MEMORANDUM

Sub.: Guidelines for Telephone facilities in prisons for the inmates.

Having regard to the Telephone facilities with STD extended to the inmate-prisoners in some States and observation of Hon’ble Chief Justice, High Court of Tripura, communicated by the Registrar General, High Court of Tripura vide letter No.F.1(20)-HCt12-15/12903-07 dated 2nd June, 2015, the following guidelines are hereby issued allowing outgoing landline telephone facilities with STD by the jail inmates to contact their family members, lawyers, family doctor etc. on necessity subject to security surveillance and observing other formalities as per the guidelines, with immediate effect and until further order:-

i. Inmate-prisoners is allowed to avail outgoing telephone facility with STD to contact their Family Members, Lawyers, Family Doctor etc. within the country subject to security surveillance which includes physical presence of jail staff & by recording of outgoing calls by electronic means. Incoming facility will not be allowed.

ii. If the inmate-prisoner got any prison punishment, he will not be allowed to avail this facility till such punishment period is over.

iii. If any inmate-prisoner is found or is suspected to be indulging any illegal activity or indiscipline by using this facility, he will be barred from using this facility apart from initiating necessary action as per Law.

iv. Any three telephone numbers with details is to be furnished by the inmate-prisoner at the time of admission itself or thereafter to avail this facility.

v. Maximum call time would be 30 minutes per calendar month. One call may be maximum of 10 minutes duration.

vi. The timings of telephone facility will be from 9-00 a.m. to 5-00 p.m.

Contd. P/2.
vii. For any emergency case, the inmate prisoner may be allowed to use the facility for further two calls (beyond 3 call) with due permission and at the discretion of Superintendent.

viii. The inmate prisoner may be charged @ Rs.1.00 (Rupees one only) for one minute talk which will be deducted from their account on monthly basis. For undertrial prisoner; may be charged @ Rs.1.00 (Rupees one only) for one minute talk which will be deducted from their account also. This rate may be increased to recover the telephone bill. The rate may be prominently displayed.

ix. The Jailor/ Deputy Jailor / Sub-jailor will be responsible to maintain the records/ Register. He will enter the name of Prisoner, number of call, duration of talk, amount credited, signature of prisoner etc. in the telephone register and keep the record in his personal safe custody in the office. In absence of Jailor / Deputy Jailor / Sub jailor, the senior most Chief Head Warder / Head Warder will be responsible for maintaining the telephone record. Availability of sufficient amount in the account of concerned inmate-prisoner is to be confirmed prior to outgoing telephone facility.

x. The telephone bill will be paid by the Department. The revenue generated from outgoing telephone calls shall be deposited through treasury challan in the Govt. Account.

xi. The inmate-prisoner cannot claim this facility as a matter of right.

xii. Police authorities may monitor calls made to and from these members. The fact that calls may be monitored should be displayed prominently near the telephone.

Contd.P/3.
xiii. The Superintendent of Sansodhanagar /Jail/ Jails shall have the discretionary powers to permit and debar any prisoner from using this facility in the interest of security and prisons administration.

This is issued with the approval of :

i. Law Department under their U.O. No.1436/Secy/Law/15 dated 27.08.2015

ii. Finance Department under U.O.No.1041/FIN(G)/15 dated 29.09.2015

By order of the Governor.

( B. K. Sahu)
Secretary,
Home (Jail) Department,
Government of Tripura.

Copy to:

1. The Inspector General of Prisons, Tripura.
2. The Superintendents of Kendriya Sansodhanagar/ District Jails & Sub jails for information & necessary action.
3. The Manager, Printing & Stationary Department. He is requested to arrange publication of above notification in the Tripura Gazettee and send 25(twenty-five) copies to the office of the Prisons Directorate, Agartala for office use.

Copy also forwarded to:

1. PS to Hon’ble Minister, Home (Jail) Department.
2. The L.R & Secretary, Law, Government of Tripura.
3. The Principal Secretary, Finance Department, Govt. of Tripura.
4. The Director General of Police, Tripura.
5. The Secretary, SLSA, Agartala.