



NATIONAL COMMISSION FOR WOMEN

NCW Conducts Inspection of Pune's Yerawada Central Prison

Overcrowding is Well Above 100 Per Cent in Pune's Yerawada Central Prison, Reveals NCW

PRESS NOTE

3 May 2018: In compliance of its mandate, a team from the National Commission for Women (NCW), led by Member Shri Alok Rawat, visited Yerawada Central Prison today in Pune.

The inspection was carried out for assessing and looking into various aspects including overcrowding, availability of legal help, rehabilitation plans including skill development and training, legal awareness for women inmates, proper facilities for the children of these inmates among others.

The Yerawada Jail was established in the year 1871 and is located in what is now prime land in Pune. Several of the buildings carry the heritage tag. Renovation and modernization efforts towards provision of better amenities to the inmates have been carried out, effecting a marked improvement in washrooms, toilets, and other facilities. Use of solar power for providing warm water to inmates was also operational and health facilities provided seemed to be adequate.

The jail authorities are striving to involve NGOs in their efforts to improve the living conditions of inmates, as also to provide them skills aimed at their rehabilitation, even going beyond the traditional embroidery skill training to skilling of women in hitherto traditional male preserves like repairing of home appliances etc.

However, overcrowding remains a major problem in Yerawada Central Prison where 282 inmates are kept in a prison with a total capacity of 126 inmates. Giving details, Member Shri Rawat elaborated, "Out of this 164 are convicted and 118 are under trails. There is one foreign inmate and a total of 10 children are staying with their mothers in the prison. These numbers are lower than what had been indicated by Justice Anand in his NHRC report of 2003. Each and every action point contained in the report was checked and the needful has been carried out."

The inspection conducted today is a part of the NCW's ongoing project to visit all jails in the country in order to formulate a manual for comprehensive prison reforms for women inmates in India. A number of jail inspections have been planned by the Commission for the coming months.
