

उ०प्र० राज्य विधिक सेवा प्राधिकरण (विधिक सेवा प्राधिकरण अधिनियम 1987 के अन्तर्गत गठित)

सेवा में,

समस्त सचिव, जिला विधिक सेवा प्राधिकरण, उत्तर प्रदेश।

पत्रांकः 240/एसएलएसए-40/2024 (ऋ/हैदर)

विषयः Under Trial Review Committee Quarterly Campaign के संबंध में एल0ए0डी0सी0एस0 के अधिवक्तागण, जेलविजिटिंग पैनल लायर्स तथा पराविधिक स्वयंसेवकों हेत् एक दिवसीय प्रशिक्षण कार्यकम के आयोजन के संबंध में।

महोदया / महोदय,

आप विदित ही हैं कि माननीय न्यायमूर्ति श्री संजीव खन्ना, न्यायाधीश, माननीय उच्चतम् न्यायालय, नई दिल्ली / कार्यपालक अध्यक्ष, नालसा द्वारा दिनांक 08.04.2024 को बंदियों की रिहाई हेतु "Under Trial Review Committee Quarterly Meetings- 2024" Campaign का शुभारम्भ किया जा चुका है।

Under Trial Review Committee Campaign की सफलता के लिये यह आवश्यक हैं। कि एल0ए0डी0सी0एस0 के अधिवक्तागण, जेलविजिटिंग पैनल लायर्स तथा पराविधिक स्वयंसेवकों को प्रशिक्षित किया जाये ताकि उन्हें बंदियों की रिहाई से संबंधित दायित्वों के निर्वहन के संबंध में यथोचित जानकारी प्राप्त हो सके।

उपरोक्त के संबंध में मुझे आपसे यह अनुरोध करने का निदेश प्राप्त हुआ है कि दिनांक 14.04.2024 को प्रत्येक जनपद में एल0ए0डी0सी0एस0 के अधिवक्तागण तथा जेलविजिटिंग पैनल लायर्स को यू0टी0आर0सी0 कैम्पेन के तहत दिये गये दिशा-निर्देशों के अनुरूप जिला स्तर पर तथा कारागार के पराविधिक स्वयंसेवकों को प्रथक रूप से कारागार में ही संगत विषय पर एक दिवसीय प्रशिक्षण प्रदान किया जाये, ताकि उन्हें बंदियों की रिहाई से संबंधित दायित्वों के संबंध में यथोचित जानकारी प्राप्त हो सके।

राज्य विधिक सेवा प्राधिकरण द्वारा उक्त प्रशिक्षण कार्यकम हेतु मॉडयूल तैयार किया गया है, जिसे आपके समक्ष इस अनुरोध के साथ प्रेषित किया जा रहा है कि संलग्न मॉडयूल के आधार पर प्रस्तावित कार्यकम का आयोजन किया जाये। माननीय न्यायालयों द्वारा बंदियों के हितार्थ समय-समय पर जारी निर्णयों के महत्वपूर्ण अंशों तथा संबंधित मानक संचालन प्रकियाओं (एस0ओ0पी0) को भी संकलित कर इस अनुरोध से साथ प्रेषित किया जा रहा है कि उसे जनपद न्यायालय की वेबसाइट पर अपलोड कराया जाये।

अतः आपसे अनुरोध है कि संलग्न मॉडयूल के आधार पर दिनांक 14.04.2024 को अपने जनपद के एल0ए0डी0सी0एस0 के अधिवक्तागण, जेलविजिटिंग पैनल लायर्स तथा पराविधिक स्वयं सेवकों हेतु एक दिवसीय प्रशिक्षण कार्यकम के आयोजन के संबंध में आवश्यक कार्यवाही करने की कृपा करें।

सादर।

संलग्नकः यथोक्त।

भवदीय,

(संतोष कुमार-॥)

सचिव

Date: 14th April, 2024 (Sunday)

Time	Programme	Resource Person
09:45AM -10:00 AM	Arrival of participants and registra	ation
10:00AM-11:00 AM	Technical Session-I	
	Overview on UTRC Campaign	
	Salient features of SOP on UTRC	
	Special emphasis on category of	
	prisoners falling under UTRC Scheme	
	Roles and Duties of Legal Aid Defense	
	Counsels and jail visiting Panel Lawyers	
	 Roles and Duties of jail visiting PLVs & 	
	jail PLVs engaged in such programme	
11:00AM -11:15 AM	Tea Break	
11:15AM-12:00 PM	Technical Session-II	
	Enlightening on Judicial Pronouncements:	
	 W.P. (C) No. 406/2013, In Re-Inhuman 	
	conditions in 1382 Prisons	
	 SLP (Crl.) No. 529/2021 titled Sonadhar 	
	vs. State of Chhattisgarh	
	 SMWP (Crl.) No. 4/2021 titled In Re 	
	Policy Strategy for grant of Bail.	
	 SLP (Crl.) No. 5191 of 2021titled 	
	Satender Kumar Antil vs CBI & others	
	 Anil Gaur @ Sonu @ Sonu Tomar Vs. 	
	State of U.P. order dated 12.09.2022	
	 W.P (Crl.) No. 336 of 2019 Rashidul 	
	Jafar @ Chhota Vs. State of U.P.	
12:00PM-12:30 PM	Technical Session-III	
	 Enlightening on SOPs and other legal 	
	provisions of criminal procedure.	
	 SOPs on poor prisoners, jail appeal, 	
	filing of bail, pre-mature release etc.	
	Salient provisions of criminal procedure	
	code pertaining to bail, trial, appeal,	
40.00.00	revision etc.	
12:30 PM	Dispersal of the Participants	

One day Training Programme for Legal Aid Defense Counsels, Panel Lawyers and Jail PLVs engaged in Legal Aid to Prisoners

The stake holders of the Legal Services Institutions like Legal Aid Defense Counsels, Panel Lawyers and Para Legal Volunteers are engaged in various activities pertaining to legal aid to prisoners. Hon'ble the Executive Chairman, NALSA has launched UTRC Campaign for the year 2024 on 8th April, 2024. This campaign aims to suffice maximum benefit to the eligible prisoners falling under 14 categories contained in SOP of UTRC, so the prisoners could be released from the prisons to lead the better life and reduce the burden on the prison as well.

Objective:

The main objective of this programme is to sensitize the Legal Aid Defense Counsels of the Legal Aid Defense Counsel System, Panel Lawyers and Para Legal Volunteers are engaged in various activities pertaining to legal aid to prisoners of state of Uttar Pradesh on the various issues of eminent importance relating to UTRC campaign, judicial pronouncement pertaining to prisoners and other legal provisions. It also aims to culminate misconception and myths, which hinders the process of prisoner's welfare.

Duration:

The duration of the aforesaid training programme will be of one day extending to 2 to 3 hours.

Venue:

The aforesaid training programme will be organized by the respective DLSAs at their ADR Centres or any other suitable venue at district court or collectorate. This programme will be organized separately for jail PLVs at the respective jail on the same day on related issues.

Resource persons:

For this training programme, prominent speakers on the core issues may be Secretary, DLSA, Judicial Officers, Jail Superintendent and other legal luminary.

Participants:

The participants of the training programme will be the Chief, Deputy and Assistant Legal Aid Defense Counsels, Jail visiting Panel Lawyers & Para Legal Volunteers.

Date of Training Programme:

The aforesaid programme shall be conducted on 14th April, 2024.

Budgetary Expenditure:

The expenditure on organization of training programme will be borne from and out of NALSA fund.

The schedule for the one day training programme is as under:-

Standard Operating Procedure (SOP) for providing Legal Aid to the Under Trial Prisoners to file their Bail Applications in time before the Trial Court/Hon'ble High Court

This Standard Operating Procedure (SOP) has been prepared by the U.P. State Legal Services Authority (UPSLSA) in compliance of the order dated 12-09-2022, passed by Hon'ble the High Court of Judicature at Allahabad, in Criminal Misc. Bail Application No. 16961 of 2022 Anil Gaur @ Sonu @ Sonu Tomar Vs. State of U.P., to prevent undue long detention of Under Trial Prisoners(UTPs).

The Hon'ble Court has directed the UPSLSA to prepare a SOP for legal aid prisoners, accused of various crimes, including heinous offences, who have not filed bail applications before the Hon'ble High Court within a period of one year after the rejection of the bail by the Trial Court and also to prepare a SOP for the above mentioned prisoners, who have not been able to move bail applications before the Trial Court, <u>06 months</u> after imprisonment.

In the order dated 12-09-2022, the Hon'ble Court, in Para 69, has issued following directions:-

- 1- To identify prisoners who are under trial for various crimes including heinous offences and have not applied for bail before the Trial Court in timely manner after their imprisonment.
- 2- To identify prisoners who are facing trials for various crimes including heinous offences but have failed to file bail

applications before the High Court even in an expeditious time frame after rejection of their bail application by the Trial court.

- 3- To identify prisoners who are facing trials in various offences including heinous crimes but are unable to file subsequent bails before the High Court after rejection of earlier bail application by the Hon'ble High Court.
- 4- To identify prisoners who are unable to effectively prosecute their pending bail applications in various offences including heinous crimes causing delays in hearing.
- 5- To ascertain whether inability of the said prisoners to expeditiously file or effectively prosecute bail application is caused by factors comprehended under Section 12 read with Section 13 of the Act.
- 6- To approach prisoners who qualify for legal aid, educate them on their rights of filing bail applications without delay, and determine the nature of legal aid needed by them.
- 7- To provide legal aid and facilitate filing of bail applications of such prisoners in a timely manner before the competent courts.
- 8- To facilitate counsels in getting necessary instructions, relevant documents, office support for filing the bail applications.

9- To facilitate effective prosecution of bail applications by the counsels who should take out measures for listing of bails and hearing of matters.

SOP for timely filing of Bail Applications of Under Trial Prisoners before the Trial / Sessions Court

1) The jail authorities and District Legal Services Authority (DLSA) shall maintain a list of all UTPs, who have not been able to move bail applications before the Trial/Sessions Court, <u>06 months</u> after imprisonment, in the following format:-

Sl.No.	Name & Father's Name of UTP	Crime No. , Sections of the Act, P.S.	Date of imprisonment	Whether bail application filed by panel lawyer of DLSA (Yes / No)	Date of filling of bail application before the Trial/Sessions Court by panel lawyer of DLSA	Date of order of grant / rejection of bail by the Trial / Sessions Court

- 2) The DLSA shall approach such UTPs, who are entitled for legal aid, make them aware of their rights of filing bail applications without delay and determine the nature of legal aid needed by them.
- 3) The DLSA, in coordination with Jail Authorities, shall contact with such prisoners and after obtaining his/her consent, provide legal aid (as per Section 12 read with Section 13 of the Legal Services Authorities Act, 1987) to such UTPs and ascertain to expeditiously file and effectively prosecute their bail applications, through panel lawyers, before the competent court.

- 4) The DLSAs shall facilitate panel lawyers in getting instructions, relevant documents etc. for filing the bail applications of such prisoners.
- 5) The Panel Lawyers, so appointed, should take out measures for early hearing of the bail applications by the competent court, by specifically mentioning and apprising to the court that the matter is related to the UTP, who has been provided legal aid.
- 6) The DLSAs shall ensure that the date of grant/rejection of bail application by the competent/trial court shall be mentioned in the above format.
- 7) The DLSAs, through Panel /Jail Visiting Lawyers/PLVs, shall intimate the status of the case to such prisoners and take regular feedback from them.
- 8) The DLSAs as well as the Jail Authorities should regularly update the above mentioned list of UTPs.
- 9) The DLSAs/Jail Authorities should also update the details of above mentioned prisoners on e-prison portal, after modifications made by NIC in the e-prison module.
- 10) The DLSAs should maintain a record of such UTPs, whose bail applications have been filed through the Panel Lawyers of DLSAs and the same shall be shared with the UPSLSA, whenever it is desired.

SOP for timely filing of Bail Applications of Underial Prisoners before the Hon'ble High Court

1) The Jail Authorities and District Legal Services Authority (DLSA) shall maintain a list of all UTPs, who have not filed bail applications before the Hon'ble High Court, within a period of one year after rejection of bail by the Trial/Sessions Court, in the following format:-

SI.No.	Name & Father's Name of UTP	Crime No. , Sections of the Act, P.S.	Date of imprisonment	Date of rejection of bail by the Trial/Sessions Court	Date of rejection of bail by the Hon'ble High Court, if any

- 2) The DLSAs shall approach such UTPs, who are entitled for legal aid, make them aware of their rights of filing bail applications before the Hon'ble High Court, Allahabad/Lucknow without delay and determine the nature of legal aid needed by them.
- 3) The DLSA, in coordination with Jail Authorities, shall contact with such prisoners and after obtaining his/her consent provide legal aid (as per Section 12 read with Section 13 of the Legal Services Authorities Act, 1987) to such UTPs and ascertain to expeditiously file and effectively prosecute their bail applications, through panel lawyers of High Court Legal Services Committee (HCLSC) Allahabad or High Court Legal

Services Sub-Committee (HCLSSC) Lucknow, before the Hon'ble Court.

- 4) After taking consent of the prisoner, the Secretary of the concerned DLSA shall make a request, in writing, to the Secretary, HCLSC Allahabad / HCLSSC Lucknow to file bail application of such prisoner through Panel Lawyers.
 - 5) The HCLSC, Allahabad/ HCLSSC, Lucknow to facilitate panel lawyers in getting instructions, relevant documents etc., for filing the bail applications of such prisoners, with the assistance of the concerned DLSA.
 - 6) The appointed Panel Lawyers of HCLSC Allahabad/ HCLSSC Lucknow, should take measures for listing and early hearing of the bail application by specifically requesting mentioning and apprising to the Hon'ble Court that the matter is related to the UTP, who has been provided legal aid.
 - 7) The HCLSC Allahabad/ HCLSSC Lucknow shall communicate to the concerned DLSA, the date of grant/rejection of first / subsequent bail application by the Hon'ble Court, so that the same shall be mentioned in the list of UTPs, on the above mentioned format.
 - 8) After receiving the communication from the HCLSC Allahabad/ HCLSSC Lucknow, the concerned DLSA, through Panel /Jail Visiting Lawyers/PLVs, shall intimate the status of bail

application to such prisoners and take regular feedback from them and thereafter communicate the same to the HCLSC Allahabad/ HCLSSC Lucknow, if any.

- 9) The DLSAs/ HCLSC Allahabad/ HCLSSC Lucknow as well as the Jail Authorities should regularly update the above mentioned list.
- 10) The DLSAs/ HCLSC Allahabad/ HCLSSC Lucknow/ Jail Authorities should also update the details of above mentioned prisoners on e-prison portal, after modifications made by NIC in the e-prison module, on regular basis.
- 11) The DLSAs/HCLSC Allahabad/ HCLSSC Lucknow should maintain a record of such UTPs, whose bail applications have been filed through the Panel Lawyers of HCLSC, Allahabad/ HCLSSC, Lucknow and share the same with the UPSLSA, whenever it is desired.
- 12) It is, relevant to mention that , in case, the Trial Court passed the judgment of conviction against a prisoner and no bail application has been filed by him /her before the Hon'ble High Court, even after one year from the date of judgment, such prisoners shall also be made aware of his /her right of filing bail application, before the Hon'ble Court.
- 13) If, such convicted prisoner give his/her consent, the Secretary of the concerned DLSA, shall also request to the Secretary,

HCLSC Allahabad / HCLSSC Lucknow to file bail application of such prisoner before the Hon'ble Court.

14) The date of grant / rejection of bail applications and status of appeal shall also be communicated by the Secretary, HCLSC Allahabad / HCLSSC Lucknow to the Secretary of the concerned DLSA/Jail Superintendent, so that the same may be intimated to the prisoner and uploaded on the e-prison portal.

ITEM NO.2 COURT NO.2 SECTION PIL-W

SUPREME COURT OF INDIA RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS

IA 173194/2018 in Writ Petition(s)(Civil) No(s). 406/2013

RE-INHUMAN CONDITIONS IN 1382 PRISONS

(REPORT OF NALSA ON STANDARD OPERATING PROCEDURE FOR UNDER-TRIAL REVIEW COMMITTEE)

Date: 04-12-2018 This application was called on for hearing today.

CORAM: HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE MADAN B. LOKUR

HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE DEEPAK GUPTA HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE HEMANT GUPTA

Mr. Gaurav Agrawal, Adv. (A.C.)

Applicant Ms. Aparna Bhat, Adv.

For Petitioner(s) By Post

For Respondent(s) Mr. A.N.S. Nadkarni, ASG

Ms. Binu Tamta, Adv. Mr. R. Bala, Adv.

Ms. Sushma Manchanda, Adv. Ms. Suhasini Sen, Adv. Mr. G.S. Makker, Adv. Mr. B.V. Balram Das, Adv. Ms. Arti Sharma, Adv.

Mr. Pankaj Pandey, Adv.

Mr. Raghavendra Mohan Bajaj, Adv.

NALSA Ms. Anitha Shenoy, Adv.

Mr. Sunil Chauhan, Director, NALSA

Ms. Srishti Agnihotri, Adv.

For States of

Andhra Pradesh Mr. Guntur Prabhakar, Adv.

Ms. Prerna Singh, Adv.

Arunachal Pradesh Mr. Anil Shrivastav, Adv.

Mr. Rituraj Biswas, Adv.

Mr. Satyendra Kumar Srivastav, Adv.

Mr. Shuvodeep Roy, Adv. Mr. Somnath Banerjee, Adv.

Bihar Mr. M. Shoeb Alam, Adv.

Mr. Ujjwal Singh, Adv.

Mr. Mojahid Karim Khan, Adv.

Chhattisgarh Mr. Atul Jha, Adv.

Mr. Sandeep Jha, Adv.

Mr. Dharmendra Kumar Sinha, Adv.

Goa Mr. Anshuman Srivastava, Adv.

Mr. S.S. Rebello, Adv. Ms. Apoorva Bhumesh, Adv.

Gujarat Ms. Hemantika Wahi, AOR

Ms. Jesal Wahi, Adv. Ms. Puja Singh, Adv. Ms. Vishakha, Adv. Ms. Parul Luthra, Adv.

H.P. Mr. Vikas Mahajan, AAG

Mr. Vinod Sharma, Adv.

J&K Mr. M. Shoeb Alam, Adv.

Mr. Ujjwal Singh, Adv.

Mr. Mojahid Karim Khan, Adv.

Jharkhand Mr. Tapesh Kumar Singh, AOR

Mr. Aditya Pratap Singh, Adv.

Karnataka Mr. V.N. Raghupathy, AOR

Mr. Lagnesh Mishra, Adv.

Mr. Parikshit P. Angadi, Adv.

Kerala Mr. C.K. Sasi, Adv.

Ms. Nayantara Roy, Adv.

Maharashtra Ms. Deepa M. Kulkarni, Adv.

Mr. Anoop Kandari, Adv.

Mr. Nishant R. Katneshwarkar, Adv.

Manipur Mr. Leisangthem Roshmani Kh., Adv.

Meghalaya Mr. Ranjan Mukherjee, AOR

Mr. K.V. Kharlyngdoh, Adv.

Mr. Daniel Stone Lyngdoh, Adv.

Mizoram Mr. K.N. Madhusoodhanan, Adv.

Ms. Nitya Madhusoodhanan, Adv. Mr. T. G. Narayanan Nair, AOR

M.P. Mr. Rajesh Srivastava, Adv.

Nagaland Mrs. K. Enatoli Sema, AOR

Mr. Amit Kumar Singh, Adv.

Odisha Mr. Anindita Pujari, Adv.

Ms. Aarti Krupa Kumar, Adv.

Punjab Ms. Jaspreet Gogia, Adv.

Ms. Mandakini Singh, Adv.

Rajasthan Mr. Amit Sharma, Adv.

Mr. Ankit Raj, Adv. Ms. Indira Bhakar, Adv. Ms. Nidhi Jaswal, Adv.

Ms. Ruchi Kohli, Adv.

Sikkim Ms. Aruna Mathur, Adv.

Mr. Avneesh Arputham, Adv. Ms. Anuradha Arputham, Adv.

Ms. Geetanjali, Adv.

for M/s Arputham Aruna & Co.

Tripura Mr. Shuvodeep Roy, Adv.

Mr. Rituraj Biswas, Adv.

Tamil Nadu Mr. M. Yogesh Kanna, AOR

Mrs. Sujatha Bagadhi, Adv. Mr. Raja Rajeshwaran, Adv.

Telangana Mr. P. Venkat Reddy, Adv.

Mr. Prashant Tyaqi, Adv.

For M/s Venkat Palwai Law Associates

Uttar Pradesh Mr. Rajan Kumar Chourasia, Adv.

Mr. Harish Pandey, Adv.

Uttarakhand Ms. Rachana Srivastava, AOR

Ms. Monika, Adv.

West Bengal Mr. Suhaan Mukerji, Adv.

Ms. Astha Sharma, Adv.

Mr. Amit Verma, Adv.

Mr. Abhishek Manchanda, Adv.

Ms. Kajal Dalal, Adv. Ms. Dimple Nagpal, Adv. For M/s PLR Chambers

A&N Islands Mr. Mirnal Kanthi Mondal, Adv.

Mr. K.V. Jagdishvaran, Adv.

Mrs. G. Indira, Adv.

Puducherry Mr. V.G. Pragasam, AOR

Mr. S. Prabu Ramasubramanian, Adv.

Mr. S. Manuraj, Adv.

Mr. Colin Gonsalves, Sr. Adv.

Ms. Ritu Kumar, Adv.

Mr. Satya Mitra, Adv.

Mr. T.N. Rama Rao, Adv.

Mr. Hitesh Kumar Sharma, Adv.

Mr. T. Veera Reddy, Adv.

UPON hearing the counsel the Court made the following O R D E R

Guidelines have been framed by NALSA called "The Standard Operating Procedure for Under-Trial Review Committees".

These Guidelines are taken on record and the Under-Trial Review Committees will adhere to these Guidelines.

It has been stated by NALSA, as a background Note, that, as on 31.12.2017, the data received from different prison authorities indicates that the holding capacity of 1250 prisons in India is 3.78 lakhs and the actual inmates are about 4.19 lakhs. In other words, there is an excess of inmates over the holding capacity. In some prisons, overcrowding is to the extent of 150% of the holding capacity. The overcrowding is particularly acute in the States of Uttar Pradesh (182%), Uttarakhand (159%), Chhattisgarh (157%) and Maharashtra (144%).

We have been given to understand that the number of under-trial prisoners of this country constitutes more than 67% of the prisons' population. Urgent steps are quite clearly and obviously necessary for the release of under-trial prisoners, if not for the early conclusion of their trial.

Under these circumstances, though NALSA has recommended for quarterly meetings to be held by the Under-Trial Review Committees, we direct that in the first six months of the year 2019, the Under-Trial Review Committees will meet once in a month to review the cases of under-trial prisoners and submit a report to the State Legal Services Authority. The reports will then be compiled and forwarded to NALSA.

The Guidelines be circulated to all the States/Union Territories, Director General of Prisons in all States/Union Territories and the State Legal Services Authorities.

Application stands disposed of.

(SANJAY KUMAR-I) AR-CUM-PS (KAILASH CHANDER)
ASSISTANT REGISTRAR



NALSA's STANDARD OPERATING PROCEDURE (SOP) for UNDER TRIAL REVIEW COMMITTEES (UTRCs)

WP (C) 406/2013 – In Re-Inhuman Conditions in 1382 Prisons

NATIONAL LEGAL SERVICES AUTHORITY

12/11, JAM NAGAR HOUSE, NEW DELHI

Website: www.nalsa.gov.in e-mail: nalsa-dla@nic.in Cont. 011-23382778



INDEX

Sl. No	Contents	Page no.
1.	Background	1-2
2.	Part I	3-10
	SOP for UTRCs where Jail Records are not digitized and even if digitized no Software Filters have been applied	7,
3.	Part II	11
	SOP for UTRCs where Jails are digitized and have Software to filter the cases which are eligible for release	
4.	NALSA's Additional Suggestions	12-14
5.	Annexure 'A' Template of Datasheet of eligible UTPs for consideration of UTRC	15-16
6.	Annexure 'B' Template of Datasheet of Convicts for consideration of UTRC.	17-18
7.	Annexure 'C' Template of New Modified Custody Warrant	19-20

Background

In terms of the Section 12(g) of the Legal Services Authorities Act, 1987, a Person in Custody is entitled to free and competent legal services. In India, as per prison statistics. 2015 released by NCRB, there are around 1250 Central, State and Sub-jails, housing around 4.19 lacs prisoners including 80,000 women. According to NCRB data, 67 % of the above inmates i.e. 2.94 lacs are UTPs. This percentage of UTPs is one of the highest in the World in so far as the World UTP average in the prisons is only 31 %.

As on 31.12.2017, as per the data received from different Prison Authorities the holding capacity of 1250 prisons in India is 3.78 lacs and the actual inmates are 4.19 lacs. Accordingly, the prisons in India are overcrowded by 114 %. Situation in some of the Prisons is so precarious that they are holding more than 150% of their holding capacity. While the situation in States like Tamil Nadu (66%), Telangana (76 %), West Bengal (66 %) is comfortable given to the fact that the States constructed adequate number of prisons but the situation is serious in States like Uttar Pradesh (182%), Uttarakhand (159%), Chhattisgarh (157 %), Maharashtra (144%) where the number of Prisons is quite low.

1158 Legal Services Clinics have been established by the Legal Services Institutions in around 1250 jails.

In this background, Chief Justice R. C. Lahoti (Retired) wrote a letter dated 13.06.2013 addressed to Hon'ble Supreme Court of India highlighting over crowding in prisons, inadequacy of staff, need of training, unnatural deaths, etc. This letter was registered as Public Interest Litigation by Supreme Court of India on 05.07.2013.

Series of directives on the above subjects were passed by the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India to various Authorities/Departments. On 24.04.2015, Hon'ble Supreme Court of India directed that Prisoners Management Software (PMS) being used in Tihar Jail, Delhi may be improved and deployed in all other jails in the country.

It was followed by the appointment of Director, NALSA as Nodal Officer to assist the Hon'ble Supreme Court Bench. NALSA issued directions to the State Legal Services Authorities and District Legal Services Authorities for helpline release of prisoners who could not furnish the bail bonds. Model Prison Manual was also drafted by Ministry of Home Affairs with the help of NALSA.

On. 18.09.2015, It was highlighted that the Under Trial Review Committee (UTRC) constituted by the Ministry of Home Affairs shall consider the cases of inmates who have completed half of their sentence in terms of Section 436A Cr. P.C.

On 05.02.2016, UTRCs were directed to meet at least once in every quarter starting from 31.03.2016 and Secretary of District Legal Services Authority was made member of the Committee to assist the UTRC.

On 06.05.2016, the domain of UTRC was enhanced much beyond Section 436(A) Cr. P.C. by inclusion of total 14 categories of inmates for consideration of their early release.

On 31.10.2017, NALSA was directed to prepare a Standard Operating Procedure (SOP) for smooth functioning of Under Trial Review Committees (UTRCs) with an aim to ensure that UTPs covered under 14 categories get benefit without delay.

On 12.12.2017, SOP was prepared and as per the directions of Hon'ble Supreme Court of India the same was circulated with the various stakeholders and placed on website of NALSA for inviting suggestions. The suggestions received from different stakeholders were incorporated with the help of Ld. Amicus Curiae.

On 08.05.2018, an SOP containing additional suggestions was placed on Record of Hon'ble Supreme Court of India. Vide an order dated 02.08.2018, NALSA was directed to redraft the SOP.

This redrafted final SOP has been prepared accordingly.





NALSA's

STANDARD OPERATING PROCEDURE (SOP) FOR UTRCs

PART-I

Definitions:

- a) "Jail" means Central Jail, District Jail, Sub Jail, Women Jail, Special Jail and borstals.
- b) "Jail Superintendent" includes Deputy Superintendent and Officer Incharge of the jail.
- c) "UTPs" means Under Trial Prisoners who are in custody at the time of preparation of the list of UTPs by the Superintendent and includes inmates who are out on interim bail.
- d) "UTRC" means Under Trial Review Committee chaired by District & Sessions Judge consisting of District Magistrate, Superintendent of Police, Secretary, DLSA and Jail Superintendent, as members.
- e) "E-Prison Portal/ PMS" means E-Prison Portal developed by NIC under directives of Ministry of Home Affairs and includes stand alone Software developed by States for their Jails.
- f) "Secretary DLSA" means Secretary of the concerned District Legal Services Authority appointed u/s 9(3) of Legal Services Authorities Act, 1987 and any other officer officiating as Secretary.
- g) "Bail Applications" Bail applications include applications moved u/s 436A, 437 Cr.P.C. and 439 Cr.P.C. apart from other provisions pertaining to technical bail under the Cr.P.C., namely bail under proviso to Sections 167 and 437 (6) Cr.P.C. and similar provisions in other special enactments.

SOP FOR UTRCS WHERE JAIL RECORDS ARE NOT DIGITIZED AND EVEN IF DIGITIZED NO SOFTWARE FILTERS HAVE BEEN APPLIED.

STEP 1: Reporting of Data of UTPs / Convicts by Prisons.

1.1 The Jail superintendent of every jail in the district will collate the data regarding the UTPs lodged in the jail in the format as per **Annexure-A** with the following information and share it with Secretary, DLSA preferably in soft Excel Sheet.

Particulars of UTPs

- (1) Name of the UTP
- (2) Father's name
- (3) Gender / Age
- (4) FIR/Crime No.
- (5) Police Station
- (6) District
- (7) Arrested under section-
- (8) Particulars of the Court
- (9) Date of Arrest
- (10) Date of First Remand
- (11) Date of admission in prison
- (12) Date of filing charge sheet.
- (13) Chargesheeted under Section-
- (14) UTP represented by Legal Aid/Private Lawyer
- (15) Name of the lawyer with contact details, if available.
- (16) Whether bail has been granted to the accused, if so when.
- (17) If accused is not released on bail despite grant of bail, reason for the same, if available.
- (18) If the UTP suffering from any disease, mental or physical, details regarding the same.
- (19) Whether UTP is a convict/Under trial in any other case.
- (20) If yes, separate entry in the data sheet be made qua the additional Case.
- 1.2 Particulars of convicts A separate 'List of Convicts' be prepared as per **Annexure-B** with the following information and share it with Secretary, DLSA preferably in soft Excel Sheet: -

- (1) Name of the Convict
- (2) Father's Name
- (3) FIR No.
- (4) Police Station
- (5) District
- (6) Name of the Trial Court
- (7) Date of Conviction
- (8) Duration & Nature of Sentence
- (9) Total Remission Earned
- (10) Date when sentence completed
- (11) Reason for Non-Release
- (12) Whether case considered by Sentence Review Board?
- (13) Reason for not granting pre-mature release
- (14) Additional information or Remark
- 1.3 The aforesaid detail as on 31st March, 30th June, 30th September, 31st December of every year may be sent by the Jail Superintendent to the Secretary DLSA latest by 7th day of the next following month.

STEP 2: Processing of Data by Secretary, DLSA

2.1 The office of Secretary, DLSA, with the aid of empaneled panel lawyers, Retired Judicial Officers and law students trained as PLVs, if required and available, shall draw list of UTPs/Convicts eligible for consideration by the UTRC out of Data sent to him from Step-I in the light of criteria laid down by Hon'ble Supreme Court in WP(C) 406/2013-Re-Inhuman Conditions in 1382 Prisons, as per detailed hereunder (Para 2.2).

If any further details are required by the Secretary, DLSA from any court or from the Jail Superintendent or from the police authorities, the same may be ascertained by the Secretary DLSA. Thereafter, the Secretary DLSA shall prepare a list of eligible UTPs for consideration of UTRC in the Excel Sheet/Soft form as per **Annexure A & B.**

- 2.2 Cases of UTPs / Convicts falling under following categories shall be considered by the Secretary, DLSA for placing them before the UTRC:-
 - 2.2.1 UTPs / Convicts falling under covered under Section 436A Cr.P.C. [As per order of Hon'ble Supreme Court dated 24th April, 2015]

2.2.2 UTPs released on bail by the court, but have not been able to furnish sureties.

[As per order of Hon'ble Supreme Court dated 24th April, 2015]

- 2.2.3 UTPs accused of compoundable offences.
 [As per order of Hon'ble Supreme Court dated 24th April, 2015]
- 2.2.4 UTPs eligible under Section 436 of Cr.P.C. [As per order of Hon'ble Supreme Court dated 05th February, 2016]
- 2.2.5 UTPs who may be covered under Section 3 of the Probation of Offenders Act, namely accused of offence under Sections 379, 380, 381, 404, 420 IPC or alleged to be an offence not more than 2 years imprisonment. [As per order of Hon'ble Supreme Court dated 05th February, 2016]
- 2.2.6 Convicts who have undergone their sentence or are entitled to release because of remission granted to them.

 [As per order of Hon'ble Supreme Court dated 05th February, 2016]
- 2.2.7 UTPs become eligible to be released on bail u/s 167(2)(a)(i) & (ii) of the Code read with Section 36A of the Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Act, 1985 (where persons accused of Section 19 or Section 24 or Section 27A or for offences involving commercial quantity) and where investigation is not completed in 60/90/180 days.

 [As per order of Hon'ble Supreme Court dated 06th May, 2016]
- 2.2.8 UTPs who are imprisoned for offences which carry a maximum punishment of 2 years.

 [As per order of Hon'ble Supreme Court dated 06th May, 2016]
- 2.2.9 UTPs who are detained under Chapter VIII of the Cr.P.C. i.e. u/s 107, 108, 109 and 151 of Cr.P.C.

 [As per order of Hon'ble Supreme Court dated 06th May, 2016]
- 2.2.10 UTPs who are sick or infirm and require specialized medical treatment. [As per order of Hon'ble Supreme Court dated 06th May, 2016]
- 2.2.11 UTPs women offenders
 [As per order of Hon'ble Supreme Court dated 06th May, 2016]
- 2.2.12 UTPs who are first time offenders between the ages 19 and 21 years and in custody for the offence punishable with less than 7 years of

imprisonment and have suffered at least 1/4th of the maximum sentence possible.

[As per order of Hon'ble Supreme Court dated 06th May, 2016]

2.2.13 UTPs who are of unsound mind and must be dealt with Chapter XXV of the Code.

[As per order of Hon'ble Supreme Court dated 06th May, 2016]

2.2.14 UTPs eligible for release under Section 437(6) of Cr.P.C, wherein in a case triable by a Magistrate, the trial of a person accused of any non-bailable offence has not been concluded within a period of 60 days from the first date fixed for taking evidence in the case.

[As per order of Hon'ble Supreme Court dated 06th May, 2016]

2.3 The DLSA Secretary must inform the District & Sessions Judge that the complete list has been prepared and request him to convene the UTRC meeting at the earliest. A copy of the list may also be shared with other members of the UTRC so that they can come prepared for the meeting.

STEP 3: Processing of identified cases by UTRC

- 3.1 The District & Sessions Judge shall convene the UTRC meeting as soon as the intimation is received from the DLSA, Secretary about the completion of the lists.
- 3.2 UTRC shall consider the cases shortlisted by the Secretary, DLSA and make recommendations for release/ appropriate action.
- 3.3 Upon processing the individual cases, the recommendations of UTRC may include:-

3.3.1 In case UTPs covered under Section 436A Cr.P.C.:

UTRC may recommend to concerned trial court to take up the matter and consider him/her for release on bail if there are no special reasons to deny bail, with or without sureties.

3.3.2 UTPs released on bail by the court, but have not been able to furnish sureties:

The UTRC may recommend the trial court to examine the reason why the accused is not furnishing surety/ bail bonds and if he/she is unable to do so due to poverty, then the trial court may consider reducing the bail amount on the application of the lawyer under S.440, CrPC or release on personal bond.

3.3.3 UTPs accused of compoundable offences:

The UTRC may recommend to the trial court to consider if the offence can be compounded between the complainant and the accused as per law.

3.3.4 UTPs eligible under Section 436 of Cr.P.C.:

The UTRC may recommend to the trial court to consider releasing such an accused on personal bond in case he is unable to furnish bail bond within seven days of bail order.

3.3.5 UTPs who may be covered under Section 3 of the Probation of Offenders Act, namely accused of offence under Sections 379, 380, 381, 404, 420 IPC or alleged to be an offence not more than 2 years imprisonment:

The UTRC may recommend to the trial court to consider invoking of Probation of Offenders Act in fit cases as also plea bargaining in appropriate cases.

3.3.6 Convicts who have undergone their sentence or are entitled to release because of remission granted to them:

The UTRC may examine the reason for non-release of the convict and the Officer in-charge of prison may be recommended to look into the matter so that the convict is released as soon as possible.

3.3.7 UTPs become eligible to be released on bail under Section 167(2)(a)(i) & (ii) of the Code read with Section 36A of the Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Act, 1985 (where persons accused of Section 19 or Section 24 or Section 27A or for offences involving commercial quantity) and where investigation is not completed in 60/90/180 days:

The UTRC may recommend to the trial court to consider release of the accused in cases where chargesheet is not submitted within the statutory time frame.

3.3.8 UTPs who are imprisoned for offences which carry a maximum punishment of 2 years:

The UTRC may recommend to the trial court to consider releasing of the UTP on bail in such cases.

3.3.9 UTPs who are detained under Chapter VIII of the Cr.P.C. i.e. under Sections 107, 108, 109 and 151 of Cr.P.C.:

The Executive Magistrate/ District Magistrate court may be recommended to release/discharge such persons with or without conditions or to make an order reducing the amount of the security or the number of sureties or the time for which security has been required.

3.3.10 UTPs who are sick or infirm and require specialized medical treatment:

The UTRC may examine the medical condition of the inmate and if it is found that the inmate is very sick and specialized treatment is essential for survival, then the UTRC may recommend the trial court to consider granting bail on medical ground, as provided under S.437, CrPC, even for temporary period.

3.3.11 UTPs women offenders:

Women under trial prisoners who are not accused of serious offences may be considered for release on bail under S.437, CrPC, especially they are first time offenders by the concerned trial courts. The UTRC may also recommend suitable measures under the directions of the Hon'ble Court in R. D. Upadhyay vs State of A.P. & Ors. (AIR 2006 SC 1946).

3.3.12 UTPs who are first time offenders between the ages 19 and 21 years and in custody for the offence punishable with less than 7 years of imprisonment and have suffered at least 1/4th of the maximum sentence possible:

The UTRC may request the trial court to consider granting bail to such young offenders. If the person is found guilty in the course of trial, benefit of S.3 or S.4 of the Probation of Offenders Act, 1958, may be given to the accused.

3.3.13 UTPs who are of unsound mind and must be dealt with Chapter XXV of the Code:

UTRC may recommend the trial court to take appropriate steps in accordance with Chapter XXV of the Code and provide adequate treatment to such inmates.

- 3.3.14 UTPs eligible for release under Section 437(6) of Cr.P.C., wherein in a case triable by a Magistrate, the trial of a person accused of any non-bailable offence has not been concluded within a period of 60 days from the first date fixed for taking evidence in the case:

 UTRC may request the trial court to consider granting bail to such UTPs under Section 437(6) of Cr.P.C.
- 3.4 The UTRC shall enter its recommendation in column no. 21-23 of Annexure-A and column no.15-17 of Annexure-B.
 - 3.4.1 Recommendation of UTRC
 - 3.4.2 Date of recommendation
 - 3.4.2 Brief reasons for UTRC recommendation
- 3.5 The UTRC shall share recommendations with the concerned Trial Court/Jail Superintendent and Secretary, DLSA. Jail Superintendent shall bring it to the notice of UTP/Convict. Secretary, DLSA shall instruct the panel lawyers to move appropriate application in legal aided cases. The Trial Courts may deal with the recommendations in the manner deemed appropriate for each particular case with the assistance of Legal Aid/Private Lawyer.

49 95

STEP 4: Follow up:

UTRC shall keep track of the follow up action in recommended cases as detailed in Annexure-A (Column No.24-26) & Annexure-B (Column No.18-20) as under:-

- 4.1 Action taken on recommendation.
- 4.2 Final Outcome
- 4.3 Date of release of UTP/Convict.

STEP 5: Collation of data on quarterly basis by the Secretary, DLSA

Secretary, DLSA shall collate the above data in **Annexure-A & B** and generate quarterly report under the following heads:

- 1. Number of UTPs/Convicts considered by UTRCs in a given quarter/year.
- 2. Number of UTPs/Convicts recommended for bail/release.
- 3. Number of bail/other applications moved post recommendations.
- 4. Number of inmates released pursuant to UTRC's recommendation.

PART-II

SOP for UTRC where Jails are digitized and have Software to filter the cases which are eligible for release

- 5.1 If the jail concerned has appropriate data in digital format and is able to apply the filters, then the Step 1 and Step 2 of Part-I would merge into one and the filtered data shall be shared by Jail Authorities with Secretary, DLSA.
- 5.2 The UTRC can examine the data filtered by the software and make appropriate recommendations, as mentioned in Step 3 of Part-I.
- 5.3 The UTRC shall keep track of the follow up action as per Step 4 of Part-I.

NALSA's ADDITIONAL SUGGESTIONS

In order to expedite Trials and ensure Access to Justice for UTPs/Convicts NALSA suggests following new initiatives:-

Suggestion No.1: Usage of modified 'Custody Warrant'

NALSA has designed a new Modified Custody Warrant which is annexed as **Annexure 'C'**. The need thereof arose since as on date the Prison Data is maintained only on the basis of case details received by the Jail Authorities from the First Custody Warrant which is in turn based solely on case particulars contained in the FIR. This data is amenable to change at different stages i.e. stage of filing of Chargesheet, framing of Charge and then passing of final Judgement.

Adoption of this new Modified 'Custody Warrant' is necessary as unless the specific offence in which UTP is kept in detention is regularly updated, the software filters will not be able to give correct results. For example, an accused initially arrested u/S 302 IPC may be finally chargesheeted u/S 304 IPC.

This new Modified Custody Warrant carry the particulars of the Legal Aid Counsel/Private Counsel representing the UTPs at different stages.

Suggestion No.2: Training/sensitization of Remand Court/Trial Court to safeguard the rights of the UTPs to be considered for bail.

It is suggested that judicial academies of respective States may undertake training/sensitization courses of judicial officers with an aim to highlight the reason behind the UTPs: Convicts ratio in prisons which currently stands as 67%: 33% in our country. The world average of UTPs: Convicts ratio stands at only 31%:69%. The Training of judicial officers may include highlighting importance of -

- Compliance of Section 41, 41 A to D Cr.P.C. by police authorities.
- Release of arrested persons/UTPs in deserving cases by invoking Section 59 of Cr.P.C with or without bond.
- Highlighting importance of 14 situations/criteria laid down by Hon'ble Supreme Court in WP Civil No. 406/2013 "Re-inhuman conditions in 1382 prisons" and their timely compliance for decongestion of jails.

Suggestion No.3: Inclusion of Chief Public Prosecutor in UTRC.

➤ State is represented by Public Prosecutor in each criminal court i.e. MMs/Sessions. As and when any Bail Application is moved by the UTPs either on merits or on technical grounds, as a matter of routine, it is observed that they are opposed by Public Prosecutors/Additional Public prosecutors/Asstt. Public prosecutors representing State in the Court. Hence, inclusion of Chief Public Prosecutor of the District in the UTRC would assist in compliance of directions of Hon'ble Supreme Court.

Suggestion No.4: Expanding the mandate of UTRC

- ➤ UTRC is mandated to ensure compliance of directions issued by Hon'ble Supreme Court. However to ensure that UTPs' right to speedy trial is upheld, it is proposed that UTRC shall look into the individual cases so as to ascertain as to why a particular criminal trial is not getting concluded in a reasonable time and is getting dragged. Such a review of individual cases would go a long way in identifying the broad reasons which results in the delay of trials. This would also help reduce imbalance of 67%:33% UTPs:Convicts ratio.
- ➤ While identifying bottle necks in the Criminal Justice System of a particular district, other facets which can be looked into and addressed by the UTRC may include:
 - 4.1 Check on non-compliance of Section 41 Cr.P.C. to curtail avoidable/unnecessary arrests by the Police.
 - 4.2 Non production of UTPs before the Remand/Trial Court either in person or via video conferencing facility on account of lack of logistic facilities.
 - 4.3 Delay caused by frequent inter-state transfer of UTPs
 - 4.4 Non filing of FSL/CFSL report in time.
 - 4.5 Failure of police to trace, serve and produce the Public/Expert witnesses.
 - 4.6 Delay caused in frequent transfer of investigation related witnesses like police officials, documents.
 - 4.7 Non availability of dedicated PPs in each criminal court.
 - 4.8 Rational distribution of criminal cases in different courts within district

- 4.9 Paucity of staff like Ahlmad or stenographer for the criminal court
- 4.10 Delay caused by lack of efficiency in administrative set up like Copying Agency, Facilitation Centre, Record Room(in case of fetching of old file) etc.
- 4.11 IT Infrastructural need like, Desktop, printer, NIC-net, stationary etc. apart from Data entry professionals.
- 4.12 Popularize ADR methods as also Plea Bargaining for quick disposal.
- 4.13 Suggest segregation of trial in case one or more co-accused are absconding.
- 4.14 Availability of effective and efficient Free Legal Aid Services.
- 4.15 Seeking Cooperation from the Bar for expediting trial.
- 4.16 Any other issue which is hampering the early conclusion of criminal trials in the District.

Once the respective UTRCs start taking cognizance of these problems and suggest remedial measures to the concerned Duty Holders, the delay in disposal of criminal cases can be curtailed to a great extent and learning out comes of such suggestions can help in Policy formulation for improving efficiency of Criminal Justice System's operation in not only the District but also in the State.

Note:

• Column Nos. 1 to 20 to be filled by Jail Superintendent.

~	. 1		
Con	+ A		
. ()	111		

Annexure-A

21	22	23	24	25	26
Recommen	Date of	Brief reasons for	Action Taken on	Final	Date of
dation of	Recomme	UTRC	recommendation	Outcome	release of
UTRC	ndation	recommendation	1/7/	>	UTP

Note:

• Column Nos. 21 to 26 to be filled by UTRC.

Annexure-B

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
S.No.	Name of the Convict	Father's Name	FIR No.	Police Station	District	Name of the Trial Court	Date of Conviction	Duration & Nature of Sentence	Total Remission Earned	Date when sentence completed	Reason for Non- Release	Whether case considered by Sentence Review Board?	Reason for not granting pre- mature release
	Note: • Colur	nn Nos. 1	to 14	to be fil	led by Ja	ail Super	intendent.	TICE	FOR				

Contd...

Annexure-B

		् मल	25		
15	16	17	18	19	20
Recommendat	Date of	Brief reasons for	Action Taken on	Final	Date of release of
ion of UTRC	Recommendation	UTRC	recommendation	Outcome	Convict
		recommendation			
	5			1	
	Ó				
				7	

Note:

• Column Nos. 15 to 20 to be filled by UTRC.

TEMPLATE Annexure-C

"CUSTODY WARRANT"

Jail No.	:	_		
Name			FIR No	
Father'	s Name		U/s(as per FIR)	РНОТО
Age			Arrested U/s	OF
Gende	r		Police Station	INMATE
Addres	s		District	
Nation	ality		Date of Arrest	2 0
	ID DURING			
S.No.	Date	е	Remand Order by Ld.	Judge/Next date in the Court
1				
2				
3				
4		A		
• • REMAN	Offences	against	harge Sheet :	ATE(Pvt/Legal Aid
S.No.	Date	е	Remand Order by Ld. J	udge/Next date in the Court
1				
2				
3				
4				
5				
•			l in Sessions trial cases:	
•	Date of Fr	_		
•	Charge fra	amed ui	der offences :	

	Date	Remand Order	by Ld. Judge/Next date in t	he Court
1		_		
2				
3				
4				
5				
REMAI	ND DURING STAT	TEMENT OF ACCUSED	ADVOCATE	(Pvt/Legal
S.No.	Date	Remand Order k	oy Ld. Judge/Next date in t	he Court
		या स	9 7 2	
1		22/101	(7)	
2				
3				
REMAI	 ND DURING DEFI	ENCE EVIDENCE	ADVOCATE	(Pvt/Legal Aic
S.No.	Date		by Ld. Judge/Next date in t	
J	3	nemana oraci	y and degree date in	ile court
1		5		
_			UY	T
2				
		TO CO		
2	ND DURING FINA	L APCHMENTS	ADVOCATE	(Dut/Logal A
2 3 REMAI	ND DURING FINA	10 ,,	ADVOCATE	
2 3 REMAI	ND DURING FINA	10 ,,	ADVOCATE	
2	T	10 ,,		
2 3 REMAI S.No.	T	10 ,,		
2 3 REMAI S.No.	T	10 ,,		
2 3 REMAI S.No. 1 2	T	10 ,,		

(Attach separate sheet)

(Attach separate sheet)

Sentence imposed

Compensation awarded to victim :

सिद्धदोष बंदियों की समयपूर्व रिहाई हेतु मानक संचालन प्रकिया

- माननीय सर्वोच्च न्यायालय द्वारा रिट याचिका(किम0) संख्या 336/19, रशीदुल जफर उर्फ छोटा बनाम उत्तर प्रदेश राज्य व अन्य में पारित दिशा निर्देशों के प्रकाश में उत्तर प्रदेश के समस्त कारागारों में निरुद्ध सिद्धदोष बंदियों की समयपूर्व रिहाई हेतु मानक संचालन प्रकिया निर्मित की जा रही है।
- माननीय सर्वोच्च न्यायालय द्वारा रिट याचिका(किम0) संख्या 336/19, रशीदुल जफर उर्फ छोटा बनाम उत्तर प्रदेश राज्य व अन्य में पारित निर्णय दिनांकित 06.09.2022 में निर्देशित किया गया है कि उत्तर प्रदेश की जेलों में सिद्धदोष व आजीवन कारावास से दण्डित बंदी, जो कि समय पूर्व रिहाई हेतु पात्र हैं, वह मी अभी तक कारागार में निरूद्ध हैं तथा उनके मध्य न तो सम्यक जागरूकता है और न हीं उन्हें यह तथ्य ज्ञात है कि वह समय पूर्व रिहाई हेतु पात्र व्यक्ति हैं।
 - इस संबंध में यह तथ्य भी प्रकाश में आया है कि यदि कुछ बंदियों को समय पूर्व रिहाई की नीति का लाम प्रदान करके उन्हें एक निश्चित अविध के कारावास को व्यतीत करने के पश्चात् नियमानुसार रिहा कर दिया जाता है तो इसका कारागार प्रशासन पर अत्यन्त सकारात्मक असर पड़ता है तथा कारागार में अनुशासन भी स्थापित होता है, क्योंकि अन्य बंदी, जो समय पूर्व रिहाई की श्रेणी में हैं अथवा पात्रता की श्रेणी में आने की कगार पर हैं, वह कारागार में अत्यन्त अनुशासित जीवन व्यतीत करते हैं तािक उनकी बारी आने पर उन्हें भी समय पूर्व रिहाई का लाम पाप्त हो सके।
 - माननीय सर्वोच्च न्यायालय द्वारा इस बिन्दु पर भी बल दिया गया है कि समय पूर्व
 रिहाई के प्रावधानों के संबंध में बंदियों के मध्य जागरूकता नहीं है और बंदियों
 को उक्त प्रावधानों तथा अपनी पात्रता के विषय में ज्ञान नहीं है। अतः इस संबंध
 में कमबद्व तरीके से अभियान चलाकर समस्त कारागारों में समय पूर्व रिहाई के
 प्रावधानों का व्यापक प्रचार—प्रसार किया जाये।
 - समय पूर्व रिहाई के संबंध में जागरूकता हेतु कारागारों में पोस्टर्स लगवाये जायें तथा वॉल पेंटिंग्स करवायी जायें।

- सचिव, जिला विधिक सेवा प्राधिकरणों द्वारा कारागार परिसरों में विशेष जागरूकता शिविर आयोजित किये जायें जिनमें समय पूर्व रिहाई के प्रावधानों से बंदियों को अवगत कराया जाये।
- समस्त उत्तर प्रदेश में जिला विधिक सेवा प्राधिकरण , जेल प्राधिकारियों के साथ मिलकर यह सुनिश्चित कर लेंगे कि समय पूर्व रिहाई हेतु पात्र कोई भी बंदी अवशेष न बचे।
- सचिव, जिला विधिक सेवा प्राधिकरण अपने जिले के कारागारों से समस्त आजीवन कारावास की सजा से दिण्डित बंदियों की अवस्थिति के संबंध में आख्या आहूत करेंगे तथा यह सुनिश्चित कर लेंगे कि यदि वह बंदी किसी भी नीति के अन्तर्गत पात्रता की श्रेणी में आते हैं तो उनकी समय पूर्व रिहाई सुनिश्चित हो सके। सचिव, जिला विधिक सेवा प्राधिकरण यह कार्य 2 सप्ताह के अन्दर पूर्ण कर लेंगे।
- यह भी सुनिश्चित किया जाये कि समस्त लम्बित प्रार्थना पत्रों को एक माह के अन्दर निस्तारित कर लिया जाये।

n

- यह भी सुनिश्चित कर लिया जाये कि ऐसे समस्त आजीवन कारावास से दिण्डत बंदी, जिनकी आयु 70 वर्ष से अधिक है अथवा गंभीर बीमारी से ग्रस्त हैं, उनकी समय पूर्व रिहाई हेतु प्रस्तुत प्रार्थना पत्रों को 02 माह के अन्दर निस्तारित कर दिया जाये।
- समय पूर्व रिहाई के अन्य समस्त प्रकरणों को 02 माह के अन्दर निस्तारित करना है।
- अधिकांश आजीवन कारावास से दिण्डत बंदी, केन्द्रीय कारागारों में निरुद्ध होते हैं, अतः केन्द्रीय कारागारों में विशेष जागरूकता कार्यक्रमों का आयोजन किया जाये तथा उनका सदस्य सचिव, उ०प्र०राज्य विधिक सेवा प्राधिकरण द्वारा स्वयं निरीक्षण किया जाये।
- केन्द्रीय कारागारों में विभिन्न जनपदों के आजीवन कारावास से दिण्डत बंदी निरूद्ध होते हैं, अतः ऐसे बंदियों के समय पूर्व रिहाई के प्रार्थना पत्र, बंदी के जिले के प्रशासन के पास संस्तुति हेतु प्रेषित होते हैं, अतः सचिव, जिला विधिक सेवा प्राधिकरण बंदी के जनपद के जिला प्राधिकरण एवं जिला प्रोबेशन अधिकारी व जिला प्रशासन से सामन्जस्य स्थापित करके यह सुनिश्चित करेंगे कि ऐसे

बंदियों के प्रार्थना पत्रों पर उनके जिले के स्थानीय प्रशासन द्वारा ससमय कार्यवाही की जाये।

- उत्तर प्रदेश के समस्त केन्द्रीय कारागारों के अधीक्षकों के साथ सदस्य सचिव, राज्य विधिक सेव प्राधिकरण के द्वारा वीडियो कान्फ्रेन्सिंग के माध्यम से तथा भौतिक रूप से भी जा कर के कारागार अधीक्षकों को व्यक्तिगत रूप से यह निर्देशित किया जायेगा कि वह समस्त आजीवन कारावास से दण्डित बंदियों को, जो किसी भी श्रेणी के अन्तर्गत समय पूर्व रिहाई हेतु पात्र हैं, की रिहाई सुनिश्चित करें।
 - माननीय कार्यपालक अध्यक्ष, उ०प्र० राज्य विधिक सेवा प्राधिकरण द्वारा समय—समय पर अपर मुख्य सचिव गृह, अपर मुख्य सचिव कारागार, महानिदेशक, कारागार प्रशासन, जनपद न्यायाधीश, जिलाधिकारी, पुलिस अधीक्षक/ विष्ठ पुलिस अधीक्षक एवं समस्त जेल अधीक्षकों के साथ जूम मीटिंग करके सिद्धदोष बंदियों की समय पूर्व रिहाई के प्रकरणों की समीक्षा की जायेगी।
 - राज्य विधिक सेवा प्राधिकरण प्राथिमकता के आधार पर निम्नलिखित कार्यवाही सुनिश्चित करेगा:-
 - 1. सर्वप्रथम यह सुनिश्चित किया जायेगा कि आजीवन कारावास से दण्डित ऐसे पात्र बंदी, जिनका समय पूर्व रिहाई हेतु प्रार्थना पत्र किसी भी स्तर पर लिम्बत हैं, का यथाशीघ्र तत्काल निस्तारण हो।
 - 2. इसके पश्चात् यह सुनिश्चित किया जायेगा कि 70 वर्ष से अधिक आयु के बंदियों तथा गंभीर बीमारियों से ग्रसित आजीवन कारावास से दण्डित सिद्ध दोष बंदियों की समय पूर्व रिहाई सुनिश्चित हो सके।
 - 3. तत्पश्चात् प्रत्येक केन्द्रीय कारागार एवं जिला कारागारों में अभियान चलाकर प्रत्येक आजीवन कारावास से दिण्डत व्यक्ति का विवरण अंकित किया जायेगा तथा यह समीक्षा की जायेगी कि कौन सा बंदी किस श्रेणी के अन्तर्गत, समय पूर्व रिहाई हेतु, पात्र है।
 - 4. जो भी बंदी, जिस किसी भी श्रेणी के अन्तर्गत, समय पूर्व रिहाई हेतु पात्रता की श्रेणी में आता है, उसके प्रकरण में तत्काल कार्यवाही की जायेगी।
 - 5. यदि, प्रार्थी का प्रकरण वर्ष, 2018 में निर्मित मानक नीति (यथासंशोधित 28.07.2021 तथा 27.05.2022) के अन्तर्गत है, तो समय पूर्व रिहाई हेतु किसी

प्रार्थना पत्र की आवश्यकता नहीं होगी और प्रार्थी के प्रकरण को जेल प्राधिकारियों द्वारा स्वयं संज्ञान में लेकर कार्यवाही प्रारम्म कर दी जायेगी।

- 6. यदि प्रार्थी का प्रकरण प्रोबेशन, नॉमिनल रोल अथवा दया याचिका के अन्तर्गत आता है, तो उस स्थिति में प्रार्थी अथवा उसके परिवार से प्रार्थना पत्र लेकर तत्काल कार्यवाही प्रारम्म कर दी जायेगी।
- 7. जिला विधिक सेवा प्राधिकरण एवं जेल प्राधिकारी आपसी सहयोग एवं सामन्जस्य से जेल पी0एल0वी0, पैनल लायर्स एवं आवश्यकतानुरूप अन्य मानव संसाधन की सहायता से उपरोक्त कार्य एक माह के अन्दर समाप्त कर लेंगे।
- तत्पश्चात् यह सुनिश्चित कर लिया जायेगा कि समस्त आख्याओं सहित
 दिन के अन्दर पात्र बंदियों का प्रकरण शासन को संदर्भित हो जाये।
- 9. शासन स्तर पर सचिव, राज्य विधिक सेवा प्राधिकरण, अपर मुख्य सचिव गृह एवं अपर मुख्य सचिव कारागार के साथ बैठक करके यह सुनिश्चित करेंगे कि सिद्धदोष बंदियों के समय पूर्व रिहाई के प्रकरण यथा संमव प्राथिमकता के आधार पर शीघातिशीघ निस्तारित किये जायें।
 - 10. सदस्य सचिव, राज्य विधिक सेवा प्राधिकरण, महामहिम राज्यपाल के विधिक सलाहाकार से सामन्जस्य स्थापित करके यह सुनिश्चित करेंगे कि दया याचिका के मामलों में महामहिम के स्तर पर शीघातिशीघ्र निर्णय हो सके।
 - 11. जिला विधिक सेवा प्राधिकरणों द्वारा समस्त आजीवन कारावास से दण्डित बंदियों का विवरण संलग्न प्रारूप पर अंकित किया जायेगा।
- कारागारों में सिद्धदोष बंदियों की समय पूर्व रिहाई हेतु चार प्रकियायें प्रचलन में हैं:--
 - 1. प्रोबेशन पर सिद्धदोष बंदियों की समय पूर्व रिहाई फार्म ए पर :-

प्रोबेशन पर सिद्धदोष बंदियों की समय पूर्व रिहाई की इस प्रकिया में सिद्धदोष बंदी द्वारा कारागार में कम से कम 14 साल के कारावास की अवधि व्यतीत किया जाना आवश्यक होता है। इस प्रकिया में समय पूर्व रिहाई हेतु बंदी का प्रार्थना पत्र जेल प्राधिकारियों द्वारा जिला प्रोबेशन अधिकारी के माध्यम से प्रेषित किया जाता है। इन प्रार्थना पत्रों पर पुलिस अधीक्षक / विरष्ठ पुलिस अधीक्षक की आख्या अंकित करके उन्हें जिलाधिकारी द्वारा कारागार मुख्यालय को प्रेषित किया जाता है। कारागार मुख्यालय पर गठित

समिति की संस्तुति के पश्चात् प्रार्थना पत्र, शासन को प्रेषित कर दिये जाते हैं, जिन पर शासन को बंदी की समयपूर्व रिहाई के लिये निर्णय लेने होता

2. सिद्धदोष बंदियों की नॉमिनल रोल पर समय पूर्व रिहाई :-

सिद्धदोष बंदियों की समय पूर्व रिहाई की इस प्रकिया में सिद्धदोष बंदी द्वारा कारागार में कम से कम 14 साल के कारावास की अवधि व्यतीत किया जाना आवश्यक होता है। इस प्रकिया में नॉमिनल रोल के तहत बंदी की समयपूर्व रिहाई हेतु उसका प्रार्थना पत्र जेल प्राधिकारियों द्वारा जेल मुख्यालय को प्रेषित किया जाता है जिस पर पुलिस अधीक्षक की आख्या एवं संबंधित न्यायालय का अभिमत व जिलाधिकारी की संस्तुति भी अंकित होती है। कारागार मुख्यालय द्वारा नॉमिनल रोल पर समयपूर्व रिहाई हेतु बंदी के प्रार्थना पत्र अपनी संस्तुति सहित शासन को प्रेषित किया जाता है। बंदी की समय पूर्व रिहाई हेतु निर्णय शासन स्तर पर लिया जाता है।

3. मानक नीति, 2018 के अन्तर्गत सिद्धदोष बंदियों की समय पूर्व रिहाई :-

सिद्धदोष बंदियों की समय पूर्व रिहाई हेतु शासन द्वारा वर्ष 2018 में निर्मित मानक नीति जिसे कि वर्ष 2021 एवं 2022 में संशोधित किया गया है, के अंतर्गत सिद्धदोष बंदियों की समय पूर्व रिहाई हेतु किसी प्रार्थना पत्र की आवश्यकता नहीं होती है, किन्तु बंदी द्वारा कम से कम 16 वर्ष के कारावास की अविध व्यतीत किया जाना आवश्यक होता है। इस नीति के अन्तर्गत जेल प्राधिकारियों द्वारा स्वयं अपनी तरफ से पात्र व्यक्तियों की सूची क्षेत्रीय उप महानिदेशक कारागार को प्रेषित की जाती है, जो अपनी संस्तुति के साथ प्रकरण, शासन को प्रेषित करते हैं, जिस पर शासन द्वारा निर्णय लिया जाता है।

4. दया याचिका के आघार पर बंदियों की समय पूर्व रिहाई :--

दया याचिका का प्रार्थना पत्र महामहिम राज्यपाल को बंदी अथवा उसके परिजनों द्वारा प्रेषित किया जा सकता है। संविधान के अनुच्छेद 161 के अन्तर्गत दया याचिका पर बंदी की समय पूर्व रिहाई महामहिम राज्यपाल के विवेकाधिकार पर निर्मर है। इस हेतु अपना विवेकाधिकार प्रयोग करने के लिये महामहिम राज्यपाल द्वारा जेल, प्रशासन अथवा स्थानीय प्रशासन से बंदी के बावत आख्या प्राप्त की जाती है।

- कारागार के भीतर जितने भी सिद्धदोष बंदी हैं, उन सबकी सूची लेकर उनमें से जितने भी पात्र बंदी हैं, उनसे समय पूर्व रिहाई हेतु प्रार्थना पत्र प्राप्त किये जायें। इस कार्य हेतु जेल पी०एल०वी०, जेल विजिटिंग अधिवक्ताओं एवं अन्य पैनल अधिवक्तओं की सेवायें प्राप्त की जायें।
- समय पूर्व रिहाई हेतु प्राप्त प्रार्थना पत्रों को जेल अधिकारियों द्वारा जिलाधिकारी
 / जिला प्रशासन को इस आशय से प्रेषित किया जाये कि इन प्रार्थना पत्रों को
 वह अपनी संस्तुति के साथ शासन को प्रेषित करें।
 - सचिव, जिला विधिक सेवा प्राधिकरण यह पर्यवेक्षण करें कि कौन सा प्रार्थना पत्र किस स्तर पर लिम्बत हैं तथा मॉनीटिरेंग कमेटी की मीटिंग के माध्यम से वह जिलाधिकारियों को माननीय सर्वोच्च न्यायालय द्वारा पारित दिशा—िनर्देशों से अवगत करायें तथा उनको यह निर्देशित करें कि वह सर्वोच्च न्यायालय के आदेश के प्रकाश में समय पूर्व रिहाई हेतु पात्र बंदियों के जो भी प्रार्थना पत्र प्राप्त हुये हैं उन्हें नियमानुसार सकारात्मक आख्या सहित शासन को प्रेषित करें।
 - इस प्रकार प्राप्त प्रार्थना पत्रों तथा उन प्रार्थना पत्रों के जिलाधिकारी कार्यालय में लिम्बत होने की स्थिति में साप्ताहिक समीक्षा, प्रत्येक जिला विधिक सेवा प्राधिकरण, राज्य विधिक सेवा प्राधिकरण को प्रेषित करना सुनिश्चित करें।
 - प्रत्येक सप्ताह जिलाधिकारी द्वारा जो भी प्रार्थना पत्र शासन स्तर पर प्रेषित किये जा रहे हैं उन प्रार्थना पत्रों के विवरण से राज्य प्राधिकरण को अवगत कराया जाये।
 - जिला विधिक सेवा प्राधिकरण यह सुनिश्चित कर लें कि जो प्रार्थना पत्र शासन स्तर पर प्रेषित किये जा रहे हैं, उनका विवरण राज्य प्राधिकरण को अवश्य प्रेषित किया जाये।
 - शासन स्तर पर सदस्य सचिव, राज्य विधिक सेवा प्राधिकरण द्वारा गृह विभाग के अपर मुख्य सचिव अथवा मुख्य सचिव से बैठक कर समय पूर्व रिहाई हेतु पात्र व्यक्तियों के प्रार्थना पत्रों के शीघ्र निस्तारण हेतु पैरवी की जाये।
 - सदस्य सचिव, राज्य विधिक सेवा प्राधिकरण द्वारा विधिक सलाहकार, माननीय राज्यपाल से वार्ता करके बैठक आयोजित की जाये तािक समय पूर्व रिहाई हेतु पात्र व्यक्तियों के प्रार्थना पत्रों के शीध निस्तारण हेतु कार्यवाही की जा सके। बंदियों की समय पूर्व रिहाई हेतु अंतिम रूप से निर्णय माननीय राज्यपाल महोदय/महोदया द्वारा ही लिया जाता है।

- सिद्धदोष बंदियों की समय पूर्व रिहाई हेतु दिनांक 01.08.2018 को नीति निर्मित की गयी, जिसमें 28 जुलाई 2021 तथा 27 मई, 2022 को संशोधन किये गये। उक्त संशोधनों के पश्चात् समस्त आजीवन कारावास से दिण्डित सिद्धदोष बंदी समय पूर्व रिहाई हेतु आवदेन कर सकते हैं तथा यदि वह उक्त नीति के अन्तर्गत पात्र व्यक्ति हैं तो उन्हें समय पूर्व रिहाई प्रदान करने हेतु नियमानुसार कार्यवाही सुनिश्चित की जाये।
 - जिला विधिक सेवा प्राधिकरण, जेल प्राधिकारियों के साथ मिलकर यह सुनिश्चित कर लें कि सिद्धदोष बंदियों की समय पूर्व रिहाई हेतु निर्मित संशोधित नीति के अन्तर्गत कोई भी पात्र बंदी कारागार में निरूद्ध न रह जाये।
 - वर्तमान नीति संख्या 52/2022/1240/22-2-2022-07 जी/2018, दिनांकित 27.05.2022 के अनुसार अब प्रत्येक वर्ष गणतन्त्र दिवस (26 जनवरी), महिला दिवस(08 मार्च), स्वास्थ्य दिवस(07 अप्रैल), मजदूर दिवस(01 मई), विश्व योग दिवस(21 जून), स्वतंत्रता दिवस (15 अगस्त), शिक्षक दिवस(05 सितम्बर), गाँधी जयन्ती (02 अक्टूबर), अन्तर्राष्ट्रीय सिहष्णुता दिवस(16 नवम्बर) एवं अन्तर्राष्ट्रीय मानवाधिकार दिवस (10 दिसम्बर) के अवसरों पर उत्तर प्रदेश के माननीय न्यायालयों द्वारा आजीवन कारावास के सिद्धदोष बंदियों की रिहाई की जायेगी।

टाईम लाइन

- इस मानक संचालन प्रक्रिया निर्गत होने की तिथि से तीन दिन तक समस्त कारागारों के सिद्धदोष बंदियों की समय पूर्व रिहाई हेतु विरचित प्रावधानों के प्रति बंदियों को जागरूक किया जायेगा एवं प्रार्थना पत्र प्राप्त किये जायेंगे।
- उपरोक्त अविध बीतने पर जेल प्राधिकारियों द्वारा आजीवन कारावास के सिद्धदोष बन्दियों के समय पूर्व रिहाई हेतु प्राप्त समस्त प्रार्थना पत्रों की अगले दिन जॉच की जायेगी।
- दिनांक 27.09.2022 को समय पूर्व रिहाई हेतु प्रस्तुत प्रार्थना पत्रों के प्रस्ताव को जिलाधिकारी की संस्तुति के साथ कारागार मुख्यालय को उपलब्ध कराये जायेंगे।
- परिक्षेत्रीय उप महानिरीक्षक कारागार, 27.05.2022 को निर्गत मानक नीति संख्या 52/2022/1240/22-2-2022-07 जी/2018, दिनांकित 27.05.2022 के अन्तर्गत प्राप्त प्रार्थना पत्रों को दिनांक 27.09.2022 तक महानिरीक्षक कारागार को प्रेषित करेंगे तथा यह सुनिश्चित कर लेंगे कि कोई भी पात्र व्यक्ति छूटा न हो,

क्योंकि इस नीति के तहत बंदी द्वारा प्रार्थना पत्र प्रस्तुत करने की आवश्यकता

- महानिरीक्षक कारागार उपरोक्त समस्त प्रार्थना पत्रों / समय पूर्व रिहाई प्रस्तावों को शासन को माननीय उच्चतम् न्यायालय द्वारा परित निर्णय की मंशा के अनुरूप शीधातिशीघ उपलब्ध करायेंगे।
 - शासन स्तर पर गठित समिति द्वारा समय पूर्व रिहाई हेतु पात्र व्यक्तियों की रिहाई का निर्णय लिया जायेगा।
 - समस्त स्तर पर यह सुनिश्चित किया जायेगा कि माननीय सर्वोच्च न्यायालय द्वारा पारित उपरोक्त निर्णय दिनांकित 06.09.2022 का तथा शासन की नीतियों का अक्षरशः अनुपालन किया जाये।