



CIRCULAR

No. GI/P-2/17221-247

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Sub: Implementation of Project- GALWAKDI (Jaadu ki Jhappi)

The objective of project 'Galwakdi' is to generate hope in prisoners for leading a dignified life post-release/completion of sentence and leaving the path of crime. This is intended to be achieved through a process of integration with and support of family members.

2. After getting into the prisons, not only do the prisoners suffer isolation, but their families are also despised by society. Most of the prisoners are the sole bread-winners of their families, in whose absence, the family runs into financial as well as psychological crisis. This creates a vicious circle of crime, where such children and other family members are also drawn into crime.

3. In order to encourage the prisoners to leave the path of crime, and lead a respectable life post-release, project 'GALWAKDI – jaadu ki jhappi' has been devised, which shall have the following objectives:

- (i) Uplifting the social and emotional strength of the prisoners for getting ready to re-enter in the society.
- (ii) Re-unite the prisoners with their families, and generate a sense of kinship among them.
- (iii) Generating a sense of confidence for prison staff and eliminate anti-administration feeling among prisoners.
- (iv) Reminding the prisoners of their responsibilities towards their families.

4. In order to implement this project, following instructions are hereby issued:
- (i) A designated room/hall shall be set up in all prisons, which shall have a warm and colorful ambience (motivational quotes, wall paintings, soft music, etc.).
 - (ii) Prisoners shall be allowed to meet with their family members once in 6 months (children, grandchildren, spouse or parents) in the rooms



specified for the same, without any physical division between the prisoner and his/her family members.

- (iii) It shall be ensured that there should be a meeting of a group of family members, except in those cases where only a single family member is available.
- (iv) Nomination/identification of family members/prisoner, for whom *Galwakdi* meet is to be organized shall be done by any of the following by approaching the Superintendent of Prison or through online booking at department's website –www.prisons.punjab.gov.in :
 - (a) Concerned prisoner;
 - (b) Superintendent of the concerned prison;
 - (c) Immediate family members of a prisoner.
- (v) These meetings shall be held twice a week in all Central and District Jails and once in a week in Sub Jails, on the days as decided by the Superintendents of concerned prisons.
- (vi) All prisoners shall be eligible for registering themselves under this project.
- (vii) Preference shall be given to those who are either not eligible for parole or do not receive any interviewees (*mulakaatee*).
- (viii) Children who wish to meet their father/mother in the prison shall preferably be older than 16 years of age.
- (ix) Date of meeting shall be fixed and informed through email/SMS or tele-call at least 2 months before the date of meeting. At least 3 convenient dates may be received from the family of the prisoner, out of which any 1 date may be fixed for the meet and informed accordingly.
- (x) In case both parents (husband/wife) are lodged in the same prison or separate prisons, suitable arrangement may be made to allow all family members to meet at a single place.
- (xi) If a child is lodged at a Child Care Institution, request may be sent to concerned institution for allowing the child to come in the prison




Addl. Director General of Police (Prisons), Punjab, Chandigarh
SCO 8-9, Rattan Building, Sector 17 - A, Chandigarh

where such meeting is going to happen. In such cases, the means of commutation of child can be decided mutually.

- (xii) Average time for meeting shall be between 30 minutes to 2 hours.
- (xiii) The staff on duty in the Galwakdi room shall wear civil clothes, especially where children are involved.
- (xiv) The environment of the meeting place must be pleasant and such that it enables sufficient privacy to the families.
- (xv) Refreshment may be arranged by taking a prior request from the prisoners, expenditure of which can be deducted from the prisoners' ePurse accounts.
- (xvi) Local NGOs, colleges or other institutions may be involved for providing suitable counsellors, research analysts, etc. on *pro-bono* basis who shall be present with each family during the meet, and shall try to motivate the family to counsel the prisoner to leave the society of crime and provide a feedback of each family meet. These nominations may be recommended by Superintendents of Jails, and approved by the concerned DIG circles.
- (xvii) It shall be ensured that some private time is provided where only the prisoner, his family as well as the counsellor can sit and discuss the ways and means of leaving the path of crime, and achieve the motive of catharsis.

5. Project GALWAKDI shall be implemented uniformly in all prisons falling in the ambit of State of Punjab, under the overall supervision of respective DIG Prisons. While implementing this project, it must be ensured that Punjab Prison Rules 2021, and other such instructions/rules/circulars, etc. issued by the Govt. from time to time are followed in true spirit, and no compromise, whatsoever, shall be made in this regard.


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Addl. Director General of Police,
Prisons, Punjab