre on Osmania University campus. Dr C Beena, a retired professor of psychology and co-ordinator of the Sahyam is now making efforts at the Cherlapalli jail to help convicts realise the futility of a violent life.

On Thursday, as many as 30 convicts from Nizamabad and Warangal jails completed the ‘Unnati’ training programme. The ‘training of trainers’, as the programme is called, makes convicts realise that staying away from crime paves way for a happy life.

“We have seen the results of the programme as the behaviour of those who underwent the psychological sessions showed a great change in the jail,” said prison superintendent K Venkateshwara Reddy.

Undergoing imprisonment for murder, a prisoner had been planning to take revenge against those who gave ‘false’ evidence against him in court. “Such thoughts do not occur to him any more. He intends to stay away from crime after being released,” Beena said.

Another murder convict, who had similar ideas of taking revenge against those who saw to it that he was arrested and jailed, decided to get out and take up farming.

The programme also helps some deal with wrongful conviction. A detenu who suffered one year's imprisonment because police suspected he could have resorted to a crime, had nurtured anger and was disillusioned. In an earlier case, he had been convicted under the Arms Act. The prisoner who worked as HR manager for a software company, like other detainees feared that police might put him in jail again.

However, innocents are now being assured that they can speak out against wrongful detention.

As a result of ‘Mahaparivartan’ programme, introduced by prisons officials, a lifer released from jail comes to prison – not as a convict but as a resource person to counsel repeat offenders against committing crime again.

“We have been able to give assurance through police that they can always approach higher ups in police department if they are being wrongly implicated in any case,” Beena said.

Meanwhile, in a case that deserves to be highlighted, as a result of ‘Mahaparivartan’ programme introduced by prisons officials, a lifer released from jail comes to prison – not as a convict but as a resource person to counsel repeat offenders against committing crime again.
First psychological screening held in jails

Continuous surveillance of inmates is not possible

RAHAEEL MATHEW | DC
HYDERABAD, AUG. 18

The Telangana Prison Department recently ushered in the country's first psychological screening of the mental health of prisoners at the Sangareddy District Jail. The screening revealed that almost 25 per cent of the prisoners screened had anxiety and a very large number (51.93 per cent) had mania.

Initially, approximately 187 prisoners were screened, of whom seven were female and 174 were male.

Recently, an inmate at the Chintalada Prison, V.V. Srikhara, committed suicide due to depression. This incident among others heralded the initiative for such a programme. Srikhara was sent to prison under IPC Sections 467 and 511 in a property dispute case with his family members.

In addition, Srikhara was interrogated and further charged under IPC Sections 302 and 307 for beating and killing his mother and intentionally putting his brother with an intention to kill. Preceding this, the director of the Department of Prisons, Srikhara began to feel very depressed and depressed.

During the wee hours of the morning, Srikhara woke up and went to the washroom, where he committed suicide by hanging himself from a ventilator.

He was immediately rushed to Osmania General Hospital (OGH) where he was declared dead.

Although the prison was equipped to maintain surveillance on all inmates at all times, it would be a violation of human rights if the bathrooms were subjected to surveillance. This made the bathrooms a blind spot for guards.

Just like Srikhara, a number of inmates, upon realisation of their mistakes and bad choices, become victims of mental health disorders like anxiety and depression.

A lot of inmates also suffer from manic disorders.

Deputy Superintendent of Prisons P. Sai Baba said, “We have programs to educate inmates, both illiterate and literate. They are taught how to read and write in any language of preference. This allows the inmates to have something important to look forward to when feeling down.”

The prison environment is thus conducive to a number of activities but it still remains suffocating for some inmates.

The graphs also show how Paranoia 77.90%, Depression 62.43% and Mania 51.93% have high prevalence amongst the inmates followed by Psychological deviance 30.38%.

Officials claimed that even a sane man could develop deviant ideas in such a trapped environment.

Director General (Prisons) V.K. Singh said, “In view of such incidents, the prison has taken up a first-of-its-kind psychological evaluation programme. At Sangareddy, all prisoners were evaluated for their mental health by a battery of psychologists from Osmania University and Counselling Centre University. By conducting such evaluations one can identify the mental health status of prisoners and eventually address a crucial and important objective, i.e., suicide prevention.”
Falsely implicated Claims

❖ At the time of admission every Prisoner is asked whether he is falsely implicated or not. It is the responsibility of Welfare Jailor and Superintendent to get correct information and talk to SHOs regarding Prisoners grievances.

❖ Two registers are maintained in every Jail for registering Prisoners’ Grievances and requirement of employment after release.

❖ On release every prisoner is asked whether he needs employment for sustenance post-release.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Number of claims reported</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2017</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2018</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2019</td>
</tr>
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</table>
Prison officials come to rescue of innocents
A sigh of relief for 302 prisoners falsely implicated in 2017

RAHAEEL MATHEW | DC HYDERABAD, SEPT. 25

A 30-year-old habitual offender, Kiran (name changed) was arrested in connection with a jewellery theft case and brought to the Cherlapally jail. Upon admission, the jailer concerned questioned the prisoner and it emerged that the offence had not been committed as Kiran claimed to have no connection with the case. The jailer concerned conducted a preliminary inquiry and forwarded the outcome to the arresting police station SHO. Within days of his arrest, it was found that Kiran had derived connections with the incident and he was released without a case being filed.

Kiran’s story is one among the many stories of falsely implicated cases reported last year. Prison Superintendent, M.R. Bhasker said, “Upon admission, all prisoners have been asked a series of questions to gauge if any of them are implicated in the case. The jailer concerned goes through the case, and if it holds any merit, forwards the same to the Welfare Officer who additionally conducts an in-depth analysis involving all aspects of the arrest including the type of evidence produced. If there is circumstantial evidence or any gaps in the case files, a log is sent to the SHO of the case concerned to gain a response documenting the grounds of arrest. Further correspondence ensures that the claim of false implication is thoroughly investigated and the prisoner is released on bail if there are any discrepancies.”

Nearly 302 falsely implicated cases were reported by the Telangana State Prisons’ department in 2017. In the light of such cases, prison authorities have taken initiatives within the prisons to minimise such incidents by conducting this cursory questioning upon admission to the jails. With the new initiative, director general of Prisons, V.K. Singh said, “This forms a deterrent to arresting officers to ensure complete accountability for all admissions. Such an initiative takes into consideration prisoners grievances as well.”

Statistics show an increase in the rate of accountability and deterrence that is being achieved by the prison authorities. Statistics show an increase in the rate of accountability and deterrence that is being achieved by the prison authorities.

In response south zone DCP Satyanarayana IPS said, “All false cases are closed once an investigation is completed. Not often, however there are some instances wherein, the accused have been remanded, and evidence is sent for forensic analysis. The results if negative in the cases being closed immediately.”
Rehabilitation of released Prisoners

• The Welfare Officers of this department are regularly interacting with the prisoners at the time of release and recording their request for employment in “Employment Register”.

• Placement Cell is setup at Head office.

• Efforts are made to provide 100% employment to the released needy prisoners.

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Sl No</th>
<th>Jail Industries</th>
<th>Ayurvedic Villages</th>
<th>My Nation Outlets at Villages</th>
<th>Private industries</th>
<th>Total</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>247</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>40</td>
<td>443</td>
<td>745</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
After Care Service Teams

✓ We have set our sights at emptying the jails. We want to make Telangana as a crime-free society

✓ We have now designed a scheme wherein 31 group of officers will take care of ex-prisoners in 31 districts. A database is being prepared for all habitual and serious offenders who have no social support system

✓ Our group of officers will pursue each and every ex-prisoner logged in our database. We will take care of employment, counseling and legal support of these persons

✓ This team will also organize loan from banks, pursue with the police if they are lifted on mere suspicion by the police and organize counseling sessions for them and their family

✓ The beauty of Telangana Prisons is that we don’t do anything symbolic or as a pilot project. We work for wholesale change. So this programme is launched all over the State in one shot
Former convicts get rehabilitation shot through recruitment drive

Srinivasa Rao Apparasu

HYDERABAD: As many as 235 ex-prisoners have been offered jobs at a Telangana prisons’ department recruitment drive. Over a dozen companies like Flipkart, Swiggy, Karvy and HDFC participated in the drive at the State Institute of Correctional Administration office in Hyderabad on Saturday.

The ex-prisoners were hired as computer operators, marketing executives, delivery boys, security guards, carpenters, electricians, accountants, medical attendants, detective agents and construction workers.

“We have identified over 1,000 jobs of various kinds, offering salaries ranging from ₹8,000 to ₹18,000 per month,” inspector general (prisons) Akula Narasimha said.

Narasimha said the ex-prisoners were given training in various crafts while serving their terms in jails. He added they were also offered counselling for reforming themselves to lead normal lives.

Papineni Sudheer Kumar, 48, who was recently released after serving a life term in a murder case, is among those who have landed jobs. He said he wanted a driver’s job preferably in Khammam, where his wife, Nagamani, works at a petrol pump.

K Koteshwar Rao, also from Khammam, had applied for a record assistant job at a hospital or a medical agency. He had a similar job before he was jailed along with his father, mother and brother in a murder case in 2011. “We were released in 2016 after a five-year imprisonment. I want to lead a normal life,” he said.

K Aashwini, 27, who graduated while in prison, said: “I am looking for a job as an office assistant, as I have enough experience of handling office matters while working with a self-help group,” she said.

Lanka Ramana, HR head of G4S Security Solutions, a popular security agency, said the company wanted to recruit 50-60 security guards. “We are selecting people with sufficient height, well-built bodies and sharpness in the age group of 18-40 years. The minimum salary is ₹10,000 per month and depending on their experience, it would go up to even ₹60,000 per month,” he said.

Ramana said the final recruitments would be done only after thorough police verification.
Ex-convicts land jobs with big companies

RAHAEI MATHEW I DC HYDERABAD, SEPT. 29

The Telangana State Prisons on Saturday organised a new initiative for released prisoners to gain employment. The ‘job melas’ were aimed at reducing recidivism by ensuring that the prisoners have an opportunity to financially stabilise themselves.

Big names like HDFC and Flipkart were among the 12 companies that participated. Lanka Ramana, human resources manager, G4S Securities, said, “We have selected 11 candidates as guards and one receptionist. The main criteria was that the person should be a high school graduate and physically fit. We will be giving the selected candidates training for nine days. The criminal history of most of those selected was either related to dowry cases or property disputes. We will not be considering any ex-convict involved in serious crime for the job.”

The HR recruiter for HDFC and Axis Bank, SivaKrishna, of Sun Icon Systems, said, “We have selected four candidates with a degree in any background for positions at public relations and loan sections. The selected had no history of theft as the job is to work in the banks.”

Attending the job mela were 230 enthusiastic ex-convicts from 31 districts of the state, out of which 155 secured employment.

“This year’s turnout was higher than the one conducted in Mahabubnagar in 2017 when 171 jobs were provided in Ford workshops, among others. The companies are willing to consider such ex-convicts for employment when they are introduced by the prison authorities. Had these men tried for jobs directly, they would have been frowned upon. This initiative falls under the Pratyaarthan scheme formed by the director general of prisons V.K. Singh, who is constantly finding new avenues unexplored for reformation and rehabilitation of inmates,” according to a prison official.

EX-PRISONERS Seldom GET EMPLOYMENT OF CHOICE

DC CORRESPONDENT HYDERABAD, SEPT. 29

Aditya (name changed), an undertaker in a rape case, is out on bail and is looking for a job. His ex-employer has refused to take him back. Aditya drives an autorickshaw but is on the lookout for a stable, well-paying job.

Aditya, 25, a graduate, had married a minor Renuka (name changed) after a love affair. Her parents filed a rape case against him as they were against the marriage.

Aditya was arrested and spent 45 days in jail before securing bail. He now needs a stable job to support his family; his wife, Renuka, delivered their first child on Thursday.

Aditya was among those who came to the job mela held by the prison department. “The jobs on offer are not exactly in line with my experience and the salaries are much lower than what I would need. I am struggling to bear the new responsibilities of my home despite working odd hours as an auto driver. It is very demotivating to know that because I was jailed I am no longer able to secure a good paying job,” said Aditya.

Prisons deputy inspector general V. Saidaiah said, “In cases where a prisoner is unable to provide for his family while out on bail, we can provide employment once it is brought to our notice.”

Srikar G.T (name changed), a resident of Nizamabad, was told by the jail authorities about the job mela two days ago.

He was released on August 22. He was convicted in an assault case in the forest area by Rachakonda police.

He has now landed a job as an electrician, for which he had experience prior to his jail term.

“Officials made it easy for us by seeing that we are given jobs in our area since it will not be possible for us to travel back and forth from Nizamabad every day,” said Srikar.
A STEP TOWARDS A NEW LIFE

Model jail manual puts rehab onus on state govt.

Hyderabad: A new model jail manual that is being drafted by the Union ministry of home affairs will make state governments responsible for rehabilitation of prisoners. A meeting of the committee that is working on the manual took place in New Delhi on October 26 and was attended by heads of prisons departments of Tamil Nadu, Karnataka, Maharashtra, Haryana, and representatives of the Bureau of Police Research and Development (BPR&D), legal services authority of different states and NGOs.

The Centre has now finalized the model jail manual.

Under their corporate social responsibility, many companies want to visit jails, organize entertainment or come up with other ideas on what to do for prisoners. What’s needed is not charity, but provision of jobs for released prisoners so that they are allowed to live with dignity,” he added.

One of the major factors behind prisoners returning to a life of crime is the lack of steady, dignified jobs for them. There are cases where inmates strike up friendships in prisons and end up starting a new gang after release. Even when they do not go back to criminal activities, police harassment makes it impossible for them to lead a normal life as they are the first to be hauled up for interrogation when a crime happens. No wonder then that hundreds of prisoners come back to jail for repeat offences.

However, if prisoners are given jobs in time, it would not only help them but the society in general.

The prisons department has now designated welfare officers for each jail as well as its headquarters. These officers will keep the resumes of released prisoners with them, which will highlight their educational qualifications and skills picked up through training programmes in prison.

Interestingly, the jail authorities have also spoken to banks to provide loans to prisoners in need of financial assistance. One of the banks has even agreed to provide loans without collateral.

The USA is battling with the issue of repeat offenders as 80 per cent of those serving prison sentences said that they were landing back in jail. In the United Kingdom, the problem is tackled in a more effective manner. An NGO supported by the government visits a prisoner six months before his or her release and talks about what the prisoner intends to do afterwards. If the prisoner does not have any family support, the NGO, National Association for Care and Rehabilitation of Offenders (Nacro), provides them accommodation and help in getting a job.
Freed prisoners take up ‘Swachh Bharat’

STAFF REPORTER

HYDERABAD: About 250 released prisoners proved on Sunday that they can be more than a part of the mainstream. They tried to shrug off the stigma attached to their past by sweeping and clearing the Osmania General Hospital of dirt, waste and weed.

The unique ‘Swachh Bharat’ was an initiative of the Telangana Prisons Department and Jan Seva Sangh. Between 9 in the morning till noon, the ex-convicts participated in the clean-up drive held within the hospital premises.

According to the officials, the released inmates from across the State had responded to the call given by the department to support them in their first-of-its-kind mission.

“This is part of the Maha Parivarvaran programme of the Telangana Prisons Department,” said A. Narasimha, DIG, Telangana prisons. “We want to decriminalise these released prisoners, reform them, change their personality and make them more useful to the society.

They have willingly taken part in this activity in large numbers and did good work.

We will also train them in certain skills so that they are employable.”

According to Mr. Narasimha, the former prisoners have been part of various government initiatives in the past like Haritha Haaram and Sarva Siksha Abhyaan.

A few hundred volunteer citizens also were also part of the event in which Health Minister Laxma Reddy was the chief guest.
Decline in Number of Prisoners admissions

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<td>2017</td>
<td>59,182</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2018</td>
<td>55,734</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Telangana Government ordered to close down 5 Sub Jails due to lack of Prisoners
Decline in Number of admissions of Prisoners

➢ Telangana Government ordered to close down 5 Sub Jails due to lack of Prisoners
Five sub-jails to be shut down

Move comes following insufficient number of prisoners, which was much below the authorised capacity.

CITY BUREAU

The Prisons Department is closing down five sub-jails due to insufficient number of prisoners, which was much below the authorised capacity. The sub-jails at Armoor and Bodhan in Nizamabad, Narasapur and Parkal in Warangal, and Mahbub in Khammam district would be closed, Director General of Prisons and Correctional Services V K Singh said here on Monday.

A decision was taken to shift the existing prisoners in these jails to either the district or central prison.

A decision was also taken to shift the existing prisoners in these jails to either the district or central prison after assessing the background of the prisoners.

Plans have also been chalked out to close three more sub-jails by reducing the number of prisoners. The number of prisoners as on date has also come down when compared to previous years. The total number of prisoners confined as on January 27 was 5,348, including 307 women as against 9,112 as on December 31, 2014.

The department has intended to reduce crime by 10 per cent every year and make it 30 per cent less over the next five years by starting a State-wide awareness campaign for mutual resolution of disputes.

He said the department was hopeful of reducing the crime rate by 50 per cent with the help of reformed prisoners and social activists. This initiative would save about Rs.10,000 crore by saving time and money that is eating into productivity.

Singh said the department has set a target of providing 3,000 jobs in 2018. “We will provide employment to all former prisoners, single women and orphans in 100 petre pumps that will come up this year with an aim to cut down on the crime rate,” he said. Efforts were on to start 1,000 My Nation outlets in villages, selling a variety of products, including those made by prisoners.

Singh added a day would come when most prisons would be empty which could later be used either for industrial and educational purposes.
TS prison population drops by over 30,000 in 2 yrs

EXPRESSION SERVICE @ Hyderabad

CONTINUING the surprising trend year after year, number of persons being sent to prisons across the state is on a steady decline.

As many as 99,000 persons (convicts and undertrials) were lodged in prisons of Telangana in 2014. The numbers came down to 79,409 in 2015 and further declined to 62,608 in 2016.

Speaking at a press meet here on Friday, Vinoy Kumar Singh, director-general (prisons) credited police department and his own department’s prisoners’ reformation programmes and said, the number of prisoners lodged in jails in 2016 is 20 per cent less compared to the previous year.

“The credit goes to the police department for prevention of crime and prisons department for effective reformative measures,” Singh said.

During the annual press conference at his office on Friday, the DG said that there are currently, 6,259 prisoners are lodged in Telangana jails, out of which 1,993 persons are convicts, 279 are detenues and 429 are women prisoners.

Under Vidyadanam programme, 32,623 persons were educated. In the last three years, 77,552 prisoners were educated under the programme by the prisons department.

“The department managed to get a turnover of ₹296.18 crore, which was ₹3.03 crore in 2014. The income has increased to 100 per cent in three years with development of prison industries and petrol pumps. We are planning to set up 100 petrol pumps in 50 places across Telangana, as it also provides employment to the prisoners,” said the DG.

The DG said eradicating corruption completely is not possible. However, he said that they have set up a call centre to receive calls from public and released prisoners regarding corruption in the department. Denying the role of prisons officials in slain gangster Nayeemuddin’s case, Singh said, “Prisons department never favoured him. Whoever tries to favour the prisoners will be subjected to departmental action.”

MORE: P4

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>NO OF PRISONERS</th>
<th>2014</th>
<th>99,000 (convicts and undertrials)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2015</td>
<td>79,409</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2016</td>
<td>62,608</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>77,552 prisoners educated under Vidyadanam programme by the dept</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The credit goes to the police department for prevention of crime and also prisons department for effective reform measures taken up by them

VK Singh, director general (prisons)
Welfare of Prisoners
• Telangana State Prisons Department introduced another innovative program in all Jails.
• Cultural Programs are conducted on fourth Sunday of every month. This program is for the Prisoners by the Prisoners and of the Prisoners.
• It aims to bring out the hidden talents of the prisoners and also improve their state of mind inside the Prison.
1st State level Prisoners’ Cultural meet
Annual Prisoners’ Sports Meet
For Republic Day and Independence Day, every year 3 Prisoners platoons participate in the march past.
**LOANS TO PRISONERS**

Telangana Prisons have taken an initiative to provide loans, to the convict prisoners who complete three years of conviction for the following purposes.

- Education of Children.
- Daughters’ marriages.
- Financial aid to the dependents to run small business like Tailoring, Dairy farm etc.,
- The above Loans are recovered from the wages earned by the Prisoners on installment basis.
### Loans sanctioned to the Prisoners under the scheme of Mahaparivarvthan

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Loans sanctioned in the year</th>
<th>No. of Prisoners</th>
<th>Loan Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2016</td>
<td>137</td>
<td>Rs.36,58,500=00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2017</td>
<td>26</td>
<td>Rs 5,46,500=00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2018</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>Rs.4,67,000=00</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Prisoners help families from jail

State Prisons Department gives loans to needy jail inmates

HELPING HAND: The scheme is not available for all inmates though, with only those who have to serve an imprisonment of three years or more being eligible.

NEELAM SHAW
HYDERABAD

The Telangana State Prisons Department is well-known for its innovative welfare schemes and industrial initiatives. One such scheme, launched two years ago, has been quite a successful one.

Perhaps among the few prisons in the country to do so, the Prisons Department here is giving loans to its inmates. Some 178 prisoners have availed loans so far and the total loan amount disbursed so far was Rs 43 lakh.

The loan scheme, called ‘Mahaparivartan’, is the brainchild of YK Singh, Director General of Prisons, who says the sole objective of the initiative is to ensure that no work in the family of these prison inmates, get disturbed or delayed just because they are in prison and not with the family.

“I still remember, way back in 2015, I came across a prisoner who was 65-year-old, who wanted a furlough, so that he could go out of prison, arrange money for his son’s engineering admission and then return. Since, he was in jail and was the sole breadwinner of his family, his son’s admission was in limbo. That is when we started thinking about giving loans to the inmates and as most of our prisoners are employed in various prison industrial sectors, we launched the loan scheme,” he said.

The loans are provided to the prisoners by the department from the Prison Development Fund, where the profits from the various industrial activities of the department is deposited. The scheme is not available for all inmates though, with only those who have to serve an imprisonment of three years or more being eligible. One of the most important aspects of the scheme is that the loans provided are free of any interest.

“Based on the loan given to the inmate, an amount is deducted every month from his or her salary. For example, if we give a loan of Rs 24,000, for the next two years, we can deduct Rs 2,000 from the salary of the prisoner, and by the time their jail term ends, the loan is repaid,” Singh said.

If the prisoners are released in between on any grounds, they have to repay the loan immediately, before they are released.

With 178 prisoners benefiting from the scheme, the department has added another feather to its cap.
# Canteen profits in rupees

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>S.No</th>
<th>Institution</th>
<th>2015</th>
<th>2016</th>
<th>2017</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Central Prison, Cherlapalli</td>
<td>235,422</td>
<td>180,019</td>
<td>362,252</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Central Prison, Hyderabad</td>
<td>140,090</td>
<td>348,980</td>
<td>355,754</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Central Prison, Warangal</td>
<td>115,923</td>
<td>93,583</td>
<td>101,871</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Spl. Prison for Women, Hyderabad</td>
<td>38,250</td>
<td>42,160</td>
<td>17,361</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>District Jail, Sangareddy</td>
<td>33,984</td>
<td>40,738</td>
<td>52,017</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>District Jail, Nalgonda</td>
<td>22,729</td>
<td>35,107</td>
<td>23,276</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>District Jail, Mahaboobnagar</td>
<td>13,191</td>
<td>22,711</td>
<td>18,405</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>District Jail, Nizamabad</td>
<td>37,387</td>
<td>50,897</td>
<td>61,079</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>District Jail, Karimnagar</td>
<td>17,350</td>
<td>33,442</td>
<td>29,590</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>District Jail, Khammam</td>
<td>8,998</td>
<td>19,734</td>
<td>20,442</td>
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<tr>
<td>11</td>
<td>District Jail, Adilabad</td>
<td>6,426</td>
<td>5,142</td>
<td>5,957</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12</td>
<td>All Sub Jails</td>
<td>19,790</td>
<td>37,911</td>
<td>43,212</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td><strong>689,540</strong></td>
<td><strong>910,424</strong></td>
<td><strong>10,91,216</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
➢ At the time of admission, every Prisoner is given a copy of Prisoners rights and duties and is made aware of facilities provided to him.

➢ Parole and furlough are granted to Prisoners within a week.

➢ Psychologists are appointed in all Central and District Jails.

➢ Jan Dhan Yojana—Prime Minister’s flag ship program is implemented successfully in all jails.

➢ Adhaar card made compulsory for all Prisoners.
**PRISON STAFF WELFARE**

- School buses are provided for staff children.
- Master Health Checkup is arranged for the staff and their families.
- Medical camps for staff and their families are regularly organized.
- Staff members are felicitated with awards & rewards for their good work.
- Cultural programs are organized at staff quarters regularly.
- Summer camps are conducted to the Staff children.
- Sports material are provided to the prison staff.
- Interest -free loans to staff.
- Sports & Games facilities are provided.
- Scholarship to merit students of staff
- 20% discount on Jail products to all Jail personnel
- *Bonus --20% of the earnings to Prisons Personnel.*
TRAINING

➢ Human Resource Development- Key to success of any organization

➢ **Training for all- Once in every two years**

➢ Computer Training – Minimum literacy to all staff

➢ **Monthly Physical Fitness program.**

➢ **Skill development programs for guarding staff- every warder should have one skill.**

➢ State of the art facilities in training institute.

➢ All Jails are made training centers.

➢ Exams in Prison rules, Computer literacy and codal provisions are conducted to all staff in all jails every month.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sl. No.</th>
<th>Name of the Prison</th>
<th>Total</th>
<th>BMI -26 to 29 (Over weight)</th>
<th>BMI above 29 (obese)</th>
<th>Below 40% marks secured</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Central Prison Hyderabad</td>
<td>148</td>
<td>49</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Central Prison Cherlapalli</td>
<td>178</td>
<td>29</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Central Prison Warangal</td>
<td>158</td>
<td>36</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>PAC, Cherlapalli</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>4</td>
<td></td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Special Prison for Women, Hyd</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>5</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>District Jail Adilabad</td>
<td>29</td>
<td>9</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>District Jail Karimnagar</td>
<td>38</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>4</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>District Jail Nizamabad</td>
<td>37</td>
<td>8</td>
<td></td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>District Jail Khammam</td>
<td>40</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>1</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>District Jail Nalgonda</td>
<td>31</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11</td>
<td>District Jail Mahaboobnagar</td>
<td>34</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>5</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12</td>
<td>District Jail Sangareddy</td>
<td>27</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>1</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13</td>
<td>DSJO Adilabad</td>
<td>27</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>1</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14</td>
<td>DSJO Karimnagar</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>4</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15</td>
<td>DSJO Nizamabad</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>1</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16</td>
<td>Borstal School</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>2</td>
<td></td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>17</td>
<td>DSJO Khammam</td>
<td>25</td>
<td></td>
<td>2</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>18</td>
<td>DSJO Warangal</td>
<td>21</td>
<td>4</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>19</td>
<td>DSJO Nalgonda</td>
<td>38</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>--</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20</td>
<td>DSJO Mahaboobnagr</td>
<td>8</td>
<td></td>
<td>1</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>21</td>
<td>DSJO Medak</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>1</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>22</td>
<td>Pargi sub jail, DSJO Ranga Reddy</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>3</td>
<td></td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>23</td>
<td>SICA</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>TOTAL</strong></td>
<td><strong>947</strong></td>
<td><strong>214</strong></td>
<td><strong>49</strong></td>
<td><strong>21</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Conference Hall at SICA
INNOVATIONS
Heritage Jail & Museum, Sangareddy

- 220 year Old District jail at Sangareddy, Medak District is converted into Heritage Jail and Museum. It was originally constructed in 1796 by the Nizams as cavalry barrack, later converted into Jail.
- The Museum showcases antiques like Old Handcuffs, Weaving Machine, Bells, Uniforms, Literature, Telephones, Old Records, Photographs, etc.,
‘Feel the Jail @ Rs. 500’

- Telangana Prisons Department has come up with an idea to let a citizen feel the life of prisoner. The scheme is called ‘Feel the Jail’.
- The museum is having the capacity of 30 visitors to stay.
- We thought of this concept for public to get a feel of the Jail.
- The visitors are provided with jail clothing and jail food. Phones are not allowed.
- The visitors in the jail are treated as the Prisoners and they have to perform the daily routine similar to the prisoners in other jails.
- This concept became sensational and covered by National and International Media like History channel and National Geographic channel.
- Recently celebrated Museum week. Cultural programs are arranged week long. Home minister and many VIP’s visited the museum during the celebrations.
Your chance to experience a day in jail, just for Rs500.

Srinivas Rao Apparao, a senior journalist from Hindustan Times, spent a day in jail to experience prison life.

The food and water are the same as consumed by prisoners across the state. Your phone is confiscated and all your contacts with the external world are severed. You would be locked in your cell to be shared or spent in isolation - based on the numbers of other prison tourists.

What you will get for Rs500:
- On payment of Rs500, you will get a prison uniform, ID card, and a prison tour guide.
- You will be taken to the prison, given a primer kit, and shown around the facility.
- You will be able to experience the various activities and routines of a prisoner.

Telangana Today

From an old jail to a ‘tourist hotspot’

Feel the Jail has put Sangareddy on world map, says DG (Prisons)

STATE BUREAU

SANGAREDDY

Director General of Prisons and Correctional Services VK Singh on Wednesday said that they have put Sangareddy town on world map by transforming the old jail in Sangareddy into a heritage museum besides creating ‘Feel the Jail’ facility, the first-of-its-kind in the world.

Addressing the gathering after launching Heritage Jail Week on the premises of the Heritage Museum here on Wednesday, the DG (Prisons) said that he was indebted to Sangareddy town, where he had worked as Superintendent of Police during 1995-97. After being appointed as DG (Prisons), Singh said that he wanted to pay the town back as he considers himself a Sangareddyian. He said that as there were no famous tourist spots around Sangareddy, he wanted to transform the old jail into the most sought after tourist destination. He further opined that Sangareddy town has also brought fame to Telangana as people from across the globe come searching for the location to visit Heritage Jail.

Jail Museum. Stating that people from across the globe were showing keen interest in visiting the jail museum, Singh said that people from Bangladesh, Malaysia and across India have visited the jail during the past one-and-a-half year. Further, a Japanese team would be visiting the jail museum shortly to experience the ‘feel the jail’ programme.

He added that with a host of initiatives, they have transformed the jail into reform centres, education centres and industrial hubs.

Stating that the number of inmates in the jail has come down considerably since 2014 owing to various reforms introduced by them, the DG (Prisons) said that they aim to reduce the crime rate by making each and every inmate a skilled man before his release. Superintendents of Police, Sangareddy, S Chandrashekar Reddy, Convenor, Inash, Anuradha Reddy, DGs of Prisons Department, A Narasimha and B Saidenah and District Sub Jail Officer G Venkateshwara were present.
The Government has constituted Prison Development Board under the Chairmanship of the Hon’ble Chief Minister to over-see the development of the department. The Act came into force on 13th April, 2001.

The Director General of Prisons and Correctional Services is the Managing Director.

Prison Development Fund: Total profits from Industries goes into this fund.
RETREAT

• Telangana Prisons Department conducts Retreat annually.

• Retreat is conducted at two levels, Regional level and State level.

• For Regional retreat staff from the rank of Warder to Jailor participates.

• Officers from the rank of Deputy Superintendent of Jails to Inspector General of Prisons participate in the State level Retreat

*Sri SP Singh,
Chief Secretary to Government, Telangana state,
Chief guest for Retreat 2017*
SOCIAL SERVICE
INTERVENTION PROGRAMME
Rehabilitation of Beggars

• Prisons Department, Telangana state has volunteered to take the responsibility of Beggars.
• Government of Telangana Issued a G.O Ms No. 266, Municipal Administration & Urban Development (UBS) Department, Dated: 12.10.2017
• Educational and skill development facilities are provided to Beggars lodged in Anand Ashram.
• Psychological counseling and medical treatment is provided.
• Skill development facilities are provided.
• Employment is provided in Prison Industries.
At the time of admission into Ananda Ashram
Facilities in Anand Ashram

Beds for the individuals

Individuals in the classroom
Anand Ashram inmates while playing
Never dreamt that we had this in our fate, says a beggar

9k beggars no more homeless, hungry

NAVEEN KUMAR | DC
HYDERABAD, JULY 23

The TS prisons department has picked up about 9,000 beggars so far in an attempt to take them off the roads, and is providing them shelter, education, jobs and identity documents like Aadhaar cards.

DGP, Prisons, V.K. Singh said the unused infrastructure like the observation homes for boys in the Chanchalguda and Cherlapally jail premises was being used as a rehabilitation centre, where beggars are to do PT exercises and attend classes. They are employed in the petrol bunks run by the prisons department, and in its other ventures.

“Having homeless people asking for alms on road and at junctions among other places leaves a bad impression with tourists. Female beggars are often targeted by criminals who hire them as mules or push them into other criminal activities,” Mr Singh said.

Some of the inmates were happy at being given a second chance. Mr Murali Krishna, 42, who was picked up along with four others while he was asking for alms at Suchitra circle, said, “It is literally a life-changing moment for us as people used to look down upon us when we went looking for a job.”

He is housed in the Cherlapally jail premises.

“We have been given a roof over our heads and proper food once again. We never dreamt that we had this in our fate,” he said.

A psychologist has been hired to provide them counselling. Apart from healthcare facilities on the premises, a doctor is assigned to check up on the inmates of the rehabilitation centre regularly.

The initiative will be replicated in the districts as well, as most of the families travel from there to city daily. “The special drive was organised to rehabilitate beggars in coordination with NGOs, the GHMC, and the police on October 20 last year. The inmates are given three meals a day and served non-veg food on Sundays,” said Mr K. Arjun Rao, superintendent of the Cherlapally open-air jail.

The observation homes for boys in the jail premises are vacant, as the city now has its own juvenile justice shelter homes and other services, DGP Singh said.
Take Rs 1,000 home now for spotting beggar on streets

CITY BUREAU
Hyderabad

The Prisons Department will give Rs 1,000 as reward, instead of the earlier reward of Rs 500, to those passing on information on beggars on the streets in Hyderabad.

Research body extols Prisons Dept

HYDERABAD: The Telangana Prisons Department received an appreciation letter from the Bureau of Police Research and Development (BPR&D) Director-General AP Maheshwari for implementing various initiatives in jails in the State.

BPR&D also planned to replicate these initiatives in other jails in the country. In a letter addressed to Prisons and Correctional Services Director-General VK Singh, Maheshwari asked the former to send the action plan that was implemented in prisons here for circulating it to other States as ‘best practices’ for pursuing similar standards. Maheshwari requested Singh to devise a three-day training curriculum and forward it to the bureau, which works under the Ministry of Home Affairs, to include in the training brochure.

The BPR&D also invited Singh for a detailed presentation and discussion regarding the modalities and operational processes for changes brought in the prisons administration during the recent years.

Officials say in most cases, people did not want to take the cash reward after informing about beggars

The rehab of beggars, which was started by the department last year, was getting a good response. People had been informing Prisons Control Room about locations where beggars were found, officials said.

“The number of persons who informed about beggars on roads was 165 on January 1. It dwindled to eight in the next fortnight, which means the number of beggars sighted on roads has come down,” said VK Singh, DG, Prisons and Correctional Services. Officials said in most cases, people did not want to take the cash reward after informing about beggars. “So far, rewards were given to seven persons only,” Singh said.

As many as 1,265 beggars, including 553 women, visited the department’s Anand Ashram after a drive was taken up last year. Of them, some 1,013 were released on the condition that they would not resort to begging again. As on January 8, about 252 beggars, including 105 women, live in Anand Ashram.
Contribution to the Environment
➢ We are one of the better performing departments in Haritha haram project of the government. 3 Jails received **Haritha Mitra awards**.

➢ **2 lakh rupees cash reward each.**

➢ More than **3 lakh** teak wood and other hard wood trees planted in the last 4 years.

➢ 140 rain water harvesting pits were dug in all Jails as part of saving ground water.

➢ All Central Jails and District Jails have dug big size **ponds** to conserve water. “Not a single drop of rain water should go waste” is our objective.

➢ In all jails of Telangana, no bore well is dry.
4 life convicts add jewel to Haritha Haram, sustain 5,700 saplings in Chanchalguda

Teak Plants Grow Up To 20 Ft, Some Trees Bear Fruits

Sushil.Rao@timesgroup.com

Hyderabad: Four convicts serving life term at the Central Prison, Chanchalguda, did not allow despondence to get the better of them. They directed their energies towards caring for 5,700 saplings planted in the jail and they succeeded in ensuring their 100 per cent survival. Generally at least 20 per cent of saplings die or are destroyed if there is no proper care.

Crores of trees were planted during the ‘Haritha Haram’ taken up by the state government in the last couple of years in the state. This was done at Chanchalguda jail also. The directive from DG, Prisons, V K Singh, was that not only should the entire premise become green, no sapling should perish.

Two years after the saplings were re-planted, four prisoners are being credited for the survival of all the 5,700 saplings. "Not only have all the saplings survived, the teak plants have grown up to a height of 20 feet. Some trees are even bearing fruits," Chanchalguda jail superintendent B Saidaiah told TOI. In the first year in 2015, as many as 2,800 teak saplings were planted apart from 200 mango, neem, kala jamun, sapota and others. The following year in 2016, as many as 2,200 teak trees were planted, apart from 300 other fruit-bearing varieties.

How the 100 per cent survival was achieved by the four prisoners who were put in charge of the plants is interesting. They would water the plants every day. They would prune sides of the teak plants so that the trunk would be strengthened. During summer, there was water problem but it was overcome by two ways. Prison authorities constructed as many as 40 water harvesting pits and made sure that all the four borewells did not dry up. In addition, to water the prisoners were re-acknowledged by the jail so that there was enough water to sustain the plants. In 15 years, each teak tree would fetch an estimated Rs 30,000. All this because of efforts of the four life convicts and the jail authorities.

There is another interesting side to the heart-warming story. The droppings of about thousand pigeons that make the administrative block of the Chanchalguda jail their home would be collected every day and used as manure for all the plants. In a week, the collection would translate to one quintal of the manure.

The farming knowledge acquired by the prison superintendent during his stint at the Prisoners Agricultural Colony, Anantapur in the past also came in handy to provide inputs on ensuring robust growth of the plants.

During the ‘Haritha Haram’ that was launched this year in July another 1,000 saplings will be planted in the remaining areas of the prison and staff quarters. The temperature in the jail premises is two degrees less than that of outside. That makes the jail a cool place to live, thanks to trees” Saidaiah said.

Soon, skilled inmates may walk out for work, come in
TREE PLANTATION AND PONDS
Mr. Brian Norris, Assistant Professor, Military College of South Carolina, USA, visited Prisons in Telangana State on 03.08.2016. Mr. Norris is on a world tour with purpose of studying Prison reforms in various countries. He observed that Telangana Prisons have better structured administration and cleaner than the Prisons in other countries.

Mr. Iqbal Hussain, Addl. IG of Prisons, Mr. Shaik Shakil Ahmed, Deputy Secretary, MHA, and other 12 delegates from Bangladesh visited Telangana Prisons and appreciated various programs implemented for the reformation of inmates.
DG Prisons West Bengal, DG Prisons Punjab, DG Prisons Karnataka, DG Prisons Tamilnadu, DG Prisons Madhya Pradesh, Principal Secretary, Bihar and IG Prisons Uttarakhand, IG Prisons UP, visited our Jails and profusely praised our innovations. Prison Officials from Madhya Pradesh, Orissa, Gujarat, Karnataka, Trainee Deputy Superintendents from Jharkhand visited Telangana Prisons and inspired by our programs.

**Sri Bezwada Wilson, Raman Magsaysay Award winner** has appreciated Telangana Prisons Department for implementing the concept of Mahaparivarththan to create crime free society.
Recognition/ Honour??

The Year of Change
The most impactful, the most visible and the effects these sights and individuals had on the city, and beyond

The Art on Our Walls

The Hyderabad Street Art festival has let us with what can be described as the most visible first step towards change. The spilt-stained walls of a colony near Necklace Road are now transformed, and the little ‘Love Hyderabad’ structure has entered the list of essential self-sorts. This is indeed the change we were looking for.

And an encouraging trend is how the GHMC is trying to replicate the success of the street art festival. The civic body has a simple plan – spot the areas that need a touch of paint, reach out to students who know art and watch the magic happen!

Ultimate Road DIY

Roadkraft is a road safety NGO headed by Malcolm Wolfe, a former London Police officer. Currently based out of Hyderabad, Wolfe is helping transform the city’s roads and the way it commutes.

Over the course of 2016, the NGO worked with the Secunderabad Cantonment board to sort out lane markings in the Film Nagar area. They have also submitted footpath and pedestrian crossing designs to the GHMC and helped the authorities organise surprise checks to weed out underage drivers and other violations. All that without a single demand for funding from the state.

The Job-Hunter for Possible Criminals

Nakka Rajeshkar-Goud had a notorious past as a rowdy shooter. He spent each day – from 1849 to 2000 – hunting for the next target. And this was the man who once hoped to become an inspector with the police force. After his brush with justice, Goud turned his life around and with his “experience”, decided that he could stop people from committing crimes. Good news for the 16-year-old boys who are prone to a life of crime. He has helped several find jobs as delivery boys and call centre workers. If he fails to find them a job, he pays them money enough to get them back on the road.

The Water is Not Good to Drink

I was one of the most important scientific revelations this year. A study led by Dr Shashidhar, from the Civil Engineering department of IIT-Hyderabad, exposed a serious environmental hazard – antibiotic waste being dumped into the Musi. This was causing resistance to antibiotics among citizens. Dr Shashidhar and his team determined that the water was not being treated and contained exceptionally high concentrations of the fluoroquinolones class of antibiotics, turning the historic Musi into a drug factory. Dr Shashidhar and his team also revealed the lack of any standard set by the government to measure antibiotic presence in treated effluence.
The Telangana state prison continues to extend its efforts to rehabilitate prisoners into normal lives after their imprisonment. The department has now shifted its focus to the rehabilitation of sex offenders and rapists under a clinically oriented programme.

The programme is aimed at providing counselling sessions to sexual offenders and is specifically inclined to meet the psychological and emotional needs of such offenders.

In addition to counselling the offenders, the prison will begin segregation of offenders within the prisons at the earliest.

Speaking on the matter, director general of prisons V.K. Singh said, “The sensitive and heinous nature of the crimes, particularly child rape cases need to be addressed at the root cause, the offenders themselves. In the past, we have been exposing all prisoners to counselling programmes. However, there was no specific programme for offenders who commit crimes like rape or sexual abuse.”

“We want to focus on segregation and rehabilitation from the coming week,” he said.

“Segregation will be done with great care, as offenders of such crimes will be now held in a separate barrack, distant from the general population of the jail,” the official said.

This segregation, the director general of prisons said, for prisoners can be a great deterrent and punishment and hence, it will instil the gravity of their crimes in their mind.

Sheetal Neerackal, a psychologist said, “Rehabilitation efforts specifically oriented towards treatment of sexual offenders can drastically reduce their inclination for committing the crime again.”

Counselling can thus, go a long way in aiding those offenders who are sexually deviant to desist from committing it again, she said.
Reforms through art

Artworks by inmates of the Chanchalguda Jail are currently on display at the State Art Gallery

G. SUNDER RAJ

DECCAN CHRONICLE

In what can be termed as a “one of a kind initiative”, the city is playing host to a painting exhibition with artworks done by inmates of the Chanchalguda Jail.

Over 30 paintings, including pencil sketches, charcoal works and watercolours by 22 prisoners are up for sale at nominal prices. The initiative started three months ago, when Krishnakriti’s in-house artist and curator Sayyad Shaiekh began training inmates on the finer nuances of painting. Sayyad Shaiekh, “I was scared when I initially set foot in the jail, after all there is this preconceived notion that they are quite different from us. They were a stubborn lot who would often ask, ‘what use is all this to us?’”

It took some time to break the ice and develop a bond with them. He says, “After three or four classes their creativity began to shine through. Every prisoner had a vision from their own struggles to their innermost fears.” They used sketching and painting as a means to showcase themselves, he says, adding, “Although, they didn’t know how to paint, they started off initially with simple sketches, forms, shapes and perspectives.”

The idea of an art camp was the brainchild of the DGP of Prisons and Correctional Services Vinoy Kumar Singh, who felt that the country’s correctional services aren’t given the importance they deserve. “Correctional services play an important role in changing the mind set of inmates. We not only save money by preventing future crimes, we give the society a self-servicing human being.”

And he is certain that teaching horticulture or agriculture are not the only options for correctional services. “If the inmates learn the finer nuances of life through art, they can not only make a decent living but their mind becomes calm too,” he says.

The seeds for this venture began when VK Singh called Prashant Lahoti, who runs the Krishnakriti foundation, to give a lecture to the inmates on art. “After I gave my speech many inmates showed considerable interest towards art. So we initially decided to train them one hour every week but after seeing the kind of art the inmates were coming up with, we increased it to two hours per week.”

OFFERING HELP: Prashant Lahoti with DGP of Prisons and Correctional Services Vinoy Kumar Singh

At first, the inmates were a stubborn lot who would ask, ‘what use is all of this (training in art) to us’? Later, their creativity began to shine

– SAYYAD SHAIEKH

SAYYAD SHAIEKH
Guardian of prisoners

MEET IPS OFFICER
VINOY KUMAR SINGH,
WHO HAS CONVERTED
NEARLY 70 THOUSAND
PRISONERS INTO
LITERATES

SASHIDHAR ADIVI
DECCAN CHRONICLE

In only two years, Vinoy Kumar Singh, Director-General of Telangana State Prisons Department and Correctional Services has converted nearly 70 thousand prisoners into literates, thanks to his unique prisoners’ welfare and training initiatives. He says the best way to understand prisoners is to put yourself in their shoes. “My objective is to ensure that these prisoners get jobs after release and that they should not commit crime and come back again,” he says.

The inmates are asked about their interested area of work, then they are trained by experts. “We roped in experts (doctors) in Ayurveda from Kerala (for our Ayurveda village at Chenchalguda) and they trained prisoners in Panchakarma, physiotherapy, naturopathy, massage, etc. Similarly, we provide training in furniture, handlooms, manufacturing, etc. and allocate work,” Vinoy says.

While some prisoners are making furniture, taught to them by professionals, the delivery of these furniture to schools, colleges, courts, police departments, etc., is being handled by the Jail Superintendent. Hence everyone is involved.

When asked about the prisoners, he says, “They are the happiest lot. They are occupied while serving their term and at the same time acquire skills for better employment opportunities after their release.”

Vinoy is also planning to set up other initiatives like extending loans for the prisoners’ children’s education and marriages. And he is trying to build more job opportunities in the form of 100 petrol pumps and sale outlets for napkins, towels, carpets, soaps, dairy products and more.

My objective is to ensure that these prisoners get jobs after release and that they should not commit crime and come back again.

— VINOY KUMAR SINGH
THANK YOU