



National Commission For Women(NCW) Sponsored

NATIONAL SEMINAR
ON

ASSESSING INCARCERATED WOMEN'S PHYSICAL
AND MENTAL HEALTH STATUS IN INDIA

On
25.08.2023

At V.O.C. Auditorium, 5th Floor, Admin Block, VIT Chennai

Organised by VIT School of Law, Chennai Campus



VIT- A Place to learn; A Chance to grow

ABOUT THE UNIVERSITY AND VIT SCHOOL OF LAW

Vellore Institute of Technology (VIT) was founded by the educationalist and visionary Dr. G. Viswanathan in the year 1984, with the aim of providing quality higher education on par with international standards. VIT persistently seeks and adopts innovative research-oriented methods to consistently improve the quality of education. VIT Chennai was started in 2010 and it is a globally engaged, competitive, comprehensive, research-enriched university campus strategically positioned to respond to major industrial, social, economic, legal, environmental demands and challenges.

VIT School of Law (VITSOL), the progeny of VIT, entered the legal education arena in 2014, aiming at high goals to be achieved. The Law School aims to impart quality legal education to nourish young minds with knowledge of law, teach them the nuances of legal system and equip them with the practical aspects of the profession. The law courses in VITSOL have been structured in such a way that the students can learn law in a professional setting with law clinics, moot courts, conferences and seminars on contemporary legal issues. This gives them an edge in this competitive world.

ABOUT NCW

The National Commission for Women (NCW) is the apex national level organization of India established by the Indian Parliament in January 1992 with the following mandates of protecting and promoting the interests of women and enabling women to achieve equality and equal participation in all spheres of life:

- review the Constitutional and Legal safeguards for women
- recommend remedial legislative measures
- facilitate redressal of grievances and
- advise the Government on all policy matters affecting women.

In keeping with its mandates, the Commission initiates various steps to improve the status of women and works for their economic empowerment. It constitutes expert committees on economic empowerment of women, conducts workshops/seminars for gender awareness and takes up sensitization campaign against issues such as female foeticide, violence against women etc. in order to generate awareness in the society against such social evils.

ABOUT THE SEMINAR

In India, the male prisoners account for majority of the incarcerated population. Due to the dominance of male prisoners, the health and welfare aspects of the prisoners are more concentrated towards them. However, considering the fact that physical and mental health requirements of men and women differ due to biological differences, there is a need for separate structure of treatment altogether in the prison system. As per government data, there are only eleven states and one union territory that has prison intended specifically for women. Overcrowding, privacy and rehabilitation are some of the many issues faced by women prisoners in the present time which adversely affects their physical and mental health. Although everyone is guaranteed the protection of Right to life under Article 21 of the Indian Constitution, which also encompasses the right to health, the gender specific health needs of women prisoners have not improved nor addressed appropriately. Such situation provokes the need to understand the underlying causes to these issues. Are these issues being ignored by policymakers considering that there are significantly lesser female convicts than male prisoners? Do we have adequate legislations to address such health issues of female prisoners which enforces the aforementioned Constitutional protection? Do we need a more engaged judiciary to address such health issues of female prisoners? Are the health issues of female prisoners appropriately taken into consideration by NGOs and community organizations?

In light of the aforementioned query, the seminar is planned with the following objectives:

1. To provide a forum for exchanging perspectives on the current legal system vis-a-vis health issues of women prisoners.
2. To provide a platform for people from academia, the workforce, and other backgrounds to examine the effects of not addressing the plight of women prisoners.
3. To develop appropriate recommendations and suggestions for bridging the gap existing in the current prison system.

CALL FOR PAPERS

Original unpublished research paper/articles and case studies are invited from academicians/research scholars/advocates and students for presentation at the seminar. The papers will be selected after a plagiarism check, the permissible limit being 10% of a Turnitin report. The abstract and full paper will undergo a double-blind peer review process by the expert review committee. The confirmation of abstract will be sent to your respective Email ID. The selected papers will be published in peer reviewed journal having ISSN Number/ book having ISBN number. Certificates for Best paper/presentation will also be provided.

Sub Themes-

1. Gender as a factor for discrimination in prison system
2. Women, prison and society
3. Need for gender-specific health care in prisons
4. Sexual health and reproductive health of woman prisoners
5. International, constitutional and national legal regimes for the protection of incarcerated women's health
6. Community participation and role of civil society in highlighting the problem of woman prisoner

The above-mentioned themes are only indicative and any paper relevant to the main theme of the seminar may be submitted. The Seminar would be a medium through which activists, professionals, academicians, research scholars and students collectively discuss the existing problems faced by women prisoners. The seminar would also be a medium of collecting recommendations and suggestions which could be possible solution to the issues discussed. The Seminar with the larger goal of awareness and sensitization would address the same to all the participants through sharing of knowledge and experiences.

GUIDELINES TO AUTHORS

All communications/queries should be sent to vitsolconference2023@gmail.com

- The first page should have the title and an abstract of not more than 300 words and at least 5 keywords should be mentioned, along with the details of the author and co- authors including their designation, institutional affiliation and email-id and contact number.
- The contributions shall not be more than 3000 – 6000 words inclusive of tables and graphs, diagrams, photographs, references and bibliography.
- The headings should be in 14 font size, Times New Roman and text in 12 font size with 1.5 spacing.
- The authors must follow the OSCOLA citation method for the footnotes. The diagrams and tables should have appropriate titles and sources if extracted.
- The papers shall be checked for plagiarism. Papers with instances of plagiarism shall be disqualified from presentation in the Seminar.
- Both the main author and the co-author should register in order to present their paper at the Seminar.

Certificate of participation/presentation shall be given to those participants presenting the paper.

After the selection of abstract the full paper submission link will be provided to the participants through the respective mail id.

There is no registration fees for this conference

Certificate of participation/presentation shall be given to those participants presenting the paper.

All the delegates should bring the Id cards on the date of the event

Important Dates

Seminar date: 25.08.2023

Last date for Abstract Submission: 25.07.2023

Abstract Confirmation: 30.07.2023

Submission of Full Paper: 12.08.2023

Abstract Submission Link: <https://forms.gle/9exGE2BcxLLf1RYS8>

For Abstract Submission



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