

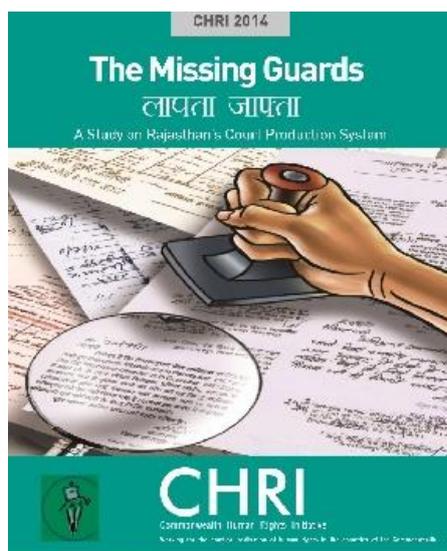


October 20, 2015

Dear Friends

Greetings from CHRI!

We are happy to present to you our recent report, *The Missing Guards: A Study on Rajasthan's Court Production System*.



In Rajasthan more than 2500 inmates are supposed to be produced before the magistrate on a daily basis. The study finds that a third of them do not even make it to court on their hearing dates. Non-production denies the accused the opportunity to be present in his own trial, creates unjustifiable delays, breaches due process and violates the rule of law under which we live.

The study examines the chronic shortage of police escorts as the overwhelming reason for this non-production in court. In the last 20 years Rajasthan's prison population has risen 150 per cent. On the other hand, the escort force to ferry them to court has remained static since the 1970s.

Based on the study, CHRI filed a PIL in the Rajasthan High Court (Civil Writ 6459/2014) drawing the attention to the responsibility of the state in providing solutions to this systemic problem. (Find our press statement here, in [English](#) and [Hindi](#).)

What you can do:

Write a letter to the [Chief Minister](#) stating that people are not being produced in court on their hearing dates. It is the responsibility of the state to provide infrastructure and it must invest in the appropriate model of court production.

Write to us at chriprisonsprog@gmail.com with your comments and suggestions. You could leave us an email if you wish to subscribe to these updates.

Best Regards,

Sana Das

Coordinator, Prison Reforms Programme

Behind Bars, Not Beyond Justice



Kerala Prison to Have Exclusive Third Gender Block

NDTV (PTI)

THIRUVANANTHAPURAM: In a first, a block exclusively to house transgenders is coming up in a high security prison in Thrissur in an effort to protect their privacy and human rights.



छत्तीसगढ़ के जेल में अत्याचार, डीजीपी को राष्ट्रीय आयोग की नोटिस

नई दुनिया

रायपुर: छत्तीसगढ़ के जेलों में महिलाओं के साथ होने वाले अत्याचार की शिकायत के बाद दिल्ली के राष्ट्रीय अनुसूचित जाति-जनजाति आयोग ने छत्तीसगढ़ पुलिस को नोटिस भेजा है

Around 20 undertrials battered at Colvale 'correctional home'

The Times of India

MAPUSA: Around 20 undertrials, most of them foreigners, were allegedly brutally assaulted by jail officials at the Colvale prison on Sunday.

Undertrial found dead in Faridabad prison, family alleges

Business Standard (PTI)

A 24-year-old undertrial was found dead in prison premises here, with his family members alleging that he was brutally beaten up by the police.

Four Cops Slipped Gangster Out of Prison for Leisure Trips, Fired

Nazia Sayed, Mumbai Mirror

MUMBAI: Four police constables have been sacked for sneaking Chhota Rajan gang member Satish Kalia out of Arthur Road Jail for multiple leisure trips and doing other favours for him.

Reforms Push to End Endless Wait for Prisoners of Bureaucracy

Yatish Yadav, The New Indian Express

NEW DELHI: Though prison is a state subject under list II of the 7th Schedule of the Constitution, the Centre plays a key role in repatriation of foreigner prisoners.

Losing ground to 'good news only'

Sana Das, Deccan Herald

In a twist away from constitutional guarantees that direct public gaze on to those unfortunates who are segregated from society in prisons, the Ministry of Home Affairs issued an advisory/ notification on July 24 for regulating jail visits of individuals/ NGOs/ company/ press that places excessive restrictions on freedom of the press and researchers in the garb of "allowing" them.

विचाराधीन कैदी ने रोहिणी जेल में खुद को फांसी लगाई

समय Live

अपने अपहरण और हत्या से जुड़े एक मामले में परिणाम को लेकर चिंतित 25 वर्षीय एक विचाराधीन कैदी ने रोहिणी जेल में कथित तौर पर खुद को फांसी लगाकर आत्महत्या कर ली। पुलिस ने बताया कि कैदी की पहचान कुलदीप के तौर पर की गई है। वह एक बच्चे के अपहरण और आत्महत्या के मामले का सामना कर रहा है जो पिछले साल समयपुर बादली स्टेशन में उसके खिलाफ दर्ज कराया गया था।

About *Jail Mail*

Jail Mail is a regular series of Prison Reform Updates from CHRI for readers interested in the rights of prisoners and the reform of prisons as a matter of public concern. The engagement of civil society in the management and monitoring of prisons and the rights of prisoners is vital to the transparency of this traditionally closed institution and to ensure the practical realisation of the rights of those behind bars. *Jail Mail* invites discussion between civil society members and those entrusted to oversee and manage prisons.

Evidence-based research and watch reports of CHRI's Prison Reforms Programme, interviews with critical stakeholders, topical issues and developments concerning the liberty of prisoners, and health of prisons in India and around the world will form the sources of *Jail Mail*. Its periodicity will depend on the urgency of issues and the interest they generate.

About CHRI and the Prison Reforms Programme

The Commonwealth Human Rights Initiative (CHRI) is an independent, non-partisan, international non-governmental organisation, mandated to ensure the practical realisation of human rights across the Commonwealth. CHRI was founded in 1987 by Commonwealth professional associations; it is headquartered in New Delhi, India since 1993, and has offices in Accra, Ghana and London, UK.

The Prison Reforms Programme of CHRI is more than 15 years old. The programme focuses on improving prison monitoring through the strengthening of undertrial review mechanisms and prison visiting system nationally, and ensuring early safeguards against unnecessary pre-trial detentions, specifically in Rajasthan and West Bengal. The programme also advocates for timely repatriation of foreign national prisoners and immediate release of asylum seekers. Evidence-based research, advocacy, capacity-building of actors of the criminal justice system including prison officials, welfare and probation officers, criminal defense lawyers, magistrates, legal aid functionaries and civil society actors are the regular activities of the programme.

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