

PRISONS ACT  
(CHAPTER 247, SECTION 84)

PRISONS REGULATIONS

ARRANGEMENT OF REGULATIONS

Regulation

1. Citation

PART I

COMMISSIONER

2. Duties of Commissioner
3. Commissioner to ensure Regulations observed
4. Commissioner's report on prisons

PART II

SUPERINTENDENT

5. Duties of Superintendent
6. *[Deleted]*
7. Proper management of prison
8. General duty of Superintendent
9. Inspection duties of Superintendent
10. Superintendents' Journal
11. Duties with regard to discharge and release
12. Annual general report of Superintendent
13. Annual inspection of quarters of prison staff
14. Procedure upon death of prisoner and reports of other serious occurrences
15. Authorised visitors
16. Discharge of prisoners subject to police supervision
17. Notice of death or illness to relatives

PART III

CHIEF REHABILITATION OFFICER

18. Function of Chief Rehabilitation Officer
19. Responsibility of Chief Rehabilitation Officer
20. Disciplinary function
21. Inspection duties of Chief Rehabilitation Officer

## Regulation

22. Search of prisoners
23. Officers parade
24. Prisoners complaints
25. Rations, meals and food of prisoners
26. Regulations and dietary scales to be posted up
27. Report of insanity and illness
28. Directions of medical officer
29. Hygiene
30. Head count
31. Stores and clothing
32. Records and accounts
33. Custody of records
34. Officer-in-charge
35. Examination of cells

## PART IV

## SUBORDINATE OFFICERS

36. Duties of officers towards prisoners
37. Unauthorised communications
38. Physical violence
39. Prohibited financial dealings
40. Prohibited testimonials
41. Firearms
42. Subordinate officers
43. Responsibility for safe custody of prisoners
44. Subordinate officers to be properly attired
45. Subordinate officers not to absent themselves
46. No visitors
47. No authority to punish
48. Reports in case of sick prisoner
49. Subordinate officers to enter cells in pairs
50. Report of misconduct, etc.
51. Behaviour of subordinate officers towards prisoners
52. Postings
53. Subordinate officers to live in quarters
54. Illness of subordinate officers
55. Disciplinary officers

## PART V

## MATRON

## Regulation

56. Matron to reside in prison quarters
57. Matron to inspect female prisoners
58. Search
59. Journal

## PART VI

## MEDICAL OFFICER

60. Duties of medical officer
61. Observation of prisoners awaiting trial on capital charge
62. Mental condition of certain prisoners
63. Case book
64. Reports to Superintendent
65. Hygiene
66. Recommendations to Superintendent for discipline and treatment of prisoners
67. Inspection for sanitary purposes
68. Death
69. Assistance for medical officer
70. Report to Superintendent of irregularity in hospital
71. Disciplinary duties of medical officer

## PART VII

## VISITING JUSTICES

72. Visits to be unaccompanied
73. Visiting Justices

## PART VIIA

## INSTITUTIONAL DISCIPLINE ADVISORY COMMITTEE

- 73A. Institutional Discipline Advisory Committee
- 73B. Referral to Institutional Discipline Advisory Committee

PART VIII  
PRISONERS

*Admission of Prisoners*

Regulation

74. Particulars of prisoners to be admitted
75. Examination of prisoners for infectious diseases
76. Confidentiality in handling of prisoners with AIDS and other sexually transmitted disease
77. Examination by medical officer
78. Grooming requirements
79. Separation of male and female prisoners
80. Separate cells
81. Minimum number in shared cells
82. Treatment of female prisoners
83. Prostitutes
84. Employment of female prisoners
85. Children
86. Confinement of prisoners below 15 years of age
87. Separation of prisoners
88. Grooming for Asian prisoners
89. [*Deleted*]
90. Haircuts
91. Grooming in last month of imprisonment
92. Military prisoners
93. Photographs and finger impressions

*Discharge of Prisoners*

94. Examination before discharge
95. Prisoners suffering from acute or dangerous disease
96. Upon discharge prisoners to receive own clothing
97. Date of release

*Punishments*

98. Corporal punishment rules
99. Maximum forfeiture of remission
- 99A. Lapsing of order of forfeiture of remission
100. Maximum reduction in grade or postponement of promotion

*Miscellaneous*

## Regulation

- 101. Hours when prisoners unlocked from cells
- 102. Hours of labour
- 103. Rest days
- 104. Visits by police

*Health*

- 105. Maintenance of prison
- 106. Clothing of prisoners
- 107. Exercise
- 108. Infirmary
- 109. Vaccinations

*Food*

- 110. Meals
- 111. [*Deleted*]
- 112. [*Deleted*]
- 113. [*Deleted*]

*Instruction and Recreation*

- 114. Religious services
- 115. Unauthorised publications
- 116. to 126. [*Repealed*]

*Letters and Visits*

- 127. Letters and visits
- 127A. Screening and recording of letters
- 127B. Access to counsel
- 128. Prison officer present at visits
- 129. Particulars of visitors
- 130. [*Deleted*]
- 131. Additional visits and letters
- 132. Forfeiture of letters and visits for misconduct
- 133. Petition to President

*Behaviour of Prisoners*

- 134. Unauthorised communications
- 135. Permitted articles only

## Regulation

136. No gambling

*Restraint of Refractory Prisoners*

137. Use of restraints on prisoners  
138. [Deleted]

*Corporal Punishment*

139. Corporal punishment  
140. Confinement in cells  
141. Maximum period  
142. Medical examination of prisoners sentenced to punishment  
143. Special clothing and bedding  
144. Prisoners to be given opportunity of defence before punishment  
145. Registration of offences and punishments  
146. to 150. [Repealed]  
151. [Deleted]

## PART VIIIA

## REMISSION OF SENTENCES

*Division 1 — Review of life sentences, etc.*

- 151A. Application  
151B. Referral to Life Imprisonment Review Board

*Division 2 — Review of long sentences*

- 151C. Application  
151D. Referral to Long Imprisonment Review Board

*Division 3 — Mandatory aftercare scheme*

- 151E. Application  
151F. Referral to Mandatory Aftercare Advisory Committee  
151G. Factors to be considered in imposing mandatory aftercare conditions  
151H. Serious and minor breaches of mandatory aftercare conditions

*Division 4 — General provisions*

- 151I. Remission system to be explained upon admission and release under remission order  
151IA. Confinement and forfeiture during remand to be non-reckonable for purposes of remission order

## Regulation

- 151J. Record of remission and related matters
- 151JA. Service of notice of recall

## PART VIII B

## HOME DETENTION SCHEME

- 151K. Referral to Home Detention Advisory Committee

## PART VIII C

## EXTERNAL PLACEMENT SCHEME

- 151L. Referral to External Placement Review Board

## PART IX

## PERSONS DETAINED FOR SAFE CUSTODY

- 152. Definition for this Part
- 152A. Separation of prisoners
- 153. Labour
- 154. Discretion of Superintendent to modify routine
- 155. Privileges
- 156. [*Deleted*]
- 157. Withdrawal of privileges
- 158. [*Deleted*]
- 159. [*Deleted*]
- 160. [*Deleted*]
- 161. Medical practitioner of choice

## PART X

## PRISONERS CONDEMNED TO DEATH

- 162. Search
- 163. Clothing and bedding
- 164. Restricted access to prisoner
- 165. Executions
- 166. Duties of Superintendent with regard to instruction for execution  
The Schedule — [*Repealed*]

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[13th January 1939]

**Citation**

1. These Regulations may be cited as the Prisons Regulations.

## PART I

## COMMISSIONER

**Duties of Commissioner**

2.—(1) The Commissioner shall visit or cause to be visited all prisons in Singapore at least once in each calendar year, and shall report any matter which he considers should be brought to the notice of the Government.

*[S 447/2014 wef 01/07/2014]*

(2) On the occasion of each of the foregoing visits to any prison the Commissioner shall see every prisoner, and shall enquire into all complaints and applications which any of the prisoners may make to him.

*[S 447/2014 wef 01/07/2014]*

(3) The Commissioner shall give special attention to the sick and weakly and to those who are in solitary confinement or punishment cells.

*[S 447/2014 wef 01/07/2014]*

(4) The Commissioner shall inspect and initial all journals, registers and books kept in the prison.

*[S 447/2014 wef 01/07/2014]*

**Commissioner to ensure Regulations observed**

3. The Commissioner shall be specially careful to see that these Regulations and any others which may from time to time be made by the Minister, and the provisions of the Act are strictly carried out.

*[S 447/2014 wef 01/07/2014]*



**Commissioner's report on prisons**

4. The Commissioner shall submit to the Minister as early as possible in each year, a report upon all the prisons in Singapore for the preceding year, giving statistics in such forms as may be required.

*[S 447/2014 wef 01/07/2014]*

**PART II****SUPERINTENDENT****Duties of Superintendent**

5.—(1) The Superintendent is responsible for seeing that all laws, regulations and orders relating to the prison, prisoners and staff are strictly adhered to and all records, accounts, documents and correspondence are properly kept and maintained up to date.

(2) In this connection, special attention must be paid to the provisions of Part XVI of the Criminal Procedure Code (Cap. 68).

*[S 1065/2020 wef 02/01/2021]*

6. *[Deleted by S 7/2004 wef 08/01/2004]*

**Proper management of prison**

7.—(1) The Superintendent or officer in charge shall be responsible for the proper management of the prison to which he shall be appointed.

(2) The Superintendent shall take care that the prisoners are humanely treated, that the discipline is strictly enforced, and that economy is duly promoted.

**General duty of Superintendent**

8. Subject to the orders of the Commissioner, the Superintendent shall have control of the officers of the prison to which he has been appointed; and shall require from them strict obedience to the provisions of the Act.

*[S 447/2014 wef 01/07/2014]*

**Inspection duties of Superintendent**

9.—(1) Except on Sundays or Gazetted public holidays, the Superintendent shall daily inspect all parts of the prison or prisons, and shall weekly visit them at night at an uncertain hour.

(2) The Superintendent shall take care that any prisoners who have complaints or applications to make are allowed to make them and that the medical officer's instructions are carried into effect, and shall pay special attention to those prisoners who are in hospital or are undergoing punishment for prison offences.

(3) The Superintendent shall from time to time visit the prisoners at their meals and shall inquire into any complaint that may be made to him regarding their food.

(4) The Superintendent shall take necessary action to ensure that every prisoner receives the rations to which he is entitled by law and that no deviation from the authorised scale is permitted.

(5) In the case of Superintendents who are appointed to perform other duties in addition to the superintendence of a prison, the visits shall be made frequently and not less than once in every 7 days by day and once in every 14 days by night.

**Superintendents' Journal**

10. The Superintendent shall keep a Journal in which he shall make a note of any occurrences of which it seems desirable, or of which he is directed, to keep a record.

**Duties with regard to discharge and release**

11. The Superintendent shall —

- (a) be responsible especially for the due discharge of all prisoners immediately on their becoming entitled to release, whether from expiration of the periods of sentences, or by pardons or commutations, or from remissions of sentences; and

[S 447/2014 wef 01/07/2014]

- (b) ensure accuracy in regard to such remissions by checking the remission earned by each prisoner at least once a month.

### **Annual general report of Superintendent**

12. The Superintendent shall furnish to the Commissioner, each year a general report upon the prison or prisons under his charge, in addition to such special or periodical reports as may otherwise be required.

*[S 447/2014 wef 01/07/2014]*

### **Annual inspection of quarters of prison staff**

13.—(1) The Superintendent shall once in each calendar year inspect all quarters occupied by the prison staff and submit a report on the condition thereof to the Commissioner.

*[S 447/2014 wef 01/07/2014]*

(2) The Superintendent shall also see that all machinery and all buildings connected with the prison are maintained in a proper state of repair and that all necessary precautions against accidents to prisoners are duly enforced.

### **Procedure upon death of prisoner and reports of other serious occurrences**

14.—(1) The Superintendent or, in his absence, the senior officer-in-charge, shall, upon the death of any prisoner, give immediate notice thereof to the Coroner and the Chairman of the Visiting Justices, and shall also, as early as he conveniently can, report the death to the Minister and Commissioner.

*[S 447/2014 wef 01/07/2014]*

(2) The Superintendent shall send a report of all escapes, serious assaults, outbreaks of disease or any occurrences of an unusual or serious nature to the Commissioner.

*[S 447/2014 wef 01/07/2014]*

**Authorised visitors**

**15.**—(1) The Commissioner may authorise the Superintendent to permit any responsible person, at reasonable hours, to visit the prison, accompanied by an officer who shall caution such visitor against conversing or communicating with any prisoner.

*[S 447/2014 wef 01/07/2014]*

(2) Any visitor and any prison officer may be searched by order of the Superintendent.

**Discharge of prisoners subject to police supervision**

**16.** The Superintendent shall —

- (a) 2 months (or as near thereto as may be) before the discharge of any prisoner who has been directed to be subject to the supervision of the police for any period commencing from the expiration of any sentence passed upon him notify the Commissioner of Police of the day on which and the hour at which such discharge is expected to take place; and
- (b) if so requested in writing by the Commissioner of Police, at the same time forward to the Commissioner of Police 2 copies of the prisoner's nominal record.

**Notice of death or illness to relatives**

**17.** The Superintendent shall, upon the dangerous illness or death of any prisoner, give immediate notice thereof to the most accessible known relative of the prisoner or deceased.

**PART III****CHIEF REHABILITATION OFFICER****Function of Chief Rehabilitation Officer**

**18.** The Chief Rehabilitation Officer is the principal resident discipline officer of the prison. He shall not be concerned in any other employment. In the absence of the Chief Rehabilitation Officer, the officer next in seniority below him shall act as his deputy.

**Responsibility of Chief Rehabilitation Officer**

19. The Chief Rehabilitation Officer is responsible for seeing that all regulations and orders are strictly observed and for ensuring the security of the prison and prisoners.

**Disciplinary function**

20. The Chief Rehabilitation Officer may temporarily relieve any subordinate officer from duty, and exclude him from the prison in case of misconduct, but shall report the particulars without delay to the Superintendent.

**Inspection duties of Chief Rehabilitation Officer**

21.—(1) The Chief Rehabilitation Officer shall visit the whole of the prison, and see every male prisoner once at least in every 24 hours and in default of such daily visits and inspections, he shall state in his journal how far he has omitted them, and the cause of such omission.

(2) The Chief Rehabilitation Officer shall see that —

- (a) everything is clean and in good order and that the means of security in the different yards, etc., are effective; and
- (b) no ladders, planks, ropes, chains, or anything likely to facilitate escape, are left exposed in the prison.

(3) The Chief Rehabilitation Officer shall, at least once in every 7 days, go through the prison at an uncertain hour of the night, which visit, with the hour and state of the prison at the time, he shall record in his journal.

(4) When visiting the female prison the Chief Rehabilitation Officer shall be accompanied by the Matron or by a female officer.

**Search of prisoners**

22.—(1) The Chief Rehabilitation Officer shall take care that every prisoner is strictly searched on admission, and that all knives, weapons, instruments, money, opium, tobacco or anything forbidden by the regulations, or in his opinion objectionable, or anything likely to facilitate escape, be taken from such prisoner.

(2) The Chief Rehabilitation Officer may, with the written approval of the Superintendent, cause any dangerous or objectionable article to be destroyed.

### **Officers parade**

**23.**—(1) On parading the officers both for day and night duty, the Chief Rehabilitation Officer shall see that they are in all respects fit for and properly acquainted with their duties.

(2) The Chief Rehabilitation Officer shall also read to them any new orders from the Superintendent's Order Book.

### **Prisoners complaints**

**24.**—(1) The Chief Rehabilitation Officer shall take care that every prisoner having a complaint to make or a request to prefer to him shall have an opportunity of doing so, and he shall either take such steps as may appear to him necessary to redress any grievance, or shall report the same to the Superintendent.

(2) The Chief Rehabilitation Officer shall further take care that any prisoner desiring to appeal to the Superintendent or to any Visiting Justice or to the Commissioner on their visits to the prison shall have an opportunity of doing so.

*[S 447/2014 wef 01/07/2014]*

### **Rations, meals and food of prisoners**

**25.**—(1) The Chief Rehabilitation Officer shall daily inspect and weigh the rations supplied to prisoners when delivered by the contractor, and in his unavoidable absence this duty shall be performed by the officer next in seniority below him.

(2) A record shall be kept of such check in a book provided for the purpose.

(3) The Chief Rehabilitation Officer or the officer next in seniority below him shall superintend the issuing of the prisoners' meals.

(4) Such officer shall take care that every article of food supplied for the use of the prisoners is sound and of good quality; and that the

scales, weights and measures in use in the prison are accurate and in proper order.

(5) Such officer shall take special care to see that the rations issued are strictly in accordance with the prescribed scales of diet and that every prisoner receives the diet to which he is entitled by law.

### **Regulations and dietary scales to be posted up**

**26.**—(1) The Chief Rehabilitation Officer shall cause a printed abstract, approved by the Commissioner (with translations into Chinese, Malay and Tamil), of the regulations relating to the treatment and conduct of the prisoners, with a copy of the prison dietaries to be kept posted in places accessible to the prisoners, and shall read or cause the same to be read, to every prisoner who cannot read, within 24 hours after his admission, and once in every subsequent 3 months.

*[S 447/2014 wef 01/07/2014]*

(2) The Chief Rehabilitation Officer shall record the reading of this abstract in his journal.

### **Report of insanity and illness**

**27.** The Chief Rehabilitation Officer shall, without delay, report to the Superintendent and the medical officer any case of apparent insanity, and the illness of any prisoner, and shall deliver to them daily a list of prisoners who are ill or who complain of illness, and a list of prisoners in punishment cells.

### **Directions of medical officer**

**28.** The Chief Rehabilitation Officer shall see that —

- (a) all written directions of the medical officer respecting alterations in the diet or treatment of any prisoner are carried into effect without delay; and
- (b) no prisoner is ordered to labour until the medical officer has certified that the prisoner is fit for such labour.

**Hygiene**

29. The Chief Rehabilitation Officer shall enforce the highest possible degree of cleanliness in every part of the prison, in the persons of the prisoners, their clothes and bedding, and see that the bedding and clothing are all in proper repair.

**Head count**

30. The Chief Rehabilitation Officer shall cause the whole of the prisoners to be counted thrice daily and shall satisfy himself that the number is correct.

**Stores and clothing**

31.—(1) The Chief Rehabilitation Officer shall check all demands made on the storekeeper for stores and clothing to be used in the prison and see that all articles are properly marked with the prison mark, and that no extra clothing is issued to a prisoner without the Superintendent's authority.

(2) The Chief Rehabilitation officer shall take particular care to see that every precaution is taken to ensure the safe custody of prisoners property and to prevent the loss or misappropriation of any such property.

**Records and accounts**

32. The Chief Rehabilitation Officer shall see that the following records and accounts and such other records and accounts as may be required by the Superintendent are kept up to date:

- (a) a journal, in which he shall record all such matters as he is directed to record therein by these Regulations, and all other occurrences of importance within the prison; and these entries he shall date and sign daily;
- (b) an admission register of all prisoners committed, with the sentence, date of commitment and the date at which such sentence will expire, and the name, age, height, weight, particular marks and general appearance of the prisoner and any other particulars which may be required and a



record of the remission to be earned, forfeitures of remission and the earliest possible date of release;

- (c) a daily release book, in diary form, wherein he shall enter when admitted, the name of every prisoner under the proper date upon which such prisoner is to be released;
- (d) a prisoners' effects book to be kept in the approved form;
- (e) a prisoners' punishment book wherein shall be recorded the name of every prisoner punished for prison offences, the punishment inflicted and the name of the officer ordering the punishment and also the certificate of the medical officer as to whether the prisoner is physically fit to undergo the punishment as ordered and the date;
- (f) a petty cash account;
- (g) an account of all receipts and disbursements;
- (h) a record of the work upon which the prisoners have been employed;
- (i) an account of the estimated value of the labour of prisoners;
- (j) an inventory of all furniture and moveable property belonging to the prison;
- (k) an ammunition ledger;
- (l) a record of all arms belonging to the prison;
- (m) an unofficial visitors' book containing a record of all unofficial visitors to the prison;
- (n) a visiting justices' visiting book;
- (o) a visiting justices' case book;
- (p) an official visitors' book;
- (q) a list of books and documents committed to his care; and
- (r) a fine and reward account book showing the amount and disposal of all fines and forfeitures levied from the staff.

**Custody of records**

**33.** The Chief Rehabilitation Officer shall be responsible for the safe custody of all journals, registers, records, papers, books and documents confided to his care.

**Officer-in-charge**

**34.—(1)** During the temporary absence of the Chief Rehabilitation Officer, the officer next in seniority below him shall be in charge of the prison and he shall not quit the prison or his quarters (should the prison be closed) or hand over the duties under any circumstances until the return of the Chief Rehabilitation Officer.

(2) The Chief Rehabilitation Officer (or in his absence his deputy) shall communicate to the Superintendent every circumstance which may come to his knowledge likely to affect the security, health or discipline of the prisoners, or the efficiency of the prison staff or anything which may in any way require his attention.

**Examination of cells**

**35.** The Chief Rehabilitation Officer shall cause to be examined frequently the state of the cells, bedding, locks, bolts, etc., and shall seize all prohibited articles and report the matter to the Superintendent for instructions.

**PART IV****SUBORDINATE OFFICERS****Duties of officers towards prisoners**

**36.** It is the duty of all officers to treat the prisoners with kindness and humanity, to listen patiently to and report their complaints or grievances, and to be firm in maintaining order and discipline and enforcing observance of the regulations of the prison.

**Unauthorised communications**

**37.—(1)** No officer or person employed in the Prisons Department shall —

- (a) make any unauthorised communication concerning the prison or prisoners to any person; or
- (b) without authority, communicate to the public press information derived from official sources or connected with his duties or the prison.

(2) Any such communication by an officer or person without authority will be regarded as a breach of confidence and will render him liable to dismissal.

### **Physical violence**

**38.**—(1) No officer shall strike a prisoner unless compelled to do so in self-defence or in defence of another officer or prisoner and in such cases every possible attempt should be made to strike only on the legs or arms.

(2) A prisoner struck under these circumstances must be examined as soon as possible by the medical officer or the assistant medical officer and an immediate report of the matter must be made to the Superintendent.

### **Prohibited financial dealings**

**39.**—(1) No prison officer shall receive any fee or gratuity, or have any money dealings whatever with, or on behalf of, any prisoner, or visitor to any prisoner.

(2) No officer shall borrow money from any person connected with a contract for the supply of food or other articles for the use of the prison.

(3) No officer shall —

- (a) directly or indirectly, have any interest in any contract or supply connected with the prison; or
- (b) under any pretence, receive any fee or gratuity from any person connected with any such contract or supply.

(4) Each officer will clearly understand that he is responsible for the acts of his family.

**Prohibited testimonials**

**40.** No prison officer shall give any certificate or testimonial to, or in respect of, any prisoner as regards his conduct in prison or otherwise.

**Firearms**

**41.** Prison officers carrying firearms shall make themselves familiar with section 31 of the Act and shall be responsible for ensuring that those provisions are strictly followed in all circumstances.

**Subordinate officers**

**42.** Subordinate officers of the prison shall obey the directions of the Superintendent and of the Chief Rehabilitation Officer subject to the Act.

**Responsibility for safe custody of prisoners**

**43.—**(1) Subordinate officers shall be responsible for the safe custody of prisoners under their charge.

(2) Subordinate officers shall count the prisoners at least once every half hour, and —

- (a) on receiving charge of a party;
- (b) on giving over charge; and
- (c) on leaving any building or work.

(3) Subordinate officers shall not sit down or lounge during their term of duty, but shall always be alert and watchful, keeping their faces towards the prisoners under their charge.

(4) All subordinate officers, on being relieved from any particular duty or transferred to another part of the prison, shall point out to their successors all matters of special importance connected with their duties, and explain any directions of the superior officers affecting any particular prisoner.

**Subordinate officers to be properly attired**

**44.** Subordinate officers shall be properly dressed when on duty or in uniform and shall —

- (a) check all keys when handing or taking over and report immediately any defect;
- (b) see that no prison key is, under any circumstances, allowed to pass into the possession of any prisoner or other unauthorised person; and
- (c) keep such records of the work given out and the work performed by prisoners as may be required.

**Subordinate officers not to absent themselves**

**45.** Subordinate officers shall not be absent from the prison during hours of duty, without leave from the Chief Rehabilitation Officer, and before leaving the prison at any time they shall leave their keys, arms and books in the place provided for their safe custody.

**No visitors**

**46.** Subordinate officers shall not receive visitors in the prison.

**No authority to punish**

**47.** No subordinate officer is to punish a prisoner except when ordered to do so.

**Reports in case of sick prisoner**

**48.** All subordinate officers shall report to the Chief Rehabilitation Officer the case of any prisoner who may appear not to be in health, although not complaining of sickness, or whose state of mind may appear deserving of special notice and care, in order that the opinion and instructions of the medical officer may be taken on the case.

**Subordinate officers to enter cells in pairs**

**49.** No subordinate officer shall enter a prisoner's cell at night without being accompanied by another officer except in cases of imperative necessity; and in such circumstances he shall make an

immediate report to the senior officer-in-charge of the prison and shall further make a written report to the Superintendent as soon as possible.

### **Report of misconduct, etc.**

**50.** No subordinate officer shall, on any pretence, fail to make an immediate report to his superior officer of any misconduct or wilful disobedience of these Regulations.

### **Behaviour of subordinate officers towards prisoners**

**51.—(1)** No subordinate officer shall unnecessarily converse with a prisoner, nor shall he by word, gesture, or demeanour, do anything which may tend to irritate a prisoner.

(2) No subordinate officer shall allow any familiarity on the part of prisoners towards himself or any other officer of the prison, nor shall he on any account speak of his duties, or of any matters of discipline or prison arrangement within hearing of the prisoners.

(3) No subordinate officer shall correspond with or communicate with the friends or relations of any prisoner nor with any ex-prisoner unless expressly authorised by the Superintendent.

### **Postings**

**52.** Any subordinate officer on entering the prison service may be employed in any part of Singapore, wheresoever it may seem fit to the Commissioner to employ him.

*[S 447/2014 wef 01/07/2014]*

### **Subordinate officers to live in quarters**

**53.—(1)** All subordinate officers shall live in such quarters as may be assigned to them. They shall not sleep out of such quarters without permission of the Superintendent.

(2) No subordinate officer shall permit any person, not being a regular member of his family, to remain for the night in his quarters without the permission of the Superintendent.

**Illness of subordinate officers**

**54.** Any subordinate officer disabled from the regular performance of his duties by illness, shall report the illness immediately in writing to the Chief Rehabilitation Officer and shall remain in his quarters until seen by the medical officer, who may, if necessary, order his removal to a hospital.

**Disciplinary officers**

**55.** Any subordinate officer, who is guilty of improper language or behaviour in the Warders' Club or in any other building provided by the Government for the use or occupation of persons employed in the prison, shall be liable to be punished by the Superintendent in the same manner and to the same extent as for a breach of prison discipline.

## PART V

## MATRON

**Matron to reside in prison quarters**

**56.—(1)** The Matron shall reside in the prison or in such quarters as may be provided for her.

(2) The Matron shall not be absent from the prison, except during such hours as shall from time to time be fixed by the Commissioner, without leave in writing from the Superintendent.

*[S 447/2014 wef 01/07/2014]*

(3) In case of such absence the next senior female officer shall have the same powers and be subject to the same responsibilities as a Matron.

**Matron to inspect female prisoners**

**57.** The Matron shall inspect every part of the prison occupied by females, and see every female prisoner therein at least thrice in every 24 hours, and shall at least once in every 7 days, at an uncertain hour in the night, go through such part of the prison.

**Search**

**58.** The Matron shall search female prisoners on admission and so often afterwards as she thinks necessary, and shall see that —

- (a) they are bathed and properly clothed in the prison dress; and
- (b) all females clothing and bedding are kept scrupulously clean at all times.

**Journal**

**59.—(1)** The Matron shall keep a journal in which she shall record the state of the prison at each inspection and all important occurrences.

(2) The regulations for the conduct of the Chief Rehabilitation Officer shall apply to the Matron in so far as they are applicable to her and she shall keep such books and records as may from time to time be required.

**PART VI****MEDICAL OFFICER****Duties of medical officer**

**60.—(1)** The medical officer or the assistant medical officer shall examine every prisoner as early as possible after admission, and make entries in the Register required by regulation 77.

(2) The medical officer shall —

- (a) visit daily and oftener if necessary, such of the prisoners as are sick;
- (b) see every prisoner once a week and every prisoner sentenced to solitary confinement once a day;
- (c) at uncertain times, inspect the prisoners whilst at labour; and
- (d) direct such modifications of labour, diet and punishment as in particular cases he shall consider necessary.



**Observation of prisoners awaiting trial on capital charge**

**61.**—(1) The medical officer shall keep careful observation on the mental and physical condition of prisoners awaiting trial on capital charges and keep written records of his observations.

(2) If the medical officer sees fit he may apply to the Superintendent to procure for him a copy of the record of the preliminary inquiry.

(3) A few days prior to the date of the trial (or earlier if he sees fit) the medical officer should submit a report to the Public Prosecutor stating whether he has observed any signs of insanity.

**Mental condition of certain prisoners**

**62.** The medical officer should keep careful observation on the mental condition of prisoners condemned to death and long sentence prisoners.

**Case book**

**63.** The medical officer shall enter in a case book, to be kept in the prison and accessible to the Superintendent and the Chief Rehabilitation Officer, an account of the name, disease, state and treatment of every sick prisoner.

**Reports to Superintendent**

**64.**—(1) The medical officer shall report to the Superintendent the case of any prisoner whose mind appears to be, or is likely to be injuriously affected, and give such directions in the case as he may think proper, with special reference to the use of observation cells, when such are available.

(2) The medical officer shall frequently examine the food of the prisoners, cooked and uncooked, and shall report in writing to the Superintendent as to the quality of the provisions and also as to the sufficiency of clothing and bedding and any deficiency in the quality or quantity of the water or any other matter which may affect the health of the prisoners.

## Hygiene

**65.**—(1) The medical officer shall give written directions for separating prisoners having infectious complaints, or suspected of having them, and for cleaning, disinfecting or destroying any infected apparel or bedding.

(2) The medical officer shall give explicit directions for the disinfection of every cell or ward recently occupied by prisoners suffering from infectious or contagious disease.

## Recommendations to Superintendent for discipline and treatment of prisoners

**66.**—(1) The medical officer shall report in writing to the Superintendent the case of any prisoner to which he thinks it necessary on medical grounds to draw attention, and shall make such recommendation as he considers needful for the alteration of the discipline or treatment of the prisoners, or for the supply of additional articles to the prisoners.

(2) Whenever the medical officer is of opinion that the life of any prisoner will be endangered by his continuance in prison, or that any sick person will not survive his sentence or is totally and permanently unfit for prison discipline, he shall state the opinion, and the grounds thereof, in writing to the Superintendent who shall duly forward the same to the Minister and Commissioner.

*[S 447/2014 wef 01/07/2014]*

## Inspection for sanitary purposes

**67.** At least once in every 3 months the medical officer shall inspect every part of the prison, and shall make a report in writing to the Commissioner for transmission to the Minister, upon the sanitary state of the prison, the health of the prisoners, and the adequacy and proper cooking of the diets.

*[S 447/2014 wef 01/07/2014]*

## Death

**68.** In the event of the death of any prisoner, the medical officer shall forthwith enter in his case book the date at which the illness was

first observed, the time when the illness was first reported to him, the nature of the disease, the date of the death, and the results of post-mortem examination, if any.

### **Assistance for medical officer**

**69.** The Superintendent will place at the disposal of the medical officer as many well conducted prisoners who can safely be entrusted with the duty of attending upon the sick as he may consider necessary.

### **Report to Superintendent of irregularity in hospital**

**70.** The medical officer shall report to the Superintendent in writing any irregularity in the prison hospital which may come to his knowledge, or any difficulty or obstruction which he may meet with in the performance of his duty.

### **Disciplinary duties of medical officer**

**71.** The medical officer shall conform to the regulations of the prison, and shall support the Superintendent in the maintenance of discipline and order and the safe custody of the prisoners.

## PART VII

### VISITING JUSTICES

#### **Visits to be unaccompanied**

**72.** Neither the Superintendent nor the Chief Rehabilitation Officer shall accompany the Visiting Justices in their visits of inspection round the prisons, but shall inform them of any prisoner who has requested to see them, and shall otherwise assist them so far as they are able.

#### **Visiting Justices**

**73.—(1)** Visiting Justices shall on every visit hear any complaint which any prisoner may wish to make to them, and shall especially enquire into the condition of those prisoners who are undergoing solitary confinement.

(2) Visiting Justices shall once every month inspect all the prisoners in the prison, to be paraded for that purpose, with the exception of the prisoners in solitary confinement or in hospital who should be visited in their cells or in the hospital, as the case may be.

(3) A Visiting Justices' Minute Book shall be provided at the prison in which the members of the Board shall record their visits, the circumstances under which any prisoner may be sentenced to punishment by them and enter any remarks and suggestions which they may have to make.

(4) The Visiting Justices' Minute Book shall be transmitted to the Minister for his inspection on the day following each visit of the Visiting Justices.

(5) If no visit is made by the Visiting Justices in any month the fact shall be notified immediately in writing by the Superintendent to the Commissioner.

*[S 447/2014 wef 01/07/2014]*

## PART VIIA

### INSTITUTIONAL DISCIPLINE ADVISORY COMMITTEE

*[S 455/2008 wef 15/09/2008]*

#### **Institutional Discipline Advisory Committee**

**73A.** There shall be an Institutional Discipline Advisory Committee for one or more prisons, or more than one Institutional Discipline Advisory Committee for one prison, to render an opinion to the Commissioner on whether, in any case where a Superintendent has ordered a prisoner of that prison or any one of those prisons to undergo corporal punishment under section 71(1)(a) of the Act, the punishment imposed on the prisoner is excessive.

*[S 447/2014 wef 01/07/2014]*

#### **Referral to Institutional Discipline Advisory Committee**

**73B.—(1)** In any case where a Superintendent has ordered a prisoner to undergo corporal punishment under section 71(1)(a) of the Act, the Commissioner shall, upon being notified by the

Superintendent under section 71(2) of the Act of the facts of the case and the punishment imposed on the prisoner, refer the case to an Institutional Discipline Advisory Committee for its opinion on whether the punishment imposed on the prisoner is excessive.

*[S 447/2014 wef 01/07/2014]*

(2) The Institutional Discipline Advisory Committee shall consider the case and shall make a recommendation to the Commissioner to assist the Commissioner in making a decision under section 71(3) of the Act.

*[S 447/2014 wef 01/07/2014]*

(3) *[Deleted by S 447/2014 wef 01/07/2014]*

## PART VIII

### PRISONERS

#### *Admission of Prisoners*

#### **Particulars of prisoners to be admitted**

**74.—**(1) The name, age, height, particular marks and general appearance of prisoners shall, on their admission, be entered into a register.

*[S 533/2018 wef 01/09/2018]*

(2) The prisoners shall be searched on admission and whenever there may be reason to suspect them of having prohibited articles in their possession, by officers of their own sex, and their private clothes and all other articles not expressly allowed by the regulations, shall be taken from them, inventoried and put away excepting anything of a perishable or dangerous nature, which may be destroyed.

*[S 533/2018 wef 01/09/2018]*

(3) The prisoners must be provided with prison clothes and must wear those clothes.

*[S 533/2018 wef 01/09/2018]*

#### **Examination of prisoners for infectious diseases**

**75.—**(1) The Commissioner may, at any time, require any prisoner to undergo a medical examination by the medical officer for the

purposes of ascertaining whether the prisoner is suffering from, or is a carrier of, any infectious disease.

*[S 447/2014 wef 01/07/2014]*

(2) Where a prisoner refuses to undergo the medical examination under paragraph (1) or refuses to provide any sample necessary for the purposes of such examination, the medical officer shall forthwith give a written notification to the Superintendent.

(3) The Superintendent may, upon receipt of the written notification under paragraph (2), direct that the prisoner be detained separately from other prisoners until such time when the prisoner undergoes the required medical examination.

(4) Where a prisoner has been ascertained to be suffering from, or is a carrier of, any infectious disease under this regulation, the medical officer shall forthwith give a written report to the Superintendent.

(5) The Superintendent may, upon receipt of the written report by the medical officer under paragraph (4), direct that the prisoner be detained separately from other prisoners until the medical officer certifies that the prisoner is free from infection or the risk of spreading the infectious disease to other persons is eliminated.

(6) In this regulation, “infectious disease” means any of the diseases specified in the First Schedule to the Infectious Diseases Act (Cap. 137) and includes any other disease —

- (a) that is caused or is suspected to be caused by a micro-organism or any agent of disease;
- (b) that is capable or is suspected to be capable of transmission by any means to human beings; and
- (c) that the medical officer has reason to believe, if left uninvestigated or unchecked, is likely to result in an epidemic of the disease.

*[S 408/2003 wef 26/08/2003]*

**Confidentiality in handling of prisoners with AIDS and other sexually transmitted disease**

76. Where, in consequence of any action taken under regulation 75, any person is aware or has reasonable grounds for believing that a prisoner has Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome or is infected with the Human Immunodeficiency Virus or is suffering from a sexually transmitted disease or is a carrier of that disease, the person shall not disclose any information which may identify the prisoner except —

- (a) with the consent of the prisoner;
- (b) in accordance with regulation 75;
- (c) when ordered to do so by a court;
- (d) to any person who is treating, caring or handling the prisoner;
- (e) to the victim of a sexual assault by the prisoner; or
- (f) where such disclosure is allowed under section 25 of the Infectious Diseases Act.

**Examination by medical officer**

77.—(1) Every prisoner shall be examined, as soon as possible after arrival, by the medical officer or the assistant medical officer, who shall enter in the Nominal Record particulars of the prisoner's state of health, whether or not he has been vaccinated, or had small-pox, whether he has been an opium consumer, and to what degree, and any other information that it may seem desirable to record.

(2) In conducting this examination he shall give special attention to the mental condition of each prisoner.

(3) Prisoners shall not be sent to labour until the medical officer has certified that they are fit to perform it.

**Grooming requirements**

78.—(1) European and Eurasian prisoners sentenced to imprisonment for any period exceeding one month shall have their

hair cut short and their beards, whiskers and moustaches (if worn) trimmed close.

(2) Those who wear no hair on their faces, or a moustache only, shall be shaved as often as may be necessary to preserve a clean and decent appearance.

(3) The hair of female prisoners shall not be cut on admission or afterwards unless the medical officer shall consider it to be necessary for health and cleanliness.

(4) Every prisoner shall take a bath on admission and thereafter twice daily unless it shall be otherwise ordered by the medical officer.

(5) The hair of prisoners awaiting trial shall be kept, as far as cleanliness permits, in the same state as it was on admission.

### **Separation of male and female prisoners**

**79.** Male and female prisoners shall be kept absolutely separate from each other, and shall be confined in different buildings.

### **Separate cells**

**80.** Every male prisoner shall, if the accommodation of the prison permits, be confined at night in a separate cell duly certified as sufficient to contain one prisoner.

### **Minimum number in shared cells**

**81.** Where, from want of a sufficient number of certified separate cells, it is necessary to place prisoners in association, the smallest number to be placed in any room or ward is 3, and the room or ward shall be lighted at night and be under the constant supervision of the prison officers.

### **Treatment of female prisoners**

**82.—(1)** Female prisoners shall in no circumstances be attended otherwise than by persons of their own sex, and they shall be prevented from seeing or holding communication with any male prisoner.



(2) No warder or male officer shall enter, or be in a room in which females are confined, unless in the company of the Matron or a female warder or of another male officer and in the latter case only in emergency which must be reported forthwith to the Superintendent.

### **Prostitutes**

**83.** Female prisoners shall be classified, as far as possible, and known prostitutes shall be kept in a separate ward by themselves.

### **Employment of female prisoners**

**84.** Female prisoners shall be employed only within the prison walls.

### **Children**

**85.—**(1) A child below 3 years of age may be admitted with its mother.

(2) When any child has presumably attained the age of 3 years, the medical officer shall report if it is desirable or necessary that the child should be longer retained.

(3) Except by special authority of the Minister, a child shall not be kept in prison with its mother after attaining the age of 4 years.

(4) Should he know of no relations willing or in a position to receive such child, the Superintendent shall refer to the Commissioner for instructions.

*[S 447/2014 wef 01/07/2014]*

### **Confinement of prisoners below 15 years of age**

**86.—**(1) Prisoners considered to be below 15 years of age, whether male or female, shall be kept apart from adults, being, if possible, confined in separate buildings.

(2) Any prisoner who declares himself to be more than 15 years of age but who, in the opinion of the Superintendent and the medical officer, should not, having regard to his character, constitution and antecedents, be classed with adult prisoners shall be treated as a juvenile offender.

**Separation of prisoners**

87. Prisoners convicted for the first time shall be kept apart, if possible, from habitual criminals.

**Grooming for Asian prisoners**

88.—(1) Asian prisoners sentenced to imprisonment for any period exceeding one month, who are in the habit of shaving their heads, shall be shaved once a week.

(2) The hair of other Asian prisoners, except Sikhs, shall be cut close.

(3) Tamil prisoners admitted with long hair shall be allowed to retain it.

89. [*Deleted by S 533/2018 wef 01/09/2018*]

**Haircuts**

90. No prisoner shall have his hair cut, except with his own consent, until the time allowed for appealing has expired without appeal, or until his sentence has been confirmed on appeal.

**Grooming in last month of imprisonment**

91. During the prisoner's last month of imprisonment his hair shall be allowed to remain uncut and unshaven should the prisoner desire it.

**Military prisoners**

92. Soldiers convicted of breaches of military discipline only, shall so far as may be practicable having regard to the prison accommodation and the circumstances of the case, be kept separate and distinct from prisoners convicted of offences of an immoral, dishonest, shameful or criminal character.

**Photographs and finger impressions**

93.—(1) Every prisoner may, if required for the purposes of justice, be photographed on reception and subsequently, but no copy of the

photograph shall be given to any person unless he is officially authorised to receive it.

(2) The finger impressions of every prisoner may also be taken.

(3) When the conviction in consequence of which a prisoner has been imprisoned is reversed on appeal and the prisoner is ordered to be acquitted and discharged the Superintendent shall, on the application of the person who was so imprisoned, deliver to that person the sheet upon which his finger impressions were taken together with all photographs taken of him (both negatives and prints) in connection with his reception into prison in consequence of the conviction which has been reversed on appeal.

(4) If no such application shall have been received by him within 3 months from the date of the order of acquittal and discharge, the Superintendent shall destroy such sheet and photographs.

(5) The reversal on appeal of a conviction shall not necessitate the return to the person who had been imprisoned on that conviction of any record of finger impressions or of any photographs taken in connection with any other conviction of that person.

### *Discharge of Prisoners*

#### **Examination before discharge**

**94.**—(1) All convicted prisoners prior to being discharged or to being removed to any other prison, shall be examined by the medical officer.

(2) A similar examination shall be made of all banishees and vagrants immediately before the date of deportation.

#### **Prisoners suffering from acute or dangerous disease**

**95.** No prisoner shall be discharged, except upon his own requisition, whilst suffering from any acute or dangerous disease until the medical officer shall certify that such discharge is safe.

#### **Upon discharge prisoners to receive own clothing**

**96.**—(1) On the discharge of a prisoner his own clothes shall be returned to him, unless it has been found necessary to destroy them, in

which case he shall be provided with such clothing as the Superintendent considers suitable.

(2) The prison clothing shall be well washed, disinfected and dried before being returned to store or issued to another prisoner.

### **Date of release**

**97.** If the date of release falls on Sunday, or on a holiday under regulation 103, the prisoner shall be released on the preceding Saturday or on the preceding day, as the case may be.

## *Punishments*

### **Corporal punishment rules**

**98.**—(1) At the infliction of every sentence of corporal punishment, the Superintendent and the medical officer shall be present.

(2) The medical officer shall give such directions for preventing injury to health as he may consider necessary, and the Chief Rehabilitation Officer shall carry such directions into effect.

(3) Corporal punishment shall not, except by special order in cases of emergency, be inflicted within 24 hours of the sentence being awarded, nor shall it be inflicted by instalments.

(4) A return of all corporal punishments inflicted by order of the Superintendent or by order of the Visiting Justices shall be submitted to the Minister and the Commissioner monthly.

*[S 447/2014 wef 01/07/2014]*

### **Maximum forfeiture of remission**

**99.** The maximum periods of forfeiture of remission which may be ordered under the following sections of the Act shall be as follows:

- |                      |           |
|----------------------|-----------|
| (a) section 70(1)(b) | 7 days    |
| (b) section 71(1)(c) | 60 days   |
| (c) section 71(4)    | 90 days   |
| (d) section 74(2)(c) | 180 days. |

**Lapsing of order of forfeiture of remission**

**99A.** Any order of forfeiture of remission made in respect of a prisoner remanded for an offence is to be treated as lapsed upon the prisoner's release from remand, even if the prisoner is subsequently sentenced to imprisonment for the offence.

[S 533/2018 wef 01/09/2018]

**Maximum reduction in grade or postponement of promotion**

**100.** The maximum periods of reduction in grade or postponement of promotion which may be ordered under the following sections of the Act shall be as follows:

- |                      |          |
|----------------------|----------|
| (a) section 70(1)(c) | 30 days  |
| (b) section 71(1)(d) | 60 days. |

*Miscellaneous***Hours when prisoners unlocked from cells**

**101.**—(1) The Superintendent shall determine the hours when a prisoner shall be unlocked from his cell and shall be finally locked up for the night.

(2) The Superintendent may fix different hours for different categories of prisoners.

**Hours of labour**

**102.** The hours of labour for prisoners shall be as directed, in writing, by the Minister provided that the total hours of labour shall not exceed 8 in any one day.

**Rest days**

**103.**—(1) No prisoner shall be required to do any labour except such as may be necessary for keeping the prison premises clean and maintaining the essential services of the prison after 9.45 a.m. on any Saturday or on any Sunday or on any day which is included in the Schedule to the Holidays Act (Cap. 126) or on any other day which is appointed under section 5 of that Act to be a public holiday.

(2) Jewish prisoners shall not be compelled to work on Saturdays if they claim exemption and they may also keep such festival days as may be allowed by the Government.

(3) All Muslim prisoners shall be allowed to observe the fast of Ramadan and during the fast may be required to labour at such reduced task as the medical officer considers proper.

### **Visits by police**

**104.**—(1) On production of an order from an Assistant Superintendent of Police or from a Magistrate, any police officer may, at any reasonable time, visit any prison for the following purposes:

- (a) identifying offenders;
- (b) photographing and taking particulars of prisoners who have been directed to be subject to the supervision of the police; and
- (c) taking statements from prisoners considered necessary for any investigation under Chapter XIII of the Criminal Procedure Code (Cap. 68) or for any enquiry under the Banishment Act (Cap. 18).

(2) Officers of the law with competent Warrants or Orders for serving writs or other legal process on persons within the prison shall be admitted into the prisons at any reasonable time for that purpose.

### *Health*

#### **Maintenance of prison**

**105.** The prison, and every room and part thereof, shall be kept clean and shall as often as may be necessary, be washed, or whitewashed with lime.

#### **Clothing of prisoners**

**106.**—(1) The clothes of the prisoners and their bed-clothes shall be aired, changed and washed as often as the medical officer may direct.

(2) The clothes of prisoners shall be changed weekly.

**Exercise**

**107.** All prisoners not employed in the open air shall have such means of taking such exercise in the open air as the medical officer shall consider necessary for their health, but so that communication shall be prevented as far as the construction of the prison admits.

**Infirmary**

**108.** A proper room, or infirmary shall be set apart for sick prisoners, the separation between males and female, juveniles and adults, being strictly maintained.

**Vaccinations**

**109.** All prisoners may be vaccinated or re-vaccinated at the discretion of the medical officer.

*Food***Meals**

- 110.** Every prisoner must be provided with regular meals that are —
- (a) in terms of nutritional value, adequate for the basic health of the prisoner, taking into account the prisoner's daily energy requirements; and
  - (b) appropriate for the prisoner's medical condition, in accordance with the directions of the medical officer.

*[S 533/2018 wef 01/09/2018]*

**111.** *[Deleted by S 533/2018 wef 01/09/2018]*

**112.** *[Deleted by S 533/2018 wef 01/09/2018]*

**113.** *[Deleted by S 533/2018 wef 01/09/2018]*

*Instruction and Recreation***Religious services**

**114.** Every facility consistent with security and discipline shall be afforded for the holding of religious services and for visits by ministers of religion.

### Unauthorised publications

**115.**—(1) No unauthorised books or papers shall be admitted into any prison but the Commissioner may issue standing orders governing the issue of books and papers to prisoners and, where possible, may direct instruction to be given to such prisoners as in his opinion are likely to benefit thereby.

[S 447/2014 wef 01/07/2014]

(2) The Commissioner may also authorise recreation for long sentence prisoners provided that security and discipline are duly maintained.

[S 447/2014 wef 01/07/2014]

**116. to 126.** [Deleted by S 447/2014 wef 01/07/2014]

### Letters and Visits

#### Letters and visits

**127.**—(1) A prisoner has the privilege of sending and receiving letters every month, in accordance with the conditions specified in the Prison Standing Orders, for purposes of maintaining ties with the prisoner's family and friends.

[S 533/2018 wef 01/09/2018]

(2) Subject to paragraph (3), a prisoner has the privilege of receiving visits by such individuals, at such frequency and on such conditions, as allowed or specified in the Prison Standing Orders.

[S 533/2018 wef 01/09/2018]

(3) The following prisoners may not receive a visit without the Superintendent's permission:

- (a) a prisoner detained under a banishment order under the Banishment Act (Cap. 18);
- (b) a prisoner who is ordered to be removed from Singapore under the Immigration Act (Cap. 133) and detained pending removal.

[S 533/2018 wef 01/09/2018]



(4) The Superintendent may authorise any prisoner whose conduct and industry has been excellent, to receive visitors in a room provided for the purpose, and not within the normal visiting cubicles.

*[S 533/2018 wef 01/09/2018]*

(5) A prison officer shall supervise this visiting room.

(6) *[Deleted by S 533/2018 wef 01/09/2018]*

(7) So far as is practicable and is in the opinion of the Superintendent desirable, a prisoner shall be encouraged and assisted to maintain or establish such relations with persons or agencies outside the prison as may promote the best interests of the prisoner's family or his social rehabilitation.

(8) The Superintendent may at any time communicate to a prisoner or to his family or friends, any matter of importance to such prisoner.

(9) A prisoner shall be allowed to write one letter to inform a relative or a friend of his transfer to another prison.

(10) No other visits or communications shall be permitted except as hereafter specially provided, without the order in writing of the Minister or the Commissioner.

*[S 447/2014 wef 01/07/2014]*

### **Screening and recording of letters**

**127A.**—(1) Every letter sent by or to a prisoner may be opened and read by a prison officer.

(2) A copy may be made of every letter sent by or to a prisoner.

(3) A letter sent by or to a prisoner may be withheld if it contains anything that affects the security or good order of the prison.

(4) Paragraphs (2) and (3) do not apply to letters written by a prisoner to the prisoner's legal adviser and letters written by a prisoner's legal adviser.

*[S 533/2018 wef 01/09/2018]*

### **Access to counsel**

**127B.**—(1) A prisoner represented by a legal adviser may, for the purposes in paragraph (2) —

- (a) be visited by the legal adviser at reasonable times during working days; and
  - (b) write letters to and receive letters from the legal adviser.
- (2) The purposes mentioned in paragraph (1) are as follows:
- (a) preparing for criminal proceedings in which the prisoner is an accused person;
  - (b) such other purposes as the Superintendent may allow.

*[S 533/2018 wef 01/09/2018]*

### **Prison officer present at visits**

**128.** The Chief Rehabilitation Officer or an officer detailed by him, shall be present during the whole or every such visit.

### **Particulars of visitors**

**129.**—(1) The Chief Rehabilitation Officer or officer detailed by him shall demand the name and address of every visitor to a prisoner and when he has any ground for suspicion he may search, or cause to be searched, male visitors and may direct the female officer to search female visitors, such search not to be made in the presence of any prisoner or of another visitor and with due regard to decency.

(2) Where any visitor refuses to be searched, the Chief Rehabilitation Officer may deny him or her admission; the grounds of such proceeding, with the particulars thereof shall be entered in his Journal and reported to the Superintendent.

(3) The Matron or other female officer shall be present during any visit paid to a female prisoner.

**130.** *[Deleted by S 533/2018 wef 01/09/2018]*

### **Additional visits and letters**

**131.** The Superintendent may, in his discretion, permit additional visits or letters under circumstances which in his opinion warrant special consideration.

**Forfeiture of letters and visits for misconduct**

**132.** The privilege of writing and receiving letters and of receiving visits may be postponed or forfeited at any time for misconduct at the discretion of the Superintendent.

**Petition to President**

**133.—**(1) All prisoners may petition the President on the subject of their conviction or sentence once shortly after conviction if they wish, but not afterwards, unless —

- (a) there are any special circumstances which the Superintendent may consider should be brought to the notice of the President; or
- (b) such prisoner has been over one year in prison and not less than one year has elapsed since the date of his last petition.

(2) All prisoners may petition the President on any other subject at any time, provided that no petition shall be permitted if a reply to a previous petition on the same subject is still outstanding.

*Behaviour of Prisoners***Unauthorised communications**

**134.** No prisoner shall hold any sort of unauthorised communication with any person.

**Permitted articles only**

**135.** No prisoner shall have in his possession any article not expressly allowed by these Regulations of the prison and received from or through the Chief Rehabilitation Officer.

**No gambling**

**136.** No gaming shall be permitted in any prison and the Chief Rehabilitation Officer or other officer shall seize and destroy all dice, cards or other instruments of gaming.

*Restraint of Refractory Prisoners***Use of restraints on prisoners**

**137.**—(1) A prison officer must not use a restraint on a prisoner unless authorised under this regulation.

(2) A prison officer may use a restraint on a prisoner only if all the following conditions are met:

- (a) the use of the restraint is necessary to prevent the prisoner from causing self-injury, injuring others, or escaping;
- (b) the restraint is of a type approved under the Prison Standing Orders;
- (c) the restraint is used in a way approved under the Prison Standing Orders;
- (d) the restraint is removed immediately once it is no longer necessary.

(3) To avoid doubt, a prison officer may not use a restraint on a prisoner as punishment.

*[S 533/2018 wef 01/09/2018]*

**138.** *[Deleted by S 533/2018 wef 01/09/2018]*

*Corporal Punishment***Corporal punishment**

**139.**—(1) A rattan as may be specified by order of the punishing authority shall be used at all corporal punishments.

(2) Punishment with the rattan shall be inflicted on the buttocks of the offender.

(3) In the case of adults the rattan shall be not more than 1.25 centimetres in diameter, while in the case of juveniles a light rattan shall be used.

**Confinement in cells**

**140.** Prisoners sentenced to confinement in cells for breaches of prison discipline shall —

- (a) see no one, save the officers of the prison in the execution of their duty, a minister of religion and the medical officer; and
- (b) only have such outdoor exercise as the latter certifies is absolutely necessary for health.

### **Maximum period**

**141.** Such confinement shall not exceed an aggregate of more than 90 days in a year for any one prisoner, and the execution of any 2 consecutive sentences shall be separated by a period not shorter than the longer of such sentences.

### **Medical examination of prisoners sentenced to punishment**

**142.**—(1) Every prisoner sentenced to punishment shall be sent to the medical officer for examination and a certificate that its infliction is not likely to produce any serious or permanent injury shall be obtained by the Chief Rehabilitation Officer before it is carried out.

(2) In no case shall hard industrial labour be combined with punishment diet.

### **Special clothing and bedding**

**143.** Prisoners undergoing punishment shall be supplied with such clothing and bedding as may be certified as essential by the medical officer.

### **Prisoners to be given opportunity of defence before punishment**

**144.** No prisoner shall be punished until he has had an opportunity of hearing the charges and evidence against him and of making his defence.

### **Registration of offences and punishments**

**145.** The Chief Rehabilitation Officer shall enter or cause to be entered in the Punishment Book a record of every offence punished under the foregoing regulations, showing the date and nature of the offence and punishment, the names of the prisoner and of the

authority dealing with the case and any directions given by the medical officer.

**146. to 150.** [*Deleted by S 533/2018 wef 01/09/2018*]

**151.** [*Deleted by S 447/2014 wef 01/07/2014*]

## PART VIIIA

### REMISSION OF SENTENCES

[*S 447/2014 wef 01/07/2014*]

#### *Division 1 — Review of life sentences, etc.*

#### **Application**

**151A.** Regulation 151B applies to a prisoner to whom Division 3 of Part VB of the Act applies.

[*S 447/2014 wef 01/07/2014*]

#### **Referral to Life Imprisonment Review Board**

**151B.**—(1) There shall be a Life Imprisonment Review Board for one or more prisons, or more than one Life Imprisonment Review Board for one prison, to consider whether the Minister should direct the Commissioner to make a remission order in respect of a prisoner of that prison or any one of those prisons referred to it under paragraph (2), and to make a recommendation in that regard and on any other matter in relation to a remission order for the Minister's decision.

(2) Before the date on which the Minister would be required to review (or further review) a prisoner's case under section 50P of the Act, the Commissioner must refer the prisoner's case to a Life Imprisonment Review Board.

(3) A Life Imprisonment Review Board must make its recommendation under paragraph (1) before the date on which the Minister would be required to review (or further review) the prisoner's case under section 50P of the Act.

[*S 447/2014 wef 01/07/2014*]

*Division 2 — Review of long sentences***Application**

**151C.** Regulation 151D applies to a prisoner who, on 1st July 2014, has served 20 years of his sentence or more.

*[S 447/2014 wef 01/07/2014]*

**Referral to Long Imprisonment Review Board**

**151D.**—(1) There shall be a Long Imprisonment Review Board for one or more prisons, or more than one Long Imprisonment Review Board for one prison, to consider whether the Minister should direct the Commissioner to make a remission order in respect of a prisoner of that prison or any one of those prisons referred to it under paragraph (2), and to make a recommendation in that regard and on any other matter in relation to a remission order for the Minister's decision.

(2) Before the date on which the Minister would be required to review (or further review) a prisoner's case under section 50J of the Act, the Commissioner must refer the prisoner's case to a Long Imprisonment Review Board.

(3) A Long Imprisonment Review Board must make its recommendation under paragraph (1) before the date on which the Minister would be required to review (or further review) the prisoner's case under section 50J of the Act.

*[S 447/2014 wef 01/07/2014]*

*Division 3 — Mandatory aftercare scheme***Application**

**151E.** Regulations 151F, 151G and 151H apply to —

- (a) a person to whom Division 5 of Part VB of the Act applies; and
- (b) a person to whom Division 5 of Part VB of the Act would apply if he were released on a remission order.

*[S 447/2014 wef 01/07/2014]*

**Referral to Mandatory Aftercare Advisory Committee**

**151F.**—(1) There shall be a Mandatory Aftercare Advisory Committee for one or more prisons, or more than one Mandatory Aftercare Advisory Committee for one prison, to make a recommendation to the Commissioner, in respect of a person of that prison or any one of those prisons, on any one or more of the following matters referred to the Committee by the Commissioner:

- (a) whether the Commissioner should impose mandatory aftercare conditions on the person under section 50V of the Act;
- (b) the type of mandatory aftercare conditions to be imposed on the person and the duration for which they are to be imposed;
- (c) whether the Commissioner should vary, cancel or add to any mandatory aftercare conditions imposed;
- (d) whether the Commissioner should extend or reduce the period for which the person is subject to the mandatory aftercare conditions;
- (e) whether the Commissioner should waive, in any particular case, any of the mandatory aftercare conditions imposed;
- (f) any other matter relating to the mandatory aftercare scheme established under Division 5 of Part VB of the Act.

(2) A Mandatory Aftercare Advisory Committee must consider the matters referred to it, having regard to the factors in regulation 151G, before making its recommendation to the Commissioner.

*[S 447/2014 wef 01/07/2014]*

**Factors to be considered in imposing mandatory aftercare conditions**

**151G.** The Commissioner must consider the following factors when exercising his powers under section 50V of the Act in relation to any person to whom this regulation applies:

- (a) the person's progress and response to rehabilitation in prison and (where relevant) while on remission;



- (b) the person's family support;
- (c) the person's risk of recidivism;
- (d) the person's latest offence and his antecedents;
- (e) all other relevant factors.

[S 447/2014 wef 01/07/2014]

### **Serious and minor breaches of mandatory aftercare conditions**

**151H.**—(1) The following shall be serious breaches of mandatory aftercare conditions for the purposes of section 50Y of the Act:

- (a) where as a result of one or more breaches of section 50V(3)(c) of the Act, the person fails, for a cumulative period of 24 hours, to remain indoors in accordance with that section;
- (b) every breach of the mandatory aftercare condition in section 50V(3)(e)(i) of the Act;
- (c) every breach of the mandatory aftercare condition in section 50V(3)(e)(v) of the Act;
- (d) every breach of the mandatory aftercare condition in section 50V(3)(f) of the Act;
- (e) the sixth and every subsequent breach of any mandatory aftercare condition other than the mandatory aftercare condition referred to in sub-paragraph (b), (c) or (d).

(2) For the purposes of paragraph (1)(e), it is immaterial whether the first 5 breaches, and the subsequent breaches, are of the same mandatory aftercare condition or of different mandatory aftercare conditions.

(3) For the purposes of section 50X of the Act, any breach of a mandatory aftercare condition that is not a serious breach of a mandatory aftercare condition is a minor breach of a mandatory aftercare condition.

[S 447/2014 wef 01/07/2014]

*Division 4 — General provisions***Remission system to be explained upon admission and release under remission order**

**151I.**—(1) When a prisoner is admitted to prison or released under a remission order, the provisions for the remission of sentences in Part VB of the Act (including the basic condition of a remission order and the mandatory aftercare scheme) must, so far as they apply to the prisoner, be explained to him.

(2) When any time spent by a prisoner serving his sentence is not reckonable for the purposes of the making of a remission order under section 50I of the Act, this must be explained to the prisoner.

(3) When a prisoner is punished with forfeiture of remission for any reason, the prisoner must be fully informed of this.

*[S 447/2014 wef 01/07/2014]*

**Confinement and forfeiture during remand to be non-reckonable for purposes of remission order**

**151IA.**—(1) This regulation applies to a prisoner —

- (a) to whom Division 2 or 7 of Part VB of the Act applies;
- (b) who was imprisoned for a period immediately before being sentenced to imprisonment (and not released during that period); and
- (c) who was punished with confinement in a punishment cell or forfeiture of remission under the Act during that period.

(2) The following periods are not reckonable for the purposes of section 50I(1) of the Act:

- (a) one-third of the time which the prisoner is confined in a punishment cell under paragraph (1)(c);
- (b) the forfeiture of remission under paragraph (1)(c).

(3) Nothing in this regulation applies to any confinement in a punishment cell or forfeiture of remission that is imposed for a prison offence committed before 1 September 2018.

*[S 533/2018 wef 01/09/2018]*

**Record of remission and related matters**

**151J.**—(1) A record of remission shall be kept for every prisoner, in accordance with this regulation, except a prisoner committed for debt.

(2) The record of remission for a prisoner to whom Division 2 of Part VB or section 50ZE of the Act applies shall contain the following information:

- (a) the latest possible date of release;
- (b) the periods that are not reckonable for the purposes of a remission order under section 50I of the Act;
- (c) the earliest possible date on which a remission order must be made under section 50I of the Act;
- (d) if the prisoner's sentence exceeds 20 years —
  - (i) the date on which the prisoner would have served 20 years of his sentence if he were not earlier released; or
  - (ii) if he has served 20 years of his sentence, the Minister's decision or decisions after reviewing the prisoner's case under section 50J of the Act;
- (e) if a remission order is made in respect of the prisoner —
  - (i) the remainder of the prisoner's sentence as determined under section 50K, or 50ZE(3) and (5) of the Act, as the case may be;
  - (ii) the duration of the remission order under section 50L, or section 50ZE(2), (3) and (5) of the Act, as the case may be;
  - (iii) any extension of the remission order under section 50M, 50N or 50ZE(2) of the Act, as the case may be; and
  - (iv) any breach of the basic condition of the remission order and the length of any enhanced sentence imposed under section 50T of the Act for that breach.

(3) The record of remission for a prisoner to whom Division 3 of Part VB of the Act applies shall contain all of the following information:

- (a) the date on which the prisoner would have served 20 years of his sentence;
- (b) if he has served 20 years of his sentence, the Minister's decision or decisions after reviewing the prisoner's case under section 50P of the Act;
- (c) if a remission order is made in respect of the prisoner, any breach of the basic condition of the remission order and the length of any enhanced sentence ordered under section 50T of the Act for that breach.

(4) The record of remission for a prisoner to whom Division 6 of Part VB or section 50ZD of the Act applies shall contain the following information:

- (a) the latest possible date of release;
- (b) the periods that are not reckonable for the remission of the prisoner's sentence under section 50I or 50ZD of the Act;
- (c) the earliest possible date on which the prisoner's sentence would be remitted under section 50ZB or 50ZD of the Act;
- (d) if the prisoner's sentence exceeds 20 years —
  - (i) the date on which the prisoner would have served 20 years of his sentence if he were not earlier released;  
or
  - (ii) if he has served 20 years of his sentence, the Minister's decision or decisions after reviewing the prisoner's case under section 50ZD(4) or (5) of the Act;
- (e) if a remission order is made in respect of the prisoner —
  - (i) the remainder of the prisoner's sentence as determined under section 50ZD(6) of the Act;
  - (ii) the duration of the remission order under section 50L and 50ZD(6) and (7) of the Act;

- (iii) any extension of the remission order under section 50M or 50N, and section 50ZD(6) of the Act; and
- (iv) any breach of the basic condition of the remission order and the length of any enhanced sentence imposed under section 50T of the Act for that breach.

(5) The record of remission for a person who is required by the Commissioner to comply with mandatory aftercare conditions under section 50V of the Act shall contain, in addition to all of the information referred to in paragraph (2), (3) or (4), all of the following information:

- (a) the mandatory aftercare conditions that are imposed on the person;
- (b) any minor breach of a mandatory aftercare condition and any punishment imposed by the Commissioner under section 50X of the Act for that breach;
- (c) any serious breach of a mandatory aftercare condition and the duration of any sentence imposed under section 50Y of the Act for that breach;

(6) Any period of time to be recorded under this regulation shall be recorded in whole days.

*[S 447/2014 wef 01/07/2014]*

### **Service of notice of recall**

**151JA.**—(1) For the purposes of section 50X(3)(a)(ii) of the Act, a notice of recall under section 50X(2) of the Act may also be served on a person by any of the following means:

- (a) by addressing it to that person and delivering it at that person's last known residential address to an adult person who is a member of that person's family;
- (b) by sending it by prepaid registered post addressed to that person at that person's last known residential address;
- (c) by addressing it to that person and sending it by fax to that person's last known fax number;

- (d) by addressing it to that person, and sending it to an email address or a digital mobile telephone number specified by that person in accordance with paragraph (2);
  - (e) by leaving it at that person's last known residential address if service cannot be effected under sub-paragraph (a), (b), (c) or (d).
- (2) The notice may be served in a manner specified in paragraph (1)(d) only if both of the following conditions are satisfied:
- (a) the person to whom the notice is to be served gives that person's prior written consent for the notice to be served in that manner;
  - (b) that person specifies, in that written consent, the email address or digital mobile telephone number to which the notice is to be sent.

[S 533/2018 wef 01/09/2018]

## PART VIII B

### HOME DETENTION SCHEME

[S 447/2014 wef 01/07/2014]

#### **Referral to Home Detention Advisory Committee**

**151K.**—(1) There shall be a Home Detention Advisory Committee for one or more prisons, or more than one Home Detention Advisory Committee for one prison, to make a recommendation, in respect of a prisoner of that prison or any one of those prisons, on any one or more of the following matters referred to the Committee by the Commissioner, or by the Superintendent subject to the direction of the Commissioner:

- (a) whether the Commissioner should make a home detention order under section 52 of the Act in respect of a prisoner who is eligible to be released on home detention under section 53(1) of the Act;
- (b) whether a prisoner who is disqualified under section 53(1)(b) of the Act from being released on home

detention, but who is otherwise eligible to be released on home detention under section 53(1) of the Act, should have his disqualification removed by the Minister under section 53(1A) of the Act and be released on a home detention order by the Commissioner under section 52 of the Act;

- (c) any other matter relating to the home detention scheme established under Part VI of the Act.

(2) The Committee shall consider the matters referred to it and shall make a recommendation for the decision of the Minister or the Commissioner, as the case may be.

(3) The Committee shall, in making a recommendation to the Minister as to whether the Minister should remove a prisoner's disqualification under subsection (1A) of section 53 of the Act, have regard to the factors in that subsection.

*[S 447/2014 wef 01/07/2014]*

## PART VIIIIC

### EXTERNAL PLACEMENT SCHEME

*[S 447/2014 wef 01/07/2014]*

#### **Referral to External Placement Review Board**

**151L.**—(1) There shall be an External Placement Review Board for one or more prisons, or more than one External Placement Review Board for one prison, to make a recommendation to the Minister, in respect of a prisoner of that prison or any one of those prisons, on any one or more of the following matters referred to the Board by the Commissioner:

- (a) whether the Minister should direct the Commissioner to make an external placement order under section 59B(1) of the Act in respect of the prisoner;
- (b) whether the Minister should direct the Commissioner to extend the duration of the prisoner's external placement order under section 59B(2) of the Act;

- (c) whether the Minister should cancel the prisoner's external placement order under section 59H(1) of the Act;
- (d) any other matter relating to the external placement scheme established under Part VIA of the Act.

(2) Before the Minister gives any direction or makes any decision in relation to an external placement order in respect of a prisoner's case, the Commissioner must refer the prisoner's case to an External Placement Review Board.

(3) The Board shall consider the matters referred to it and shall make a recommendation for the Minister's decision.

(4) In making its recommendation, the Board shall have regard to the factors in section 59B(3)(a) of the Act and may have regard to the factors in section 59B(3)(b) of the Act.

*[S 447/2014 wef 01/07/2014]*

## PART IX

### PERSONS DETAINED FOR SAFE CUSTODY

#### **Definition for this Part**

**152.** In this Part, "specified prisoner" means a debtor, a prisoner awaiting trial or a prisoner committed for safe custody only.

*[S 533/2018 wef 01/09/2018]*

#### **Separation of prisoners**

**152A.** A specified prisoner must in no case be confined in association with convicted criminals.

*[S 533/2018 wef 01/09/2018]*

#### **Labour**

**153.** A specified prisoner will not be required to do any labour other than what is required to keep the specified prisoner's room, furniture and utensils clean.

*[S 533/2018 wef 01/09/2018]*



**Discretion of Superintendent to modify routine**

**154.** The Superintendent may modify the routine of the prison in regard to any prisoner awaiting trial, so far as to dispense with any practice which, in the Superintendent's opinion, is clearly unnecessary or unsuitable in the case of that particular prisoner.

**Privileges**

**155.—(1)** A specified prisoner may be allowed to receive or purchase items such as books, papers and food, as are consistent with good order and the discipline of the prison.

*[S 533/2018 wef 01/09/2018]*

(2) All such matters must be received or bought through the Chief Rehabilitation Officer.

(3) Prisoners detained on banishment orders or on orders made by the Controller of Immigration may not enjoy these privileges, except with the permission of the Superintendent.

**156.** *[Deleted by S 533/2018 wef 01/09/2018]*

**Withdrawal of privileges**

**157.** Any of the privileges mentioned in regulation 153 or 155(1) may be withdrawn, or curtailed in case of abuse at the discretion of the Superintendent who will make an entry of the particulars of each such case in his Journal.

*[S 533/2018 wef 01/09/2018]*

**158.** *[Deleted by S 533/2018 wef 01/09/2018]*

**159.** *[Deleted by S 533/2018 wef 01/09/2018]*

**160.** *[Deleted by S 533/2018 wef 01/09/2018]*

**Medical practitioner of choice**

**161.** A prisoner awaiting trial shall, if necessary for the purposes of his defence, be allowed to see a registered medical practitioner appointed by himself or by his friends or legal advisers on any week day at any reasonable hour, in the sight but not in the hearing of the Chief Rehabilitation Officer or an officer detailed by him.

## PART X

## PRISONERS CONDEMNED TO DEATH

**Search**

**162.**—(1) Every prisoner condemned to death shall be thoroughly searched, under the personal supervision of the Chief Rehabilitation Officer, and any article shall be removed from him which it is considered dangerous or inexpedient to leave in his possession.

(2) Such prisoners shall be confined apart from all other prisoners, and be under the constant supervision of an officer of the prison, both by day and night.

(3) The cell or room in which the prisoner is confined shall, on every such occasion, be previously examined, and daily thereafter so long as it is occupied by a condemned prisoner, by the Chief Rehabilitation Officer, who is to satisfy himself of its fitness and safety and make an entry of his having done so in his Journal.

**Clothing and bedding**

**163.** Such prisoners shall be provided with the same kind of clothing and bedding as persons undergoing simple imprisonment, and shall be provided with such other articles as may be approved in writing by the Superintendent.

**Restricted access to prisoner**

**164.**—(1) No person except the medical officer and other prison officers in the course of duty, and, if required by the prisoner, a minister of the persuasion to which he belongs, shall have access to such prisoner without a written order from the Minister, and he shall not be compelled to receive any such visitor, unless it is so provided in the order of admission.

(2) The Chief Rehabilitation Officer or an officer detailed by him shall be present during the whole of every such interview.

(3) Such prisoners shall be entitled to receive the diet as prescribed in the prison dietary.

**Executions**

**165.** Executions shall be attended by the Superintendent, the medical officer and the Chief Rehabilitation Officer of the prison and such other prison officers as may be detailed to attend by order of the Superintendent.

**Duties of Superintendent with regard to instruction for execution**

**166.—**(1) The Superintendent and the Chief Rehabilitation Officer shall make themselves familiar with the instructions for carrying out executions.

(2) They will satisfy themselves that every precaution is taken to ensure that executions are being carried out with efficiency and despatch in accordance with the instructions and that the gallows and all appliances connected with executions are maintained in good condition and order.

**THE SCHEDULE**

*[Deleted by S 533/2018 wef 01/09/2018]*

*[G.N. Nos. 99/39; 501/40; S 106/46; S 127/46; S 343/47;  
S 67/48; S 304/48; S 153/49; S 20/50; S 241/52; S 106/53;  
S 40/56; S 313/68; S 282/89; S 510/95; S 32/98;  
S 406/2000]*

LEGISLATIVE HISTORY  
PRISONS REGULATIONS  
(CHAPTER 247, RG 2)

This Legislative History is provided for the convenience of users of the Prisons Regulations. It is not part of these Regulations.

- 1. G. N. No. 99/1939 — Prisons Regulations 1938**  
Date of commencement : 13 January 1939
- 2. G. N. No. 501/1940 — Prisons (Amendment) Regulations 1939**  
Date of commencement : 2 February 1940
- 3. G. N. No. S 106/1946 — Prisons (Amendment) Regulations 1946**  
Date of commencement : 16 August 1946
- 4. G. N. No. S 127/1946 — Prisons (Emergency Diet — Amendment) Regulations 1946**  
Date of commencement : 6 September 1946
- 5. G. N. No. S 343/1947 — Prisons (Special Diet — Amendment) Regulations 1947**  
Date of commencement : 17 October 1947
- 6. G. N. No. S 67/1948 — Prisons (Emergency Diet — Amendment) Regulations 1948**  
Date of commencement : 12 March 1948
- 7. G. N. No. S 304/1948 — Prisons (Emergency Diet — Amendment No. 2) Regulations 1948**  
Date of commencement : 17 September 1948
- 8. G. N. No. S 153/1949 — Prisons (Visitors — Amendment) Regulations 1949**  
Date of commencement : 8 April 1949
- 9. G. N. No. S 20/1950 — Prisons (Emergency Diet) Regulations 1950**  
Date of commencement : 27 January 1950
- 10. G. N. No. S 241/1952 — Prisons (Amendment) Regulations 1952**  
Date of commencement : 30 May 1952
- 11. G. N. No. S 106/1953 — Prisons (Amendment) Regulations 1953**  
Date of commencement : 10 April 1953

- 12. G. N. No. S 40/1956 — Prisons (Amendment) Regulations 1956**  
Date of commencement : 1 March 1956
- 13. G. N. No. S 313/1968 — Prisons (Amendment) Regulations 1968**  
Date of commencement : 1 November 1968
- 14. G. N. No. S 282/1989 — Prisons (Amendment) Regulations 1989**  
Date of commencement : 23 June 1989
- 15. 1990 Revised Edition — Prisons Regulations**  
Date of operation : 25 March 1992
- 16. G. N. No. S 510/1995 — Prisons (Amendment) Regulations 1995**  
Date of commencement : 24 November 1995
- 17. G. N. No. S 32/1998 — Prisons (Amendment) Regulations 1998**  
Date of commencement : 16 January 1998
- 18. G. N. No. S 406/2000 — Prisons (Amendment) Regulations 2000**  
Date of commencement : 11 September 2000
- 19. 2002 Revised Edition — Prisons Regulations**  
Date of operation : 31 January 2002
- 20. G. N. No. S 408/2003 — Prisons (Amendment) Regulations 2003**  
Date of commencement : 26 August 2003
- 21. G. N. No. S 7/2004 — Prisons (Amendment) Regulations 2004**  
Date of commencement : 8 January 2004
- 22. G. N. No. S 609/2004 — Prisons (Amendment No. 2) Regulations 2004**  
Date of commencement : 4 October 2004
- 23. G. N. No. S 455/2008 — Prisons (Amendment) Regulations 2008**  
Date of commencement : 15 September 2008
- 24. G. N. No. S 447/2014 — Prisons (Amendment) Regulations 2014**  
Date of commencement : 1 July 2014
- 25. G. N. No. S 533/2018 — Prisons (Amendment) Regulations 2018**  
Date of commencement : 1 September 2018
- 26. G.N. No. S 1065/2020 — Prisons (Amendment) Regulations 2020**  
Date of commencement : 2 January 2021