



National Campaign Against Torture

[A platform for action of the NGOs committed to stamp out torture in India]

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The Status of COVID-19 in Indian Prisons

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Executive Summary

Out of the 1,350 jails in India, COVID-19 infections have been reported from at least 351 jails in 25 out of total 36 States/UTs of the country as of 31 August 2020. The maximum number of COVID-19 infections in prisons were reported from Uttar Pradesh (35 jails), followed by Madhya Pradesh (34), Maharashtra (32), Odisha (31), Andhra Pradesh (28), Rajasthan and Tamil Nadu (21 each), Assam (19), West Bengal (18), Punjab (17), Bihar (15), Delhi (14), Jharkhand (13), Karnataka (9), Haryana (8), Kerala (7), Gujarat and Chhattisgarh (6 each), Jammu & Kashmir and Uttarakhand (5 each), Telangana (3) and Andaman and Nicobar Islands, Goa, Puducherry and Tripura (1 each).

Among the COVID-19 infected prisons, 52 prisons had overcrowding from 101% to 312% as of 31.12.2018 as per the “*Prison Statistics of India -2018*” of the National Crime Records Bureau with Mumbai Central Jail topping the list with 312% overcrowding followed by Thiruvananthapuram Central Jail, Kerala (306%), Badaun District Jail, Uttar Pradesh (289%), Latchar District Jail, Jharkhand (268%), Muradabad District Jail, Uttar Pradesh (256%), Khandwa District Jail (252%) and Baidhan District Jail (251%) of Madhya Pradesh, Jail No.4 (239%) and Jail No. 1 (238%) of Tihar Jail Delhi and Jaunpur District Jail (237%) of Uttar Pradesh.

The overcrowding of 18.54% in Indian prisons i.e. 4,78,600 prisoners against actual or sanctioned capacity for 4,03,739 prisoners as reported by “*Prison Statistics India-2019*” is deceptive as it does not reflect the true extent of overcrowding in each of the 1350 prisons.

As per the “*Prison Statistics India-2018*” which provides the latest information on prison-wise overcrowding, an issue not covered by the “*Prison Statistics India-2019*”, out of the 1,348 prisons in India as on 31.12.2018, about 538 prisons or 40% of the total jails were found to be overcrowded ranging from 1 to 636 % over and above their officially sanctioned capacities. Out of these 538 overcrowded prisons, 34 prisons were found to have overcrowding ranging from 201% to 636% while about 100 prisons had overcrowding varying from 100% to 200% and 404 prisons had overcrowding ranging from 1% – 99%.

Irinjalakkuda Special Jail in Kerala with 636% overcrowding topped the list of ten worst overcrowded prisons in India followed by Palakkad Special Jail (513%) of Kerala, Lalitpur District Jail (355%) of Uttar Pradesh; Maihar Sub-Jail (343%) and



Tarana Sub-Jail (315%) of Madhya Pradesh; Mumbai Central Jail (312%) of Maharashtra; Thiruvananthapuram Central Jail (306%) of Kerala; Badaun District Jail (289%) of Uttar Pradesh; Dindori District Jail (270%) of Madhya Pradesh; Latchar District Jail (268%) and Gumla District Jail (264%) of Jharkhand, among other jails.

As Indian prisons are overcrowded, the potential of spreading COVID-19 in case of any prisoner getting infected with virus is extremely high, on 13 March 2020 the Supreme Court of India intervened through *Re: Contagion of COVID 19 Virus in Prison [Suo Motu Writ Petition (Civil) No.1/2020]* and issued a number of directions for decongestion of prisons by releasing prisoners.

It has been reported by the Commonwealth Human Rights Initiative¹ that over 61,100 prisoners were released which had about 15.4% overall reduction in occupancy rate of the prisons in India as of 07.09.2020. However, the same is not adequate to address overcrowding of 40% of the Indian prisons including 134 prisons having overcrowding from 100% to 636% and the rights of the prisoners not to be subjected to inhuman and degrading treatment and the right to be treated with humanity and with respect for the inherent dignity of the human person are recognised under India's constitutional jurisprudence and Article 10(1) of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights which is applicable in India as per Sections 2(1)(d) and 2(1)(f) of the Protection of Human Rights Act, 1993.

While COVID-19 pandemic calls for immediate measures to decongest the prisons, the cruel, inhuman and degrading treatment of punishment of the prisoners due to overcrowding conditions is illegal. The National Campaign Against Torture (NCAT) recommends that all the State Governments and Union Territory Administrations must provide monthly update on prison-wise occupancy against sanctioned capacity; evaluate the overcrowding and recommend transfer of prisoners from overcrowded prisons to other prisons with low number of prisoners vis-a-vis sanctioned capacity; and regularly assess which prisoners can be released on parole or an interim bail.

¹. State/UT Wise Prisons Response to COVID –19 Pandemic in india, Commonwealth Human Rights Initiative (accessed on 08.09.2020)

<https://www.humanrightsinitiative.org/content/stateut-wise-prisons-response-to-covid-19-pandemic-in-india>



1. The extent of overcrowding in Indian prisons

1.1 The extent of overcrowding in Indian prisons

Prisons in India are infamous for being overcrowded. As per the “*Prison Statistics India-2019*” of the National Crime Records Bureau’s (NCRB), the latest report available on the issue, there were 4,78,600 prisoners against actual or sanctioned capacity for 4,03,739 prisoners in 1,350 prisons across India as on 31 December 2019 including 1,44,125 convicted prisoners (30.1%), 3,30,487 undertrial prisoners (69.0%), 3,223 detenues (0.6%) and 765 (0.1) other inmates.²

The highest occupancy rate (174.9%) was reported from prisons in Delhi followed by Uttar Pradesh (167.9%), Uttarakhand (159.0%), Meghalaya (157.4%), Madhya Pradesh (155.3%), Sikkim (153.8%), Maharashtra (152.7%), Chhattisgarh (150.1%), Jammu and Kashmir (126.8%) and Jharkhand (111.1%), as on 31 December 2019.³

Yet, the State-wise overcrowding provided in *Prison Statistics India-2019* is deceptive and does not reflect the true extent of overcrowding in each of the prisons. The “*Prison Statistics India-2018*” which provided the latest information on prison-wise overcrowding, an issue not covered in the “*Prison Statistics India-2019*” stated that out of the 1,348 prisons as on 31.12.2018, 538 prisons or 40% of the total jails are found to be overcrowded ranging from 1 to 636 % over and above their officially sanctioned capacities as on 31 December 2018 (See Annexure 1). Out of these 538 prisons, 34 prisons were found to have overcrowding ranging from 201% to 636% while about 100 prisons had overcrowding from 100% to 200% and 404 prisons had overcrowding ranging from 1% – 99%.

Irinjalakkuda Special Jail in Kerala with 636% overcrowding topped the list of ten worst overcrowded prisons in India followed by Palakkad Special Jail (513%) of Kerala, Lalitpur District Jail of Uttar Pradesh (355%); Maihar Sub-Jail (343%) and

². Prison Statistics India-2019; available at: <https://ncrb.gov.in/hi/additional-table-of-psi-reports?page=1>

³. Capacity, Inmate Population & Occupancy Rate of Jails (2017 – 2019); https://ncrb.gov.in/sites/default/files/psi_table_and_chapter_report/Additional%20Table%20-2019_1.pdf



Tarana Sub-Jail (315%) of Madhya Pradesh; Mumbai Central Jail (312%) of Maharashtra; Thiruvananthapuram Central Jail (306%) of Kerala; Badaun District Jail (289%) of Uttar Pradesh; Dindori District Jail (270%) of Madhya Pradesh; Latchar District Jail (268%) and Gumla District Jail (264%) of Jharkhand, among other jails.

Table 1: Prisons with over 200% overcrowding as on 31.12.2018 as per NCRB

JAIL-WISE OVERCROWDING AS ON 31.12.2018						
Sl. no.	State	Jail	Sanctioned capacity	Actual Occupancy	Overcrowding	Percentage of overcrowding
1	Kerala	Irinjalakkuda Special Jail	11	81	70	636
2	Kerala	Palakkad Special Jail	32	196	164	513
3	Uttar Pradesh	Lalitpur District Jail	122	555	433	355
4	Madhya Pradesh	Maihar Sub-Jail	30	133	103	343
5	Madhya Pradesh	Tarana Sub-Jail	20	83	63	315
6	Maharashtra	Mumbai Central Jail	804	3311	2507	312
7	Kerala	Thiruvananthapuram Central Jail	272	1105	833	306
8	Uttar Pradesh	Badaun District Jail	529	2057	1528	289
9	Madhya Pradesh	Dindori District Jail	50	185	135	270
10	Jharkhand	Latchar District Jail	166	611	445	268
11	Jharkhand	Gamla District Jail	215	782	567	264
12	Kerala	Kottarakkara Special Jail	50	179	129	258
13	Bihar	Madhepura District Jail	99	353	254	257



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14	Uttar Pradesh	Muradabad District Jail	652	2324	1672	256
15	Madhya Pradesh	Khargone District Jail	100	356	256	256
16	Madhya Pradesh	Khandwa District Jail	168	592	424	252
17	Madhya Pradesh	Baidhan District Jail	150	526	376	251
18	Delhi	Central Jail No.4 (Tihar Jail)	740	2510	1770	239
19	Kerala	Vadakara Sub-Jail	13	44	31	238
20	Delhi	Central Jail No. 1 (Tihar Jail)	565	1910	1345	238
21	Jharkhand	Chatra District Jail	177	598	421	238
22	Uttar Pradesh	Jaunpur District Jail	320	1078	758	237
23	Maharashtra	Solapur District Jail	141	473	332	235
24	Madhya Pradesh	Ambah Sub-Jail	50	166	116	232
25	West Bengal	Kandi Sub Jail	42	138	96	229
26	Bihar	Sitamarhi District Jail	286	906	620	217
27	Uttar Pradesh	Jhansi District Jail	416	1311	895	215
28	Uttar Pradesh	Deoria District Jail	533	1658	1125	211
29	Uttar Pradesh	Mathura District Jail	554	1718	1164	210
30	Kerala	Vythiri Special Jail	22	68	46	209
31	Bihar	Patna city Sub Jail	37	114	77	208
32	Uttar Pradesh	Sultanpur District Jail	443	1355	912	206
33	Uttar Pradesh	Saharanpur District Jail	533	1620	1087	204



34	Madhya Pradesh	Barwaha Sub-Jail	50	151	101	202
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1.2. Overcrowding violates freedom from torture and the right to be treated with humanity and inherent dignity

1.2.1 Standards for the Treatment of Prisoners

The “*Model Prison Manual for the Superintendence and Management of Prisons in India*” provides that the state governments shall specify the authorised number of prisoners to be housed for each type of institution and norms with regard to area/space for prisoners as suggested in the Model Prison Manual.⁴

The Manual specified the minimum accommodation capacity of dormitories/barracks, cells cottages, and hospitals per-prisoner which will ordinarily be according to the following scale:⁵

Sleeping Barracks: 3.71 Sq. mtrs of ground areas; 15.83 Cu mtrs of air space; 1.12 Sq. mtrs of lateral ventilation.

Cells: 8.92 Sq. mtrs of ground areas; 33.98 Cu mtrs of air space; 2.23 Sq. mtrs of lateral ventilation.

According to the Delhi Jail Manual on ‘Sleeping berths in wards’, every ward or other compartment intended for the accommodation of prisoners by night, shall be provided with masonry sleeping berths, equal in number to the capacity of the ward according to the prescribed scale. Each berth shall be 2 metres long, 0.69 metre broad and 46 cms high and shall be constructed with a slight slope down from the head. The head of each berth shall be on the opposite side to the heads of the berths

4. *Model Prison Manual for the Superintendence and Management of Prisons in India*, prepared by Bureau of Police Research and Development Ministry of Home Affairs Government of India New Delhi 2003, <https://bprd.nic.in/WriteReadData/userfiles/file/5230647148-Model%20Prison%20Manual.pdf>

5. *Model Prison Manual for the Superintendence and Management of Prisons in India*, prepared by Bureau of Police Research and Development Ministry of Home Affairs Government of India New Delhi 2003, <https://bprd.nic.in/WriteReadData/userfiles/file/5230647148-Model%20Prison%20Manual.pdf>



(if any) on either side of it. The space between every two berths shall, ordinarily, not be less than 0.61 metres.⁶

The United Nations Standard Minimum Rules for the Treatment of Prisoners (the Nelson Mandela Rules) provides the following minimum standards for the prisoners with respect to accommodation, personal hygiene, clothing and bedding, food, exercise and sport and Health-care services:

“Accommodation

Rule 12

1. Where sleeping accommodation is in individual cells or rooms, each prisoner shall occupy by night a cell or room by himself or herself. If for special reasons, such as temporary overcrowding, it becomes necessary for the central prison administration to make an exception to this rule, it is not desirable to have two prisoners in a cell or room.

2. Where dormitories are used, they shall be occupied by prisoners carefully selected as being suitable to associate with one another in those conditions. There shall be regular supervision by night, in keeping with the nature of the prison.

Rule 13

All accommodation provided for the use of prisoners and in particular all sleeping accommodation shall meet all requirements of health, due regard being paid to climatic conditions and particularly to cubic content of air, minimum floor space, lighting, heating and ventilation.

Rule 14

In all places where prisoners are required to live or work:

(a) The windows shall be large enough to enable the prisoners to read or work by natural light and shall be so constructed that they can allow the entrance of fresh air whether or not there is artificial ventilation;

⁶. Delhi Jail Manual 2014,

<http://tte.delhigovt.nic.in/wps/wcm/connect/6e2944004860a367997dd9e84337c0bf/DELHI+I+MANUAL.pdf?MOD=AJPERES&lmod=1429039220&CACHEID=6e2944004860a367997dd9e84337c0bf>



(b) Artificial light shall be provided sufficient for the prisoners to read or work without injury to eyesight.

Rule 15

The sanitary installations shall be adequate to enable every prisoner to comply with the needs of nature when necessary and in a clean and decent manner.

Rule 16

Adequate bathing and shower installations shall be provided so that every prisoner can, and may be required to, have a bath or shower, at a temperature suitable to the climate, as frequently as necessary for general hygiene according to season and geographical region, but at least once a week in a temperate climate.

Rule 17

All parts of a prison regularly used by prisoners shall be properly maintained and kept scrupulously clean at all times.

Personal hygiene

Rule 18

1. Prisoners shall be required to keep their persons clean, and to this end they shall be provided with water and with such toilet articles as are necessary for health and cleanliness.
2. In order that prisoners may maintain a good appearance compatible with their self-respect, facilities shall be provided for the proper care of the hair and beard, and men shall be able to shave regularly.

The United Nations Standard Minimum Rules for the Treatment of Prisoners (the Nelson Mandela Rules) apart from the standards on clothing and bedding, food, exercise and sport also unequivocally clarify that the provision of health care for prisoners is a State responsibility. It states:

Health-care services

Rule 24

1. The provision of health care for prisoners is a State responsibility. Prisoners should enjoy the same standards of health



care that are available in the community, and should have access to necessary health-care services free of charge without discrimination on the grounds of their legal status.

2. Health-care services should be organized in close relationship to the general public health administration and in a way that ensures continuity of treatment and care, including for HIV, tuberculosis and other infectious diseases, as well as for drug dependence.

Rule 25

1. Every prison shall have in place a health-care service tasked with evaluating, promoting, protecting and improving the physical and mental health of prisoners, paying particular attention to prisoners with special health-care needs or with health issues that hamper their rehabilitation.

2. The health-care service shall consist of an interdisciplinary team with sufficient qualified personnel acting in full clinical independence and shall encompass sufficient expertise in psychology and psychiatry. The services of a qualified dentist shall be available to every prisoner.

Rule 26

1. The health-care service shall prepare and maintain accurate, up-to-date and confidential individual medical files on all prisoners, and all prisoners should be granted access to their files upon request. A prisoner may appoint a third party to access his or her medical file.

2. Medical files shall be transferred to the health-care service of the receiving institution upon transfer of a prisoner and shall be subject to medical confidentiality.

Rule 27

1. All prisons shall ensure prompt access to medical attention in urgent cases. Prisoners who require specialized treatment or surgery shall be transferred to specialized institutions or to civil hospitals. Where a prison service has its own hospital facilities, they shall be adequately staffed and equipped to provide prisoners referred to them with appropriate treatment and care.

2. Clinical decisions may only be taken by the responsible health-care professionals and may not be overruled or ignored by non-medical prison staff.



Rule 28

In women's prisons, there shall be special accommodation for all necessary prenatal and postnatal care and treatment. Arrangements shall be made wherever practicable for children to be born in a hospital outside the prison. If a child is born in prison, this fact shall not be mentioned in the birth certificate.

Rule 29

1. A decision to allow a child to stay with his or her parent in prison shall be based on the best interests of the child concerned. Where children are allowed to remain in prison with a parent, provision shall be made for:

(a) Internal or external childcare facilities staffed by qualified persons, where the children shall be placed when they are not in the care of their parent;

(b) Child-specific health-care services, including health screenings upon admission and ongoing monitoring of their development by specialists.

2. Children in prison with a parent shall never be treated as prisoners.

Rule 30

A physician or other qualified health-care professionals, whether or not they are required to report to the physician, shall see, talk with and examine every prisoner as soon as possible following his or her admission and thereafter as necessary. Particular attention shall be paid to:

(a) Identifying health-care needs and taking all necessary measures for treatment;

(b) Identifying any ill-treatment that arriving prisoners may have been subjected to prior to admission;

(c) Identifying any signs of psychological or other stress brought on by the fact of imprisonment, including, but not limited to, the risk of suicide or self-harm and withdrawal symptoms resulting from the use of drugs, medication or alcohol; and undertaking all appropriate individualized measures or treatment;



(d) In cases where prisoners are suspected of having contagious diseases, providing for the clinical isolation and adequate treatment of those prisoners during the infectious period;

(e) Determining the fitness of prisoners to work, to exercise and to participate in other activities, as appropriate.

Rule 31

The physician or, where applicable, other qualified health-care professionals shall have daily access to all sick prisoners, all prisoners who complain of physical or mental health issues or injury and any prisoner to whom their attention is specially directed. All medical examinations shall be undertaken in full confidentiality.

Rule 32

1. The relationship between the physician or other health-care professionals and the prisoners shall be governed by the same ethical and professional standards as those applicable to patients in the community, in particular:

(a) The duty of protecting prisoners' physical and mental health and the prevention and treatment of disease on the basis of clinical grounds only;

(b) Adherence to prisoners' autonomy with regard to their own health and informed consent in the doctor-patient relationship;

(c) The confidentiality of medical information, unless maintaining such confidentiality would result in a real and imminent threat to the patient or to others;

(d) An absolute prohibition on engaging, actively or passively, in acts that may constitute torture or other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment, including medical or scientific experimentation that may be detrimental to a prisoner's health, such as the removal of a prisoner's cells, body tissues or organs.

2. Without prejudice to paragraph 1 (d) of this rule, prisoners may be allowed, upon their free and informed consent and in accordance with applicable law, to participate in clinical trials and other health research accessible in the community if these are expected to produce a direct and significant benefit to their health, and to donate cells, body tissues or organs to a relative.



Rule 33

The physician shall report to the prison director whenever he or she considers that a prisoner's physical or mental health has been or will be injuriously affected by continued imprisonment or by any condition of imprisonment.

Rule 34

If, in the course of examining a prisoner upon admission or providing medical care to the prisoner thereafter, health-care professionals become aware of any signs of torture or other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment, they shall document and report such cases to the competent medical, administrative or judicial authority. Proper procedural safeguards shall be followed in order not to expose the prisoner or associated persons to foreseeable risk of harm.

Rule 35

1. The physician or competent public health body shall regularly inspect and advise the prison director on:

- (a) The quantity, quality, preparation and service of food;
- (b) The hygiene and cleanliness of the institution and the prisoners;
- (c) The sanitation, temperature, lighting and ventilation of the prison;
- (d) The suitability and cleanliness of the prisoners' clothing and bedding;
- (e) The observance of the rules concerning physical education and sports, in cases where there is no technical personnel in charge of these activities.

2. The prison director shall take into consideration the advice and reports provided in accordance with paragraph 1 of this rule and rule 33 and shall take immediate steps to give effect to the advice and the recommendations in the reports. If the advice or recommendations do not fall within the prison director's competence or if he or she does not concur with them, the director shall immediately submit to a higher authority his or her own report



and the advice or recommendations of the physician or competent public health body.”

1.2.2 Jurisprudence applicable to India on the treatment of prisoners

The right not to be subjected to torture and the right to be treated with humanity and with respect for the inherent dignity of the human person are recognised under international human rights law as well as under India’s domestic law.

Article 7 of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (ICCPR) provides that *“No one shall be subjected to torture or to cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment.”*

Article 10(1) of the ICCPR further provides that *“All persons deprived of their liberty shall be treated with humanity and with respect for the inherent dignity of the human person.”*

India has ratified the ICCPR in 1979 and further made the ICCPR applicable at domestic level under the Protection of Human Rights Act, 1993 (PHRA).

Section 2(1)(d) of the PHRA states that *“‘human rights’ means the rights relating to life, liberty, equality and dignity of the individual guaranteed by the Constitution or embodied in the International Covenants and enforceable by courts in India”* while Section 2(1)(f) of the PHRA states that *“International Covenants means the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights and the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights adopted by the General Assembly of the United Nations on the 16th December, 1966.”*⁷

Both international and regional human rights mechanisms have recognised breaches of the prohibition of torture due to overcrowding, as detainees are forced to live for prolonged periods in deplorable material conditions.

A. Jurisprudence of the UN Human Rights Committee applicable to India

The UN Human Rights Committee established under Article 28 of the ICCPR to monitor implementation of the Covenant in *Zafar Abdullayev v. Turkmenistan*,

⁷. See Protection of Human Rights Act of 1993 at https://nhrc.nic.in/sites/default/files/PHRA_Bilingual_2018.pdf



*Human Rights Committee*⁸ with respect to “the deplorable prison conditions, for example, that the isolation block lacked basic hygiene, there were around 40 inmates in one cell, a metal barrel emptied once a day served as a toilet in the cell; and that, during the day, inmates had to sit on the concrete cell floor and that at night-time they were given dirty blankets, insufficient in number”, stated that “persons deprived of their liberty may not be subjected to any hardship or constraint other than that resulting from the deprivation of liberty: they must be treated in accordance with, inter alia, the Standard Minimum Rules for the Treatment of Prisoners”. The UN Human Rights Committee held “*such conditions constitutes a violation of his right to be treated with humanity and with respect for the inherent dignity of the human person under article 10 (1) of the Covenant*”.

The UN Human Rights Committee in *Yekaterina Pavlovna Lantsova*⁹ also held that bad prison conditions conceded by the authorities including holding of prisoners twice the intended number of inmates with poor ventilation and inadequate food and hygiene constituted a violation of article 10 (1) of the ICCPR. The Committee had stated:

“Regarding the conditions of detention, the Committee notes that the State party concedes that prison conditions were bad and that detention centres at the time of the events held twice the intended number of inmates. The Committee also notes the specific information received from the author, in particular that the prison population was, in fact, five times the allowed capacity and that the conditions in Matrosskaya Tishina prison were inhuman, because of poor ventilation, inadequate food and hygiene. The Committee finds that holding the author’s son in the conditions prevailing at this prison during that time entailed a violation of his rights under article 10, paragraph 1 of the Covenant.”

Since the ICCPR is applicable to India at national level under the Protection of Human Rights Act, the jurisprudence set by the UN Human Rights Committee too is binding up on India.

B. India’s constitutional jurisprudence

In *Sunil Batra vs. Delhi Administration* (1980 AIR 1579), a Supreme Court bench comprising Justices V.R. Krishna Iyer, R.S. Pathak and O. Chinnappa Reddy held “*that*

⁸. *Zafar Abdullayev v. Turkmenistan*, Human Rights Committee Communication No. 2218/2012, U.N. Doc. CCPR/C/113/D/2218/2012 (2015)

⁹. *Ms. Yekaterina Pavlovna Lantsova v. The Russian Federation*, Communication No. 763/1997, U.N. Doc. CCPR/C/74/D/763/1997 (2002)



no prisoner can be personally subjected to deprivations not necessitated by the fact of incarceration and the sentence of court. All other freedoms belong to him to read and write, to exercise and recreation, to meditation and chant, to creative comforts like protection from extreme cold and heat, to freedom from indignities like compulsory nudity, forced sodomy and other unbearable vulgarity, to movement within the prison campus subject to requirements of discipline and security, to the minimal joys of self-expression, to acquire skills and techniques and all other fundamental rights tailored to the limitations of imprisonment.”¹⁰

In *A. K. Roy, Etc vs. Union of India and Anr.* (1982 AIR 710) emphasizing the rights of detainees held under the National Security Act, Chief Justice Y.V. Chandrachud delivering the judgment on behalf of the majority of four out of five judges held: *“that the detainees must be afforded all reasonable facilities for an existence consistent with human dignity. We see no reason why they should not be permitted to wear their own clothes, eat their own food, have interview with the members of their families at least once a week and, last but not the least, have reading and writing material according to their reasonable requirement.”¹¹*

In *Shri Rama Murthy vs State Of Karnataka* [1997 (2) SCC 642], a three judges bench of the Supreme Court comprising Justices Kuldip Sing, B.L. Hansaria and S.B. Mazumdar held that overcrowding itself violates any constitutional right because overcrowding contributes to a greater risk of disease, higher noise levels, surveillance difficulties, which increases the danger level. The bench noted that life is more difficult for inmates and work more onerous for staff when prisoners are in over capacity.¹²

In *Rasikbhai Ramsing Rana and Etc. vs State of Gujarat* [1998 CriL] 1347] involving failure in providing immediate medical attention to the ailing prisoners in Vadodara Jail on account of non-availability of the police escort to take them to the SSG Hospital, a Division Bench of the Gujarat High Court directed the Inspector General of Prison and Additional Chief Secretary, Home Department, Government of Gujarat, to ensure that additional police forces are made available to the jails to escort ailing prisoners to hospitals for adequate medical treatment as well as to immediately fill up all vacancies in the jail hospitals. The court directed the IGP, Prisons to pursue

¹⁰. Sunil Batra vs. Delhi Administration (1980 AIR 1579)

¹¹. A. K. Roy, Etc vs. Union of India and Anr. (1982 AIR 710)

¹². Shri Rama Murthy vs State Of Karnataka [1997 (2) SCC 642]



the implementation of the directions relentlessly and asked to inform the court in case of failure to comply within reasonable time.¹³

In *Suo Motu vs The State of Gujarat* [(2005) 3 GLR 2088], holding that “it is the bounden duty of the Government not only to provide for adequate medical facilities, but to have proper establishment with up-to-date medical equipments, medical staff, nursing staff and the administrative as well as the working staff,” the Gujarat High Court directed to set up all modern medical facilities and efficient and proper medical as well as nursing and administrative staff at the major prisons and further directed that medical setup of the prisons in the districts need to be updated to such an extent that only in the complicated cases the patients are required to be referred to super specialty hospitals or the Civil Hospitals. It said that the existing medical setup is very poor and the prisoners deserve better treatment and better facilities.¹⁴ It was further held that “They are also entitled to have the bare necessities of life such as means to live healthy life, adequate nutrition, clothing, shelter over the head, facilities for reading, writing, interview with family members and friends.”

In *P. Bharathi vs. Union Territory of Pondicherry and Others* wherein a convicted prisoner complained about the lack of toilet facilities for prisoners lodged inside cells during night as well as poor condition of hygiene and maintenance inside the prison, a Division Bench of the Madras High Court directed the Pondicherry government to “remedy the situation urgently by installing Indian Water Closet pan (with flash type toilet) with water connection in all the cells in the existing prison” and to make adequate provisions for all basic amenities including toilets inside the cell and outside within the jail compound at the under construction Modern Central Prison at Kalapet village. The bench also directed the Pondicherry government to amend the Prison Rules, particularly Rules 382 which affected the basic rights of the prisoners.¹⁵

Emphasising on the basic rights of prisoners, a Division Bench of the Gujarat High Court in *Dharmesh Prahladbhai vs State Of Gujarat & Anr* held: “As long as prisoners

¹³. Rasikbhai Ramsing Rana and Etc. vs State of Gujarat [1998 CriLJ 1347]

¹⁴. *Suo Motu vs The State of Gujarat* [(2005) 3 GLR 2088]

¹⁵. Decision dated 06.11.2006 passed by the Madras High Court in *Bharathi vs. Union Territory of Pondicherry and Others* in Writ Petition No.9220 of 2005; available at: <https://www.legitquest.com/case/p-bharathi-v-union-territory-of-pondicherry-rep-by-the-secretary-to-government-others/2E87B>



are lodged in prisons run by the State Government, it is the duty and responsibility of the State to take proper and good care of them. The Court cannot countenance the sheer apathy which is writ large in the approach of the jail authorities towards the prisoners by failing to provide the 'police japta' to take them to the concerned hospitals for treatment. Because of this lack of treatment, the prisoners approach the Court with pleas for temporary bail, as they would prefer to spend their own money for their treatment, whether they can afford it or not, when no proper treatment is being provided by the jail authorities. On top of that, the extra medical diet prescribed by the jail doctors does not appear to be reaching the prisoners." In this case, two prisoners approached the High Court seeking temporary bail to obtain medical treatment at outside hospitals as the jail administration failed to provide them effective medical either inside the jail or at any outside hospital. The court allowed the plea of the prisoners and granted them temporary bail to facilitate their medical treatment at outside hospitals.

1.2.3 International standards and jurisprudence relevant to India

The International Committee of the Red Cross stated that prisoners being "*forced to live for extended periods in congested accommodation, with insufficient space to move, sit or sleep, seriously compromises the ability of the administration to fulfil detainees' basic needs in terms of living conditions, medical care, legal aid and family visits. Being squeezed into cramped living quarters, often in appalling hygiene conditions and with no privacy, makes the experience of being deprived of freedom—already stressful in normal circumstances— exponentially worse. It erodes human dignity and undermines detainees' physical and mental health, as well as their reintegration prospects.*"¹⁶

A. Jurisprudence of the European Court of Human Rights

Article 3 of the European Convention on Human Rights prohibits torture and provides that "*No one shall be subjected to torture or to inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment.*"

The European Court on Human Rights (ECHR) has pronounced a number of judgments clearly holding that overcrowding and related conditions constitute

¹⁶. Handbook on strategies to reduce overcrowding in prisons, United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime and the International Committee of the Red Cross, October 2013, https://www.unodc.org/documents/justice-and-prison-reform/Overcrowding_in_prisons_Ebook.pdf



violations of Article 3 of the European Convention on Human Rights as elaborated below:

- In its judgment in *J.M.B. (no. 9671/15) and Others v. France*¹⁷ dated 30 January 2020 concerning the poor conditions of detention and overcrowding in Ducos (Martinique), Faa'a Nuutania (French Polynesia), Baie-Mahault (Guadeloupe), Nîmes, Nice and Fresnes prisons, the ECHR held that there had been a violation of Article 3 (prohibition of inhuman or degrading treatment) of the Convention in respect of 27 of the applicants. It considered in particular that the personal space allocated to most of the applicants had fallen below the required minimum standard of 3 sq. m throughout their period of detention and that situation had been aggravated by the lack of privacy in using the toilets. With regard to the applicants who had more than 3 sq. m of personal space, the Court held that the prisons in which they had been or continued to be held did not, generally speaking, provide decent conditions of detention or sufficient freedom of movement and activities outside the cell.
- In its judgment in *Petrescu v. Portugal*¹⁸ dated 3 December 2019, the ECHR found that there had been several violations of Article 3 (prohibition of inhuman or degrading treatment) of the Convention. In the light of the conditions in which the applicant had been held in the Lisbon police prison and in Pinheiro da Cruz Prison, it found that he had been subjected to degrading treatment for 376 non consecutive days and to inhuman and degrading treatment for several periods, lasting 385, 36 and 18 days. In its judgment, the Court also recommended that the Portuguese State envisage the adoption of general measures: firstly, measures ought to be taken to ensure that prisoners were provided with conditions of detention which were compatible with Article 3 of the Convention; secondly, a remedy ought to be made available to prevent the continuation of an alleged violation or to enable prisoners to secure an improvement in their conditions of detention.

¹⁷. Judgment in *J.M.B. (no. 9671/15) and Others v. France* (application no. 9671/15 and 31 others) dated 30 January 2020 can be accessed at <https://hudoc.echr.coe.int/eng--press#%22itemid%22:%22003-6624855-8792764%22> }

¹⁸. Judgment in *Petrescu v. Portugal* (application no. 23190/17) dated 3 December 2019 can be accessed at <https://hudoc.echr.coe.int/eng--press#%22itemid%22:%22003-6578808-8713292%22> }



- In *Clasens v. Belgium*¹⁹ concerning the deterioration in the applicant's conditions of detention in Ittre Prison (Belgium) during a strike by prison wardens between April and June 2016, the ECHR in its judgment dated 28 May 2019 noted that the applicant complained about the material conditions of his detention and that he had had no access to an effective remedy. The Court held that there had been a violation of Article 3 (prohibition of inhuman or degrading treatment) of the Convention, finding that the applicant's conditions of detention during the prison wardens' strike amounted to degrading treatment, resulting from the cumulative effect of ongoing lack of physical exercise, repeated breaches of the hygiene regulations, a lack of contact with the outside world and the uncertainty about whether his basic needs would be met. It considered that the applicant had been subjected to distress of an intensity exceeding the unavoidable level of suffering inherent in detention. The Court also held that in this case there had been a violation of Article 13 (right to an effective remedy) of the Convention taken together with Article 3, finding that the Belgian system, as it functioned at the relevant time, had not provided an effective remedy in practice – in other words, a remedy capable of affording redress for the situation of which the applicant was a victim and preventing the continuation of the alleged violations.

- In *Pocasovschi and Mihaila v. the Republic of Moldova and Russia*,²⁰ the ECHR in its judgment dated 29 May 2018 held that there had been a violation of Article 3 (prohibition of inhuman or degrading treatment) of the Convention by the Republic of Moldova in respect of both applicants. It found in particular that although the municipal authority which ordered the utilities to be cut had been controlled by the "MRT", the prison itself had been under full Moldovan Government control. The detainees had been held in inhuman conditions between September 2002 and April 2004 owing to a lack of water, electricity, food and warmth.

¹⁹. Judgment in *Clasens v. Belgium* (application no. 26564/16) dated 28 May 2019 can be accessed at [https://hudoc.echr.coe.int/eng--press#{%22itemid%22:\[%22003-6418388-8433525%22\]}](https://hudoc.echr.coe.int/eng--press#{%22itemid%22:[%22003-6418388-8433525%22]})

²⁰. Judgment in *Pocasovschi and Mihaila v. the Republic of Moldova and Russia* (application no. 1089/09) dated 29 May 2018 can be accessed at [https://hudoc.echr.coe.int/eng--press#{%22itemid%22:\[%22003-6097025-7860987%22\]}](https://hudoc.echr.coe.int/eng--press#{%22itemid%22:[%22003-6097025-7860987%22]})



- In *Valentin Baştovoi v. the Republic of Moldova*²¹ dated 28 November 2017 the ECHR held that there had been a violation of Article 3 (prohibition of inhuman or degrading treatment) of the Convention finding that during his time in Chişinău Prison no. 13 as the applicant had been subjected to conditions of detention entailing hardship that went beyond the unavoidable level of suffering inherent in detention.
- In *Rezmiveş and Others v. Romania*²² dated 25 April 2017 concerning the conditions of detention in Romanian prisons and in detention facilities attached to police stations, the ECHR noted that the applicants complained, among other things, of overcrowding in their cells, inadequate sanitary facilities, lack of hygiene, poor-quality food, dilapidated equipment and the presence of rats and insects in the cells. The Court held that there had been a violation of Article 3 (prohibition of inhuman or degrading treatment) of the Convention, finding that the conditions of the applicants' detention, also taking into account the length of their incarceration, had subjected them to hardship going beyond the unavoidable level of suffering inherent in detention.
- In *Vasilescu v. Belgium*²³ in its judgment dated 25.11.2014, the ECHR held that there had been a violation of Article 3 (prohibition of inhuman or degrading treatment) of the Convention regarding the physical conditions of the applicant's detention in Antwerp and Merksplas Prisons. It noted in particular that in addition to the problem of prison overcrowding, the applicant's allegations regarding the sanitary conditions, particularly access to running water and the toilets, were most plausible and reflected the realities described by the European Committee for the Prevention of Torture (CPT) in the various reports drawn up following its visits to Belgian prisons. While there was nothing to indicate that there had been a

²¹. Judgment in *Valentin Baştovoi v. the Republic of Moldova* (application no. 40614/14) dated 28 November 2017 can be accessed at

[https://hudoc.echr.coe.int/eng#{%22itemid%22:\[%22003-5927705-7571264%22\]}](https://hudoc.echr.coe.int/eng#{%22itemid%22:[%22003-5927705-7571264%22]})

²². *Rezmiveş and Others v. Romania* (applications nos. 61467/12, 39516/13, 48213/13 and 68191/13) dated 25 April 2017 (pilot judgment2) can be accessed at

[https://hudoc.echr.coe.int/eng-press#{%22itemid%22:\[%22003-5698279-7228685%22\]}](https://hudoc.echr.coe.int/eng-press#{%22itemid%22:[%22003-5698279-7228685%22]})

²³. Judgment in *Vasilescu v. Belgium* (application no. 64682/12) dated 18 March 2014 can be accessed at [https://hudoc.echr.coe.int/eng-press#{%22itemid%22:\[%22003-4942877-6053241%22\]}](https://hudoc.echr.coe.int/eng-press#{%22itemid%22:[%22003-4942877-6053241%22]})



real intention to humiliate or debase the applicant during his detention, the Court found that his physical conditions of detention in Antwerp and Merksplas Prisons had subjected him to hardship exceeding the unavoidable level of suffering inherent in detention and amounted to inhuman and degrading treatment.

- In *Canali v. France*²⁴, the ECHR in its judgment dated 25 April 2013 pertaining to the conditions of detention in the Charles III Prison in Nancy, which was built in 1857 and shut down in 2009 on account of its extremely dilapidated state, held that there had been a violation of Article 3 (prohibition of inhuman or degrading treatment) of the Convention. It found that the cumulative effect of the cramped conditions and the failings in respect of hygiene regulations had aroused in the applicant feelings of despair and inferiority capable of debasing and humiliating him. These conditions of detention amounted to degrading treatment.
- In *Ananyev and Others v. Russia*²⁵, the ECHR vide its judgement dated 10 January 2012 held that the applicants had been subjected to inhuman and degrading treatment, in violation of Article 3 (prohibition of inhuman or degrading treatment) of the Convention as in their respective cells, the applicants had been given less than 1.25 square metres and 2 square metres of personal space and the number of detainees had significantly exceeded the number of sleeping places available. In addition, they had remained inside their cells all the time, except for a one hour period of outdoors exercise. They had also eaten their meals and used the toilet in those cramped conditions.
- In *Florea v. Romania*²⁶, the ECHR vide its judgment dated 14 September 2010 found that the conditions of detention to which the applicant had been subjected had exceeded the threshold of severity required by Article 3 (prohibition of inhuman or degrading treatment) of the Convention, in

²⁴. Judgment in *Canali v. France* (application no. 40119/09) dated 25.04.2013 can be accessed at <https://hudoc.echr.coe.int/eng-press#%22itemid%22:%22003-4338800-5202139%22>}}

²⁵. Judgment in *Ananyev and Others v. Russia* (application nos. 42525/07 and 60800/08) dated 10 January 2012 can be accessed at <https://hudoc.echr.coe.int/eng-press#%22itemid%22:%22003-3800862-4354469%22>}}

²⁶. Judgment in *Florea v. Romania* (application no. [37186/03](#)) dated 14.09.2010 is available at <https://hudoc.echr.coe.int/eng-press#%22itemid%22:%22003-3260887-3639978%22>}}



violation of that provision. The applicant suffering from chronic hepatitis and arterial hypertension had to share a cell with only 35 beds with between 110 and 120 other prisoners for about nine months. Throughout his detention he was kept in cells with other prisoners who were smokers. He complained in particular of overcrowding and poor hygiene conditions, including having been detained together with smokers in his prison cell and in the prison hospital and being provided with a diet which was unsuited to his various medical conditions.

- In *Modârcă v. Moldova*²⁷, the ECHR vide its judgment dated 10 May 2007 held that the cumulative effect of the conditions of the detention and the time the applicant had been forced to endure them had amounted to a violation of Article 3 (prohibition of inhuman or degrading treatment) of the Convention. The applicant, who suffers from osteoporosis, spent nine months of his pre-trial detention in a 10 square meter cell with three other detainees. The cell had very limited access to daylight; it was not properly heated or ventilated; electricity and water supplies were periodically discontinued. The applicant was not provided with bed linen or prison clothes; the dining table was close to the toilet, and the daily expenses for food were limited to 0.28 euros (EUR) for each detainee.
- In *Kalashnikov v. Russia*²⁸ dated 15 July 2002 where the applicant spent almost five years in pre-trial detention and complained that his cell was overcrowded – on 17 square meters 24 inmates were held and being surrounded by heavy smokers, he was forced to become a passive smoker and further it was impossible to sleep properly as the TV and cell light were never turned off, that the cell was overrun with cockroaches and ants, and that he contracted a variety of skin diseases and fungal infections, losing his toenails and some of his fingernails as a consequence. The ECHR held the conditions of detention had amounted to degrading treatment in violation of Article 3 (prohibition of inhuman or degrading treatment) of the Convention. In particular the severely overcrowded and insanitary environment and its detrimental effect on the applicant's health

²⁷. Judgment in *Modârcă v. Moldova* (application no. [14437/05](https://hudoc.echr.coe.int/eng--press#%7B%22itemid%22:%5B%22003-1998421-2106870%22%7D)) dated 10 May 2007 is available at <https://hudoc.echr.coe.int/eng--press#%7B%22itemid%22:%5B%22003-1998421-2106870%22%7D>

²⁸. Judgment *Kalashnikov v. Russia* (application no. [47095/99](https://hudoc.echr.coe.int/eng--press#%7B%22itemid%22:%5B%22003-587422-591161%22%7D)) dated 15.07.2002 is available at <https://hudoc.echr.coe.int/eng--press#%7B%22itemid%22:%5B%22003-587422-591161%22%7D>



and well-being, combined with the length of the period during which the applicant was detained in such conditions, contributed to this finding.

- In *Peers v. Greece*²⁹ dated 19 April 2001 where the complainant stated that he had shared a small cell with one other prisoner, with an open toilet, which often failed to work, in hot, cramped conditions with little natural light and no ventilation, the ECHR held that there had been a violation of Article 3 (prohibition of inhuman or degrading treatment) of the European Convention on Human Rights and it had amounted to degrading treatment. It took particularly into account that, for at least two months, the applicant had to spend a considerable part of each 24-hour period practically confined to his bed in a cell, with no ventilation and no window, which would at times become unbearably hot. He also had to use the toilet in the presence of another inmate and be present while the toilet was being used by his cellmate. The Court was of the opinion that the prison conditions complained of had diminished the applicant's human dignity and given rise in him to feelings of anguish and inferiority capable of humiliating and debasing him and possibly breaking his physical or moral resistance.

B. Jurisprudence of the Inter-American Court of Human Rights

The Inter-American Court of Human Rights in its judgment dated 5 July 2006 in the case of *Montero-Aranguren et al (Detention Center of Catia) v. Venezuela*³⁰ noted that “persons detained in the Detention Center of Catia lived in conditions of severe prison overcrowding and overpopulation. The exact number of inmates at the time of the events of the instant case is not known with certainty due, inter alia, to the lack of an adequate record of the basic data of inmates. However, according to some estimates, the population of Catia Detention facilities ranged between 2286 to 3618 inmates, although its maximum capacity was 900 inmates. That is to say, the overpopulation was between 254 and 402 percent over its capacity. The available

²⁹. Judgment in *Peers v. Greece* (application number [28524/95](https://hudoc.echr.coe.int/eng-press#%7B%22itemid%22:%5B%22003-68398-68866%22%5D%7D)) dated 19.4.2001, European Court of Human Rights available at <https://hudoc.echr.coe.int/eng-press#%7B%22itemid%22:%5B%22003-68398-68866%22%5D%7D>

³⁰. Inter-American Court of Human Rights Case of *Montero-Aranguren et al (Detention Center of Catia) v. Venezuela*, dated 5 July, 2006, https://www.corteidh.or.cr/docs/casos/articulos/seriec_150_ing.pdf



space for each inmate was about 30 square centimeters. Some cells used to house inmates during the night were designed for two persons, however, not less than six persons were held inside them.” In the light of the facts, the Court went to hold that “91. *In the instant case, the space of about 30 square centimeters available for each inmate is absolutely unacceptable and involves per se cruel, inhuman and degrading treatment, contrary to the dignity inherent to human being and, therefore, a violation to Article 5(2) of the American Convention*”. It further stated “92. *Likewise, large-capacity dormitories inevitably imply a lack of privacy for prisoners in their everyday lives. Moreover, the risk of intimidation and violence is high. Such accommodation arrangements are prone to foster the development of offender subcultures and to facilitate the maintenance of the cohesion of criminal organisations. They can also render proper staff control extremely difficult, if not impossible; more specifically, in case of prison disturbances, outside interventions involving the use of considerable force are difficult to avoid. With such accommodation, the appropriate allocation of individual prisoners, based on a case by case risk and needs assessment, also becomes an almost impossible exercise.*”

The Inter-American Court of Human Rights in its judgment in *Boyce et al. v. Barbados*³¹ dated 20 November 2007 described the deplorable conditions in Glendairy Prison was built in 1855 as Barbados’ sole adult prison to hold between 245 and 350 prisoners, both male and female. As of March 2005, the total population of prisoners held in Glendairy had grown to 994, or more than three times its maximum capacity, of which 942 were male and 52 were female. In the cells where prisoners sentenced to death “*The alleged victims had to use what are known as “slop buckets” to urinate and defecate in, which where emptied twice a day, once in the morning and again in the evening, and at other times upon special request. The alleged victims would stay in their cells at least 23 hours a day. The evidence submitted in this case demonstrates that by 2005 the prisoner population at Glendairy had exceeded three times its capacity. In this regard, the Court observes that overcrowded conditions at a detention center may cause detrimental effects on the whole prison population, including prisoners who, as in the case at hand, are held in single cells. Such conditions can result in a reduction of out-of-cell activities, overburdened health care services, hygienic problems and reduced accessibility to washroom and toilet facilities.*” The Court considered that the combined conditions of detention, particularly the use of a slop-bucket, the lack of adequate lightning and

³¹. Inter-American Court of Human Rights, *Boyce et al. v. Barbados* dated 20 November 2007, https://www.corteidh.or.cr/docs/casos/articulos/seriec_169_ing.pdf



ventilation, and the fact that the alleged victims had to stay in their jail cells for 23 hours of each day for more than four years, as well as the overcrowded conditions, together amount to treatment contrary to the dignity of every human being, and thus constitutes a violation of Articles 5(1) and 5(2) of the American Convention, in conjunction with Article 1 of the same instrument, to the detriment of the appellants.

There is little doubt that overcrowding in Indian prisons violates India's obligations under national and international law.

2. The status of COVID-19 in Indian prisons

2.1 At least 351 jails infected with COVID-19 as on 31.08.2020

Out of the 1,350 jails in India, COVID-19 infections have been reported from at least 351 jails or 26% of the total jails in 25 out of total 36 States/UTs of the country as of 31 August 2020. The maximum number of COVID-19 infections in prisons were reported from Uttar Pradesh (35 jails), followed by Madhya Pradesh (34), Maharashtra (32), Odisha (31), Andhra Pradesh (28), Rajasthan and Tamil Nadu (21 each), Assam (19), West Bengal (18), Punjab (17), Bihar (15), Delhi (14), Jharkhand (13), Karnataka (9), Haryana (8), Kerala (7), Gujarat and Chhattisgarh (6 each), Jammu & Kashmir and Uttarakhand (5 each), Telangana (3) and Andaman and Nicobar Islands, Goa, Puducherry and Tripura (1 each).

Uttar Pradesh (35 jails)

(1) Naini Central Jail, (2) Bareilly Central Jail, (3) Agra Central Jail, (4) Agra District Jail, (5) Mainpuri District Jail, (6) Mathura District Jail, (7) Etah District Jail, (8) Kasganj District Jail, (9) Jhansi District Jail, (10) Bareilly District Jail, (11) Badaun District Jail, (12) Shahjahanpur District Jail, (13) Muradabad District Jail, (14) Rampur District Jail, (15) Bijnor District Jail, (16) Lucknow District Jail, (17) Sitapur District Jail, (18) Kanpur District Jail, (19) Itawa District Jail, (20) Buland Shahr District Jail, (21) Bagpat District Jail, (22) Ghaziabad District Jail, (23) Gautambudhnagar District Jail, (24) Saharanpur District Jail, (25) Muzaffarnagar District Jail, (26) Pratapgarh District Jail, (27) Jaunpur District Jail, (28) Sonbhadra District Jail, (29) Gorkhpur District Jail, (30) Basti District Jail, (31) Siddharth Nagar District Jail, (32) Bahraich District Jail, (33) Gonda District Jail, (34) Azamgarh District Jail, and (35) Mau District Jail



Madhya Pradesh (34 jails)

(1) Gwalior Central Jail, (2) Jabalpur Central Jail, (3) Bhopal Central Jail, (4) Rewa Central Jail, (5) Satna Central Jail, (6) Ujjain Central Jail, (7) Sagar Central Jail, (8) Narsinghpur Central Jail, (9) Alirajpur District Jail, (10) Khandwa District Jail, (11) Chhatarpur District Jail, (12) Chhindwara District Jail, (13) Jhabua District Jail, (14) Datia District Jail, (15) Damoh District Jail, (16) Betul District Jail, (17) Shahdol District Jail, (18) Mandsour District Jail, (19) Guna District Jail, (20) Sehore District Jail, (21) Bhind District Jail, (22) Vidisha District Jail, (23) Raisen District Jail, (24) Katni District Jail, (25) Ashoknagar District Jail, (26) Baidhan District Jail, (27) Umaria District Jail, (28) Bagli Sub-Jail, (29) Mahow Sub-Jail, (30) Gohad Sub-Jail, (31) Patan Sub-Jail, (32) Shujalpur Sub-Jail, (33) Bareli Sub-Jail, and (34) Indore Central Jail

Maharashtra (32 jails)

(1) Yerwada Central Jail, (2) Kolhapur Central Jail, (3) Mumbai Central Jail, (4) Thane Central Jail, (5) Aurangabad Central Jail, (6) Nashik Road Central Jail, (7) Nagpur Central Jail, (8) Amravati Central Jail, (9) Taloja Central Jail, (10) Kalyan District Jail, (11) Byculla District Jail, (12) Dhule District Jail, (13) Akola District Jail, (14) Bhandara District Jail, (15) Chandrapur District Jail, (16) Latur District Jail, (17) Washim District Jail, (18) Jalna District Jail, (19) Alibag District Jail, (20) Buldana District Jail, (21) Parbhani District Jail, (22) Osmanabad District Jail, (23) Beed District Jail, (24) Jalgaon District Jail, (25) Solapur District Jail, (26) Sangli District Jail, (27) Satara District Jail, (28) Ahemadnagar District Jail, (29) J J Hospital District Jail, (30) Kolhapur District Jail, (31) Mumbai Women Jail, and (32) Ratnagiri Special Jail

Odisha (31 jails)

(1) Berhampur Central Jail, (2) Choudwar Central Jail, (3) Koraput Central Jail, (4) Phulbani District Jail, (5) Puri District Jail, (6) Sundargarh District Jail, (7) Bhanjanagar Sub-Jail, (8) Aska Sub-Jail, (9) Banapur Sub-Jail, (10) Paralakhemundi Sub-Jail, (11) Baragarh Sub-Jail, (12) Bisam Cuttack Sub-Jail, (13) G Udayagiri Sub-Jail, (14) Gunupur Sub-Jail, (15) Jagatsinghpur Sub-Jail, (16) Jajpur Sub-Jail, (17) Jajpur Road Sub-Jail, (18) Jeypore Sub-Jail, (19) Khurda Sub-Jail, (20) Kodala Sub-Jail, (21) Malkanagiri Sub-Jail, (22) Padampur Sub-Jail, (23) Paralakhemuni Sub-Jail, (24) Rayagada Sub-Jail, (25) R Udayagiri Sub-Jail, (26) Suruda Sub-Jail, (27) Umerkote Sub-Jail, (28) Bhubaneswar Special Jail, (29) Rourkela Special Jail, (30) Rourkela Sub-Jail, and (31) Government Run correctional Home.



Andhra Pradesh (28 jails)

(1) Prothrapur District Jail, (2) Rajahmundry Central Jail, (3) Visakhapatnam Central Jail, (4) Kadapa Central Jail, (5) Nellore Central Jail, (6) Rajamahendravaram Central Jail, (7) Vizag Central Jail, (8) Vijayawada District Jail, (9) Srikakulam District Jail, (10) Eluru District Jail, (11) Ongole District Jail, (12) Ananthapuramu District Jail, (13) Vizianagaram Sub-Jail, (14) Anakapalli Sub-Jail, (15) Kakinada Sub-Jail (East Godavari Dist.), (16) Narsapuram Sub-Jail (West Godavari), (17) Bhimavaram Sub-Jail, (18) Machilipatnam Sub-Jail, (19) Narasaraopeta Sub-Jail, (20) Proddatur Sub-Jail, (21) Dhone Sub-Jail, (22) Dharmavaram Sub-Jail, (23) Tadipatri Sub-Jail, (24) Gooty Sub-Jail, (25) Piler Sub-Jail, (26) Tirupati Sub-Jail, (27) Kavali Sub-Jail, and (28) Markapuram Sub-Jail

Rajasthan (21 jails)

(1) Ajmer Central Jail, (2) Alwar Central Jail, (3) Bharatpur Central Jail, (4) Jaipur Central Jail, (5) Jodhpur Central Jail, (6) Kota Central Jail, (7) Udaipur Central Jail, (8) Dholpur District Jail, (9) Banswara District Jail, (10) Barmer District Jail, (11) Bhilwara District Jail, (12) Hanumangarh District Jail, (13) Jaisalmer District Jail, (14) Jaipur District Jail, (15) Jhunjhunu District Jail, (16) Pratapgarh District Jail, (17) Sikar District Jail, (18) Sirohi District Jail, (19) Bhim Sub-Jail, (20) Khetri Sub-Jail, and (21) Women jail, Kota

Tamil Nadu (21 jails)

(1) Puzhal I Central Jail, (2) Puzhal II Central Jail, (3) Vellore Central Jail, (4) Cuddalore Central Jail, (5) Coimbatore Central Jail, (6) Trichy Central Jail, (7) Madurai Central Jail, (8) Palayamkottai Central Jail, (9) Perurani District Jail, (10) Saidapet Sub-Jail, (11) Cuddalore Sub-Jail, (12) Kallakurichi Sub-Jail, (13) Villupuram Sub-Jail, (14) Thirukovilur Sub-Jail, (15) Avinashi Sub-Jail, (16) Kumbakonam Sub-Jail, (17) Sirkali Sub-Jail (Sirkazhi), (18) Cuddalore Sub-Jail, (19) Thanjavur Borstal School (Jail), (20) Poonamalee (Special Jail), and (21) Thoothukudi district jail

Assam (19 jails)

(1) Guwahati Central Jail, (2) Tezpur Central Jail, (3) Silchar Central Jail, (4) Dibrugarh Central Jail, (5) Jorhat Central Jail, (6) Nagaon Central Jail, (7) Nalbari District Jail, (8) Barpeta District Jail, (9) Kokrajhar District Jail, (10) Dhubri District Jail, (11) Goalpara District Jail, (12) Mangaldoi District Jail, (13) Hailakandi District Jail, (14) Lakhimpur District Jail, (15) Golaghat



District Jail, (16) Diphu District Jail, (17) Tinsukia District Jail, (18) Udalguri District Jail, and (19) Nagaon Special Jail

West Bengal (18 jails)

(1) Dum Dum Central Jail, (2) Burdwan Central Jail, (3) Jalpaiguri Central Jail, (4) Balurghat Central Jail, (5) Suri District Jail, (6) Hooghly District Jail, (7) Bankura District Jail, (8) Krishnanagar District Jail, (9) Purulia District Jail, (10) Raiganj District Jail, (11) Coochbehar District Jail, (12) Tufanganj Sub-Jail, (13) Basirhat Sub-Jail, (14) Ranaghat Sub-Jail, (15) Alipore Women Jail, (16) Siliguri (Special Jail), (17) Purulia (Special Jail), and (18) Baruipur Central Correctional Home

Punjab (17 jails)

(1) Ferozepur Central Jail, (2) Patiala Central Jail, (3) Ludhiana Central Jail, (4) Amritsar Central Jail, (5) Gurdaspur Central Jail, (6) Bathinda Central Jail, (7) Faridkot Central Jail, (8) Sangrur District Jail, (9) Barnala District Jail, (10) Shri Muktsar Sahib District Jail, (11) Patti Sub-Jail, (12) Malerkotla Sub-Jail, (13) Pathankot Sub-Jail, (14) Ludhiana Women Jail, (15) Ludhiana Borstal School Jail, (16) Kapurthala Model Jail, and (17) Tarn Taran jail

Bihar (15 jails)

(1) Bhagalpur Central Jail, (2) Bhagalpur Central Jail, (3) Motihari Central Jail, (4) Araria District Jail, (5) Aurangabad District Jail, (6) Begusarai District Jail, (7) Bettiah District Jail, (8) Kishanganj District Jail, (9) Lakhisarai District Jail, (10) Madhubani District Jail, (11) Munger District Jail, (12) Purnia, (13) Samastipur District Jail, (14) Bagaha Sub-Jail, and (15) Sherghati Sub-Jail

Delhi (14 jails)

(1) Central Jail No. 1 (Tihar Jail), (2) Central Jail No.2 (Tihar Jail), (3) Central Jail No.3 (Tihar Jail), (4) Central Jail No.4 (Tihar Jail), (5) Central Jail No.5 (Tihar Jail), (6) Central Jail No.7 (Tihar Jail), (7) Central Jail No.8/9 (Tihar Jail), (8) Central Jail No.10 (Tihar Jail), (9) Central Jail No.11 (Tihar Jail), (10) Central Jail No.12 (Tihar Jail), (11) Central Jail No.13 (Tihar Jail), (12) Central Jail No.14 (Mandoli), (13) Rohini Jail, and (14) Mandoli jail

Jharkhand (13 jails)

(1) Birsa Munda Central Jail, Hotwar, Ranchi, (2) Loknayak Jaiprakash Narayan Central Jail, Hazaribagh, (3) Dumka Central Jail, (4) Jamshedpur Central Jail, (5) Giridih Central Jail, (6) Dhanbad District Jail, (7) Sahebganj District Jail, (8) Koderma District Jail, (9) Latchar District Jail, (10) Pakur



District Jail, (11) Godda District Jail, (12) Rajmahal Sub-Jail, and (13) Hazaribagh Open Jail

Karnataka (9 jails)

(1) Bengaluru Central Jail, (2) Vijayapura Central Jail, (3) Kalburgi Central Jail, (4) Mysore Central Jail, (5) Mangaluru District Jail, (6) Ramanagara District Jail, (7) Dharwad Sub-Jail, (8) Sirsi Sub-Jail, and (9) K G F Special Jail

Haryana (8 jails)

(1) Ambala Central Jail, (2) Hisar-1 Central Jail, (3) Gurugram District Jail, (4) Sonapat District Jail, (5) Kurukshetra District Jail, (6) Rohtak District Jail, (7) Faridabad District Jail, and (8) Rewari District Jail

Kerala (7 jails)

(1) Thiruvananthapuram Central Jail, (2) Vuyyur Central Jail, (3) Thiruvananthapuram District Jail, (4) Kollam District Jail, (5) Kannur Sub-Jail, (6) Kollam District Jail, and (7) Thoothukudi/Perurani District Jail

Gujarat (6 jails)

(1) Ahmedabad Central Jail/Sabarmati Jail, (2) Vadodara Central Jail, (3) Rajkot Central Jail, (4) Lajpor Central Jail, (5) Gondal Sub-Jail, and (6) Palanpur Sub-Jail

Chhattisgarh (6 jails)

(1) Raipur Central Jail, (2) Jagdalpur Central Jail, (3) Bilaspur Central Jail, (4) Dhamtari District Jail, (5) Manendragarh Sub-Jail, and (6) Dongargarh Sub-Jail

Jammu & Kashmir (5 jails)

(1) Jammu Kot Bhalwal Central Jail, (2) Srinagar Central Jail, (3) Kathua District Jail, (4) Anantnag District Jail, and (5) Kupwara District Jail

Uttarakhand (5 jails)

(1) Sitarganj Central Jail, (2) Dehradun District Jail, (3) Haridwar District Jail, (4) Nainital District Jail, and (5) Roorkee Sub-Jail

Telangana (3 jails)

(1) Cherlapalli Central Jail, (2) Warangal Central Jail, and (3) Adilabad District Jail

Goa (1 jail)



Colvale Central Jail

Puducheery (1 jail)

Kalapet, Puducherry (Central Jail)

Tripura (1 jail)

Sansodhanagar Tripura, Bishalgarh (Central Jail)

Among the COVID-19 infected prisons, 52 prisons had overcrowding from 101% to 312% as of 31.12.2018 as per the *Prison Statistics of India -2018* with Mumbai Central Jail topping the list with 312% overcrowding followed by Thiruvananthapuram Central Jail, Kerala (306%), Badaun District Jail, Uttar Pradesh (289%), Latchar District Jail, Jharkhand (268%), Muradabad District Jail, Uttar Pradesh (256%), Khandwa District Jail (252%) and Baidhan District Jail (251%) of Madhya Pradesh, Jail No.4 (239%) and Jail No. 1 (238%) of Tihar Jail of Delhi and Jaunpur District Jail (237%) of Uttar Pradesh.

Table 2: List of COVID-19 infected jails with over 100% overcrowding

Sl. No	State	Jail	Sanctioned capacity	Actual Occupancy	Overcrowding as on 31.12.2018	Percentage of overcrowding as on 31.12.2018	Status of COVID-19 infection
1	Maharashtra	Mumbai Central Jail	804	3311	2507	312	Yes
2	Kerala	Thiruvananthapuram Central Jail	272	1105	833	306	Yes
3	Uttar Pradesh	Badaun District Jail	529	2057	1528	289	Yes
4	Jharkhand	Latchar District Jail	166	611	445	268	Yes
5	Uttar Pradesh	Muradabad District Jail	652	2324	1672	256	Yes
6	Madhya Pradesh	Khandwa District Jail	168	592	424	252	Yes



The Status of COVID-19 in Indian Prisons

7	Madhya Pradesh	Baidhan District Jail	150	526	376	251	Yes
8	Delhi	Central Jail No.4 (Tihar Jail)	740	2510	1770	239	Yes
9	Delhi	Central Jail No. 1 (Tihar Jail)	565	1910	1345	238	Yes
10	Uttar Pradesh	Jaunpur District Jail	320	1078	758	237	Yes
11	Maharashtra	Solapur District Jail	141	473	332	235	Yes
12	Uttar Pradesh	Jhansi District Jail	416	1311	895	215	Yes
13	Uttar Pradesh	Mathura District Jail	554	1718	1164	210	Yes
14	Uttar Pradesh	Saharanpur District Jail	533	1620	1087	204	Yes
15	Uttar Pradesh	Shahjahanpur District Jail	511	1521	1010	198	Yes
16	Uttar Pradesh	Itawa District Jail	610	1794	1184	194	Yes
17	Maharashtra	Kalyan District Jail	540	1587	1047	194	Yes
18	Maharashtra	Thane Central Jail	1105	3199	2094	190	Yes
19	Jammu & Kashmir	Anantnag District Jail	65	186	121	186	Yes
20	Uttar Pradesh	Ghaziabad District Jail	1704	4864	3160	185	Yes
21	Delhi	Central Jail No.3 (Tihar Jail)	740	2000	1260	170	Yes
22	Uttar Pradesh	Muzaffarnagar District Jail	870	2322	1452	167	Yes
23	Chhattisgarh	Raipur Central Jail	1190	3145	1955	164	Yes



The Status of COVID-19 in Indian Prisons

24	Uttar Pradesh	Agra District Jail	1015	2681	1666	164	Yes
25	Uttar Pradesh	Bahraich District Jail	540	1392	852	158	Yes
26	Maharashtra	Ahemadnagar District Jail	69	174	105	152	Yes
27	West Bengal	Basirhat Sub Jail	112	281	169	151	Yes
28	Maharashtra	Buldana District Jail	101	249	148	147	Yes
29	Uttar Pradesh	Rampur District Jail	450	1093	643	143	Yes
30	Uttar Pradesh	Balia District Jail	339	822	483	142	Yes
31	Uttar Pradesh	Basti District Jail	480	1126	646	135	Yes
32	Uttar Pradesh	Buland Shahar District Jail	890	2073	1183	133	Yes
33	Bihar	Bettiah District Jail	623	1444	821	132	Yes
34	Maharashtra	Byculla District Jail	200	454	254	127	Yes
35	Madhya Pradesh	Bagli Sub-Jail	50	113	63	126	Yes
36	Uttar Pradesh	Gorkhpur District Jail	822	1847	1025	125	Yes
37	Maharashtra	Yerwada Central Jail	2449	5492	3043	124	Yes
38	Madhya Pradesh	Rewa Central Jail	716	1595	879	123	Yes
39	Maharashtra	Jalgaon District Jail	200	441	241	121	Yes
40	Uttar Pradesh	Mainpuri District Jail	498	1095	597	120	Yes
41	Madhya Pradesh	Raisen District Jail	100	217	117	117	Yes
42	Odisha	Jeypore Sub Jail	153	326	173	113	Yes



43	Odisha	Phulbani District Jail	187	398	211	113	Yes
44	Chhattisgarh	Bilaspur Central Jail	1540	3251	1711	111	Yes
45	Kerala	Kannur Sub-Jail	28	59	31	111	Yes
46	Uttarakhand	Dehradun District Jail	580	1217	637	110	Yes
47	Madhya Pradesh	Ujjain Central Jail	1210	2520	1310	108	Yes
48	Madhya Pradesh	Indore Central Jail	1150	2366	1216	106	Yes
49	Madhya Pradesh	Damoh District Jail	136	277	141	104	Yes
50	Uttar Pradesh	Pratapgarh District Jail	458	931	473	103	Yes
51	Maharashtra	Aurangabad Central Jail	579	1164	585	101	Yes
52	Uttar Pradesh	Bijnor District Jail	580	1163	583	101	Yes

The full State-wise list of the prisons infected with COVID-19 infections is appended as ANNEXURE-2.

The Commonwealth Human Rights Initiative (CHRI) reported that about 8,664 cases of COVID-19 infections were detected in prisons while about 16 prisoners reportedly died in COVID-19 as of 07.09.2020.³²

2.2 Interventions of the Supreme Court of India during COVID-19

As Indian prisons are overcrowded, the potential of spreading COVID-19 in case of any prisoner getting infected with COVID-19 is extremely high. Taking cognizance of the same, the Supreme Court of India intervened through *Re: Contagion of COVID 19*

³². State/UT Wise Prisons Response to COVID –19 Pandemic in india, Commonwealth Human Rights Initiative (accessed on 08.09.2020)

<https://www.humanrightsinitiative.org/content/stateut-wise-prisons-response-to-covid-19-pandemic-in-india>



Virus in Prison [Suo Motu Writ Petition (Civil) No.1/2020] and issued a number of directions for decongestion of prisons by releasing prisoners.³³

In an order dated 16 March 2020, the apex court issued notices to the Chief Secretaries/Administrators, Home Secretaries, Directors General of all the Prisons and Department of Social Welfare of all the States and the Union Territories, to show cause why directions should not be issued for dealing with the health crisis arising out of Covid-19 virus in the country, and further to suggest immediate measures which should be adopted for the medical assistance to the prisoners in all jails and the juveniles lodged in the Remand Homes and for protection of their health and welfare. Expressing concerns that overcrowded conditions of country's prisons may turn them fertile breeding grounds for incubation of COVID-19, the Court noted that there was an imminent need to take steps on an urgent basis to prevent the contagion of COVID-19 virus in our prisons. If prisoners are tested positive for the COVID-19 virus, immediate measures have to be taken for their quarantining and medical treatment.³⁴ The Court ordered the States and UT administrations to submit a reply in writing before 20th March, 2020 providing the particulars of the steps being taken and the relevant data necessary for implementing the measures to prevent the possible spread of the Corona virus among the prisoners/juveniles.³⁵

In its order dated 23 March 2020, the Supreme Court further directed that each State/Union Territory shall constitute a High Powered Committee comprising of (i) Chairman of the State Legal Services Committee, (ii) the Principal Secretary (Home/Prison), (iii) Director General of Prison(s) to determine which class of prisoners can be released on parole or an interim bail for such period as may be thought appropriate. The Court said that the State/Union Territory could consider the release of prisoners who have been convicted or are undertrials for offences for

³³. Order dated 23.03.2020 passed by the Supreme Court in IN RE : CONTAGION OF COVID 19 VIRUS IN PRISONS [SUO MOTU WRIT PETITION (CIVIL) NO.1 /2020]; available at:

https://main.sci.gov.in/supremecourt/2020/9761/9761_2020_1_8_21570_Order_23-Mar-2020.pdf

³⁴. Order dated 16.03.2020 passed by the Supreme Court in IN RE : CONTAGION OF COVID 19 VIRUS IN PRISONS [SUO MOTU WRIT PETITION (CIVIL) NO.1 /2020]; available at:

https://main.sci.gov.in/supremecourt/2020/9761/9761_2020_1_1_21537_Order_16-Mar-2020.pdf

³⁵. https://main.sci.gov.in/pdf/LU/16032020_100611.pdf



which prescribed punishment is up to 7 years or less, with or without fine and the prisoner has been convicted for a lesser number of years than the maximum.³⁶

The court, however, left it open for the High Powered Committee to determine the category of prisoners who should be released as aforesaid, depending upon the nature of offence, the number of years to which he or she has been sentenced or the severity of the offence with which he/she is charged with and is facing trial or any other relevant factor.³⁷

The Court further directed that the States/UTs must develop prison specific readiness and response in consultation with medical experts. It was also suggested that the “Interim guidance on Scaling-up COVID-19 Outbreak in Readiness and Response Operations in camps and camp like settings” jointly developed by the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent (IFRC), International Organisation for Migration (IOM), United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) and World Health Organisation (WHO), published by Inter-Agency Standing Committee of United Nations on 17 March 2020, may be taken into consideration for similar circumstances. It was directed to set up monitoring team at the state level to ensure that the directives issued with regard to prison and remand homes are being complied with scrupulously. Noting that “possible threat of transmission and fatal consequences, it is necessary that prisons must ensure maximum possible distancing among the prisoners including undertrials” the court exempted all undertrial prisoners from physical presence before the Courts and directed that recourse to video conferencing must be taken for all purposes. The court also directed that prisoners must not be transferred from one prison to another for routine reasons except for decongestion to ensure social distancing and medical assistance to an ill prisoner and there should not be any delay in shifting sick person to a Nodal Medical Institution in case of any possibility of infection is seen.³⁸

³⁶. Order dated 23.03.2020 passed by the Supreme Court in IN RE : CONTAGION OF COVID 19 VIRUS IN PRISONS [SUO MOTU WRIT PETITION (CIVIL) NO.1 /2020]; available at: https://main.sci.gov.in/supremecourt/2020/9761/9761_2020_1_8_21570_Order_23-Mar-2020.pdf

³⁷. Order dated 23.03.2020 passed by the Supreme Court in IN RE : CONTAGION OF COVID 19 VIRUS IN PRISONS [SUO MOTU WRIT PETITION (CIVIL) NO.1 /2020]; available at: https://main.sci.gov.in/supremecourt/2020/9761/9761_2020_1_8_21570_Order_23-Mar-2020.pdf

³⁸. Order dated 23.03.2020 passed by the Supreme Court in IN RE : CONTAGION OF COVID 19 VIRUS IN PRISONS [SUO MOTU WRIT PETITION (CIVIL) NO.1 /2020]; available at:



In its order dated 7 April 2020, the Supreme Court directed that the Union of India shall ensure that all the prisoners having been released by the States/Union Territories are not left stranded and they are provided transportation to reach their homes or given the option to stay in temporary shelter homes for the period of lockdown. The Court stated that the Union of India may issue appropriate directions under the Disaster Management Act, 2005 or any other law for the time being in force and to provide safe transit to the prisoners who have been released so that they may reach their homes. Amicus curie, senior Advocate Mr Dushyant Dave brought to the attention of the court that the prisoners who have been released according to the guidelines framed by the High Powered Committees in various States were stranded because they have no means to reach their homes or their places of residence.³⁹

The Supreme Court in its order dated 13 April 2020 however clarified that it had not directed the States/ Union Territories to compulsorily release the prisoners from their respective prisons but issued orders to assess the situation in their prisons having regard to the outbreak of the present pandemic in the country and release certain prisoners and for that purpose to determine the category of prisoners to be released. The Apex Court also issued the following directions:

- (a) No prisoner shall be released if he/she has suffered from coronavirus disease in communicable form. For this purpose, appropriate tests will be carried out.
- (b) If it is found that a prisoner who has been released is suffering from coronavirus after the release, necessary steps will be taken by the concerned authority by placing him/her in appropriate quarantine facility.
- (c) Transportation shall be done in full compliance of the Rules and Norms of social distancing. For instance, no transportation shall be allowed in excess of half or one fourth capacity of the bus as may be found appropriate to ensure that the passengers who have been found to be free of coronavirus disease are at a distance from each other.

https://main.sci.gov.in/supremecourt/2020/9761/9761_2020_1_8_21570_Order_23-Mar-2020.pdf

³⁹. Order dated 07.04.2020 passed by the Supreme Court in IN RE: CONTAGION OF COVID 19 VIRUS IN PRISONS [SUO MOTU WRIT PETITION (CIVIL) NO.1 /2020]; available at:

<https://2019.hrln.org/contagion-of-covid-19-virus-in-prisons/>



(d) The order dated 23.03.2020 shall be applicable to correctional homes, detention centres and protection homes.⁴⁰

The Commonwealth Human Rights Initiative⁴¹ reported that over 61,100 prisoners were released which had about 15.4% overall reduction in occupancy rate of the prisons in India as of 07.09.2020. However, the same is not adequate to address overcrowding upto 636% in one prison and the rights of the prisoners not to be subjected to inhuman and degrading treatment and the right to be treated with humanity and with respect for the inherent dignity of the human person are recognised under India's constitutional jurisprudence and Article 10(1) of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights which is applicable in India as per Sections 2(1)(d) and 2(1)(f) of the Protection of Human Rights Act, 1993.

3. Guidelines on physical and social distancing during COVID-19 pandemic

3.1 Guidelines of the World Health Organisation

The World Health Organisation issued numerous guidelines on public health and social measures, including physical/social distancing, which stop individual chains of transmission and preventing COVID-19 outbreaks. These measures include the following⁴²:

- **Personal measures** aim to limit person-to-person spread, protect individuals and their contacts, and reduce contamination of frequently touched surfaces. Personal measures include frequent hand hygiene, physical

⁴⁰. Order dated 13.04.2020 passed by the Supreme Court in IN RE: CONTAGION OF COVID 19 VIRUS IN PRISONS [SUO MOTU WRIT PETITION (CIVIL) NO.1 /2020]; available at https://main.sci.gov.in/supremecourt/2020/9761/9761_2020_31_17_21596_Order_13-Apr-2020.pdf

⁴¹. State/UT Wise Prisons Response to COVID –19 Pandemic in india, Commonwealth Human Rights Initiative (accessed on 08.09.2020) <https://www.humanrightsinitiative.org/content/stateut-wise-prisons-response-to-covid-19-pandemic-in-india>

⁴². World Health Organisation (Interim guidance), Overview of public health and social measures in the context of COVID-19 18 May 2020; available at: <https://www.who.int/publications/i/item/overview-of-public-health-and-social-measures-in-the-context-of-covid-19>



distancing, respiratory etiquette, use of masks if ill or attending to someone who is ill and environmental cleaning and disinfection at home.

- **Physical and social distancing measures** in public spaces prevent transmission between infected individuals and those who are not infected, and shield those at risk of developing serious illness. These measures include physical distancing, reduction or cancellation of mass gatherings, and avoiding crowded spaces in different settings (e.g. public transport, restaurants, bars, and theatres), working from home, staying at home, and supporting adaptations for workplaces and educational institutions. For physical distancing, WHO recommends a minimum distance of at least one metre between people to limit the risk of interpersonal transmission.

- **Movement measures** aim to prevent infection and limit movement of the virus from one area to another. Measures include limiting movement of persons locally or nationally, offering guidance regarding travel, arranging orderly travel in advance to avoid congestion at travel hubs, including train stations, bus terminals and airports, and considering a cordon sanitaire or other selected measures when justified by the local epidemiology of COVID-19.

- **Special protection measures** aim to protect special populations and vulnerable groups:
 - Persons at risk for more serious illness from COVID-19 (e.g. older people, persons with underlying medical conditions)

 - Persons or groups with social vulnerabilities (e.g. migrant workers, refugees, displaced populations, the homeless)

 - Persons or groups living in closed settings (e.g. long-term living facilities, places of detention, camps/camp-like settings)

 - Persons or groups with higher occupational risk of exposure to the virus (e.g. staff of institutional settings, health workers and frontline responders). Protecting health care workers also prevents outbreaks in health facilities and care centres for senior citizens.

3.2 Advisories issued by the OHCHR and other UN Agencies' Chiefs



On 18 March 2020, UN High Commissioner for Human Rights Michelle Bachelet urged Governments “not to forget those behind bars” and to protect those working in closed facilities, in their overall efforts to contain the pandemic as COVID-19 struck in prisons, jails and immigration detention centres. She said, “The consequences of neglecting them are potentially catastrophic.”⁴³

High Commissioner Bachelet also expressed concerns over the issue of overcrowding in detention facilities in some countries where physical distancing and self-isolation is practically impossible and that people are often held in unhygienic conditions in detention centres. She also pointed towards inadequacy or non-existence of health service in detention facilities. As a measure of mitigation of risk of spread of COVID-19, the UN High Commissioner encouraged governments to examine ways to release those particularly vulnerable to the virus – older detainees and those who are sick, among them – as well as low-risk offenders.⁴⁴

On 13 May 2020, Chiefs of the UN agencies highlighted the heightened vulnerability to COVID-19 of detainees, and others in confinement, urging Governments to take “all appropriate public health measures” to keep them safe from the deadly disease. In a signed statement the heads of the UN Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC), World Health Organization (WHO), UN High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR) and the UN agency leading the fight against HIV/AIDS (UNAIDS) said, “*We emphasize the need to minimize the occurrence of the disease in these settings and to guarantee that adequate preventive measures are in place to ensure a gender-responsive approach and preventing large outbreaks of COVID-19*”.⁴⁵

Urging policymakers to “*consider limiting the deprivation of liberty...to a measure of last resort, particularly in the case of overcrowding*”, the UN agencies’ Chiefs stated that overcrowding in many detention sites undermines hygiene, health, safety and human dignity, causing an “*insurmountable obstacle for preventing, preparing for or responding to COVID-19*” and pushed for the release of non-violent detainees as well

⁴³. UN rights chief urges quick action by governments to prevent devastating impact of COVID-19 in places of detention, UNnews.org, 22 March 2020; <https://news.un.org/en/story/2020/03/1060252>

⁴⁴. UN rights chief urges quick action by governments to prevent devastating impact of COVID-19 in places of detention, UNnews.org, 22 March 2020; <https://news.un.org/en/story/2020/03/1060252>

⁴⁵. Take ‘all appropriate public health measures’ to protect detainees from coronavirus, UN urges, UNnews.org, 13 May 2020; <https://news.un.org/en/story/2020/05/1063862>



as for those at high-risk, such as the elderly and people with pre-existing health conditions.⁴⁶

3.3 Ministry of Health and Family Welfare

In a letter dated 16 March 2020, the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, Government of India sent an “Advisory on Social Distancing Measure in view of spread of COVID-19 disease” to Chief Secretaries of all States and Union Territories.⁴⁷

The advisory noted that *“Social distancing is a non-pharmaceutical infection prevention and control intervention implemented to avoid/decrease contact between those who are infected with a disease causing pathogen and those who are not, so as to stop or slow down the rate and extent of disease transmission in a community. This eventually leads to decrease in spread, morbidity and mortality due to the disease.”*

4. Recommendations

India has the legal obligation to implement Article 21 of the Constitution of India as well as Article 7 and Article 10(1) of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights as part of the Protection of Human Rights Act. COVID-19 once again brought to the fore the inhuman and degrading treatment of the prisoners in India.

The National Campaign Against Torture (NCAT) recommends that all the State Governments and Union Territory Administrations must provide monthly update on prison-wise occupancy against sanctioned capacity; evaluate the overcrowding and recommend transfer of prisoners from overcrowded prisons to other prisons with low number of prisoners vis-a-vis sanctioned capacity; and regularly assess which prisoners can be released on parole or an interim bail.

⁴⁶. Take ‘all appropriate public health measures’ to protect detainees from coronavirus, UN urges, UNnews.org, 13 May 2020; <https://news.un.org/en/story/2020/05/1063862>

⁴⁷. “Advisory on Social Distancing Measure in view of spread of COVID-19 disease” dated 16 March 2020 issued by the Ministry of Health, GoI; available at: <https://www.mohfw.gov.in/pdf/Letterdated2032020toCSs.pdf>



Annexure 1: JAIL-WISE OVERCROWDING AS ON 31.12.2018

JAIL-WISE OVERCROWDING AS ON 31.12.2018						
Sl. no.	State	Jail	Sanctioned capacity	Actual Occupancy	Overcrowding	Percentage of overcrowding
1	Kerala	Irinjalakkuda Special Jail	11	81	70	636
2	Kerala	Palakkad Special Jail	32	196	164	513
3	Uttar Pradesh	Lalitpur District Jail	122	555	433	355
4	Madhya Pradesh	Maihar Sub-Jail	30	133	103	343
5	Madhya Pradesh	Tarana Sub-Jail	20	83	63	315
6	Maharashtra	Mumbai Central Jail	804	3311	2507	312
7	Kerala	Thiruvananthapuram Central Jail	272	1105	833	306
8	Uttar Pradesh	Badaun District Jail	529	2057	1528	289
9	Madhya Pradesh	Dindori District Jail	50	185	135	270
10	Jharkhand	Latchar District Jail	166	611	445	268
11	Jharkhand	Gamla District Jail	215	782	567	264
12	Kerala	Kottarakkara Special Jail	50	179	129	258
13	Bihar	Madhepura District Jail	99	353	254	257
14	Uttar Pradesh	Muradabad District Jail	652	2324	1672	256
15	Madhya Pradesh	Khargone District Jail	100	356	256	256
16	Madhya Pradesh	Khandwa District Jail	168	592	424	252



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17	Madhya Pradesh	Baidhan District Jail	150	526	376	251
18	Delhi	Central Jail No.4 (Tihar Jail)	740	2510	1770	239
19	Kerala	Vadakara Sub- Jail	13	44	31	238
20	Delhi	Central Jail No. 1 (Tihar Jail)	565	1910	1345	238
21	Jharkhand	Chatra District Jail	177	598	421	238
22	Uttar Pradesh	Jaunpur District Jail	320	1078	758	237
23	Maharashtra	Solapur District Jail	141	473	332	235
24	Madhya Pradesh	Ambah Sub-Jail	50	166	116	232
25	West Bengal	Kandi Sub Jail	42	138	96	229
26	Bihar	Sitamarhi District Jail	286	906	620	217
27	Uttar Pradesh	Jhansi District Jail	416	1311	895	215
28	Uttar Pradesh	Deoria District Jail	533	1658	1125	211
29	Uttar Pradesh	Mathura District Jail	554	1718	1164	210
30	Kerala	Vythiri Special Jail	22	68	46	209
31	Bihar	Patna city Sub Jail	37	114	77	208
32	Uttar Pradesh	Sultanpur District Jail	443	1355	912	206
33	Uttar Pradesh	Saharanpur District Jail	533	1620	1087	204
34	Madhya Pradesh	Barwaha Sub-Jail	50	151	101	202
35	Uttar Pradesh	Varanasi District Jail	747	2229	1482	198
36	Uttar Pradesh	Shahjahanpur District Jail	511	1521	1010	198
37	Chhattisgarh	Dantewada District Jail	250	742	492	197
38	West Bengal	Jangipur Sub Jail	58	171	113	195
39	Uttar Pradesh	Kheri District Jail	725	2136	1411	195



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40	Uttar Pradesh	Itawa District Jail	610	1794	1184	194
41	Maharashtra	Kalyan District Jail	540	1587	1047	194
42	Kerala	Ernakulam Sub-Jail	28	82	54	193
43	Maharashtra	Thane Central Jail	1105	3199	2094	190
44	Uttarakhand	Haldwani Sub Jail	362	1046	684	189
45	Jharkhand	Jamtara District Jail	125	359	234	187
46	Jammu & Kashmir	Anantnag District Jail	65	186	121	186
47	Uttar Pradesh	Ghaziabad District Jail	1704	4864	3160	185
48	Kerala	Manjeri Special Jail	39	111	72	185
49	Uttar Pradesh	Aligarh District Jail	1148	3145	1997	174
50	Mizoram	Serchhip District Jail	165	451	286	173
51	Uttar Pradesh	Gyanpur District Jail	114	309	195	171
52	Delhi	Central Jail No.3 (Tihar Jail)	740	2000	1260	170
53	Uttar Pradesh	Muzaffarnagar District Jail	870	2322	1452	167
54	Chhattisgarh	Raipur Central Jail	1190	3145	1955	164
55	Uttar Pradesh	Agra District Jail	1015	2681	1666	164
56	Uttar Pradesh	Bahraich District Jail	540	1392	852	158
57	West Bengal	Katwa Sub Jail	40	103	63	158
58	Madhya Pradesh	Barwani Central Jail	456	1167	711	156
59	Gujarat	Morbi Sub Jail	84	214	130	155
60	Maharashtra	Ahemadnagar District Jail	69	174	105	152
61	Uttar Pradesh	Faizabad District Jail	720	1814	1094	152
62	West Bengal	Basirhat Sub Jail	112	281	169	151
63	Meghalaya	Shillong District Jail	170	425	255	150



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64	Madhya Pradesh	Anooppur District Jail	105	262	157	150
65	Madhya Pradesh	Lakhnadon Sub-Jail	50	124	74	148
66	Andhara Pradesh	Satyavedu Sub Jail	15	37	22	147
67	Maharashtra	Buldana District Jail	101	249	148	147
68	Madhya Pradesh	Hoshangabad Central Jail	405	988	583	144
69	Uttar Pradesh	Rampur District Jail	450	1093	643	143
70	Madhya Pradesh	Rehli Sub-Jail	70	170	100	143
71	Uttar Pradesh	Balia District Jail	339	822	483	142
72	Uttar Pradesh	Ferozabad District Jail	720	1744	1024	142
73	Kerala	Tirur Sub- Jail	17	41	24	141
74	Uttar Pradesh	Hardoi District Jail	748	1798	1050	140
75	Karnataka	Gadag District Jail	48	115	67	140
76	Uttar Pradesh	Mahoba Sub Jail	175	418	243	139
77	Kerala	Aluva Sub- Jail	26	62	36	138
78	Jharkhand	Garhwa District Jail	250	595	345	138
79	Assam	Haflong Sub Jail	33	78	45	136
80	West Bengal	Dinhata Sub Jail	28	66	38	136
81	West Bengal	Rampurhat Sub Jail	46	108	62	135
82	Uttar Pradesh	Basti District Jail	480	1126	646	135
83	Madhya Pradesh	Jaora Sub-Jail	50	117	67	134
84	Bihar	Jamui District Jail	188	438	250	133
85	Uttar Pradesh	Buland Shahar District Jail	890	2073	1183	133
86	Bihar	Bettiah District Jail	623	1444	821	132
87	Maharashtra	Byculla District Jail	200	454	254	127



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88	Madhya Pradesh	Bagli Sub-Jail	50	113	63	126
89	Uttar Pradesh	Gorkhpur District Jail	822	1847	1025	125
90	Maharashtra	Yerwada Central Jail	2449	5492	3043	124
91	Chhattisgarh	Ambikapur Central Jail	1020	2285	1265	124
92	West Bengal	Ghatal Sub Jail	21	47	26	124
93	Kerala	Koyilandy Sub- Jail	17	38	21	124
94	Madhya Pradesh	Rewa Central Jail	716	1595	879	123
95	Uttar Pradesh	Hamirpur District Jail	400	889	489	122
96	Madhya Pradesh	Manawar Sub-Jail	50	111	61	122
97	Kerala	Kasargod Special Jail	28	62	34	121
98	Maharashtra	Jalgaon District Jail	200	441	241	121
99	Rajasthan	Nainwa Sub Jail	10	22	12	120
100	Uttar Pradesh	Mainpuri District Jail	498	1095	597	120
101	Rajasthan	Jalore District Jail	36	79	43	119
102	Uttar Pradesh	Raibareli District Jail	486	1060	574	118
103	Karnataka	Yadgiri District Jail	50	109	59	118
104	Odisha	Jharsuguda Sub Jail	146	317	171	117
105	Madhya Pradesh	Raisen District Jail	100	217	117	117
106	Odisha	Nuapada Sub Jail	48	104	56	117
107	Madhya Pradesh	Garoth Sub-Jail	68	146	78	115
108	West Bengal	Uluberia Sub Jail	80	171	91	114
109	Odisha	Jeypore Sub Jail	153	326	173	113
110	Odisha	Phulbani District Jail	187	398	211	113
111	West Bengal	Lalbagh Sub Jail	119	252	133	112
112	Rajasthan	Dungarpur District Jail	70	148	78	111



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113	Chhattisgarh	Bilaspur Central Jail	1540	3251	1711	111
114	Kerala	Kannur Sub- Jail	28	59	31	111
115	Jharkhand	Simdega District Jail	190	399	209	110
116	Uttarakhand	Dehradun District Jail	580	1217	637	110
117	Madhya Pradesh	Rajgarh District Jail	170	355	185	109
118	Kerala	Ottappalam Sub-Jail	24	50	26	108
119	Madhya Pradesh	Ujjain Central Jail	1210	2520	1310	108
120	Jharkhand	Medininagar, Palamu Central Jail	703	1459	756	108
121	Rajasthan	Falaudi Sub Jail	17	35	18	106
122	Madhya Pradesh	Indore Central Jail	1150	2366	1216	106
123	Rajasthan	Gulabpura Sub Jail	22	45	23	105
124	Madhya Pradesh	Damoh District Jail	136	277	141	104
125	Rajasthan	Rajsamand District Jail	55	112	57	104
126	Uttar Pradesh	Pratapgarh District Jail	458	931	473	103
127	Uttar Pradesh	Gazipur District Jail	397	805	408	103
128	Maharashtra	Aurangabad Central Jail	579	1164	585	101
129	Madhya Pradesh	Harda District Jail	90	181	91	101
130	Uttar Pradesh	Bijnor District Jail	580	1163	583	101
131	Himachal Pradesh	Kullu District Jail	33	66	33	100
132	Odisha	Boudh Sub Jail	130	260	130	100
133	Rajasthan	Mandalgarh Sub Jail	22	44	22	100
134	Kerala	Mattancherry Sub-Jail	28	56	28	100



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135	Uttar Pradesh	Fatehpur District Jail	670	1336	666	99
136	Uttar Pradesh	Unnao District Jail	650	1293	643	99
137	Uttar Pradesh	Mirzapur District Jail	332	658	326	98
138	Madhya Pradesh	Badnagar Sub-Jail	50	99	49	98
139	West Bengal	Jalpaiguri Central Jail	713	1401	688	96
140	Karnataka	Kolar District Jail	82	161	79	96
141	Madhya Pradesh	Waraseoni Sub-Jail	50	98	48	96
142	Madhya Pradesh	Lateri Sub-Jail	50	98	48	96
143	Rajasthan	Pali District Jail	65	127	62	95
144	Rajasthan	Baran District Jail	162	316	154	95
145	Kerala	Mavelikkara Special Jail	92	179	87	95
146	Bihar	Aurangabad District Jail	309	601	292	94
147	Madhya Pradesh	Indore District Jail	480	931	451	94
148	Kerala	Attingal Sub- Jail	43	83	40	93
149	West Bengal	Raiganj District Jail	121	233	112	93
150	Uttar Pradesh	Naini Central Jail	2090	3975	1885	90
151	Odisha	Sambalpur Central Jail	541	1028	487	90
152	Kerala	Meenachil (Para) Sub- Jail	20	38	18	90
153	Rajasthan	Nagore District Jail	69	131	62	90
154	Jharkhand	Deoghar Central Jail	292	554	262	90
155	Madhya Pradesh	Guna District Jail	252	476	224	89
156	Madhya Pradesh	Sagar Central Jail	894	1683	789	88
157	Karnataka	Chikkaballapura District Jail	100	188	88	88



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158	Uttarakhand	Almora District Jail	102	191	89	87
159	Chhattisgarh	Jagdalpur Central Jail	1351	2527	1176	87
160	Madhya Pradesh	Seoni District Jail	182	340	158	87
161	Rajasthan	Pokran Sub Jail	15	28	13	87
162	Uttar Pradesh	Deoband Sub Jail	131	244	113	86
163	Madhya Pradesh	Mauganj Sub-Jail	50	93	43	86
164	Uttar Pradesh	Gonda District Jail	508	944	436	86
165	West Bengal	Arambagh Sub Jail	35	65	30	86
166	Assam	Hailakandi District Jail	58	107	49	84
167	Uttar Pradesh	Sitapur District Jail	969	1784	815	84
168	Bihar	Chhapra District Jail	674	1238	564	84
169	Kerala	Alappuzha District Jail	61	112	51	84
170	Uttar Pradesh	Kanpur District Jail	1245	2283	1038	83
171	Kerala	Chittur Special Jail	30	55	25	83
172	Madhya Pradesh	Bhind District Jail	172	315	143	83
173	Maharashtra	Nanded District Jail	135	247	112	83
174	Jharkhand	Rajmahal Sub Jail	120	219	99	83
175	Madhya Pradesh	Dewas District Jail	224	408	184	82
176	Uttar Pradesh	Orai District Jail	430	783	353	82
177	Odisha	Bhadrak Sub Jail	166	301	135	81
178	West Bengal	Siliguri (Special Jail)	223	403	180	81
179	Gujarat	Bhavnagar District Jail	320	578	258	81
180	Jharkhand	Saraikela District Jail	298	538	240	81



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181	Jammu & Kashmir	Reasi Sub Jail	25	45	20	80
182	Uttar Pradesh	Meerut District Jail	1707	3069	1362	80
183	Jharkhand	Chaibasa District Jail	621	1108	487	78
184	Madhya Pradesh	Mandla District Jail	143	255	112	78
185	Kerala	Kottayam District Jail	55	98	43	78
186	Madhya Pradesh	Shujalpur Sub-Jail	50	89	39	78
187	Jammu & Kashmir	Rajouri District Jail	140	249	109	78
188	Chhattisgarh	Mahasamund District Jail	170	302	132	78
189	Rajasthan	Bhinmal Sub Jail	40	71	31	78
190	Chhattisgarh	Ramanujganj District Jail	210	372	162	77
191	Karnataka	Mangaluru District Jail	210	371	161	77
192	Rajasthan	Balotra Sub Jail	55	97	42	76
193	Madhya Pradesh	Baihar Sub-Jail	50	88	38	76
194	Kerala	Ponkunnam Special Jail	48	84	36	75
195	Jharkhand	Giridih Central Jail	554	967	413	75
196	Karnataka	Vijayapura Central Jail	320	557	237	74
197	Madhya Pradesh	Sendhwa Sub-Jail	72	125	53	74
198	Madhya Pradesh	Mandsour District Jail	330	569	239	72
199	West Bengal	Howrah District Jail	319	550	231	72
200	Karnataka	Hukkeri Sub Jail	18	31	13	72
201	Uttarakhand	Haridwar District Jail	840	1445	605	72
202	Tamil Nadu	Mayiladuthurai Sub Jail	24	41	17	71



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203	Delhi	Central Jail No.2 (Tihar Jail)	455	774	319	70
204	Uttar Pradesh	Agra Central Jail	1110	1887	777	70
205	Uttar Pradesh	Kaushambi District Jail	420	709	289	69
206	Gujarat	Surendranagar Sub Jail	125	211	86	69
207	Haryana	Panipat District Jail	35	59	24	69
208	Madhya Pradesh	Mehgaon Sub-Jail	50	84	34	68
209	Madhya Pradesh	Begamganj Sub-Jail	40	67	27	68
210	Uttar Pradesh	Pilibhit District Jail	602	1008	406	67
211	Haryana	Narnaul District Jail	350	586	236	67
212	Madhya Pradesh	Balaghat District Jail	170	294	124	67
213	Uttarakhand	Roorkee Sub Jail	264	438	174	66
214	Maharashtra	Alibag District Jail	82	136	54	66
215	West Bengal	Barrackpore (Special Jail)	175	289	114	65
216	Madhya Pradesh	Satna Central Jail	928	1523	595	64
217	Haryana	Sonepat District Jail	745	1221	476	64
218	Haryana	Rewari District Jail	65	106	41	63
219	Assam	Udalguri District Jail	127	207	80	63
220	Maharashtra	Sangli District Jail	235	380	145	62
221	Sikkim	Namchi, South Sikkim District Jail	60	97	37	62
222	Madhya Pradesh	Jawad Sub-Jail	70	113	43	61
223	Chhattisgarh	Surajpur Sub Jail	130	209	79	61
224	Maharashtra	Satara District Jail	168	270	102	61
225	Maharashtra	Chandrapur District Jail	333	535	202	61



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226	Gujarat	Navsari Sub Jail	230	369	139	60
227	Bihar	Purena Central Jail	890	1419	529	59
228	Maharashtra	Mumbai Women Jail	262	417	155	59
229	Maharashtra	Beed District Jail	161	256	95	59
230	Assam	Golaghat District Jail	248	394	146	59
231	Maharashtra	Taloja Central Jail	2124	3374	1250	59
232	Gujarat	Godhra Sub Jail	165	262	97	59
233	Gujarat	Vadodara Central Jail	955	1516	561	59
234	West Bengal	Malda District Jail	506	803	297	59
235	Madhya Pradesh	Sarangpur Sub-Jail	50	79	29	58
236	Kerala	Ponnani Sub- Jail	19	30	11	58
237	Uttar Pradesh	Mehraiganj District Jail	550	866	316	57
238	Kerala	Chavakkad Sub-Jail	28	44	16	57
239	Rajasthan	Bhim Sub Jail	7	11	4	57
240	West Bengal	Mekhliganj Sub Jail	30	47	17	57
241	Madhya Pradesh	Ganjbasoda Sub-Jail	90	141	51	57
242	Bihar	Barh Sub Jail	167	261	94	56
243	Gujarat	Modasa Sub Jail	105	164	59	56
244	Jharkhand	Sahebganj District Jail	225	351	126	56
245	Madhya Pradesh	Goharganj Sub-Jail	50	78	28	56
246	West Bengal	Kalimpong Sub Jail	25	39	14	56
247	Assam	Lakhimpur District Jail	202	315	113	56
248	Sikkim	Rongyek, East Sikkim Central Jail	186	290	104	56
249	Chhattisgarh	Rajnandgaon District Jail	156	243	87	56
250	Karnataka	Koppala District Jail	110	171	61	55
251	Delhi	Central Jail No.7 (Tihar Jail)	350	544	194	55



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252	Meghalaya	Jowai District Jail	130	202	72	55
253	Assam	Dhubri District Jail	221	343	122	55
254	West Bengal	Kalna Sub Jail	62	96	34	55
255	Chhattisgarh	Dhamtari District Jail	165	255	90	55
256	Madhya Pradesh	Shahdol District Jail	220	339	119	54
257	Haryana	Kaithal District Jail	446	685	239	54
258	Madhya Pradesh	Datia District Jail	202	309	107	53
259	Rajasthan	Ramganj Mandi Sub Jail	40	61	21	53
260	West Bengal	Serampore Sub Jail	109	166	57	52
261	Madhya Pradesh	Byohari Sub-Jail	50	76	26	52
262	Mizoram	Kolasib District Jail	114	173	59	52
263	Bihar	Patna Central Jail	2360	3581	1221	52
264	Tamil Nadu	Puzhal II Central Jail	1250	1896	646	52
265	Maharashtra	Yavatmal District Jail	229	347	118	52
266	Haryana	Bhiwani District Jail	561	844	283	50
267	Punjab	Amritsar Central Jail	2266	3408	1142	50
268	Assam	Biswanath Chariali District Jail	94	141	47	50
269	Odisha	Athamalik Sub Jail	58	87	29	50
270	Odisha	Ranapur Sub Jail	30	45	15	50
271	Delhi	Central Jail No.10 (Tihar Jail)	1050	1573	523	50
272	Madhya Pradesh	Dhar District Jail	220	328	108	49
273	Odisha	Balliguda Sub Jail	98	146	48	49
274	Uttar Pradesh	Etah District Jail	677	1007	330	49
275	Karnataka	Mysore Central Jail	562	835	273	49
276	Madhya Pradesh	Lavkushnagar Sub-Jail	70	104	34	49



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277	Bihar	Jhanjharpur Sub Jail	120	178	58	48
278	Karnataka	Haveri District Jail	110	163	53	48
279	Uttar Pradesh	Banda District Jail	567	839	272	48
280	West Bengal	Berhampore Central Jail	1977	2921	944	48
281	Rajasthan	Begun Sub Jail	40	59	19	48
282	Karnataka	Kalburgi Central Jail	540	795	255	47
283	Jharkhand	Pakur District Jail	225	331	106	47
284	Karnataka	Bengaluru Central Jail	3304	4859	1555	47
285	Rajasthan	Kota Central Jail	1009	1481	472	47
286	Kerala	Ernakulam District Jail	133	195	62	47
287	Madhya Pradesh	Depalpur Sub-Jail	50	73	23	46
288	Madhya Pradesh	Khurai Sub-Jail	90	131	41	46
289	Karnataka	Davanagere District Jail	150	218	68	45
290	Bihar	Siwan District Jail	684	992	308	45
291	Jharkhand	Khunti Sub Jail	400	580	180	45
292	Rajasthan	Bhilwara District Jail	225	326	101	45
293	Kerala	Peermade Sub- Jail	38	55	17	45
294	Madhya Pradesh	Sidhi District Jail	200	289	89	45
295	Odisha	Nayagarh Sub Jail	160	231	71	44
296	Madhya Pradesh	Katni District Jail	320	459	139	43
297	Jammu & Kashmir	Kishtwar District Jail	60	86	26	43
298	Odisha	Athagarh Sub Jail	37	53	16	43
299	Odisha	Malkanagiri Sub Jail	308	441	133	43
300	Odisha	Kodala Sub Jail	93	133	40	43
301	Madhya Pradesh	Kannod Sub-Jail	100	143	43	43



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302	West Bengal	Alipore Women Jail	226	321	95	42
303	Odisha	Choudwar Central Jail	728	1033	305	42
304	Jammu & Kashmir	Baramulla District Jail	115	163	48	42
305	Tamil Nadu	Rasipuram Sub Jail	24	34	10	42
306	Odisha	Kendrapara Sub Jail	190	269	79	42
307	Jammu & Kashmir	Srinagar Central Jail	300	423	123	41
308	West Bengal	Lalgola (Open Jail)	100	141	41	41
309	Chhattisgarh	Sukma Sub Jail	110	154	44	40
310	Madhya Pradesh	Ashoknagar District Jail	250	350	100	40
311	Madhya Pradesh	Piparia Sub-Jail	116	162	46	40
312	West Bengal	Balurghat Central Jail	495	688	193	39
313	Uttar Pradesh	Barbanki District Jail	960	1334	374	39
314	Madhya Pradesh	Murena District Jail	267	371	104	39
315	Tamil Nadu	Kallakurichi Sub Jail	18	25	7	39
316	Jharkhand	Godda District Jail	298	413	115	39
317	Uttar Pradesh	Fatehgarh Central Jail	1574	2180	606	39
318	Uttarakhand	Nainital District Jail	71	98	27	38
319	Gujarat	Parbandar Special Jail	120	165	45	38
320	Gujarat	Junagadh District Jail	265	364	99	37
321	Karnataka	Sedam Sub Jail	30	41	11	37
322	Assam	Barpeta District Jail	213	291	78	37
323	Assam	Diphu District Jail	260	355	95	37
324	Madhya Pradesh	Ratlam District Jail	380	518	138	36



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325	Madhya Pradesh	Nasrullaganj Sub-Jail	50	68	18	36
326	Karnataka	Raichur District Jail	140	190	50	36
327	Bihar	Danapur Sub Jail	87	118	31	36
328	Rajasthan	Churu District Jail	163	221	58	36
329	Chhattisgarh	Kabirdham District Jail	110	149	39	35
330	Odisha	Sundargarh District Jail	334	452	118	35
331	Jammu & Kashmir	Jammu District Jail	400	541	141	35
332	Tamil Nadu	Sivagangai Sub Jail	20	27	7	35
333	Kerala	Kannur District Jail	130	175	45	35
334	Gujarat	Chhotaudepur Sub Jail	107	144	37	35
335	Andhara Pradesh	Visakhapatnam Central Jail	914	1230	316	35
336	Delhi	Central Jail No.8/9 (Tihar Jail)	1200	1614	414	35
337	Gujarat	Palanpur District Jail	268	360	92	34
338	Uttar Pradesh	Varanasi Central jail	1266	1699	433	34
339	Madhya Pradesh	Kasrawad Sub-Jail	50	67	17	34
340	Himachal Pradesh	Mandi District Jail	95	127	32	34
341	Rajasthan	Sanchore Sub Jail	27	36	9	33
342	Punjab	Mansa District Jail	433	577	144	33
343	Odisha	Bhawanipatna District Jail	304	405	101	33
344	Madhya Pradesh	Gwalior Central Jail	2559	3409	850	33
345	Meghalaya	Nongpoh District Jail	100	133	33	33
346	Himachal Pradesh	Kaithu District Jail	55	73	18	33
347	Rajasthan	Nimbahera Sub Jail	55	73	18	33



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348	West Bengal	Dum dum Central Jail	2610	3459	849	33
349	Karnataka	Bidar District Jail	120	159	39	33
350	Uttar Pradesh	Kanpur Dehat District Jail	1050	1391	341	32
351	Madhya Pradesh	Chhindwara District Jail	470	622	152	32
352	Madhya Pradesh	Jhabua District Jail	220	291	71	32
353	Madhya Pradesh	Gohad Sub-Jail	90	119	29	32
354	Madhya Pradesh	Neemuch District Jail	378	499	121	32
355	Madhya Pradesh	Sewda Sub-Jail	50	66	16	32
356	Gujarat	Rajkot Central Jail	1232	1626	394	32
357	Bihar	Darbhanga District Jail	350	461	111	32
358	Rajasthan	Bali Sub Jail	60	79	19	32
359	Rajasthan	Jaipur Central Jail	1173	1539	366	31
360	Jammu & Kashmir	Pulwama Special Jail	90	118	28	31
361	West Bengal	Haldia Sub Jail	107	140	33	31
362	Rajasthan	Kishangarh Bas Sub Jail	127	166	39	31
363	Jammu & Kashmir	Hiranagar Sub Jail	135	176	41	30
364	Madhya Pradesh	Chachoda Sub-Jail	70	91	21	30
365	Madhya Pradesh	Narsinghpur Central Jail	758	984	226	30
366	Odisha	Dasapalla Sub Jail	37	48	11	30
367	Rajasthan	Mavli Sub Jail	27	35	8	30
368	Bihar	Kishanganj District Jail	221	286	65	29
369	Madhya Pradesh	Karera Sub-Jail	90	116	26	29
370	Odisha	Nilagiri Sub Jail	42	54	12	29
371	Rajasthan	Udaipur Central Jail	935	1200	265	28



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372	Jammu & Kashmir	Udhampur District Jail	235	301	66	28
373	Odisha	Jajpur Sub Jail	133	170	37	28
374	Jharkhand	Jamshedpur Central Jail	1447	1849	402	28
375	Bihar	Bhagalpur Women Jail	83	106	23	28
376	Delhi	Central Jail No.5 (Tihar Jail)	750	956	206	27
377	West Bengal	Islampore Sub Jail	99	126	27	27
378	Bihar	Hajipur District Jail	885	1126	241	27
379	Madhya Pradesh	Banda Sub-Jail	70	89	19	27
380	Uttar Pradesh	Bagpat District Jail	660	838	178	27
381	Haryana	Jind District Jail	669	848	179	27
382	Jharkhand	Lohardaga District Jail	210	266	56	27
383	Uttar Pradesh	Fatehgarh District Jail	846	1071	225	27
384	Tripura	Dharmanagar Sub Jail	57	72	15	26
385	Rajasthan	Sikar District Jail	224	282	58	26
386	Maharashtra	Sawantwadi District Jail	78	98	20	26
387	Uttar Pradesh	Siddharth Nagar District Jail	540	678	138	26
388	Maharashtra	Parbhani District Jail	252	316	64	25
389	Uttar Pradesh	Mau District Jail	540	677	137	25
390	Andhara Pradesh	Prathipadu Sub Jail (East Godavari)	12	15	3	25
391	Madhya Pradesh	Bhopal Central Jail	2600	3235	635	24
392	Assam	Guwahati Central Jail	1000	1242	242	24
393	Himachal Pradesh	Nurpur Sub Jail	29	36	7	24



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394	Madhya Pradesh	Niwari Sub-Jail	50	62	12	24
395	Himachal Pradesh	Bilaspur District Jail	84	104	20	24
396	Madhya Pradesh	Darampuri Sub-Jail	63	78	15	24
397	Maharashtra	Nagpur Central Jail	1840	2277	437	24
398	Madhya Pradesh	Vidisha District Jail	170	210	40	24
399	Karnataka	Hublli Sub Jail	104	128	24	23
400	Jammu & Kashmir	Kupwara District Jail	70	86	16	23
401	Gujarat	Ahmedabad Central Jail/Sabarmati Jail	2586	3177	591	23
402	Rajasthan	Hindon City Sub Jail	79	97	18	23
403	Bihar	Begusarai District Jail	957	1175	218	23
404	Jharkhand	Dumka Central Jail	1163	1424	261	22
405	Odisha	Suruda Sub Jail	45	55	10	22
406	Gujarat	Bharuch District Jail	309	377	68	22
407	Rajasthan	Sagwara Sub Jail	100	122	22	22
408	Uttar Pradesh	Sonbhadra District Jail	550	671	121	22
409	Maharashtra	Wardha District Jail	252	307	55	22
410	Odisha	Rayagada Sub Jail	101	123	22	22
411	Himachal Pradesh	Solan District Jail	92	112	20	22
412	Odisha	Koraput Central Jail	519	631	112	22
413	Karnataka	Ranebennur Sub Jail	14	17	3	21
414	Kerala	Perinthalamanna Sub- Jail	28	34	6	21
415	Rajasthan	Merta City Sub Jail	138	167	29	21
416	Chhattisgarh	Durg Central Jail	1606	1943	337	21
417	Uttar	Kannoj District Jail	660	798	138	21



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	Pradesh					
418	Andhara Pradesh	Tirupati Sub Jail	120	145	25	21
419	Kerala	Vuyyur Central Jail	560	674	114	20
420	Assam	Karimganj District Jail	185	222	37	20
421	Chhattisgarh	Sarangarh Sub Jail	50	60	10	20
422	Karnataka	Shorapur Sub Jail	30	36	6	20
423	Kerala	Kozhikode Special Jail	50	60	10	20
424	Madhya Pradesh	Panna District Jail	160	192	32	20
425	Madhya Pradesh	Bareilly Sub-Jail	50	60	10	20
426	West Bengal	Chandannagar Sub Jail	125	150	25	20
427	Punjab	Roopnagar District Jail	473	567	94	20
428	Punjab	Sangrur District Jail	650	779	129	20
429	Rajasthan	Sirohi District Jail	215	256	41	19
430	Gujarat	Mehsana District Jail	244	290	46	19
431	Andhara Pradesh	Gurzala Sub Jail	64	76	12	19
432	Kerala	Alathur Sub- Jail	32	38	6	19
433	Uttar Pradesh	Bareilly Central Jail	1729	2047	318	18
434	Himachal Pradesh	Chamba District Jail	142	168	26	18
435	Chhattisgarh	Manendragarh Sub Jail	130	153	23	18
436	Kerala	Mananthavady District Jail	80	94	14	18
437	Madhya Pradesh	Jabalpur Central Jail	2150	2523	373	17
438	West Bengal	Diamond Harbour Sub Jail	116	136	20	17
439	Kerala	Kannur Women Jail	24	28	4	17



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440	Punjab	Fazilka Sub-Jail	48	56	8	17
441	Chhattisgarh	Gariyaband Sub Jail	110	128	18	16
442	Kerala	Kozhikode District Jail	246	286	40	16
443	Maharashtra	Amravati Central Jail	973	1131	158	16
444	Odisha	Anandapur Sub Jail	77	89	12	16
445	Rajasthan	Rajgarh Sub Jail	65	75	10	15
446	Andhara Pradesh	Rajahmundry Central Jail	1200	1380	180	15
447	Madhya Pradesh	Betul District Jail	330	379	49	15
448	Kerala	Thalassery Special Jail	54	62	8	15
449	Rajasthan	Chittoregarh District Jail	338	388	50	15
450	Odisha	Dhenkanal District Jail	231	265	34	15
451	Rajasthan	Bikaner District Jail	400	458	58	15
452	Bihar	Saharsa District Jail	557	637	80	14
453	Rajasthan	Behrore Sub Jail	50	57	7	14
454	Odisha	Rairakhol Sub Jail	29	33	4	14
455	Telangana	Mahabubnagar District Jail	147	167	20	14
456	Rajasthan	Nohar Sub Jail	82	93	11	13
457	Bihar	Bhabhua District Jail	355	402	47	13
458	Rajasthan	Ajmer Central Jail	960	1087	127	13
459	Kerala	Devikulam Special Jail	46	52	6	13
460	Odisha	Paralakhemuni Sub Jail	124	140	16	13
461	Chhattisgarh	Sanjari Balod Sub Jail	110	124	14	13
462	Gujarat	Nadiad District Jail	421	474	53	13



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463	Punjab	Hoshiarpur Central Jail	723	814	91	13
464	Kerala	Muvattupuzha Special Jail	72	81	9	13
465	Kerala	Kannur Central Jail	840	942	102	12
466	Madhya Pradesh	Dabra Sub-Jail	150	168	18	12
467	Karnataka	Madugiri Sub Jail	42	47	5	12
468	Bihar	Banka District Jail	732	818	86	12
469	Andhara Pradesh	Kadapa Central Jail	1000	1115	115	12
470	Andhara Pradesh	Peddapuram Sub Jail	18	20	2	11
471	Odisha	Aska Sub Jail	146	162	16	11
472	Rajasthan	Hanumangarh District Jail	350	388	38	11
473	Punjab	Patiala Central Jail	1801	1992	191	11
474	Telangana	Pargi Sub Jail	57	63	6	11
475	West Bengal	Contai Sub Jail	97	107	10	10
476	Gujarat	Jamnagar District Jail	466	513	47	10
477	Tamil Nadu	Madurai Central Jail	1252	1377	125	10
478	Bihar	Motihari Central Jail	1885	2072	187	10
479	Odisha	Jajpur Road Sub Jail	206	226	20	10
480	Himachal Pradesh	Kanda Central Jail	413	453	40	10
481	Jharkhand	Dhanbad District Jail	856	936	80	9
482	Punjab	Moga Sub-Jail	75	82	7	9
483	Madhya Pradesh	Shivpuri District Jail	260	284	24	9
484	Karnataka	Udupi District Jail	110	120	10	9
485	Arunachal Pradesh	Jully Itanagar District Jail	177	193	16	9
486	Telangana	Cherlapalli Central Jail	1490	1623	133	9



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487	Assam	Mangaldoi District Jail	172	187	15	9
488	Maharashtra	Nashik Road Central Jail	3178	3454	276	9
489	Rajasthan	Banswara District Jail	238	258	20	8
490	Telangana	Bhongir Sub Jail	25	27	2	8
491	Maharashtra	Kolhapur Central Jail	1789	1931	142	8
492	Andhara Pradesh	Vijayawada District Jail	166	179	13	8
493	Odisha	Berhampur Central Jail	743	800	57	8
494	Rajasthan	Barmer District Jail	159	171	12	8
495	West Bengal	Alipurduar District Jail	259	278	19	7
496	Karnataka	Chamarajanagara District Jail	110	118	8	7
497	Tamil Nadu	Cuddalore Central Jail	723	775	52	7
498	Madhya Pradesh	Jobat Sub-Jail	70	75	5	7
499	Madhya Pradesh	Amarwara Sub-Jail	56	60	4	7
500	Mizoram	Lunglei District Jail	158	169	11	7
501	Rajasthan	Kapasan Sub Jail	30	32	2	7
502	Rajasthan	Durgapura Open Jail	15	16	1	7
503	Telangana	Suryapet Sub Jail	15	16	1	7
504	Haryana	Kurukshetra District Jail	515	548	33	6
505	Punjab	Patti Sub-Jail	204	217	13	6
506	West Bengal	Tamluk Sub Jail	114	121	7	6
507	Kerala	Viyur Sub- Jail	84	89	5	6
508	Karnataka	Hassan District Jail	219	232	13	6
509	Uttar Pradesh	Lucknow District Jail	3540	3748	208	6
510	Himachal Pradesh	Nahan Central Jail	446	471	25	6



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511	Tamil Nadu	Thiruchengode Sub Jail	19	20	1	5
512	Bihar	Madhubani District Jail	819	862	43	5
513	Rajasthan	Jhunjhunu District Jail	210	221	11	5
514	Chhattisgarh	Sakti Sub Jail	140	147	7	5
515	Madhya Pradesh	Mandleshwar Sub-Jail	100	105	5	5
516	Tamil Nadu	Uthamamapalaya m Sub Jail	21	22	1	5
517	Rajasthan	Neem Ka Thana Sub Jail	65	68	3	5
518	Himachal Pradesh	Una District Jail	174	182	8	5
519	Rajasthan	Jahajpur Sub Jail	22	23	1	5
520	Rajasthan	Chhabra Sub Jail	90	94	4	4
521	Haryana	Gurugram District Jail	2412	2517	105	4
522	Odisha	Sonepur Sub Jail	122	127	5	4
523	Haryana	Sirsa District Jail	807	839	32	4
524	Odisha	Deogarh Sub Jail	155	161	6	4
525	Punjab	Ferozepur Central Jail	1236	1279	43	3
526	Madhya Pradesh	Mahidpur Sub-Jail	30	31	1	3
527	Rajasthan	Kota Open Jail	60	62	2	3
528	West Bengal	Mathabhanga Sub Jail	30	31	1	3
529	Kerala	Kollam District Jail	242	250	8	3
530	Karnataka	Gokak Sub Jail	40	41	1	3
531	Rajasthan	Jaitaran Sub Jail	80	82	2	3
532	Andhara Pradesh	Guntur District Jail	255	261	6	2
533	Bihar	Arrah District Jail	1195	1222	27	2
534	Madhya Pradesh	Sihora Sub-Jail	90	92	2	2
535	Haryana	Rohtak District Jail	1300	1324	24	2
536	Delhi	Central Jail No.13 (Tihar Jail)	980	992	12	1



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537	Assam	Nagaon Central Jail	424	429	5	1
538	Odisha	Dharamgarh Sub Jail	88	89	1	1



ANNEXURE 2: List of COVID-19 infected prisons as on 31.08.2020

Sl. No.	State	Jail	Source
1	Andaman & Nicobar Islands	Prothrapur District Jail	<u>Atleast 11 inmates of Prothrapur District Jail tested COVID19 positive; Death of One Prisoner raises many eyebrows, Andaman & Sheekha, 24 August 2020, http://www.andamansheekha.com/87439/</u>
2	Andhara Pradesh	Rajahmundry Central Jail	<u>Covid-19: 247 inmates at Rajahmundry prison test positive, The Times of India, 7 August 2020 https://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/city/vijayawada/247-inmates-at-rajahmundry-prison-test-positive/articleshow/77404968.cms?utm_source=contentofinterest&utm_medium=text&utm_campaign=cppst</u>
3	Andhara Pradesh	Visakhapatnam Central Jail	<u>18 prisoners, six jail staff test positive for COVID-19 in Visakhapatnam, The New Indian Express, 30 July 2020 https://www.newindianexpress.com/states/andhra-pradesh/2020/jul/30/18-prisoners-six-jail-staff-test-positive-for-covid-19-in-visakhapatnam-21768</u>
4	Andhara Pradesh	Kadapa Central Jail	<u>Andhra Pradesh: 19 prisoners test positive for Covid-19 at Kadapa central jail, The Times of India, 11 August 2020 http://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/articleshow/77490479.cms?utm_source=contentofinterest&utm_medium=text&utm_campaign=cppst</u>
5	Andhara Pradesh	Nellore Central Jail	<u>824 prisoners test Covid positive in Andhra jails, The Times of India, 15 August 2020 http://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/articleshow/77556890.cms?utm_source=contentofinterest&utm_medium=text&utm_campaign=cppst</u>
6	Andhara Pradesh	Rajamahendravaram Central Jail	<u>Andhra Pradesh's biggest prison reports 247 coronavirus cases, The New Indian Express, 7 August 2020 https://www.newindianexpress.com/states/andhra-pradesh/2020/aug/07/andhra-pradeshs-biggest-prison-reports-247-coronavirus-cases-2180201.html</u>
7	Andhara Pradesh	Vizag Central Jail	<u>18 inmates, six officials test positive for COVID-19 at Vizag Central Prison, News Meter, 31 July 2020 https://newsmeter.in/18-inmates-six-officials-test-positive-for-covid-19-at-vizag-central-prison/</u>



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8	Andhara Pradesh	Vijayawada District Jail	<u>Officials shocked as inmate at Ongole Central Prison tests positive, The Indian Express, 31 May 2020</u> https://www.newindianexpress.com/states/andhra-pradesh/2020/may/31/officials-shocked-as-inmate-at-ongole-central-prison-tests-positive-2150308.html
9	Andhara Pradesh	Srikakulam District Jail	<u>AP: Special jails soon for Covid-19 positive inmates, The Times of India, 15 July 2020</u> https://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/city/visakhapatnam/special-jails-soon-for-covid-19-ve-inmates/articleshowprint/76967706.cms
10	Andhara Pradesh	Eluru District Jail	<u>2 COVID-19 Positive Prisoners Absconding From Care Centre In Andhra's Eluru, Business World, 25 July 2020,</u> http://www.businessworld.in/article/2-COVID-19-positive-prisoners-absconding-from-care-centre-in-Andhra-s-Eluru/25-07-2020-301357/
11	Andhara Pradesh	Ongole District Jail	<u>Officials shocked as inmate at Ongole Central Prison tests positive, The Indian Express, 31 May 2020</u> https://www.newindianexpress.com/states/andhra-pradesh/2020/may/31/officials-shocked-as-inmate-at-ongole-central-prison-tests-positive-2150308.html
12	Andhara Pradesh	Ananthapuram District Jail	<u>Four prisoners in Tirupati, Anantapur, Nellore jails test positive for coronavirus, The New Indian Express, 15 June 2020,</u> https://www.newindianexpress.com/states/andhra-pradesh/2020/jun/15/four-prisoners-in-tirupati-anantapur-nellore-jails-test-positive-for-coronavirus-2156727.html
13	Andhara Pradesh	Vizianagar Sub Jail	<u>AP: Special jails soon for Covid-19 positive inmates, The Times of India, 15 July 2020</u> https://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/city/visakhapatnam/special-jails-soon-for-covid-19-ve-inmates/articleshowprint/76967706.cms
14	Andhara Pradesh	Anakapalli Sub Jail	<u>AP: Special jails soon for Covid-19 positive inmates, The Times of India, 15 July 2020</u> https://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/city/visakhapatnam/special-jails-soon-for-covid-19-ve-inmates/articleshowprint/76967706.cms



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15	Andhara Pradesh	Kakinada Sub Jail (East Godavari Dist.)	AP: Special jails soon for Covid-19 positive inmates, The Times of India, 15 July 2020 https://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/city/visakhapatnam/special-jails-soon-for-covid-19-ve-inmates/articleshowprint/76967706.cms
16	Andhara Pradesh	Narasapuram Sub Jail (West Godavari)	Narasapuram sub jail - https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=tipTRwAtixs
17	Andhara Pradesh	Bhimavaram Sub Jail	AP: Special jails soon for Covid-19 positive inmates, The Times of India, 15 July 2020 https://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/city/visakhapatnam/special-jails-soon-for-covid-19-ve-inmates/articleshowprint/76967706.cms
18	Andhara Pradesh	Machilipatnam Sub Jail	AP: Special jails soon for Covid-19 positive inmates, The Times of India, 15 July 2020 https://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/city/visakhapatnam/special-jails-soon-for-covid-19-ve-inmates/articleshowprint/76967706.cms
19	Andhara Pradesh	Narasaraopeta Sub Jail	AP: Special jails soon for Covid-19 positive inmates, The Times of India, 15 July 2020 https://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/city/visakhapatnam/special-jails-soon-for-covid-19-ve-inmates/articleshowprint/76967706.cms
20	Andhara Pradesh	Proddatur Sub Jail	AP: Special jails soon for Covid-19 positive inmates, The Times of India, 15 July 2020 https://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/city/visakhapatnam/special-jails-soon-for-covid-19-ve-inmates/articleshowprint/76967706.cms
21	Andhara Pradesh	Dhone Sub Jail	AP: Special jails soon for Covid-19 positive inmates, The Times of India, 15 July 2020 https://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/city/visakhapatnam/special-jails-soon-for-covid-19-ve-inmates/articleshowprint/76967706.cms
22	Andhara Pradesh	Dharmavaram Sub Jail	Highest number of Covid cases added to AP tally, Deccan Chronicle, 27 June 2020 https://www.deccanchronicle.com/nation/in-other-news/270620/highest-number-of-covid-cases-added-to-ap-tally.html



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23	Andhara Pradesh	Tadipatri Sub Jail	<u>824 prisoners test Covid positive in Andhra jails, The Times of India, 15 August 2020</u> http://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/articleshow/77556890.cms?utm_source=contentofinterest&utm_medium=text&utm_campaign=cppst
24	Andhara Pradesh	Gooty Sub Jail	<u>AP: Special jails soon for Covid-19 positive inmates, The Times of India, 15 July 2020</u> https://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/city/visakhapatnam/special-jails-soon-for-covid-19-ve-inmates/articleshowprint/76967706.cms
25	Andhara Pradesh	Piler Sub Jail	<u>AP: Special jails soon for Covid-19 positive inmates, The Times of India, 15 July 2020</u> https://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/city/visakhapatnam/special-jails-soon-for-covid-19-ve-inmates/articleshowprint/76967706.cms
26	Andhara Pradesh	Tirupati Sub Jail	<u>Four prisoners in Tirupati, Anantapur, Nellore jails test positive for coronavirus, The New Indian Express, 15 June 2020,</u> https://www.newindianexpress.com/states/andhra-pradesh/2020/jun/15/four-prisoners-in-tirupati-anantapur-nellore-jails-test-positive-for-coronavirus-2156727.html
27	Andhara Pradesh	Kavali Sub Jail	<u>AP: Special jails soon for Covid-19 positive inmates, The Times of India, 15 July 2020</u> https://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/city/visakhapatnam/special-jails-soon-for-covid-19-ve-inmates/articleshowprint/76967706.cms
28	Andhara Pradesh	Markapura m Sub Jail	<u>AP: Special jails soon for Covid-19 positive inmates, The Times of India, 15 July 2020</u> https://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/city/visakhapatnam/special-jails-soon-for-covid-19-ve-inmates/articleshowprint/76967706.cms
29	Assam	Guwahati Central Jail	<u>COVID-19 in NE region: 55 inmates of Guwahati jail test positive for coronavirus, The Health Site, 12 July 2020</u> https://www.thehealthsite.com/news/coronavirus-india-live-news-updates-20th-august-2020-covid-19-cases-coronavirus-lockdown-day-148-738047/



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30	Assam	Tezpur Central Jail	<u>28 Tezpur Central Jail inmates test positive for coronavirus, Sentinel Assam, 29 July 2020</u> https://www.sentinelassam.com/north-east-india-news/assam-news/assam-revenue-circle-officer-khirod-kamal-hazarika-tests-covid-19-positive-497565?infinitescroll=1
31	Assam	Silchar Central Jail	<u>Cachar Reports 93 COVID Positive Cases; Many From Janiganj, BSF, Assam Rifles Jawan, Barak Bulletin, 19 July 2020,</u> https://www.barakbulletin.com/en-US/cachar-reports-93-covid-positive-cases-many-from-janiganj-bsf-assam-rifles-jawan/
32	Assam	Dibrugarh Central Jail	<u>In 24 hours, over 100 inmates of Dibrugarh jail test Covid-19 positive, The Times of India, 5 August 2020</u> http://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/articleshow/77369250.cms?utm_source=contentofinterest&utm_medium=text&utm_campaign=cppst
33	Assam	Jorhat Central Jail	<u>Assam: 6 undertrial prisoners, 2 staff members of Jorhat Central Jail test COVID19 positive, Northeast Now, 25 July 2020</u> https://nenow.in/north-east-news/assam/assam-6-undertrial-prisoners-2-staff-members-of-jorhat-central-jail-test-covid19-positive.html
34	Assam	Nagaon Central Jail	<u>Nagaon: Prisoner Tests Positive For COVID-19, The Pratidin Time, 8 July 2020,</u> https://www.pratidintime.com/nagaon-prisoner-tests-positive-for-covid-19/
35	Assam	Nalbari District Jail	<u>Assam: 2,496 Jail Inmates Test COVID-19 Positive, G Plus, 1 September 2020,</u> https://www.guwahatipius.com/daily-news/assam-2-496-jail-inmates-test-covid-19-positive?page=3
36	Assam	Barpeta District Jail	<u>Total of 21 people tested COVID-19 positive in Barpeta district, The Sentinel, 2 August 2020</u> https://www.sentinelassam.com/north-east-india-news/assam-news/total-of-21-people-tested-covid-19-positive-in-barpeta-district-492699



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37	Assam	Kokrajhar District Jail	<u>Assam: COVID-19 positive rape convict escapes from Kokrajhar hospital, East Mojo, 30 July 2020</u> https://www.eastmojo.com/assam/2020/07/30/assam-covid-19-positive-rape-convict-escapes-from-kokrajhar-hospital
38	Assam	Dhubri District Jail	<u>88 new COVID-19 cases in Assam, tally climbs to 6,370, Outlook, 25 June 2020</u> https://www.outlookindia.com/newscroll/88-new-covid19-cases-in-assam-tally-climbs-to-6370/1876873
39	Assam	Goalpara District Jail	<u>Assam: 2,496 Jail Inmates Test COVID-19 Positive, G Plus, 1 September 2020,</u> https://www.guwahatipus.com/daily-news/assam-2-496-jail-inmates-test-covid-19-positive?page=3
40	Assam	Mangaldoi District Jail	<u>COVID-19: Twenty five inmates of Mangaldai district jail test positive, Northeast Now, 25 July 2020</u> https://nenow.in/north-east-news/assam/covid-19-twenty-five-inmates-of-mangaldai-district-jail-test-positive.html
41	Assam	Hailakandi District Jail	<u>COVID-19 positive cases on the rise in Hailakandi; DC office employees test positive, The Sentinel Assam, 11 July 2020</u> https://www.sentinelassam.com/north-east-india-news/assam-news/covid-19-positive-cases-on-the-rise-in-hailakandi-dc-office-employees-test-positive-488004?infinitemscroll=1
42	Assam	Lakhimpur District Jail	<u>Assam: One more dies of COVID19 in Lakhimpur; positive cases stand at 1,540, The North East Now, 13 August 2020,</u> https://nenow.in/north-east-news/assam/assam-one-more-dies-of-covid19-in-lakhimpur-positive-cases-stand-at-1540.html
43	Assam	Golaghat District Jail	<u>COVID-19 positive cases on the rise in Golaghat district, The Sentinel Assam, 25 July 2020</u> https://www.sentinelassam.com/north-east-india-news/assam-news/covid-19-positive-cases-on-the-rise-in-golaghat-district-490966



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