

# LEGALFOXES LAW TIMES

## PRISON REFORMS IN INDIA: SOCIO- LEGAL PERSPECTIVE

By Rysha Gaur

### I. INTRODUCTION

*"Crime is the outcome of a diseased mind and jail must have an environment of hospital for treatment and care."*

*~ Mahatma Gandhi*

Punishment traditionally refers to a consequence of an unlawful act committed. Generally, the punishment is given to make the person rectify his mistake or to compensate it.

In the legal world, the Law punishes a person who breaks it or dishonours it.

According to Britannica<sup>1</sup>, "Punishment, the infliction of some kind of pain or loss upon a person for a misdeed. Punishment may take forms ranging from capital punishment, flogging, forced labour, and mutilation of the body to imprisonment and fines. Deferred punishments consist of penalties that are imposed only if an offense is repeated within a specified time."

According to Up Counsel<sup>2</sup>, the legal definition of Punishment, "Some pain or penalty warranted by law, inflicted on a person for the omission of the performance of an act required by law."

The punishments in India, are governed and granted from the Indian Penal Code, 1860<sup>3</sup> which was taken from the British by India. Under this Code, there are broadly five types of

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<sup>1</sup>David A. Thomas, Thomas J. Bernard, Donald C. Clarke , Punishment, BRITANNICA( March, 14, 2016), <https://www.britannica.com/topic/punishment>.

<sup>2</sup> Punishment, <https://www.upcounsel.com/legal-def-punishment>

<sup>3</sup> The India Penal Code, 1860, No. 45, Act of Parliament, 1860, (India)

punishments granted under Section 53, that are Death, Life imprisonment, Simple or rigorous imprisonment, Fine and Forfeiture of property.

Prison is defined as a place where people are kept away from society and it's functioning as a result of an offence committed or an unlawful act. The person is kept out of the society in a view to rectify his mistakes. Keeping way the prisoner (the person who's kept in the prison) serves two things, namely;

- 1) The person lives alone from his family and society as a result to introspect his sins or the crime he had committed.
- 2) And secondly, the society gets to see the consequence of the act committed by the person and hence it creates an image of law and sets an example.

According to the Cambridge Dictionary<sup>4</sup>, Prison is defined as

“a building where criminals are forced to live as a punishment.”

According to the Indian Prison Act of 1894, “Prison meant any jail or place used permanently or temporarily under the general and special orders of a Local Government for the detention of prisoners.”<sup>5</sup>

The term ‘Rehabilitation’ derived from the Latin term ‘restitutio’<sup>6</sup> which in generally term ‘To restore or to give it treatment, so that it functions as normal or as it used to’.

In the terms of dictionary, it can be defined as “the action of restoring someone to health or normal life through training and therapy after imprisonment, addiction, or illness.”<sup>7</sup>

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<sup>4</sup> Prison, <https://dictionary.cambridge.org/dictionary/english/prison>

<sup>5</sup> The Prisons Act, 1894, No. 9, Act of Parliament, 1894 (India)

<sup>6</sup> ‘restitutio’, Google Dictionary

<sup>7</sup> Rehabilitation, Lexico Dictionary, ed. 2020, <https://www.lexico.com/en/definition/rehabilitation>

## II. THEORIES OF PUNISHMENT

There are some principles are theories on which the whole system or in that matter the law and order is based and so do the concept of 'Punishment' is based on the some theories.

Broadly, there are five major theories on which the punishments are based. And they are as follows;

- **Deterrent Theory :**

According to this theory<sup>8</sup>, "punishment is meant to prevent the person concerned and other persons from committing, similar offences. The advocates for the retention of capital punishment rely on this theory in support of their contention. They argue that capital punishment, by its very nature, cannot have either a reformatory value or be a retributive necessity. Its only value, if at all, is by way of deterrence.

This theory has been criticized on the ground that it can't be applied on the crimes which are committed under uncontrollable mental conditions or mental stresses. In such cases, "to punish the wrongdoer to deter him is meaningless."

- **Preventive Theory:**

The preventive theory is formed on an idea that the crime should be prevented from reoccurring. Which can be done either by awarding the offender imprisonment, or death penalty or suspension of licence etc,. The concept of prisons came after this 'Preventive Theory'.

Later on, this theory was also criticised by many jurists, law drafters and legal practitioners saying that "these theories make the criminal more violent rather than changing him to a

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<sup>8</sup>Jeremy Bentham, An Introduction to the Principles of Morals and Legislation, pg. 286 (J. H. Burns & H. L.

A. Harteds, P S A, Criminal Law), 9th Ed, 2000

better individual.”<sup>9</sup>

- **Retributive Theory:**

The Retributive theory of Punishment was one of the most ancient theories. This theory signifies the most common instinct of the human nature, that is ‘revenge’ or in a layman’s language ‘tit-for-tat’. This theory promoted the concept to “An eye for an eye and a tooth for a tooth”

Criticising this theory, Criminologists, Penologists and Sociologists feel that “this theory is brutal and barbaric.”<sup>10</sup>

And Mahatma Gandhi said “**An eye for an eye, will make the whole world blind**”

- **Reformative Theory:**

The most favoured theory of punishment till this time, is the Reformative Theory. This theory believed that the ‘Retribution’ will end the world, but ‘Reformation’ will help the world grow to a more crime free world.

This theory viewed a more positive side and preferred to change and transform and offender to a better and a responsible citizen. Currently, the laws and orders are framed on this theory only. It advocates that ‘it’s better to transform a person rather than killing him.’

### III. REFORMATION: THE OBJECTIVE OF REHABILITATION

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<sup>9</sup> Thesis ‘Definitions And Theories Of Crime, Punishment And Prison, Chapter 2’, pg. no. 75 , Shodhganga, [https://shodhganga.inflibnet.ac.in/bitstream/10603/209415/10/10\\_chapter%202.pdf](https://shodhganga.inflibnet.ac.in/bitstream/10603/209415/10/10_chapter%202.pdf)

<sup>10</sup>Thesis ‘Definitions And Theories Of Crime, Punishment And Prison, Chapter 2’, pg. no. 77 , Shodhganga, [https://shodhganga.inflibnet.ac.in/bitstream/10603/209415/10/10\\_chapter%202.pdf](https://shodhganga.inflibnet.ac.in/bitstream/10603/209415/10/10_chapter%202.pdf)

It is very well quoted that **“No one is a born criminal”**

Rehabilitation doesn't come by just sending a person into jail but it signifies very important aspect of psychology. When someone commits a crime, they just don't commit a crime but there is a lot of background to it. There are a lot of incidents that unconsciously drove them to do or what has been done or committed by them. The reformation theory believes that a person can be a better citizen by introspecting and analysing his crime committed. This theory, indirectly gives a lot of importance to the psychology of the criminal and the crime. It forces us to think that what circumstances led to this crime.

This believes that the reformation should happen in such a sense that a person himself recognises his crime and wishes to accept it. Which will therefore drive him to willingly transform himself to become a better person.

The reformation of an offender does not start from jail or prison rather, it begins from role of the judge. It is been said in this theory that there is a lot in a judge's hand which will carry the actual reformation of the person. It is seen that the judge should see the offender in terms of age, his family background, the education qualification, knowledge of law in consequence to his crime, the circumstances under which the crime has been committed and the related factors. All this is expected to be considered by the judge so that he can actually award the offender with the punishment which helps him to reform and consequently the offender recognise his guilt and wishes to change himself as a person.

The aim of Rehabilitation is to restore a person to the norms of the society, that is into a law-abiding member. The Reformists advocated the actual change in the thinking and the actions of the offender, so that he could become a better and a useful citizen of the society.

#### **IV. WELFARE OF PRISONERS**

Welfare, in general terms is something which is done for the betterment of the person, generally when he is not capable to afford it. Welfare can be done to increase someone's well-being in terms of happiness or upliftment of quality of life.

When it came to the prisoners, the government is expected to play a major role in providing the welfare for not only the offenders but for the people who are dependent on them, that is generally their family of which he/ she was the sole earner.

The welfare by the government for the prisoners is done in many ways, some of them are;

#### **4.Education:**

As we know, the education plays a major role in development of not just only a prisoner but also a normal human being. The education tells and makes a person learn and understand that what is right and what is not.



##### **4.1.1 Educational Programs in States:**

The Education in jails and prisons are mostly promoted by State board and central boards. Government organises various events to promote education amongst the prisoners not only for their education qualification but also to rehabilitate and reform them as a person.

“The Model Prison Manual of 2016 (“2016 Manual”) which was approved by the Ministry of Home Affairs refers to the education of prisoners which is vital for the overall development

of prisoners. Para 14.06 of the Chapter 14 in the 2016 Manual deals with the nature of educational programmes”<sup>11</sup>

#### 4.1.2 Library facility in the Prison:

Along with the education, the library facility has also been made available for the prisoners. As there are many prisoners who are literate and can normally read and write, hence they can spend their time in a productive manner, enhancing their knowledge.

Not only, physical libraries but the concept of E- Libraries has also been introduced in the jails; like in the Kerala Central jail, in the year 2016 the e-Library was introduced.

“Inmates of a central prison in Kerala will soon have e-books in their hands, thanks to a digital library being set up in the jail premises, which is considered as the first such facility in southern India. Authorities of Pooja Pura Central Prison, one of the oldest recorded prisons in the state, are busy completing the final works of the innovative library, which will open the infinite world of e-books to its 1,300 inmates.”<sup>12</sup>



#### 4.2 Health :

The prisoners are also been given proper health treatment in case they require. There are the facility of the 24 hour OPD with a well-qualified doctor in the jail premises. Sometimes, if the health condition of the prisoner is serious, they are immediately shifted to the nearby hospital for the treatment.

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<sup>11</sup>Raju Jagdish Paswan v. State of Maharashtra (2019), SCC Online, SC 81, para 17

<sup>12</sup>E-library for inmates at Kerala jail, The Indian Express, November 27, 2016, 3:29:15 pm, <https://indianexpress.com/article/india/india-news-india/e-library-for-inmates-at-kerala-jail/>

Under the Model Prison Manual For The Superintendence And Management Of Prisons In India, it is stated that “Right to Basic Minimum Needs :Right to fulfilment of basic minimum needs such as adequate diet, health, medical care and treatment, access to clean and adequate drinking water, access to clean and hygienic conditions of living accommodation, sanitation and personal hygiene, adequate clothing, bedding and other equipment.”<sup>13</sup>

Not only the physical health, it is also necessary to work upon the mental health of the prisoner. It is seen that in most of the prisons the availability of proper mental health care lacks. Most of the times the prisoners are shifted to mental hospitals for extra care. There are lack of psychologists and counsellors in the prison who can actually help in the real transformation of the prisoner from a criminal to a normal, responsible citizen and can achieve something better in his life.

#### 4.2.1 Sanitation and Swachh Bharat Abhiyan :

The prisoners during their reformation as a responsible citizen, is also taught about the importance of the hygiene and the ways to maintain it. They are also been made aware about the environment saving and its protection through various workshops, so that they can come out of the jail with some transformed habits and knowledge.

#### 4.2.2 Yoga and Meditation:

The ‘health’ doesn’t only mean bodily health, but also consists of mental health. And in the case of the prisoners, the psychological and mental health plays a major role. Hence, to promote mental stability the yoga and meditation sessions are conducted in the prisons.

“Participants who attended more yoga classes and those who engaged in frequent self-practice (five times or more per week), reported significantly greater reduction of perceived stress. Thus, if such yoga classes are conducted in the prisons, it would help inmates decrease psychological

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<sup>13</sup> ‘Model Prison Manual For The Superintendence And Management Of Prisons In India’,(Pg. No. 16 (B)), Ministry of Home Affairs, Government of India, 2003 (India)

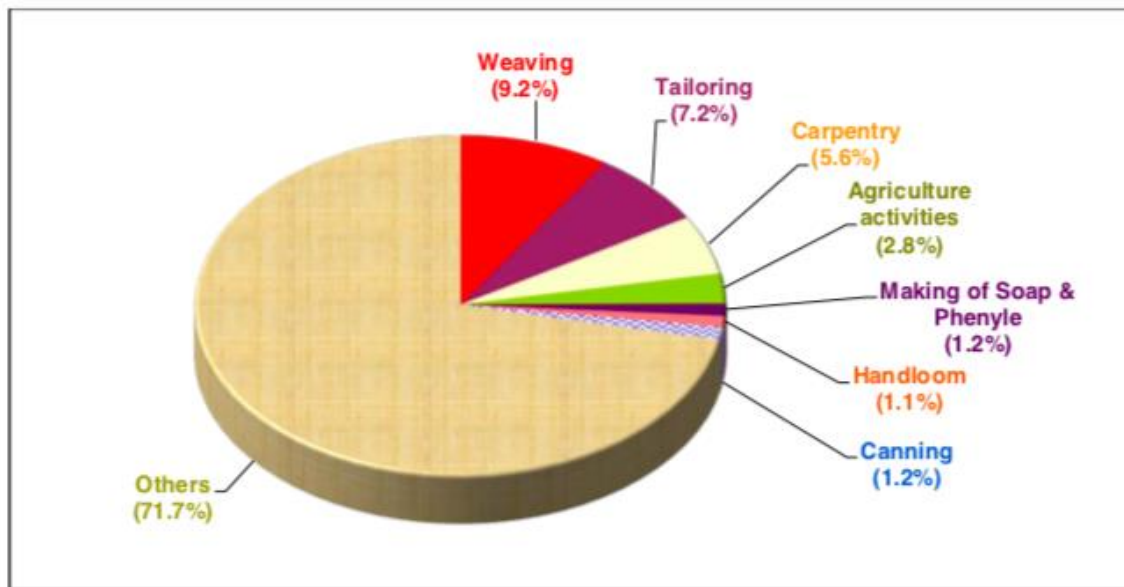


distress and improve behaviour. It could be effective in keeping them out of prisons after they are released, the research concluded.”<sup>14</sup>

**4.3 Vocational Training:**

The Vocational training helps in the development of mind, and in the case of the criminals, it helps both in development and diverting their mind into learning and training which can result in reformation and therefore will help them to become an asset for the nation.

In a recent Judgement (The Home Secretary (Prison) and Others v. H. Nilofer Nisha, 2019) the supreme court says “This young man who may have committed a heinous crime, has obtained various degrees including Masters in Computer Application, Masters of Business Administration, Master Degree in Criminology & Criminal Justice Administration and M.A. in Journalism & Mass Communication and various other Vocational Diplomas. The learning which he has obtained in jail must be put to use outside.”<sup>15</sup>



• As per data provided by States/UTs.

**Distribution of Prison Inmates by the Type of Vocational Training done during 2018**

<sup>14</sup> Jignesh L. Killekar, Institutionalising Yoga in jail to reduce recidivism rate, Observer Research Foundation, (Sept. 12, 2019), <https://www.orfonline.org/expert-speak/institutionalising-yoga-in-jails-to-reduce-recidivism-rate-55401/>

<sup>15</sup>The Home Secretary (Prison) and Others v. H. Nilofer Nisha, 2019 MHC 312, para 41

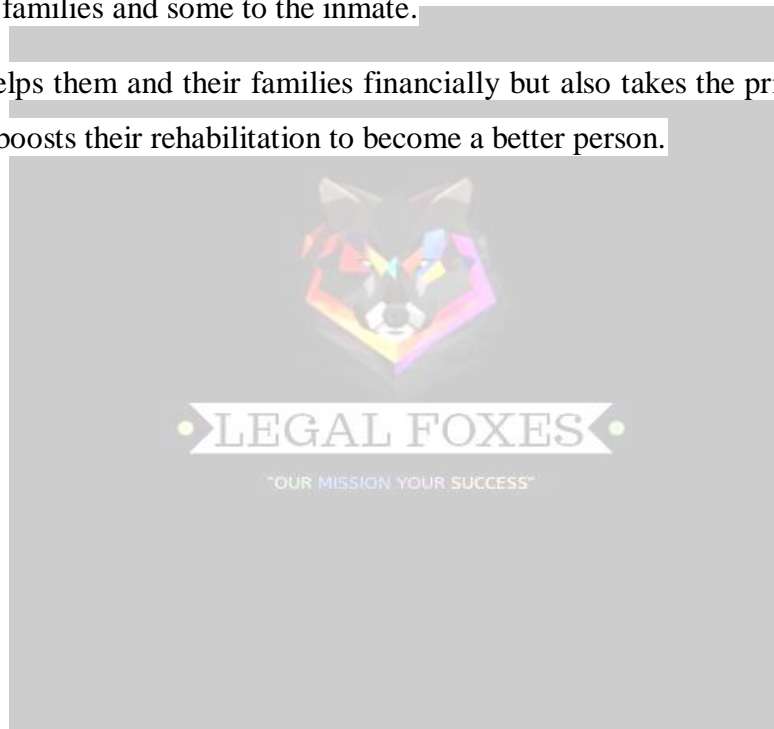
**Chart-1**

The Chart -1 shows the Prison Statistics India 2018 “ **Distribution of Prison Inmates by the Type of Vocational Training done during 2018**”<sup>16</sup> (Source: NCRB report, 2018)

**4.4 Value of goods produced by inmates:**

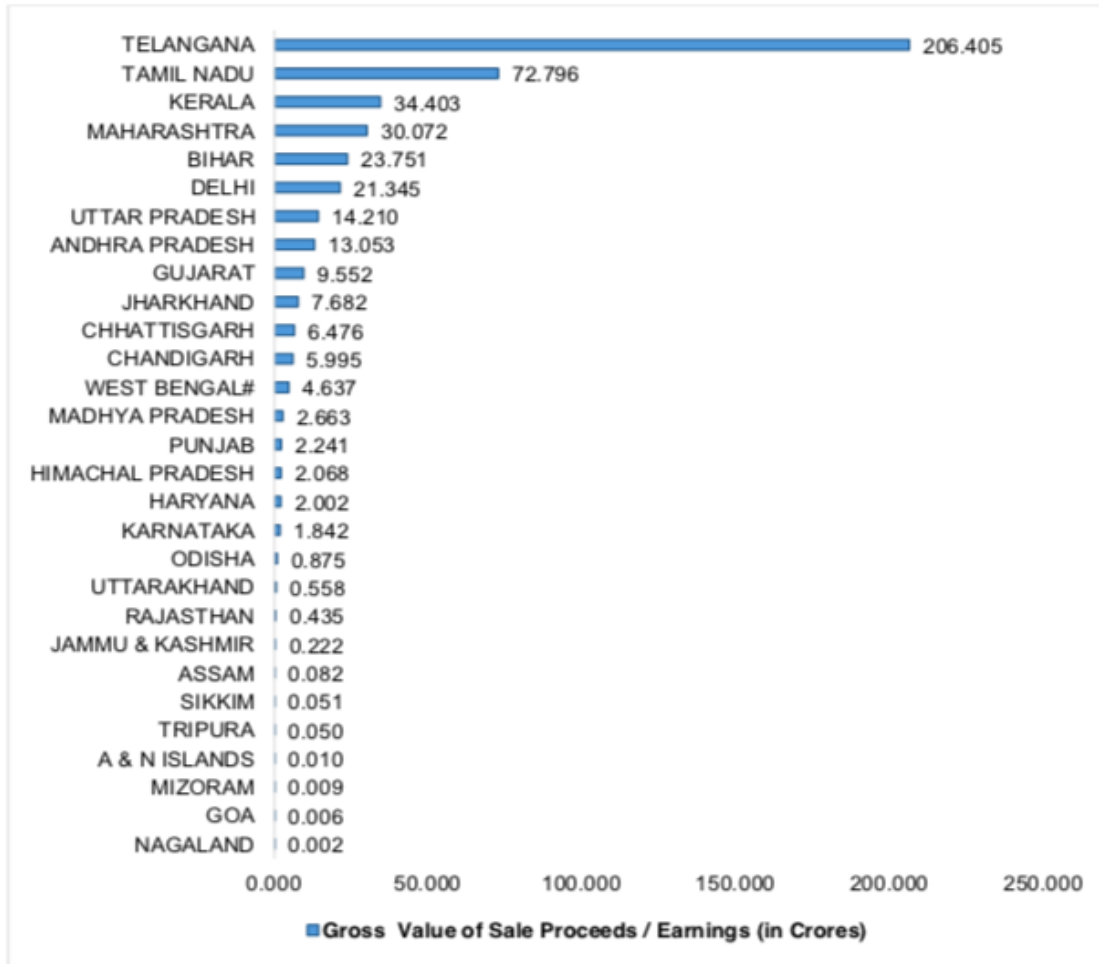
The various trainings of the inmates, help them to become capable to produce some articles by themselves and by selling them they can earn some amount of money, from which some amount is given to their families and some to the inmate.

This not only helps them and their families financially but also takes the prisoner on the path of motivation and boosts their rehabilitation to become a better person.



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<sup>16</sup> ‘Prison Statistics India, 2018’, Chapter 10, National Crime Records Bureau, Ministry of Home Affairs, Government of India, 2018 (India), <https://ncrb.gov.in/sites/default/files/PSI-2018.pdf>



- As per data provided by States/UTs.
- # Due to non-receipt of data from West Bengal for 2018, data furnished for 2017 has been used.

**State/UT-wise Value of Goods Produced by Prison Inmates during 2018**

**Chart-2**

The Chart-2 shows the data from "The Prison Statistics India , 2018" published of NCRB. It shows the " **Value of Goods Produced by Prison Inmates during 2018**"<sup>17</sup>( Source: NCRB Report, 2018)

**4.5 Wages:**

<sup>17</sup> 'Prison Statistics India, 2018',Chapter 10, National Crime Records Bureau, Ministry of Home Affairs, Government of India,2018 (India), <https://ncrb.gov.in/sites/default/files/PSI-2018.pdf>

There are some works which are been done my the prisoners are they get paid for them by classifying them into the categories of 'Skilled', 'Semi- Skilled' & 'Unskilled' Convicts. The data below( Table -1) shows the wages paid to the convicts. These wages helps them and theirfamily to fulfil their basic financial needs and gives the inmates a motivation to live and transform as a person.

But there is a point which should be seen and needs to be highlighted, that the wages which are been provided to the skilled and semi- skilled inmates are not justified in accordance with the work they are expected to do. It is not sufficient for their families in respect to run their household. In today's time of so much inflation and unaffordability, it is very challenging to run a household and especially in the case, when the sole earner of the family is imprisoned.

**Rehabilitation and Other Support to prisoners during the year 2018**

Sl No	State/UT	Rehabilitation Support		No. of prisoners to whom legal aid provided	Other Support		
		No. of prisoners to whom financial assistance provided on release	No. of convicts rehabilitated		Wages paid per day to convicts ( In ₹)		
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)
1	ANDHRA PRADESH	0	0	1562	70	50	30
2	ARUNACHAL PRADESH	0	0	80	75	-	55
3	ASSAM	13	9	1298	100	80	-
4	BIHAR	0	1	2853	156	112	103
5	CHHATTISGARH	0	0	11463	75	-	60
6	GQA	0	135	80	80	60	50
7	GUJARAT	105	692	4213	100	80	70
8	HARYANA	0	50	8144	60	50	40
9	HIMACHAL PRADESH <sup>@</sup>	0	0	389	-	-	225
10	JAMMU & KASHMIR	0	0	72	72	-	60
11	JHARKHAND	0	0	4097	144	113	91
12	KARNATAKA <sup>§</sup>	57	324	4267	225	200	175
13	KERALA	0	22	17335	152	127	63
14	MADHYA PRADESH	0	0	5023	120	-	72
15	MAHARASHTRA	80	50	10906	61	55	44
16	MANIPUR	0	0	710	12	10	8
17	MEGHALAYA	117	0	546	148	141	132
18	MIZORAM	67	0	1322	15	12	10
19	NAGALAND	0	0	26	135	125	115
20	ODISHA	129	36	542	40	40	40
21	PUNJAB	0	60	6948	60	50	40
22	RAJASTHAN	0	0	1851	150	-	130
23	SIKKIM	0	0	295	40	30	30
24	TAMIL NADU	239	722	4227	200	180	160
25	TELANGANA	1	68	447	170	50	30
26	TRIPURA	0	0	110	33	28	24
27	UTTAR PRADESH	356	0	4909	40	30	25
28	UTTARAKHAND	0	0	1357	45	35	30
29	WEST BENGAL <sup>#</sup>	182	56	3063	100	90	80
	<b>TOTAL (STATES)</b>	<b>1346</b>	<b>2225</b>	<b>98135</b>	-	-	-
30	A & N ISLANDS	0	0	130	37	-	28
31	CHANDIGARH	0	0	501	80	70	60
32	D & N HAVELI	0	0	0	-	-	-
33	DAMAN & DIU	0	0	0	-	-	-
34	DELHI	0	25	48783	361	328	297
35	LAKSHADWEEP	0	0	0	-	-	-
36	PUDUCHERRY	0	0	56	180	160	150
	<b>TOTAL (UTs)</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>49470</b>	-	-	-
	<b>TOTAL (ALL-INDIA)</b>	<b>1346</b>	<b>2250</b>	<b>147605</b>	-	-	-

\* As per data provided by States/UTs.

@ Himachal Pradesh has no classification such as Skilled, Semi Skilled and Unskilled prisoners.

§ Karnataka follows 4 categories of wage system for convicts working in prisons such as Highly Skilled (Rs.250/- wages per day), Skilled, Semi Skilled and Unskilled prisoners.

# Due to non-receipt of data from West Bengal for 2018, data furnished for 2017 has been used.

**Table -1 “ Rehabilitation and other support to prisoners during the year 2018”<sup>18</sup>**

(Source: NCRB Report, 2018)

The rate of the wages are fixed and may change depending upon the level of skills the inmates acquire.

**4.6 Food and Clothing:**

The welfare of the prisoners is done by providing them clean , healthy food cooked in hygienic conditions. Every meal which is cooked is first served to the Jail Superintendent, before the prisoners , who assures that the food is safe to be consumed by the inmates.

In most of the prisons, fruits , vegetables and the pulses are been delivered by the government operated companies and brands, such as Mother Dairy for the milk and milk products , ‘Safal Mother Dairy’ for fruits and vegetables , pulses etc.

The Clothing in the jails are similar for all the prisoners to maintain equality and harmony among them. In sometimes the families are also permitted to give some cloths to the prisoner.

**4.7 Telephone Facility:**

There are Prison Inmate Calling Systems (PICS) installed in most of the jails for the prisoners , through which they can make a call which their family members form inside the jail to the meeting area which is created in the jail premises itself.

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<sup>18</sup> ‘Prison Statistics India, 2018’,Chapter 10, National Crime Records Bureau, Ministry of Home Affairs, Government of India,2018 (India), <https://ncrb.gov.in/sites/default/files/PSI-2018.pdf>



Image -1

Image depicting “**Prison Inmate Calling Systems (PICS)**”<sup>19</sup>

#### **4.8 Crèche and Nursery facility for the children:**

There are provisions of crèche and nursery facility in some jails for the children who are infants are incapable to take care of themselves without their mothers and are accompanying the women inmates. Some of the crèche and nurseries are associated with the NGOs.

#### **4.9 Games and Recreation Activities :**

The games and various recreational activities play a vital role in a person’s grooming and rehabilitation. The games and activities like playing musical instruments, watching television , celebration of various festivals, arts and painting, etc., helps the inmates to explore their fields of interests and they keep themselves engaged into them.

Not only this, the jails have their own sports teams like volley ball , cricket, kho- kho etc.

<sup>19</sup>Image-1 <https://www.prisonpolicy.org/phones/>

“The prisoner's participation in games and sports activities within the prisons took a big jump with the organization of inter-ward and inter-jail competitions twice a year for the last over five years. In all the prisons, sports like volleyball, cricket, basketball, kho-kho, kabbaddi, chess, carom etc. are organised during winter sports festivals, which are popularly known in the jail as "Tihar Olympics". Inter jail cultural meets titled "Ethnic Tihar" are held during spring season every year in which competitions in music, dance, sher-o-shairi, quawali, painting, quiz etc. are organised for inmates. Eminent personalities from the field of sports and culture are invited on these occasions to encourage the prisoners to take part in the sports and cultural events, to foster their physical, mental and cultural development and inculcate discipline.”<sup>20</sup>

#### **4.10 Spiritual and Cultural Activities :**

Along with games and other recreational activities, there are other spiritual and cultural activities , which are been organised for the prison inmates. The spiritual activities such as playing of bhajans , devotional songs, chants in the morning time and on special occasions. The celebration of various festivals including the religious such as Holi, Diwali, Eid, Christmas etc. and national festivals such as Republic Day , Independence Day, Gandhi Jayanti etc. are also celebrated. This creates a feeling of oneness and harmony among the inmates which contributes to their rehabilitation and welfare.

#### **4.11 Assistance to prisoners :**

The welfare of the prison inmates in not only done in these ways, but also the government provided the assistance of ‘Free Legal Aid’ to the prisoners just like the normal public through the National Legal Service Authority (NALSA) and their respective State Legal Service Authorities (SLSA). The members of the NALSA and SLSA are given the duties to visit the jail and assist the prisoners with the free legal aids. It is been clearly mentioned in Model Prison

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<sup>20</sup> Central Jail of Delhi, Government of Delhi  
[http://tte.delhigovt.nic.in/wps/wcm/connect/lib\\_centraljail/Central+Jail/Home/Reformation](http://tte.delhigovt.nic.in/wps/wcm/connect/lib_centraljail/Central+Jail/Home/Reformation)

Manual For The Superintendence And Management Of Prisons In India“The State shall provide free legal aid to all needy prisoners.”<sup>21</sup>

## V. PRISON AND PRISONER LAWS IN INDIA

There are some of the statues and legislations used to govern the prisoners and prisons in India, and they are as follows:

- I. The Indian Penal Code, 1860.
- II. The Prisons Act, 1894.
- III. The Prisoners Act, 1900.
- IV. The Identification of Prisoners Act, 1920.
- V. Constitution of India, 1950
- VI. The Transfer of Prisoners Act, 1950.
- VII. The Representation of People Act, 1951.
- VIII. The Prisoners (Attendance in Courts) Act, 1955.
- IX. The Probation of Offenders Act, 1958.The Code of Criminal Procedure, 1973.
- X. The Mental Health Act, 1987.
- XI. The Juvenile Justice (Care & Protection) Act, 2000.
- XII. The Repatriation of Prisoners Act, 2003.
- XIII. Model Prison Manual (2016).

## VI. FINDINGS

The criminal act is a fact and not an opinion, it is a matter of law. The change in society changes and modifies the law. The laws are framed and drafted by the government for the people, which are democratically elected by the people. It can be seen in the daily lives , such as earlier, smoking was not an offence, but now it is. The laws are made for the people, to govern them and to make them abide and adhere the laws which are made for them.

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<sup>21</sup> ‘Model Prison Manual For The Superintendence And Management Of Prisons In India’, (pg. no. 21 (XV)), Ministry of Home Affairs, Government of India, 2003 (India)



The punishments given are generally awarded depending on the heinousness of the crime and the committed crime, does depends on the circumstances of the childhood, poverty, parental negligence, alcohol abuse, drug addiction , low self-esteem and maybe a lot more. All this collectively converts a normal person into a criminal one day.

As per my research and findings, it can be concluded that the 'rehabilitation and welfare' of the prisoners is on the right path but it requires some upgradation and amendments. The present theory of punishment that is the 'Reformative theory' has a very deep and effective meaning embedded into it. But unfortunately, our system is not going upon that mark. The reformation of a person is not a one-day task, and especially when a person who has lived a life of almost 18 years the same way, cannot just switch and or enter into a new life. His thinking process, his habits, his interests, his personality, and most importantly his past circumstances, cannot be vanished in a day or two. A process of rehabilitation and reformation takes a lot of resources, which are lacking in our current prison condition. And as far as the mental state of a person is concerned, it requires resources such as a forensic psychologist in the court room, the place from where the person gets in order to be imprisoned and secondly, the presence of a criminal psychologist along with councilors are lacking there in the prison.

As far as the welfare schemes are concerned, they are actively playing their role in the real reformation of a person. They promote participation and helps a person who is a criminal, develops an interest in some productive activities and vocational trainings.

The scheme of 'Value of goods produced by inmates' and the 'wages' are highly motivating for prisoners and help them and their family live and lead a better life.

The assistance to the prisoners and the fulfilment of the right of the prisoners , 'Free legal aid' is working well. National legal service authority and the State legal service authority's are Playing their roles quite well and this helps the prisoners understand and get assistance for their legal queries.

## VII. SUGGESTIONS

I. **Health:** To increase the rehabilitation process finely through increasing availability of the mental health assistance; to achieve this, the availability of psychologists and the counsellors in the prison should be promoted.

II. **Value of goods made by the inmates:** The goods which are been made by the prison inmates should be promoted. The welfare in this sense will contribute to do things, firstly, it will boost the confidence of the inmates as a person and increase their self-worth and promote the skill development. Secondly, their families can be supported well in terms of finance.

One of the way to implement this can be ; All the government offices, government hospitals should use the products made by the prison inmates, which will help in the promotion of the goods produced by the inmates.

The government hospitals canteens, Court canteens should start selling the food items like biscuits and light snacks made by the inmates. This will automatically increase the wage per head and promote 'skill development' amongst the inmates.

- III. **Wages:** Increment in wages of the semi-skilled and skilled prisoners will motivate the unskilled prisoners to learn and develop a skill and this way they can lead a better quality of life and support their families.

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- III. Observer Research Foundation [URL: <https://www.orfonline.org>]
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