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Jail occupancy rate stands at 89%

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CUTTACK: The high-powered committee to monitor decongestion of jails on Thursday observed that the 86 functional jails in the state had an occupancy rate of 89%. The observation was made after a meeting of the three-member HPC, headed by justice Sanju Panda, who is also executive chairperson of Odisha State Legal Services Authority (OSLSA).

According to OSLSA sources, data submitted by DG prisons showed a decrease from 26,271 prisoners on March 20 to 16,931 on May 14, as against total jail capacity of 19,061.

Altogether 7,255 prisoners were released during this period on parole, bail/ PR bond and on award of special remission, an OSLSA release said.

Also, the high court on Thursday relaxed dress code for advocates appearing through Virtual Court System. In a circular, the registrar general said advocates can wear plain white shirt/white salwar-kameez /white saree with a plain white neck-band.