

WEST BENGAL HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION

File No.12/WBHRC/COM/2013-14
Date: 15th May, 2013

P r e s e n t

1. Mr. Justice Asok Kumar Ganguly - Chairperson
2. Mr. Justice N.C. Sil - Member
3. Mr. S.N. Roy - Member

Justice N.C. Sil, Member of the West Bengal Human Rights Commission had visited Contai Sub-Correctional Home, Purba Medinipur on 6th March, 2013. The inspection report is placed before the Commission for discussion. The Commission after discussion decides to forward a copy of the inspection report of Justice N.C. Sil to the State Government and makes the following recommendations :-

- i. The old kitchen should immediately be removed including that of the system of diesel oven.
- ii. Cots be provided to the inmates.
- iii. Construction/renovation work be completed as early as possible.

2. The Government should intimate the Commission about the action taken or proposed to be taken on the recommendations within a period of two months from the date of communication.

sd/-

(S.N. Roy)
Member

sd/-

(Justice N.C. Sil)
Member

sd/-

(Asok Kumar Ganguly)
Chairperson

Date: Kolkata, the 15th May, 2013

INSPECTION REPORT OF HON'BLE JUSTICE N.C. SIL HELD ON 06.03.13 AT
CONTAI SUB-CORRECTIONAL HOME, PURBA MEDINIPORE.

I had visited Contai Sub-Correctional Home on 06.03.13. At the time of inspection Mr. Sovon Din, DIG West, Correctional Services, Mr. Arun Biswas, Executive Magistrate and Mr. Sujit Kr. Paul, Controller of the Correctional Home were with me. On the date of inspection, the position of inmates in the Sub-Correctional Home was as follows :

Unlock Figure as on 06.03.13

	Male	Female
Remands :	67	05
Sessions :	20	02
S.I. :	01	--
R.I. :	--	--
Total :	88	07

Unlocked = 95 inmates.

Court Production as on 06.03.13

Male = 11 Female Nil.

I had visited the kitchen of the Correctional Home. The kitchen is old one and firewood is used for cooking purpose. The Correctional authority had already written to the concerned department for renovation of the kitchen including that for gas installation. At present, there is a provision for diesel oven which appeared to me very dangerous and hazardous inasmuch as the way the diesel is passing through a pipe to the oven it may cause disastrous event at any moment.

I had visited Ward No.-1. It is a big room about 65'x25' and at the time of inspection I found there were only 24 inmates. No cot is provided to the inmates. The provision for fans appears to be sufficient but there is a requirement for two or three more lights. There are two toilets for the use of the inmates at night inside that room. The toilets is spic and span and appeared to be new. One TV set is provided for the inmates in that ward. Newspapers are also provided to the inmates. There appears a Carom Board and Chess Board provide to the inmates.

I had also visited ward No. II which is comparatively a smaller one of about 35'x20'. At the time of inspection, there were 18 inmates in the ward. There are two open urinals and two toilets with flushes for the use of the inmates at night. During my inspection, one Sk. Muslim told me that he was granted bail on 11.02.13 in a theft case but as he could not provide any surety, he was not released from the Correctional Home.

I had also visited ward No. III. The said ward is similar one of Ward no.I. During my inspection one Shankar Maity, an inmate involved in a dacoity case, stated to me that he was arrested in Warrant before two years and since then he is in Correctional Home. He made complaint against his lawyer.

I had also visited ward No.IV which is similar to ward No. No.II.

I had also visited the female ward. There were seven inmates out of which two are Bangladeshi nationals arrested u/s 14 of the Foreigners' Act before six months. Those two Bangladesh nationals were granted bail with local surety but as they could not provide any local surety, they were not released from the Correctional Home. The accommodation for the female inmates in the Correctional Home appears to be satisfactory.

The office space for the Controller is really very insufficient. It is reported to me that new office room is under construction for the last three years and by that time, 50% work of the construction could be done.

In view of the above, the following recommendations be made to the State Govt. :

- i. The old kitchen should immediately be removed including that of the system of diesel oven.
- ii. Cots be provided to the inmates.
- iii. Construction / renovation work be completed as early as possible.

Sd/-
(Justice N.C. Sil)
Member

Comments of the State Government will be uploaded as and when received.

Sd/- (15/05/2013)
(J. Sundara Sekhar)
Secretary & CEO