

## INFORMATION COMMUNICATION TECHNOLOGY (ICT) INITIATIVES IN CENTRAL JAIL ADMINISTRATION IN HARYANA

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### ABSTRACT

*Due to an increase in the inequality in our society there are many reasons which produce an increment in criminal cases in India. Even it can be seen that the criminals are not only the poor, socially backward, illiterate and psychologically effected persons but there are a huge number of highly qualified, socially developed and intelligent prisoners. So there is a moral duty of the nation to secure their human rights and their good management in the prisons. In fulfillment of this objective ICT can effective. ICT provides less time consuming, less laborious and effectively applicable environment that help in enhancement of services, infrastructure, network and software to manage the record of prisoners, their activities, behavior, data related to background, networking between the prisons of country, crime procedure and to provide the facility of video conferencing in the prisons. ICT also promote e-governance, e-education, security network, e-society, and ICT human resources. In this paper, we discussed about the ICT initiatives in the central jail of Hissar district of Haryana. Role of ICT in jail management of central jail-I Hissar in different functions and services, such as entering the data of new prisoner, communication facilities to the prisoners, facilities of video conference, jail hospital record, canteen working and administrative office record, are discussed in this paper.*

**KEYWORDS:** *ICT, Central Jail, Prison, Cyber Security, Cyber-Crime, Jail Management*

### INTRODUCTION

At present time, in the era of globalization and competition, our country suffers from many global problems such as population explosion, terrorism, poverty, malnutrition, natural disasters, exploitation of natural resources, unemployment, global warming, and pollution. But the concerted effort of our government, corporates, scientist, engineers, doctors, media, youth, and civil society have been proved our growth in world by attaining the 5<sup>th</sup> economy position in the world in the time of financial crises in the world. Our position in the field of space technology (ISRO: Indian Space Research Organization), defense (DRDO: Defence Research and Development Organization), medicine, technology, agriculture and in the democracy is showing our efforts in the race of modernization. But a strong, reliable and fast network is necessary to manage our huge population areas and their activities to maintain and promote the growth in our country and for the implementation of the

policies and activities framed for the betterment of the administration. From the development of the other countries, it can be seen that the ICT can be effectively used to improve markets and the competitions in products and manufacturing. It can be the bridge to establishing the connection or integration between the nation's economy, their living standard, digitalization, biodiversity, technology, management, and policies.

The role of ICT has been proved in the report of Global Innovation index purposed by WIPO (World Intellectual Property Organization) India improve its position 66<sup>th</sup> (2016) to 57<sup>th</sup> (2018) which shows the improvements of innovation in India. Similar enhancement can also be seen in the field of effective improvement in education, industrialization, and agriculture in our country.

ICT provides less time consuming, a less laborious and effectively applicable environment that help to develop more services, strong infrastructure, reliable network and fast software to promote e-governance, e-education, network security, e-society, e-commerce, trade of goods, services and human resources.

ICT provides linkages between educational, research and training institutions at international, national, commercials, social, and at regional levels by which these institutes now operate their elaborate and high-tech campus widely through networking and collaboration. In spite of enhancement in capacity building, there is also need of debate on above-discussed role of ICT in our country in various fields for its long life learning, development, and growth.

ICT is not only becoming helpful in day to day life but also mandatory in cutting edge technology going all around via the Internet of Things, Artificial Intelligence and Virtual Reality being some of these. Highly automated business processes have cut costs and machining hours. Spreading globalization and technology share made possible through ICT in the agricultural, manufacturing, defense, banking sector, medical, disaster management has led our country to the new peaks. But ICT has also created problems and challenges to organizations and individuals alike as well as to society as a whole.

Although ICT is building block or chain process for digitalization of processes in security also such as in Fingerprint technology, DNA Sampling, Human Genome Project, Crime Investigation Process, powerful technology in weapons for defense and so on yet it can be the root cause of cyber-crime which may be create a critical situations for our society, security, intellectual property and human rights.

## **OBJECTIVES**

Due to an increase in the inequality in our society, there are many reasons which produce an increment in the criminal cases in India. Even it can be seen that the criminals are not only the poor, socially backward, illiterate and psychologically effected persons but there are a huge number of highly qualified, socially developed and intelligent prisoners. So there is a moral duty of the nation to secure their human rights and their good management in the prisons. In fulfillment of this objective ICT can effective. But the use of ICT is not restricted for the growth, betterment, and well-beings but it can be harmful to the security of the nation, lack of privacy, cyber-crime, lack of social personal interaction and for health and environment on other hands. So there should be a faithful, sustainable, confidential and effective policy about ICT in our country which should have clear intensions and visions. Policymaker should not only focus on the need for economic development but also on the impact of ICT overall. The following are the major objectives of this paper:

- To signify the effective role of ICT in Jail administration of central jail of district Hissar in Haryana.
- To signify the role of ICT in the maintenance of the prisoner's record, their community facilities, their meals and especially in their security.
- To identify the problems related to the better implementation of ICT in jail management and to highlights the lack of infrastructure for it.
- To encourage the development in the field of ICT sector for resolution of society problems and for betterment and easiness of daily life.

## **HISTORY OF TECHNOLOGY TRANSFORMATION IN PRISONS OF HARYANA**

There is no any shortage of skill in India and development of technology is not dependent only upon engineers; this has been proved by an example of the development of software by a prisoner in the jail of Haryana. Rohit Pagare (who is the implementing arm of this digitalization project, is serving life imprisonment in case of murder of his wife as shown in Fig. 1), 35 years old a bespectacled chartered accountant, is a part of a team of convicts who are responsible for technology transformation in the administration and management of prisons of Haryana. His team travel different prisons to laying optical fibers, setting up the server, data management and to train the staff of prisons of Haryana. It is important to mention that this story of technology transformation in Haryana prisons cannot be completed without discussion of another hero of this digitalization transformation, Amit Mishra. Mishra is the mind behind the digitalization of prison management via software named PHOENIX. Their team leading the digitalization of 19 prisons of Haryana and they proudly named this as prison prisoner partnership (PPP).



**Figure 1: Amit Mishra tuning the PHOENIX software at Bhondsi Jail in Gurugram**

According to Pagare, there is no more development in the area of prisons in our country even in the era of technology. Our prisons are still working in the era of British where everything is driven manually. But today situation is changed due to an increase in prisoners and prison population. Their innovation made our prison's management high-tech and provides fast network and communication channel, clean and eco-friendly environment of paperless mechanism and secure data exchange between the prison offices.

## ICT APPLICATIONS IN JAIL MANAGEMENT IN CENTRAL JAIL-1 HISSAR

Enhancement and advancement can be easily seen in the quality work and better management of the prison central jail of Hissar district of Haryana by the use of ICT. This analysis and clarification of the mechanism of the use of information technology are to re-engineer operations in detail. The following departments of this Jail are under this software working smoothly and efficiently:-

### Entering the data of New Prisoner

ICTs importance is much more in Prisons because it facilitates the Administration to record the data of new confines/convicts and under-trials and to enter their complete criminal records who sent to Jail by the Judiciary. Not even this in the app duly developed by the life prisoners Mr. Pagare and Mishra is a boon for all the prisons in Haryana by which the administration becomes enable to maintain the prisoners who proceed on Bail, Parole, shifting to another jail, next hearing date of the prisoners/under trails. The administration becomes capable to maintain the records of those who have been granted remission or any other relaxation by the Govt. from time to time.

### Communication Facilities to the Prisoners

Prior to the establishment of Information Communication Technology, the Jail Administration was having the old type of devices of communication by which only a few prisoners were able to talk with their families and relatives. Now on the arrival of Information Communication Technology the minimum 864 prisoners daily talk to their families, it is really no doubt a miracle. The funds are being credited to the (Telephone facility accounts being maintained by Jail) of prisoners through ATM

### Facilities of Video Conference

On the establishment of Information communication technology, the video conference system has been installed in the Central Jail-1, Hissar, which facilitate the Jail authority to produce the hardcore heinous convicts/undertrials before the Hon'ble Court for their peshi or evidence. This not only economical rather time saving system and less risk matter. The heinous criminal not to taken away to the Courts for their hearing or evidence under the custody of Police guards and the vehicle. Through videoconference prisoners may talk to his nears and tear who confined to any other Jail in Haryana. A video conference facility provides the opportunity to the prisoners to talk to their lawyer and to explain his case or any other important contents pertaining to his case. Now another facility is being installed very soon which facilitate the prisoners to see the photo of the person/family members to whom he has been authorized to talk on Communication facility.

### **Jail Hospital Record**

Prior to the establishment of ICTs, the OPD was manually controlled and it was really a tough job for the person on duty to prepare OPD slip for more 100 patients who wanted to get their selves checked from the Doctor. Now during these days after the app is installed the work becomes very easier and speedy. More than 150 patients visited the Jail Hospital for their medical checkup. To get themselves referred to another hospital outside the Jail premises like PGI, Rohtak, Agroha Medical College, Agroha, Civil Hospital, Hissar. All the concerns record about the prescription of medicines, Indoor patients, chronic diseases patients, HIV patients, “Nassha Mukti Unmoolan”, the extra diet provision to the needy/week patient is available on one click. The main valuable thing is that the Jail Hospital maintaining the complete record of available medicines in the Stores in this app. These ICTs, technology has no doubt reduced the paper work and man power in the different departments of this Jail.

### **Canteen working and its Record**

A cashless economy can be seen in the Hissar jail easily. The use of Debit cards, credit cards, mobile banking, e-fund transfer, e-pay, paytm, Bhim app etc. are significantly increased for banking, purchasing, transactions, and financial systems. A cashless economy is beneficial to regulate and manage the financial system in prison.

Prior to ICT development in prisons, coupons and cash-based sale system was used in the canteen of prisons that is most of the commercial payments were in cash mode by which there was a leakage of money in the management system of a canteen. But the development of ICT in prisons helps to enhance efficiency, quality, management, record, infrastructure, services, and transparency in the meals distribution in prisons. Cash related transactions account for about 99% of the convicts/under trials activity with the canteen and in addition to this, it has also been noticed that cash transactions above than Rs.40,000/- to 45,000/- per day were being made by the prisoners of this jail. The work of canteen becomes more and more easy and cashless, couponless. The rates & quantities of each and every commodity are entered in the app, as and when any material is demanded by any convicts/undertrials on just one click the complete detail of the convicts/UT regarding, his balance and any fresh credit of amounts display on the screen with his photo. The entries of the procured items made in the account of the convicts/under trials and a slip in token of receipt are issued which shows the balance of amount in his account and treated as Cash Memo.

### **Administrative Office Record**

The main and valuable issue that all service records of the employees about their salaries, leave, and duties are being maintained by this system of technology. In addition to this, the wages of all the ‘Mashkaties’ also have been drawn after making the necessary entries about their presence on work. The duties of the Warders/Head Warders are also regulated through ICT.

## CONSTRAINTS

The development of the project in our prison is a symbol of our bright future, the enhancement of the role of ICT presents the evidence of our efforts made for better future, but our system is still struggling with many serious threats about the progress in this field which is necessary to mention here. Some of the main and selected ones are being told here.

- Poor Infrastructure and institutional capability.
- Deficiency in ICT skill and innovation.
- Poor quality in education and research.
- Less financial availability and stability.
- Less international collaboration for technology transfer.
- Poor foreign direct investments (FDI).
- A high rate of corruption.

## CONCLUSIONS AND SUGGESTIONS

ICT provides less time consuming, less laborious and effectively applicable environment that help in enhancement of services, infrastructure, network and software to manage the record of prisoners, their activities, behavior, data related to background, networking between the prisons of country, crime procedure and to provide the facility of video conferencing in the prisons. ICT also promote e-governance, e-education, security network, e-society, and ICT human resources. It provides linkages between educational, research and training institutions at international, national, commercials, social and at regional levels by which these institutes now operate their elaborate and high-tech campus widely through networking and collaboration. But the use of ICT is not restricted for the growth, betterment, and well-beings but it can be harmful to the security of the nation, lack of privacy, cyber-crime, lack of social personal interaction and for health and environment on other hands. So there should be a faithful, sustainable, confidential and effective policy about ICT in our country which should have clear intensions and visions. Policymaker should not only focus on the need for economic development but also on the impact of ICT overall. Various constraints discussed in paper tend to reduce the growth rate of ICT in our country whose some solutions are suggested here:

- Increase the budget allocation for the ICT sector, its innovation and research.
- Develop a strong, faithful, secure and transparent policy of ICT and place this in agenda for the mid-term and long-term development of the country.
- Enhance international collaboration for ICT research, technology transfer and FDI in this sector.
- Develop a system for training and skill development.

- Encourage startups in this field and provide them the facility and economic environment.
- Enhance transparency in the financial sector and administration system to reduce corruption which is the main leakage of money.
- Provide good governance and strong infrastructure with less wastage of resources.
- Increase bandwidth of systems to accelerate the speed of data transfer and operations.
- Framework our education system according to demand of modernization and globalization.
- Not last but least promotes awareness and use of ICT.

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