

**Minutes of the meeting dated 02.07.2021 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 Sixty-fifth 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 **24.06.2021 to 01.07.2021** as received from all the DLSAs consequent upon holding of Under Trial Review Committees in the districts for the aforementioned period, in view of the guidelines issued by the High-Powered Committee –

a)	<b>No. of UTPs identified for release on Interim Bail</b>	<b>: 304</b>
b)	<b>No. of UTPs released on interim bail</b>	<b>: 135</b>
c)	<b>No. of convicts identified for release on parole/ furlough</b>	<b>: 3</b>
d)	<b>No. of Convicts released on Parole/Furlough/ Special Remission</b>	<b>: 0/0/0</b>
e)	<b>No. of prisoners found infected by COVID- 19</b>	<b>: 0</b>
f)	<b>No. of prisoners recovered from COVID-19</b>	<b>: 177</b>
g)	<b>No. of prisoners succumbed to COVID-19</b>	<b>: 0</b>
h)	<b>No. of prisoners kept in quarantine wards</b>	<b>: 1531</b>

## **II. Compliance Report by Home Department, Govt. of Odisha**

The Deputy Secretary to Government, Home Department, Govt. of Odisha vide Memo No. 22472/JAILS dated 29.06.2021 intimated the Member Secretary, OSLSA that in connection with the directives of the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India in Suo Motu W.P.(C) No. 01/2020, a request to take immediate appropriate actions for scrupulous compliance of the directions of the HPC has been communicated to the DG & IG of Police requesting to furnish an ATR on the implementation of the directives of the Hon'ble Apex Court in Arnesh Kumar vs. State of Bihar by the Police Authorities or the arresting officers. He has further stated that all the stakeholders concerned have been requested to submit report reflecting exact data in compliance of the directives of HPC in its minutes dated 21.05.2021.

Further, as per the directions of the **Hon'ble Juvenile Justice Committee** issued vide the kind minutes dated 25.06.2021, the HPC instructs the UTRCs to identify CICLs of their respective districts who are in a need of legal assistance and extend legal aid for release of the CICLs who are suffering due to non-filing of bail application and non-furnishing of bail bonds. And in appropriate cases spirit of Section 12(4) of JJ (CPC) Act, 2015 be resorted to for modification of conditions of bail.

**Hon'ble Chairperson, HPC noted with satisfaction that this week no prisoners were found infected with COVID- 19. Nevertheless, Chairperson HPC impressed upon all authorities that efforts should be continued with same care and intensity to contain the spread of infections.**

**Further, the Chairperson, HPC reiterates that all the previous directions of the HPC may be followed in letter and spirit.**

By Order  
**Sd/-**  
**Member Secretary**  
**OSLSA**