Foreword

Prisons now a days, are changing fast into a reformatory community institutions from the earlier concept of retributive approach. A continued effort is being made, to provide conditions to the prisoners, that are conducive to their physical and mental growth with dignity.

'Prison Statistics India 2013' is an annual publication of National Crime Records Bureau, Ministry of Home Affairs. This annual publication is nineteenth in series; first being published for the year 1995.

This publication contains twelve chapters, that illustrate different aspects of prison administration, like distribution of prison inmates, rehabilitation initiatives (like vocational training, etc.), jail inspections, prison budget, strength & capacity development of jails officials, etc. This year, additional information on State/UT-wise location of jails, their capacity, video conference facilities availability etc., have also been collected, along with the main data.

As per collected prison statistics, a total of 1,391 prisons across the country, as on 31st December, 2013, have 4,11,992 prison inmates against authorised capacity of 3,47,859; which amounts to 118.4% of occupancy rate. It may be interesting to note, that the overcrowding in Indian prisons is not primarily due to the abnormally higher rate of imprisonment. The rate of imprisonment in India, as per number of prison inmates, is 32 prisoners per one lakh population during 2013, which is demonstrably one of the lowest in the world. The prison inmates in India comprise of 67.6% undertrials, 31.5% convicts and remaining 0.9% as civil prisoners & detainees.

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I gratefully acknowledge the cooperation and efforts extended by Director General/Inspector General of Prisons of States/UTs for sending validated data in time. The timely publication of this annual report is of paramount importance in preserving the relevance and utility of the information that this report provides.

Hence, I beseech the Directors General/Inspectors General of Prisons of all States/UTs, to take personal interest in the matter, so that the complete data reaches us expeditiously by April every year.

I commend the efforts and hard work put in by officers and staff of Statistical Branch of the Bureau in coordinating with the Prison Department of the States/UTs, in bringing out this report.

It is our constant endeavour to improve & enrich the content and presentation of this report. I urge the readers to send their precious suggestions and inputs, in the feedback form attached at the end of this report, to enable us to evolve further, to meet expectations of all the stakeholders.

(R. R. Verma)

20th October, 2014
New Delhi

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