

Minutes of the meeting dated 28.12.2020 of the High-Powered Committee under the Chairmanship of Hon'ble Kumari Justice Sanju Panda, Judge, Orissa High Court and Executive Chairperson, Odisha State Legal Services Authority with regard to release of prisoners for decongestion of jails in view of spreading of Covid-19 disease, over telephonic conversation.

The thirty-ninth meeting of HPC is convened through telephonic conversation by the following dignitaries –

- a. Hon'ble Kumari Justice Sanju Panda, Judge, Orissa High Court and Executive Chairperson, Odisha State Legal Services Authority.**
- b. Shri Sanjeev Chopra, IAS, Principal Secretary, Home Department, Govt. of Odisha.**
- c. Shri Santosh Kumar Upadhyay, IPS, Director General of Prisons, Odisha.**

- I. The Member Secretary placed the following information for the period from **19.12.2020 to 28.12.2020** as received from all 30 DLSAs consequent upon the holding of Under Trial Review Committees in all districts for the aforementioned period, in view of the guidelines issued by the High-Powered Committee –

a) No. of UTPs released on interim bail	: 164
b) No. of Convicts released on Parole/ Furlough/ Special Remission	: 0/0/0
c) No. of prisoners found infected by COVID- 19	: 0
d) No. of prisoners recovered from COVID-19	: 161
e) No. of prisoners succumbed to COVID-19	: 0
f) No. of prisoners kept in quarantine wards	: 1320

II. Report submitted by Directorate of Prisons and Correctional Services, Odisha

The A.I.G. of Prisons, Odisha vide Memo No. 19795 dated 28.12.2020 has intimated to the Member Secretary, OSLSA that the Superintendent of all the Jails, Odisha have been directed for effective implementation of NHRC Advisory dated 07.10.2020 on "Human Rights of Women in Prison" circulated vide the minutes of meeting of HPC held on 04.12.2020 and 11.12.2020 in connection with directives of the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India in Suo Motu W.P. (C) No. 01 of 2020. The AIG of Prisons, Odisha has requested the Superintendent of all other jails who have not submitted the compliance report to submit the action taken reports without any further delay.

Further, with the onset of second wave of COVID-19 pandemic in the State, the HPC directs all the stakeholders to ensure timely treatment of prisoners and to look after the health of symptomatic prisoners without any lapses so as to avoid further spread of the infection in the jails.

By Order

Sd/-

**Member Secretary (I/C)
OSLSA**