

Schemes of WS Division to be uploaded on MHA Website

1. Modernisation of Prisons Project

The Ministry of Home Affairs is implementing the 'Modernisation of Prisons Project' with the objective of providing financial assistance to States and Union Territories for strengthening prison security and infrastructure through construction of High Security Prisons in select States/UTs and installation of advanced security equipments in the prisons across the country. The Project also aims to support rehabilitation and reformation of prisoners through correctional programmes including counselling, therapies, vocational training, etc.

The major components of the project are:

- (i) Setting up of High Security Prisons in select States/UTs to ensure secure and separate custody of hardened and high-risk inmates.
- (ii) Upgradation of security infrastructure in prisons across the country through deployment of modern security equipment such as body-worn cameras, door frame metal detectors, security poles, baggage scanners, frisking and search equipment and phone jamming solutions, establishment of video conferencing infrastructure and implementation of correctional programmes to support rehabilitation and reformation of prisoners.

2. Support to Poor Prisoners Scheme

The Ministry of Home Affairs is implementing the 'Support to Poor Prisoners' Scheme with the objective of providing financial relief to poor and indigent prisoners who are unable to secure their release from prison due to non-payment of bail amount or fine on account of financial constraints. Detailed guidelines and Standard Operating Procedures (SOP) for implementation of the scheme have been shared with States and Union Territories.

3. Scheme "Modernization of Forensic Capacities"

A Scheme for Modernization of Forensic Capacities with a total financial outlay of ₹2080.5 crore has been approved by the Government of India to strengthen forensic infrastructure and enhance scientific investigation of crimes in the country.

Under the Scheme, assistance is provided to States and Union Territories for developing high-quality forensic science facilities through modernization and upgradation of Forensic Science Laboratories (FSLs), procurement of advanced machinery and equipment, and deployment of Mobile Forensic Vans to strengthen crime scene investigation at the district level.

The Scheme also focuses on expanding forensic education and training capacity to facilitate the availability of trained manpower, including support for the establishment and expansion of campuses of the National Forensic Sciences University (NFSU), setting up of Centres of Excellence, and creation of training and skilling academies. Overall, the Scheme aims to enhance the forensic examination capacity of States/UTs.

4. National Forensic Infrastructure Enhancement Scheme

It is submitted that the Cabinet on 19.06.2025 approved a Central Sector Scheme 'National Forensic Infrastructure Enhancement Scheme' with a total financial outlay of ₹2254.43 crore from financial year 2024-25 to 2028-29. The following are the components of the scheme:

- (i) Establishment of 09 additional off-campus of the National Forensic Sciences University
- (ii) Establishment of 07 additional Central Forensic Science Laboratories in the country
- (iii) Enhancement of existing infrastructure of the Delhi Campus of the NFSU

The Ministry of Home Affairs has provided in-principle approval for setting up of 09 campuses of the NFSU in Maharashtra, Odisha, Chhattisgarh, Tamil Nadu, Rajasthan, Andhra Pradesh, West Bengal, Bihar, and Uttar Pradesh. Again, in-principle approval has been provided for setting up 07 CFSLs in Odisha, Chhattisgarh, Tamil Nadu, Rajasthan, Bihar, Uttar Pradesh, and Kerala. Except Kerala, all the CFSLs are to be co-located with the NFSU campuses.

The Government of India is committed to strengthening an effective and efficient justice system through the scientific and timely examination of evidence. In this regard, the Scheme emphasizes the critical role of high-quality forensic infrastructure and trained forensic professionals in ensuring accurate and timely analysis of evidence. It also recognizes the need to leverage advancements in technology and address the evolving nature and methods of offences, thereby enabling forensic institutions to support investigations and the justice delivery process more effectively.