

Report of Workshop dated 23rd January 2016 organized by 'PRAYAS'

**Subject :- 1) Issues of Children of prisoners – Role of Judiciary
2) Jail Court and how to make Jail Court more effective in
Collaboration with NGO and Civil Society.**

This workshop was organized by 'PRAYAS' a Non-Governmental Organisation of Tata Institute of Social Sciences, for Judicial Officers on the topics of 'Issues of Children of prisoners – Role of Judiciary' and 'Jail Court and how to make Jail Court more effective in Collaboration with NGO and Civil Society'. The workshop commenced at 10.30 am as per schedule. The dignitaries on the dais were, Chief Metropolitan Magistrate Shri. M. S. Bodhankar, Additional Chief Metropolitan Magistrate Smt. R.V. Adone, Additional Chief Metropolitan Magistrate Shri. Shashikant E. Bangar, Professor Shri. Vijay Raghavan of Tata Institute of Social Science, Smt. Surekha Sale, Senior Social Worker and Mr. Silvin Kale, Professor and Legal Advisor of 'PRAYAS'.

The workshop was anchored by Metropolitan Magistrate Shri. R.M. Mandawgade.

All the dignitaries on dais were felicitated by offering floral bouquet.

Thereafter, Chief Metropolitan Magistrate Shri. M. S. Bodhankar addressed the welcome speech. He welcomed all the officials of 'PRAYAS' and the Judicial Officers. In his speech, he discussed the

importance of today's workshop organized by 'PRAYAS'. Shri. Bodhankar also discussed the trauma and difficulties faces by the children of under trial prisoners. He appreciated the work of 'PRAYAS' in the field of rehabilitation of children of under trial prisoners.

Thereafter, Professor Dr. Vijay Raghavan of Tata Institute of Social Sciences explained the working of 'PRAYAS' in detail. He explained that the work of 'PRAYAS' was started in February, 1990. It is a project of Tata Institute of Social Sciences. It works for the welfare of young/first offenders, women prisoners and for their children, children of under trial prisoners who are kept with their mothers in jail and rehabilitation of these children and young offenders. He informed that there are various teams of 'PRAYAS', which are working in Arthur Road Jail, Byculla Ladies' Prison, Thane Jail, etc. The nature of work of 'PRAYAS' is to provide legal aid to the first or young prisoners, who are unable to hire any lawyer. He said that some other foundations are also helping them in this regard.

Smt. Surekha Sale, Senior Social Worker, shared her experience in the field of rehabilitation of women under trial prisoners and their children.

One of the Judicial Officers pointed out that, though there are cradles for infants in the Jail, they are not made available to the women prisoners. He suggested that, the social workers in co-ordination with the Jail Authorities, should be instructed to provide the cradles to infants of

women prisoners inside the jail.

Additional Chief Metropolitan Magistrate Shri. G.P. Deshmukh shared his experience of a lady under trial prisoner having a minor son outside the jail and requested the officials of 'PRAYAS' to take follow-up in this regard. It was felt necessary to instruct the jail authorities in this regard.

Metropolitan Magistrate Shri Kashyap put up a suggestion regarding providing legal aid to poor offenders at holiday remand.

Thereafter, Metropolitan Magistrate Ms. S.R Tiwari presented a nice poem on the subject of justice of children.

Additional Chief Metropolitan Magistrate, Shri. C. S. Baviskar made concluding remarks and appreciated the work of 'PRAYAS' in the field of helping children of women under trial prisoners.

Lastly, Metropolitan Magistrate, Shri. Bukke extended vote of thanks to all speakers for sharing their findings and opinions with the Judicial Officers. He thanked all the judicial officers for their active participation. He also gave special thanks to 'PRAYAS' for organizing such a wonderful workshop for the Judicial Officers.

Workshop was thus concluded.

R. V. Adone
21-3-16
(R.V. Adone)
I/c Chief Metropolitan Magistrate
Mumbai