HARYANA HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION

NIRMAN SADAN, SECTOR 33-A, CHANDIGARH
Tel:0172-2600566-2600569 FAX:2600567 E-mail:hhrc-hry@nic.in
Website:hhrc.gov.in

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To

Ms.Sana Das, Coordinator, Prison Reforms Programme, Commonwealth Human Rights Initiative, 55A, Third Floor, Siddharth Chambers, Kalu Sarai, New Delhi - 110 016

Sub:

Launching of Jail Mail by Commonwealth Human Rights Initiative CHRI), New Delhi.

With reference to your e-mail dated 21.10.2015, I have been directed to inform you that the Commission on a surprise visit by the Hon'ble Chairperson and Members of the Commission to Sub-Jail Rewari, on 19.03.2015 found that the jail was over crowded. No separate cell or ward was provided for the under-trials or convict persons. It was apprised to the Commission that new Jail Complex is under construction. Report was sought from the Director General of prisons, Haryana as to how much time will take to complete the construction and that has not been received.

The Commission also conducted a surprise visit of the District Jail, Rohtak on 14.05.2015. It transpired that females from Sonepat were also lodged in District Jail, Rohtak as there was no separate Female Cell at District Jail, Sonepat. It was stated that tenders for construction of a Female Cell at Sonepat had been floated but the work was not started. There was no facility for education for the children of female inmates. During inspection, it was also transpired that there was only one STD in the Jail and inmates had to wait for a long time for their turn to come. Even female inmates have to go Male Cell for using the STD facility which could cause

security problem at any time. The Chief Secretary to Govt. Haryana, the Addl.Chief Secretary to Govt. Haryana, Home Department, the Addl.Chief Secretary to Govt. Haryana, Health Department and the Director General of Prisons, Haryana were requested to send action report on these issues as well as providing free legal aid to the inmates.

The Commission also visited District Jail, Faridabad during an inspection on 13.07.2015. On a visit to Jail Hospital, enquiry was made from different inmates regarding their diseases and the medicines being provided to them. Out of them, few inmates complained regarding teeth problem. On enquiry, it was found that no dental doctor visits the jail. On the spot, direction was issued to the Deputy Commissioner, Faridabad and the Superintendent District Jail, Faridabad for getting checked up all those inmates from the Dental Doctor and to submit the report to the Commission after doing the needful. Apart from this, a direction was also issued for making arrangements of regular visit of Dental Doctor to the Jail. On a visit to the kitchen of the Jail, it was found that floor of the portion where utencils were being cleaned was broken. Flies were seen in the kitchen. The upkeep of the jail was very poor although it was constructed in the year 2010. A direction was issued to the Superintendent, Jail to report to the Commission as to whether estimates for repair and maintenance have been sent and if not, it be sent expeditiously. It was also found that in different barracks Main Boards of electricity supply were broken and not covered. A direction was also issued on the spot for getting them repaired immediately to stop some untoward incident in the Jail. Superintendent Jail was also directed to provide dustbins to esnure that garbage is not thrown here and there.

Registrar (Law & Legal)