

**MINUTES OF THE HIGH POWERED COMMITTEE MEETING HELD THROUGH VC ON
29.10.2021 AT 1630 HOURS IN RESPECT OF GRANTING PAROLE/INTERIM BAIL TO
PRISONERS IN THE STATE OF ARUNACHAL PRADESH**

In pursuance of the order of the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India in Suo Moto Writ Petition (Civil) No.1/2020 IN RE CONTAGION OF COVID-19 VIRUS IN PRISONS, the High Powered Committee held its meeting via Video Conference on 29.10.2021 at 1630 hours under the Chairpersonship of Hon'ble Justice RK Phukan, Executive Chairperson, Arunachal Pradesh State Legal Services Authority and was attended by Shri Rajeev Verma, IAS, Principal Secretary (Home), Smt. Jaweplu Chai, Member Secretary, Arunachal Pradesh State Legal Services Authority, Shri P. Partibban, IAS, Secretary Health, Shri CN Longphai, IAS, IG (Prisons) and Shri Tojo Karga, IPS, Superintendent of Jail, Arunachal Pradesh.

1. At the outset, Shri Rajeev Verma, IAS, Principal Secretary (Home) welcomed Hon'ble Justice RK Phukan, the Hon'ble Chairperson of the High Powered Committee to the important meeting.
2. The Hon'ble Chairperson asked the IG Prisons to apprise the Committee about the action taken in compliance of the resolution of the Committee made in the meeting held on 31.07.2021.
3. Regarding premature release of life convict prisoners (Resolution No. i of the HPC meeting Minutes dated 31.07.2021), the IG Prisons appraised the Committee that the State Level Committee (SLC) meeting was held on 30.09.2021. The SLC has recommended premature release of 3 (three) convicts viz. (1) Shri Akai Arangham of Central Jail, Dibrugarh, (2) Shri Pitu Rajput Tori and (3) Shri Benu Koiry of District Jail, Tezu.

The Hon'ble Chairperson directed the Committee to verify the document of convict Shri Akai Arangham. Accordingly the documents was verified and found that the Hon'ble Gauhati High Court, in its Judgment and Order dated 06/02/2007 in connection with Criminal Appeal No.190 of 2006 and Death Reference No.2/2006 has modified and altered the Judgment order of the Additional District & Session Judge, Fast Track Court, Eastern Zone, Namsai, wherein the accused was sentenced to death and 5 (five) years imprisonment under section 302/326 IPC, to imprisonment for life for offence under section 302 IPC and RI for 5 (five) years for the offence under section 326 IPC.

4. Regarding Resolution No. ii of the HPC meeting dated 31.07.2021, proposal for creation of 245 posts of various categories for staffing 7 Sub-Jails has been submitted to the Finance Department. But since austerity measures are force till 31.10.2021, FD is yet to take a call on the proposal.
5. Regarding Resolution No. iii of the HPC meeting dated 31.07.2021 the concerned Deputy Commissioners have confirmed in writing about creating temporary separate isolation cells/facilities in sub-jails.
6. Regarding Resolution No. iv of the HPC meeting dated 31.07.2021 the Director of Health Services, Govt. of AP vide letter dtd 28/10/2021 informed that DMOs of ICC, East Siang and Upper Siang Districts have already deputed medical team with doctor, nurse and other

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supporting staff to visit the said jails on alternate days or as and when required for routine health check up of the jail inmates. During the visit, COVID-19 tests of the inmates were also done.

7. Regarding Resolution No. v of the HPC meeting dated 31.07.2021, the Secretary Health informed that as per direction they have been sending medical teams to the prisons in alternative days and most of prisoners have been vaccinated. In Arunachal Pradesh 76 percent of eligible population has been vaccinated and the state is one of the top 5 state in respect of 2nd dose of vaccination. The 50 percent of eligible population got vaccinated and the state is leading state in the North East in respect of COVID vaccination. They have been trying their best to overcome vaccination hesitancy. At present there are 491 prisoners, 443 prisoners have been vaccinated and only 48 need to be vaccinated. There is no shortage of vaccines. All efforts are being taken to tackle hesitancy amongst the inmates to increase the vaccination coverage in all jails and sub-jails.

The Hon'ble Chairperson suggested that the hesitancy in taking the covid vaccine can be removed by giving proper counseling, be it by medical team or religious leaders or other stakeholders.

The present status of covid vaccination in Jails are:

Sl. No.	Name of Jail	Prisoners Vaccination			Staff Vaccination		
		Total No. of prisoners	Total No. of prisoners vaccinated	No. of prisoners yet to be vaccinated	Total No. of Staffs	Total No. of staff vaccinated	No. of staff yet to be vaccinated
1	District Jail, Jully Itanagar	196	171	25 i. 2 unfit ii. 17 not wiling iii.7 (newly admitted)	114	114	0
2	District Jail, Tezu	62	61	1 newly admitted)	46	41	5 i. 4 having health issue ii. 1 having minor baby
3	Sub-Jail, Aalo	13	12	1 newly admitted)	10	10	0

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