Notice

The Ministry of Home Affairs is in the process of finalizing the Accessibility Standards/Guidelines for MHA specific built infrastructure and Associated Services for Police Stations, Prisons and Disaster Mitigation Centers for notification under the Rights of Persons with Disabilities Act, 2016. The Draft Accessibility Standards/ Guidelines formulated by the Ministry of Home Affairs is enclosed.

2. Ministry of Home Affairs solicits comments/ feedback from stakeholders/ public in respect of the draft Standards/Guidelines by 12th December 2021 (i.e. within a period of 21 days from the date of its publication on the website of the Ministry).

3. The comments/ feedback may be forwarded preferably on the email ID: usc2-mha@mha.gov.in or in hard copy to: Under Secretary(Coord-II), Ministry of Home Affairs, Room No. 82-B, North Block, New Delhi.

Enclosure: As above

(A. K. Dhyani)

Under Secretary to the Government of India
Tel: 2309-4916
Standards/Guidelines for MHA Specific Built Infrastructures & Associated Services for Police Stations, Prisons & Disaster Mitigation Centres under Accessible India Campaign (AIC) 2021
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1. Introduction

a) Accessible India Campaign (AIC)

Accessibility is about giving equal access to everyone. As our social responsibility, the differently abled people should be given access to all facilities and services found in the communities. With this intention in mind, Department of Empowerment of persons with Disabilities (DEPwD) launched Accessible India campaign (Sugamya Bharat Abhiyan) on 3rd December 2015 as a nation-wide campaign for achieving universal accessibility for Persons with Disabilities (PwDs).

The campaign is based on the principles of the Social Model of Disability, that disability is caused by the way society is organized and not the person’s limitations and impairments. The physical, social, structural and attitudinal barriers prevent People with disabilities from participating equally in the socio-cultural and economic activities. A barrier free environment facilitates equal participation in all the activities and promotes an independent and dignified way of life.

The campaign has the vision to build an inclusive society in which equal opportunities are provided for the growth and development of Persons with Disabilities (PwDs) so that they can lead productive, safe and dignified lives. Accessible India campaign seeks cooperation of all Central Government Departments/Ministries and State Governments to manifest this vision. It has two important components: the built environment accessibility and the transportation system accessibility.

b) Background (AIC)

Persons with Disability means any individual who has a physical or mental impairment that, on a permanent or temporary basis, substantially limits one or more major life activities, has a record of such impairment, or is regarded as having such impairment. Here the physical or mental impairment means: (a) any physiological disorder or condition, cosmetic disfigurement, or anatomical loss affecting one or more of the following body systems; neurological, musculoskeletal, special sense organs, respiratory including speech organs, cardio-vascular, reproductive, digestive, genitourinary, hemic and lymphatic, skin and endocrine; or (b) any mental or psychological disorder, such as mental retardation, organic brain syndrome, emotional or mental illness, and specific learning disabilities.
The term physical or mental impairment includes, but is not limited to, such diseases and conditions as orthopedic, visual, speech, and hearing impairments; cerebral palsy, epilepsy, muscular dystrophy, multiple sclerosis, cancer, heart disease, diabetes, mental retardation, emotional illness, autism, drug addiction, alcoholism and geriatric disabilities.

The Rights of Persons with Disabilities Act, 2016 states that persons with disabilities enjoy the right to equality, life with dignity and respect for his or her integrity equally with others and steps shall be taken to utilize the capacity of persons with disabilities by providing appropriate environment and reasonable accommodation. Further, no person shall be deprived of his or her personal liberty only on the ground of disability and the persons with disabilities shall have equal protection and safety in situation of risk, armed conflict, humanitarian emergencies and natural disaster.

Moreover, the need to take special measures to ensure that the persons with disabilities enjoy the full range of human rights and fundamental freedom is recognized by Article 14 of the Indian Constitution. Hence, accessibility for all is recognized as a basic necessity, and there are attempts all over the world to ensure this. Barrier-free features are now becoming fundamental to all design concepts.

c) Importance of AIC
Barriers to accessibility are obstacles that make it difficult for Person with Disabilities to move around in public places and access buildings. There are several barriers, both visible and invisible. Persons with disabilities face discrimination and barriers restrict them from participating in society on an equal basis in everyday life. In recent years, there has been a remarkable change in approach to ensure that persons with disabilities enjoy the same standards of equality, rights and dignity with the rest.

We all need to work to realize human rights and development for persons with disabilities by removing barriers to their equal access. Equitable access would translate into access to the physical environment, to transportation, to information and communications. Universal accessibility leads to increased opportunities for people with disabilities to access employment and to fully participate in the social, cultural, recreational and economic life of India.
d) Basic Requirements of Standards / Guidelines for Accessibility

1. End to end accessibility, includes:
   • Infrastructure
   • Services (like registration of complaints, FIR, etc. in a Police Station)
   • Devices/Products/Carriers

2. 10 Basic Features of Accessibility

3. Accessible Information
   • Websites / Mobile Apps
   • Public Documents

4. Global best practices of Standards – Directions of Committee of Secretaries
2. Concept of Model Accessible Built Structures

a) Why Model Accessible Police Stations / Prisons

Model accessible police station is a welcoming space for any citizen but more particularly for the persons with disabilities. Fully accessible entrance, reception areas, ramps, signage, toilets, etc. are the hallmark of an accessible police station. At least one trained person who should be deployed only for the purposes of making visits of the PwDs as comfortable as possible. Further, accessible police station ensures swift and safe movement of PwDs to all places in the Police station, whether these are used by the public or not. It may also be highlighted that Police staff on civil duty could be a PwD. Therefore, entire premises of a police station need to be made accessible.

A model accessible Police station or Prison ensures all people both staff and general public/visitors with or without fragilities and limitations of age and disabilities to access the place for any official or personal work and able to use utilities like toilets, drinking water, reception counter, etc. and have unhindered access to all office rooms and other facilities like canteen, ATMs, common seating area, recreational spaces, and even any game or sports facility available in that particular place.

b) Mandatory provisions for the Persons with Disabilities

**Ten basic features of Accessibility** in a Built up Environment are Accessible route / pathway, Entrance to the building and Parking as the **outdoor features**, and Accessible Corridor, Reception, Lifts/Elevators, Staircase, Toilets, Drinking water facility & Signage as **indoor features**, as described below.

1) **Accessible Route/Approach** – Good Practice

   a) There should be a Continuous path connecting all accessible elements and spaces in a building or facility.

   b) A width of 1800mm for 2 wheelchairs/ 900 mm for 1 wheel chair should exist

   c) Anti Skid flooring as well as a Tactile guiding path of at least 300mm width should be created

   d) Colour contrasting surface and Directional signage regarding accessibility features must exist as shown below.
2) **Accessible Parking** – Good Practice

a) It should be within 30m of the building entrance and connected to the accessible route
b) There should be a vertical and a floor signage.

c) The minimum dimensions of 5000mm X 3600mm (minimum 1200mm wide transfer bay)
3) **Accessible Entrance to Building – Good Practice**

   a) There should be a ramp of gradient of 1:12 to be provided next to stairs.
   b) The Minimum width of ramp should be 1200mm, provided with continuous round handrails, on both sides, at a height of 760 mm and 900 mm with rounded edges at the ends with Braille indicators.
   c) The entrance door should have a minimum clear width of 1000 mm.
   d) The entrance should have anti-skid flooring with proper Signage.

   Normally, it is observed that a proper Ramp not provided. Even if it is there, it has a Steep gradient and does not have enough width. Moreover, the Handrails not provided on both sides and they do not offer firm grip.

![Accessible Entrance to Building](image)

**Fig.-3 Accessible Entrance to Building**

4) **Accessible Reception – Good Practice**

   a) The Reception should have a Low height counter (counter top at 750 to 800 mm) or can have 2 heights of the counter, as shown below.

   b) It should have a Minimum unobstructed space of 900mm X 1200mm before the counter with a Leg space (800mm) wide below counter.
c) A Minimum depth of 480mm may also be provided at the counter for closer reach to commuter.

d) Induction loop may also be provided for persons with hearing impairment.

e) Information should be made available regarding accessible features of the building, such as washrooms, drinking water, etc.

f) Signage for easy identification.

![Fig.-4 Accessible Reception of the Building](image)

5) **Accessible Corridors and Tactile Flooring – Good Practice**

   a) An unobstructed corridor width of 2200mm should be maintained with anti-skid flooring and tactile guiding path of at least 300mm width with colour contrasting surface.

   b) The Corridor should be kept free of any obstacles, such as, plantation or any seating arrangements, etc. on the floor.

   c) It should be well lit and supported by handrails, wherever necessary along with the directional and informational signage.
6) **Accessible Lift – Good Practice**

a) The minimum internal car dimensions should be 1500mm X 1500mm (if possible, it should be a 13 passenger lift)

b) The Braille buttons and auditory announcement systems and digital display should exist.

c) Alarm call button, emergency brake button and other operating mechanisms (control panels) should be provided at an accessible height of 650mm to 800mm.
d) Signage should be provided outside the lifts, Handbars at 900mm, Mirror at the back and Warning Tactile tiles outside the lift.

Fig.-6 Accessible Lift

Fig.-7 Lift Dimensions and placement of its control panel

7) **Staircase with handrails – Good Practice**

   a) Warning tiles (tiles with bold dots) should be there before and after the sloped surface
   b) Regular steps of tread should be of width 250mm and rise(height) of 150mm
   c) Colour contrasting strips should exist with a glow in the dark (retro-reflective kind) at the edge of the nosing.
d) There should be a Continuous round handrails, on both sides, at a height of 760 mm and 900 mm with rounded edges at the ends

e) Braille indicator at both ends of the handrails should exist.

f) Diameter of handrail should be about 38-45mm, with Gap of handrail from the wall as 50mm.

Fig.-8 Dimensions of Staircase and placement of the Hand rail

8) Accessible Toilets – Good Practice

a) Minimum dimensions should be 2000mm X 2200mm with outward-opening/ double door, double-swing doors, with minimum 900 mm width and leveled. (no choukhat).

b) The WC top height should be around 450mm to 480mm, with washbasin top height as 750mm to 800mm.

c) Grab bars/ door handles/ all fittings/ accessories/ operable items placed at approachable height of 300mm to 1000mm from the floor and should be easy to operate.

(d) The flooring should be Anti-skid type and the latches should also be there at base (foot operable/non-protruding) or mid height should be around 750-800mm.

e) The handles of taps should be with long lever for easy operation.

f) The Door handles should be of D-type/ lever type (not knobs).

g) An emergency button should also be installed.
9) **Accessible Drinking Water Facility – Good Practice**

a) The drinking water area should have a clear space of 900 mm X 1200 mm

b) The height of the counter top should as low as 900 mm.

c) There should be a Leg space of 680 mm below the counter which can extend maximum up to 300 mm from the wall

d) The tap systems should be Lever type at two levels with easy to use systems.

e) Non-skid surface with proper drainage should be created.

f) The taps should preferably be Fountain type and

g) The drainage should be well covered.
10) **Signage – Good Practice**

a) To make a proper signage, the universally usable practices must be kept in mind.

b) The Standardization on Colour contrast, i.e., white on blue must be used.

c) The Character, Content and Layout of the Signage should be simple and eye-catching.

d) Pictograms and accessibility symbols for quick reference must be used.

e) The Positioning and Viewing Distance of signage must be proper and well lighted.

f) Material and surface finish should be good.

g) Alternative formats etc., such as embossed letters with Braille (Audio/Visual information, Maps and models) must be used for easy attention.
c) Need to Develop Accessible Police Stations

Police stations are public places responsible for enforcing rule of law and maintaining amity and brotherhood among diverse communities including the PwDs. Persons with disabilities have direct concern and link with police stations because their safety and freedom of movement heavily depends on accessing police stations. Regular interactions and engagements with police officers and personnel are necessary on day to day basis. We could enhance trust between PwDs and police officers by making police stations accessible. Simple construction of ramps could make a huge difference for PwDs for accessing police stations.

Police is typically responsible for maintaining public order and safety, enforcing rule of law, and preventing, detecting, and investigating criminal activities. These functions are known as policing. Police are often also entrusted with various licensing and regulatory activities. If police stations and areas around police stations are made accessible, it will inspire confidence among the public in general and PwDs in particular. It shall go a long way in making police smart and also people friendly.
3. Accessibility Standards / Guidelines

The Barrier free environment is the one, which enables people with disabilities to move about safely and freely and to use facilities without any hindrance. Goal of barrier free design is to provide an environment that supports the independent functioning of individuals so that they can get to and participate without assistance in everyday activities such as procurement of goods and services, community living, employment, and leisure.

Freedom and unhindered access are the fundamental principles followed in developing standards and norms for various facilities to meet standards for safety, convenience and usability. Barrier free design standards should satisfy anyone who is hampered in his mobility or functioning (as compared with a non-disabled person) as a result of obstacles put in their way by the design of buildings, choice of hardware and equipment, and the arrangement of outside spaces. Construction and maintenance standards should be followed in all categories of buildings and facilities used by the persons with disabilities. Although recommendations are made exclusively for meeting the needs of the persons with disabilities, it is evident that these spaces and facilities are invariably used by elderly persons and persons suffering from physical ailments. So, accessible built environment benefits everyone.

The chief purpose of creating accessible built environments is to integrate the persons with disabilities and elderly persons fully with the society. The presumption that all elderly are handicapped or that all handicapped are elderly, is an over simplification of the needs of both the groups.

We could think of accessibility standards, which could apply to residential, commercial, and industrial buildings apart from health care institutions, educational establishments, community and religious centers, agricultural and transport facilities. Guidelines could also indicate the minimum access provisions required in various types of buildings. Builders, designers, architects and planners are ultimately also the users of these standards and therefore should ensure specific accessible built environments for all people. Standards should also ensure that barrier free design could be achieved without economic burden to clients, builders, etc.
Mandatory Guidelines for the Persons with Disabilities for Built-up structures

(A) For External environment:

i. Accessible Routes and Pathways and Ramps
   - Access route to be provided connecting all major entrances and exits from the building and from alighting and boarding point to taxi stands and car parking lots.
   - Pathways’ width within the premises should measure a minimum of 900 mm and a maximum of 1,800 mm.
   - Anti-skid surfaces of pathways with tactile flooring for guiding PwDs.
   - Slope of ramps within the premises should be 1:12 with a minimum width of 900 mm with double height handrails.
   - Platform size of 1,500 mm x 2,000 mm for rotating one wheel chair.
   - Double height handrails for support with height ranging from a minimum of 600 mm and a maximum of 900 mm.
   - Door handles should not be more 1,000 mm of height,

ii. Alighting - Drop off and Pickup Areas in Foyers
   - Entrance to police station to have unobstructed access with width ranging from 900 mm to 1,800 mm; Space for dropping off and picking up PwDs is required in the form of temporary parking of vehicles adjacent to entrance.
   - Anti-skid parking surfaces with tactile flooring for guiding PwDs.
   - Temporary parking area to be marked with proper signages and surface markings.

iii. Parking
    - Distance of parking from entrance not to exceed 30 m.
    - Parking bay dimensions for vehicles to be 5,000 mm X 3,600 mm and floor markings.
    - At least one parking bay to be reserved for PwDs in a parking lot.
    - Anti-skid parking surfaces with tactile flooring for guiding PwDs.
    - Two accessible parking lots should be provided for every 25 car parking spaces.
    - If there are two accessible parking bays adjoining each other, then 1,200 mm side transfer bay may be shared between two parking bays.
    - Both directional and informational signages: Vertical signages and floor markings with minimum height of 2,100 mm and on floor markings.
(B) **For Internal environment:**

iv. Entrance to the building

- Entrance door to be a minimum of 1,200 mm wide.
- A tactile paving along with Braille and audio systems to be provided at the entrance for persons with visual impairments.

v. Corridors

- Minimum width of 1,200 mm to a maximum of 1,500 mm for one wheel chair with one person movement.
- Anti-skid surface without glare with tactile flooring along pathways for guiding PwDs.
- Well illuminated corridors with diffused lighting with a minimum illumination level of 150 lux.
- Chairs, plants, fixtures, etc. must not obstruct movement of PwDs.

vi. Reception and Lobby Area

- Counter height to be a minimum of 750 mm and a maximum of 800 mm.
- Counter width to be a minimum of 750 mm and a maximum of 900 mm.
- Leg space below a counter to be 480 mm for bringing in a wheelchair.
- Induction loop with audio enhancing technology to be provided.
- Directional signage to be placed in the lobby area.
- Maximum height of signage should be 750 mm.
- At least one seating space with markings and dimensions of 750 mmx 1,200 mm in the waiting area to be provided for PwDs.
- Minimum width to range from 900 mm to a maximum width of 1,200 mm path is kept for the movement (Reach Zone) of PwDs.
- Chairs, plants, fixtures, etc. must not obstruct movement of PwDs.

vii. Handrails

- Circular section of handrails to be provided with 38- 45 mm in diameter.
- Minimum clear space of 50 mm from walls to be kept.
- Non-slippery and non-reflective surfaces to be provided.
viii. Elevators and Lift

- Lift size having an area of 1,500 mmX 1,500 mm to be provided, if the premises are built beyond the ground floor.
- Within the lift, grab bars to be provided on three sides, except entrance.
- Control panels within the lift to be provided with a minimum height of 800 mm and a maximum height of 1,000 mm.
- Lift to be equipped with the Braille and auditory information systems.

ix. Toilets

- Standard size of accessible toilet is 2,200 mm x 2,000 mm.
- Minimum width of access door to be 900 mm.
- Access door should open on either outside or both sides.
- Grab bars to be provided at 480 mm height on both sides.
- Anti-skid surface with tactile flooring to guide visually impaired PwDs.
- Emergency button, latches, and easy to operate handles to be provided.
- WC height should range from 450 mm to 480 mm.
- Urinal height to be 430 mm.
- Taps inside the toilet or washbasins should be provided at a maximum height of 800 mm.
- Signages for location of accessible toilets to be provided at prominent places in the police station.

x. Staircase

- A staircase with a minimum width of 1,200 mm to be provided.
- Standards of staircase tread with a minimum of 300 mm and riser to measure a maximum of 150 mm.
- Landing after 6-8 steps to be provided.
- Double-height handrails of 600 mm for lower limit to 900 mm for upper limit to be provided.
- Anti-skid flooring materials with tactile paving for guiding PwDs.
- Margins to be made clearly visible with contrasting colour strips.
xi. Doors

- Room doors should not open on pathways, and a minimum of 900 mm clear space should be provided.
- Width of doors should measure between 900 mm to 1,200 mm.
- Door handles should not be more 1,000 mm of height.
- Kick plates of width 300 mm to 400 mm to be provided on both sides of doors.
- A distance of 650 mm to be provided beyond the leading edge of doors to enable a wheelchair user to manoeuvre for reaching a handle.
- All two-way swing doors or doors in general circulation areas should be provided with vision panels giving a visibility from a height of 800 mm to 1,600 mm.
- Glazed entrance doors must have manifestations on glass preferably at two levels i.e. one between 800 to 1,000 mm and another between 1,400 mm to 1,600 mm above the floor.

xii. Drinking Water

- Low height water counter starting from 750 mm to 800 mm height.
- Leg space of 300 mm to 450 mm for wheelchair borne persons below the basin.
- Placement of this facility should be made at grade. If it is to be provided at a certain height, a ramp is required to access it.
- Drains and holes should not obstruct the movement of PwDs.
- Signages for location of accessible drinking water facility to be provided at prominent places in the police station.

xiii. Controls and Operating Mechanisms

- Control panels within a room should have a minimum height of 600 mm and a maximum of 1,100 mm. In case of wheelchair users, controls should be placed not less than 400 mm from corners of a room.

xiv. Signage

- High contrast colours to be used.
- Visible text size depends on viewing distance, which could range from 2 m to 50 m. Text size to range from 6 mm to 150 mm.
• Maximum height of signages should be 750 mm.
• Signage to be located at prominent and visible places.

xv. Emergency Evacuation

• There should be emergency evacuation provision inside the premises.
• Along the emergency route, tactile floor guidance for persons with visual impairments needs to be provided.
• Designating evacuation routes and staircase shall be at least of 1,500 mm width.

(C) RECOMMENDATORY PROVISION OF FACILITIES FOR PwDs

xvi. May-I-Help-You Facility

• Every police station should appoint trained personnel for assisting PwDs.
• Beepers may be placed at all main entrances to enable persons with visual impairments to locate themselves.
• Facility booth should be placed near the entrance.
• Booth should keep at least the first aid box, evacuation chair, stretcher, and a wheelchair.

xvii. Canteen and Automated Teller Machine (ATM)

• Fully functional canteen with accessible furniture should be provided in every police station. Additionally, an accessible ATM may also be provided.
• Food shelves should be mounted at a minimum height of 850 mm and a maximum height of 1,200 mm.
• For movement, a minimum aisle space of 900 mm should be provided.
• Low tables should be provided as well.
• All these facilities should be provided at grade or made accessible through ramps

(Source: Adapted from the Harmonized Guidelines and Space Standards for barrier free Built Environment for Persons with Disability and Elderly Persons, Ministry of Urban Development, Govt. of India-2016).
4. Standards for Modern Police Station Buildings

The Revised Norms & Building Design addressed the following issues:

a) The Six categories of Police Station Buildings were reduced to four categories of Modern Police Station Buildings.

b) More space and optimum utilization of facilities at lower grade Police Station Buildings.

c) Scope for future expansion.

d) Basic amenities for women folks/cops.

e) Provision of Community Policing Space.

f) Provision of CCTNS.

g) Provision of Machine Room/Modern Gadget Room/MT Room.

h) Provision of Suspects/Witness Examination Room.

i) Provision of Operations Control Room & Police Control Room.

j) Provision of Dining Room with Kitchen & adequate Barrack space at police station.

k) Security arrangements as per security risks.

Under the revised norms, Police Station Buildings are graded into the following four categories:

i) Modern Police Station Buildings in Metropolitan City like in New Delhi, Kolkata etc.

ii) Modern Police Station Buildings in Major City like in Lucknow, Allahabad, etc.

iii) Modern Police Station Buildings in Semi-Urban Area like in Noida & Gurgaon.

iv) Modern Police Station Buildings in Rural Areas.

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<tr>
<th>Modern Police Station</th>
<th>PLINTH AREA (Sq.m)</th>
<th>No. of Police Personnel</th>
<th>CAPACITY OF REST ROOMS + BARRACKS (Female &amp; Male Staff)</th>
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<td>Metro City</td>
<td>3300</td>
<td>Up to 250</td>
<td>15+(7+120) = 142</td>
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<tr>
<td>Major City</td>
<td>2800</td>
<td>Up to 200</td>
<td>11+(7+106) = 124</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Semi Urban</td>
<td>2075</td>
<td>Up to 150</td>
<td>10+(7+76) = 93</td>
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<tr>
<td>Rural</td>
<td>1300</td>
<td>Up to 100</td>
<td>8+(Nil+28) = 36</td>
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Common Facilities in Modern Police Station Buildings under Revised Norms:

Considering the present day functional domain of the police stations and the number of functions entrusted, the following common facilities have been provided in all the categories of the revised drawings of the Modern Police Station Buildings:-

a) Disable Friendly Entry: A low gradient ramp with railing at the entrance of Police Station Building for convenience of movement of disable personnel.

b) Reception area with a reception counter: having facilities for visitors to wait, for photographing the visitors. (Computer/Camera for recording the details of the visitor.) Issuance of visitor cards, Directions to the visitors to meet the concerned according to the requirement. This counter should be manned all the time by policemen and policewomen together except between 10 pm to 6 am when the women can be removed and male staff can man the counter. There should be enclosed waiting area near reception in each police station where the visitors can sit comfortably and wait.

c) Visitor & Disable Friendly Toilet: A separate toilet for male, female & disable visitors near the Reception.

d) Women Help Desk: A room at the entrance near the reception as women help desk to help & listen to the complaints of the female visitors.

e) SHO Room: A large SHO Room near the Reception on Ground Floor for overall command & control of the Police Station Building. The SHO room to accommodate to 25-30 persons in Police Station of Metro City, 20-25 persons in Major City, 15-20 persons in Semi-Urban Area & 10-15 persons in Rural Area.

f) Rest Room & Toilet: An attached individual rest room with SHO office and Inspectors office, due to long duty hours. A common rest room for 2 Nos. Sub-Inspectors. Each rest room with an attached toilet, with bathing facility.

g) Room for officers in a Police Station: Each Inspector is provided an individual room. One room shall accommodate 2 Nos. of sub-inspectors and one room shall accommodate 4 Nos. Assistant Sub-Inspectors/Head Constables. Each ASI/Head Constable has work space and space to accommodate 2 No. visitors. A large room is provided for Constables also.
h) **Ladies Room** – A Separate office room for lady police official on duty with an attached toilet.

i) **Community Policing Room** : A large room for community policing where persons from the local community can come and resolve their matters with the help of the police personnel

j) **Malkhana** – A Malkhana for case property and a Malkhana for Government property with modern storage system developed by companies like Godrej, (as implemented in CBI, NIA and Police Stations of some State Police). A workstation for Malkhana officer adjacent to the Malkhana. The seized explosives shall not be kept in Malkhana. They shall be kept in magazines, away from the police station.

k) **Armoury/ Kote (Bell of Arms)** : Armoury for safe upkeep of the arms & ammunition issued to the police. It shall be specially constructed giving greater strength to the walls. A small extension to Armoury shall be there, where cleaning of arms can take place.

l) **Suspect/Witness Examination Room** : A room is provided for witness examination, where the witnesses coming to the police stations can be examined. This can also be used for talking to the complainant. For women witnesses a separate enclosure should be provided, which can also be used for examination of sexual assault victims.

m) **Conference/Briefing Room** : Each Police Station Building shall have conference/Briefing room where important meetings/operations can be discussed. It shall have a latest facilities such as TVs, maps/ digital maps, projection system and video conferencing.

n) **Lockup** : Each Police Station shall have lockups as per the NHRC guidelines for men and women separately. The lockups shall be provided an internal toilet with low walls. The edges of the wall shall be rounded and there shall be no sharp element in the lockups with which the person in the lockup can harm himself. All the Lockups should be monitored through CCTV cameras which should be operational 24X7 as being done in police stations in some South Indian States.
o) **Wireless and Communication Room**: A separate room is provided for wireless & communication equipments. This room shall be air-conditioned for the safety of the telecommunication equipments (as per the climatic requirement).

p) **Room for CCTNS terminals**: A separate air-conditioned room for CCTNS terminals.

q) **Record Room**: A large Record Room with adequate shelving to keep the old records safely & properly.

r) **Store Room**: A Store Room with adequate shelving for storing stationary etc.

s) **Barracks**: Separate Barracks have been provided for ASI/Head Constable & Constables on upper floor of the Police Station Building where the officials can rest after the working hours. These barracks have adequate number of toilets with W.C., urinals & bath areas.

t) **Barracks for Lady Officials**: A separate barrack for lady police personnel which is located at a suitable place away from the male barracks.

u) **Recreational Room & Gym**: Large room with Gym equipments for the fitness of the police personnel have been provided. A separate Recreation/TV room also have been provided for recreational activities of the police personnel staying in the barracks.

v) **Sankraman Room/Interrogation Room**: A separate Interrogation Room is provided near the SHO room.

w) **Reader Room**: A room is provided for the Reader/PA with the SHO room for functional convenience.

x) **Counseling Room**: A Counseling room has been provided where the police official can counsel the complainant/visitor on small matters.

y) **Duty Officer**: A room for Duty Officer is provided with attached toilet for officer on duty round the clock.

z) **Canteen+Kitchen**: A Kitchen with modern equipments and cafeteria with modern furniture has been provided for the police personnel staying in the barracks and for the police personnel on duty.
The Architectural drawings as per revised norms have been prepared to create uniformity in Police Station Buildings as well as distinctive identity to police stations in a state. Adopting a uniform color code on external surface of police station buildings throughout a state shall make it easier for a common man to easily recognize Police Station among other buildings. The Modern Police Stations build as per these revised norms, will be supportive and in consonance to SMART Policing Concept, recently adopted by Ministry of Home Affairs, Government of India. Efforts have been made to make these Police Stations Gender Sensitive, Modern, Smart and Techno-Savvy.

The above Revised Norms are Basic Guidelines for planning and constructing a new Police Station Building. These norms shall help the States/ UTs/ & CAPFs to plan an efficient Police Station Building conforming to basic amenities for visitors, provision of adequate spaces for various activities in a Police Station Building to improve the working condition and use of latest technology.

The Category/ size, number of floors & building dimensions of the Modern Police Station in terms of Plinth Area shall be as per the individual requirement of the State, availability of land (hilly region or flat region), prevailing building byelaws and available Funds/Resources.

These revised norms shall serve good for next ten to fifteen years and may then be modified as per the needs at that time.

**BUILDING PLANS as per the GUIDELINES/NORMS for MODERN POLICE STATION BUILDINGS (2016)**

As mentioned earlier, under the revised norms-2016, Police Station Buildings are graded into the following four categories:

i) Modern Police Station Buildings in **Metropolitan City** like in New Delhi, Kolkata etc.

ii) Modern Police Station Buildings in **Major City** like in Lucknow, Allahabad, Madurai etc.

iii) Modern Police Station Buildings in **Semi-Urban Area** like in Noida & Gurgaon.

iv) Modern Police Station Buildings in **Rural Areas**.

The detailed Architectural drawing of various categories of Police Stations follows:
(A) LAYOUT OF POLICE STATIONS AT METRO POLITAN CITY

1. GROUND FLOOR PLAN OF MODERN POLICE STATION WITH ACCESSIBILITY
2. FIRST FLOOR PLAN OF MODERN POLICE STATION WITH ACCESSIBILITY

AT
METRO POLITAN CITY

FIRST FLOOR PLAN
COVERED AREA AT FIRST FLOOR ~750 SQ.M.
3. SECOND FLOOR PLAN OF MODERN POLICE STATION WITH ACCESSIBILITY
4. THIRD FLOOR PLAN OF MODERN POLICE STATION WITH ACCESSIBILITY

THIRD FLOOR PLAN
COVERED AREA AT THIRD FLOOR =750 SQ.M.
1. Designated accessible parking space near the ramp and at not more than 30 m from the main entrance.

- Tactile marking needs to be installed depicting the parking area, drop off points and way to the main building.
- Segregation of spaces can be indicated by painting information on ground.

2. To make the entrance accessible, 1.5m-2m wide ramp be provided with no steeper than 1:12 gradient and handrails should be provided on both sides of the ramp that continue on landings. Handrail Extension of 300 mm before and after the ramp run shall be provided. Tactile Warning tiles shall be provided 300mm before and after the ramp and stair run.

3. For the double leaf doors at the entrance, min clear width of one of the leaves must be 1m and force required to open it should not exceed 22N.

4. All the doors including that of toilets should have a minimum clear width of 900mm for easy accessibility for all.

5. Reception counters should be easily identifiable and should be at two heights catering to wheelchair users & people with short stature as well as ambulant disabled. The lower counter should be at height of 750mm-800 mm. Counter extensions 480 mm should be provided.

6. An elevator is proposed near the staircase area in order to promote barrier free vertical accessibility. The minimum internal size of the lift car should be 1500x1500mm which allows easy maneuverability of wheelchair user.
DESIGN RECOMMENDATIONS

7. Toilets are modified to accommodate ambulant disabled friendly WC. In a set of single sex toilets (for ladies or gents), there shall be one WC for the use of the ambulant disabled persons that provides 900mmx900mm activity space in front of the WC and the door shall open outwards. (Refer Harmonised Guidelines & Space Standards (HGSS) by MoUD for details)

8. A unisex universally accessible toilet should be provided with minimum internal dimensions of 2200 X 2000 mm with an independent entry from the corridor and not from the single sex toilets. (Refer HGSS for details)

9. Entrances of Malkhana and Armory Room has been modified to accommodate an accessible toilet on the floor.

10. Tactile or guidance marking, Information & Directional signages are to be provided. Especially, at entrance, reception and other crucial spaces
(B) LAYOUT OF POLICE STATIONS AT MAJOR CITY

1. GROUND FLOOR PLAN OF MODERN POLICE STATION WITH ACCESSIBILITY
2. FIRST FLOOR PLAN OF MODERN POLICE STATION WITH ACCESSIBILITY
3. SECOND FLOOR PLAN OF MODERN POLICE STATION WITH ACCESSIBILITY
4. THIRD FLOOR PLAN OF MODERN POLICE STATION WITH ACCESSIBILITY

THIRD FLOOR PLAN
COVERED AREA AT THIRD FLOOR~600 SQ.M
1. GROUND FLOOR PLAN OF MODERN POLICE STATION WITH ACCESSIBILITY

GROUNDFLOOR PLAN
COVERED AREA AT GR. FLOOR=373 SQ.M
2. FIRST FLOOR PLAN OF MODERN POLICE STATION WITH ACCESSIBILITY

AT
SEMI URBAN AREA

FIRST FLOOR PLAN
COVERED AREA AT FIRST FLOOR=600 SQM
3. SECOND FLOOR PLAN OF MODERN POLICE STATION WITH ACCESSIBILITY

SECOND FLOOR PLAN
COVERED AREA AT FIRST FLOOR=600 SQ.M
(D) LAYOUT OF POLICE STATIONS AT RURAL AREAS

1. GROUND FLOOR PLAN OF MODERN POLICE STATION WITH ACCESSIBILITY
2. FIRST FLOOR PLAN OF MODERN POLICE STATION WITH ACCESSIBILITY

FIRST FLOOR PLAN
COVERED AREA AT FIRST FLOOR =509 SQ.M
5. **Standards for Modern Prison / Jail Buildings**

A National level Architectural Design Idea Competition for Jails was initiated by BPRD keeping following points as the basis to improve upon the existing Prison designs, so as to rehabilitate the inmates in jail by providing the best possible humane environment.

Thus the following points were suggested to be incorporated in the Prison designs:

1) Concept and design of various categories of Prisons, such as for Male under-trials, male convicts, women’s prison, high security ward, etc. depicting the interrelationship of various spaces, sizes and their layout in the Prison complex.

2) Land/area requirement for various categories of prisons

3) Capacity of jails with possibilities of future expansion

4) Integration of latest technology required for security and ease of administration of jails at the planning and construction stages

5) Environment friendly design

6) Best practices to address the following issues:
   a) Overcrowding of inmates
   b) Security, surveillance, physical separation, confinement in prisons
   c) Health and Hygiene of inmates in terms of sanitation, drinking water, cooking, dining, etc.
   d) Residential accommodation for staff in jail complex, not exceeding 20% of the gross land area.
   e) Road layout is such that it provides single point vehicle access to each building.
   f) Three wall system required on three sides of the jails and not on the residential complex side.

So with these guidelines a National level architectural design for Jails was evolved, taking care of **accessibility concept for PwDs** as well, in terms of Accessible Routes/ Pathways and Ramps, Parking, Entrance to the building, Corridors, Reception and Lobby Area, Handrails, Elevators and Lifts, Staircase, Toilets, Doors, Drinking Water, Signage, etc.
Some of the modern Prison drawings with accessibility concept follows.

Prison Master Plan

1. Handicapped Accessible Parking 2.7mx5.5m car park with 1.5m gap in between is provided near the entrance
2. All pathways connecting buildings are suitable in width and slope and material used for wheel chair access.
1. Handicapped Accessible Parking 2.7mx5.5m car park with 1.5m gap in between.
2. Accessible entrance to building through ramps (1:10 Slope.)
3. Accessible and spacious (1500x1500mm) Lifts & elevators
4. There should be wheel chair accessible toilet with free internal dia of 1.5m with signage
5. Accessible pathways of 1500mm width
6. Accessible Reception & lobby area.
7. Staircase with a minimum width of 1200mm
8. Doors with a width of 900 to 1200mm
9. Corridors with a width of min. 1500mm
Drinking Water Tap

Elevator

Elevator entrance

Height of control panel and standard dimensions

Space Inside elevator
Signages For Specially abled Persons

- Reserved Signages
- Ramps
- Reserved Parking Space
- Signage for toilet with braille language

Handrail Detail
Pictorial View of a Modern Prison Design-1

The design of Central Prison should enable a place that is humane, secure and amenable. Central Prison should provide sufficient opportunities for the inmate to be more through work + education + play + health routine with the help of the support staff. This is done by specific design strategies for the whole as well as each part of the Prison.
Pictorial View of a Modern Prison Design-2
6. **Standards for Disaster Mitigation Centres**

Natural hazards pose threats to the well-being of all people. However, it affects some people disproportionately such as those with disabilities. The purpose of the guideline is to provide practical directions to support implementation mechanisms of Climate Change based on established and nationally accepted norms and practices so that all stakeholders will implement and carry forward the process.

Thus this guideline will

i. Contribute to the knowledge base by providing disability inclusion actions in disaster mitigation, preparedness, response, and recovery efforts.

ii. Highlight the strength of persons with disabilities and their representative organizations to facilitate action.

The guidance proposed through this Chapter, will inform and assist implementation, aid the stakeholders in reducing vulnerabilities and increasing resilience of persons with disabilities in the Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR).

These guidelines are intended primarily for Government officials/administration working in the field of DRR at national, state and local level, International NGOs (INGOs), Persons with Disabilities, Disabled People’s Organizations (DPOs). Other stakeholders include Non-Government Organizations (NGOs) working in disability/disasters, disability activists, care givers, schools, health actors, elected representatives working in DRR, Media, etc.

These Guidelines are drawn from a detailed review of existing available resources and guidelines and governance mechanisms practiced in disaster risk reduction. It consists of diverse government, UN and academic sources as well as information from Disability International Non-Government Organizations (INGOs) and DPOs. The methodology took into account the activities and sectorial priorities of various stakeholders, available capacities at national, state and local levels. An important contribution was made by persons with disabilities and DPOs.

Before embarking on the guidelines for the disability inclusive actions in all the phase of the DRR such as mitigation, preparedness, response, recovery and rehabilitation, it is important to understand the risks and gaps that persons with disability face in general and specifically in disaster situations. It is only then that a disability inclusive approach
Adoption of Universal Design Principles, Facilitation of Accessibility and Access to Assistive Technology

DRR is increasingly using technology to overcome the adverse effects of disasters and climate change. Technology can include persons with disabilities in the information system in meeting challenges of disasters. Information and Communication Technology (ICT) enabled warning systems such as SMS, emails and twitter alert people of an impending disaster. It can also show evacuation routes and places of safe shelters. However with enhanced use of social media and growing number of web sites, inaccessible technology or ICT creates more harm than good for the persons with disability. They are generally uninformed and dependent due to non-use of the available alternative system of communication which has accessible features of the technology. The screen may not be readable by those without or with low sights. The YouTube or radio and Television warning without signage leave those with hearing impairment out of the information system.

Physical inaccessibility can also have fatal consequences as it is connected to access to food, water, medical aid, shelters and transport. When accessible routes and shelters are not available, the persons with disabilities are at higher risk. Loss of mobility and other aids can leave persons out of relief and reconstruction processes.

Principles of universal design and reasonable accommodation in all phases of DRR are required and need to be part of preparedness.

More trained professionals and workers on universal designs, and capacity building of first responders and service providers is required.

Preparedness and Mitigation Strategies

There will be exclusion of persons with disabilities from preparedness and mitigation strategies when there is no prior mapping of locations of persons with disabilities, listing of resource needs; identification and mapping of health care institutions; location and mapping of special educators, therapists and professionals (audiologists, speech therapists, sign language interpreter etc.) and accessible transport which not only affects the persons with disability but also the resilience of their communities.
Persons with disabilities may need continuous use of health services and life saving devices and medicines and are placed at higher risk if these are not available. A national stockpiling of durable medical equipment, life saving devices (respirators) and supplies to communities, trauma needs would help in saving their lives and reduce the chances of increasing their disability.

In case an inclusive system is not in place (trained communities) for saving lives of persons with disabilities whose care / personal assistance might abandon them or are killed by the disaster, the persons with disabilities face higher risk. In most cases physical inaccessibility and non-availability of sign language interpreters to interact with those with communication disabilities leave such persons out.

**Search, Rescue and Evacuation (SRE)**

Getting injured due to their reduced capacity to react quickly, not being informed about evacuation and unaware of training protocols leave persons with disabilities, unprepared during SRE operations. A lack of adequate data about the numbers, location and needs of individuals with disabilities remains a critical barrier in meeting needs during the SRE and relief stages of DRR.

Disability gets worse in the SRE process as family and personal attendants whom persons with disabilities depend on may be injured or have died. There may be no volunteers or those replacing them may not be informed or professionally trained in the use of special techniques or procedures in SRE for the diversity of disabilities. Besides the loss of assistive devices, persons with psycho- social or intellectual disabilities living in institutions may be at high risk as they may be excluded.

There might be loss of mobility and hearing aids and Global Positioning System (GPS) tracking devices used by persons with intellectual disabilities may be lost or become nonfunctional.

**Access to Relief**

Standards which do not include disability specific provisions in relief protocols and advisories, lay the foundation of a discriminatory system. When disability is overlooked in emergencies those affected will be unable to access relief and reconstruction requirements.

Relief camps, mass feeding centres, portable toilets, temporary housing are generally inaccessible and in case of food dropping process, they may face food insecurity due to absence of volunteer support services in gaining access to food. Starvation and malnutrition amongst persons with disability aggravate if water and food distribution points are inaccessible and located at far-off distances and managed by untrained relief workers.
With no bar codes or electronic tracking, expensive equipment and assistive and mobility devices (wheelchairs, hearing aids, Braille translator, crutches, prostheses, respirators etc.) are lost or becomes inoperable during emergencies, limiting the access to relief.

Accessible transport which is safe, reliable and timely and para-transport (small vehicles, auto and cycle rickshaws) is required for door to door evacuation but may not be available or demarcated for their use and therefore would restrict persons with disabilities’ option to access relief.

People during disasters acquire physical impairments such as spinal cord or brain injuries, but critical care without prior planning may not be available.

**Rehabilitation and Reconstruction (R&R)**

Persons with disabilities continue to encounter diverse challenges when the rebuilding efforts do not incorporate universal design or inclusive resources. The process to “Build Back Better” needs to include infrastructure (shelters, schools, houses, public buildings etc.). If not adhered to, persons with disabilities may have to deal with exclusion from both relief and reconstruction initiatives due to inaccessible relief distribution centres, and far off sites which provide aid. Housing for them might not be only inaccessible but also not be integrated in community housing.

If there are no social safeguard systems for those who have lost employment for re-entry in the workforce with reasonable accommodation, and no access to poverty eradication schemes, their economic levels may decline even further. The situation may aggravate if their disability related expenses rise and they have no access to information of government schemes available during the recovery stage. Those with newly acquired disability may be left out of any R&R system as they are not registered.

Trained DPOs who could be of great importance to facilitate access to resources, may not be listed or recognized as service providers to persons with disabilities during the R&R process. There is a need for inclusion not only of persons with disabilities and their care givers but also disability organizations.

For persons with spinal cord, head injury etc. long term rehabilitation is required but specialized rehabilitation services are limited in India and may be too far from their place of residence.

**Women and Girls with Disabilities**

Disasters exacerbate existing gender inequalities. Women with disabilities can continue to be left out of participation in DRR due to existing social discriminatory attitudes and may not be
considered as competent even though communities benefit from their knowledge and skills in strengthening resilience.

They may be found to be at risk and vulnerable to violence specifically sexual and gender based violence inside the house and in public spaces (schools, workplace, hospitals etc.), and could be trafficked. If there is no security systems either law enforcement or community based, their vulnerabilities will increase. They may frequently be excluded from social support services if they have mobility problems, and left behind in camps / temporary housing during displacement after disasters or when they migrate to unsafe places.

Women are not a homogenous group and some such as female headed households and single young women may suffer more than others. They are usually provided few opportunities to express their needs or included in decision making.

**Children with Disabilities**

Children face heightened risks to impacts of disasters and climate change. They may be susceptible to physical, sexual and emotional abuse, trauma augmented when schools do not follow safety norms. They become deprived of access to schools and health care. Trauma and mortality of children with disabilities increases if teachers and children are untrained in SRE. School safety for children with disabilities may not be included in specific mainstream programs, especially if special schools are left out of school safety programs.

Capacity in children to face barriers during emergencies could be low and they may not access adequate health, physical rehabilitation and psychosocial recovery facilities. Children with disabilities are provided few opportunities to express their needs or inclusion in decision making. Strong child protection mechanisms need to be operational in a disaster region to protect the rights of children and reduce their exploitation.

**Elderly Persons**

With a projected increase of elderly population, the number of elderly people with disabilities also increases during disasters. Destruction of health infrastructure or overburdened services would impact the health status of persons with disabilities in disasters and climate change.

They could have chronic diseases, total visual impairment, and rarely any insurance. DRR process may not have taken into account the aging process.

A section of the elderly population who are women and specifically widows and come from a rural poor background are at higher risk of being excluded from access to resources especially,
food, potable water, safe shelter and hygiene necessities and sanitation. Elderly people may not be consulted or given decision making roles.

**Persons with Psycho-social Disability**

Persons with psycho-social disabilities have the right to be recognized as persons before the law having legal capacity on equal terms as others. They are at high risk as there is inadequate data or indicators to monitor the process of inclusion.

Knowledge on the right to legal capacity may not exist among responders and service providers and so no action may be taken up by them. Many may be admitted in places of detention and may not be included in any capacity building. Due to stigma attached to mental health, few efforts are made to provide counseling and services or attempts made to include them. Health services might be provided without informed consent.

**From Risks and Gaps to Inclusion**

People with disabilities do not have “special” needs, but they face challenges in meeting inclusion in DRR. From the above it is obvious that the gaps span a large diversity of issues. To overcome them in disaster situations would mean a strong preparedness strategy across risks. When identifying risk it has to be considered that it may exist at multiple levels for example for persons with developmental or psycho social disabilities or women, children or elderly, it would require identification and vulnerability assessment to understand their needs and capacity building to empower them. Risk can be related to a person’s functional capacity which could be improved by the access to health services such as rehabilitation, assistive devices, information and capacity building but social inclusion is imperative as the latter would not only mitigate risk but enhance decision making roles. Persons with disabilities require enhanced capacity to be involved in both risk assessment and reduction. Physical and communication accessibility and capacity building would help their participation in all DRR responses on an equal basis with all others and gain the visibility of the issues.

It is important that we recognize the following:

a) The heightened risks and vulnerabilities arising out of social, attitudinal and environmental barriers.

b) That, persons with disabilities are not a homogenous group they have different capacities and requirements and have to cope with different circumstances.

c) That this is not a matter of “special needs” but rather prioritizing the adoption of alternative systems for implementation.
d) That participation of persons with disabilities is important as they have key capabilities and actively including them as disability experts in DRR would help mainstream disability concerns and contribute to their constitutional right to equality.

**Suggested Guidelines for Disaster Mitigation centres**

The time-lines proposed for the implementation of various activities in the *Guidelines* are considered both desirable and feasible, especially in cases where financial and technical constraints are not limiting factors. The listing below is suggestive:

a. Availability of disability-inclusive disaster risk reduction plans,

b. Monitoring systems in place for tracking implementation of inclusive policies,

c. Availability of disability-inclusive training modules, materials and trainers for all relevant service personnel,

a. Quantitative increase in disability-inclusive DRR practices at local, regional and national levels;

b. Develop disability inclusive multi-hazard early warning systems.

c. Collaboration and support of research in the field of data production, disaggregation and conceptualization of barriers and facilitators at academic and field level.

d. Disaggregated data on the differential impact of disasters on the persons with disability

e. Availability of psychosocial support service personnel that have the capacity to assist persons with disabilities affected by disasters;

f. Availability of assistive devices and technologies for persons with disabilities in preparing for and responding to disasters.

g. Coverage in training

h. Corpus establishment for DiDRR,

i. Enforce accessible and resilient infrastructure models including schools, hospitals and shelters following the principles of universal design

j. Sub-national and national reporting on SFDRR implementation.

k. NGOs and DPOs programmatic interventions and report analysis.

l. SDGs country reports.
Some of the Photographs of DMCs created are shown below.

Photographs of Assets created under NCRMP Phase-II

Figure 1: MPCS at Zankar, Gujarat

Figure 2: MPCS at Maktupur, Gujarat

Figure 3: UGC work under progress at Alibag, Maharashtra

Figure 4: SE work under progress at Benavale, Maharashtra

Figure 5: SE work under progress at Manikatta, Karnataka

Figure 6: Bridge work under progress at Udupi, Karnataka
Photographs of Assets created under NCRMP Phase-II

Figure 7: Road at Mangalore, Karnataka

Figure 8: MPCS at Hosebette, Karnataka

Figure 9: MPCS at Kasargude, Kerala

Figure 10: MPCS at Taranagar, West Bengal

Figure 11: UGC at Digha, West Bengal

Figure 12: MPCS at Dabolim, Goa
Some of the Architectural Drawings of the DMCs are shown below.
7. **Associated Services with Built-up infrastructures, such as, Police Stations, Prisons, etc.**

The Persons with Disabilities face barriers that hinder, restrict and prevent them from exercising their rights on an equal basis with others, which constitutes a violation of their dignity. It is therefore very important to place an emphasis on the interaction with the barriers that prevent or hinder the full and effective participation of persons with disabilities in society. Consequently, the State has as its main obligation and priority to eliminate barriers and create conditions for equal opportunities.

It is important to ensure universal access to physical environments, transportation, information and communications, including information and communications technologies and systems, and to other facilities and services, both in urban and in rural areas, and ensure all forms of accessibility within the Police institutions.

It is necessary to take all appropriate measures to ensure that reasonable accommodation is provided during the execution of police services, namely the necessary and appropriate modifications and adjustments that do not impose a disproportionate or undue burden, when required in a particular case of police procedure. Consider that the denial of reasonable accommodation is understood as discrimination on the basis of disability.

**Access to Information and Communication**

It is necessary to take all necessary steps to eliminate discrimination caused by the barriers faced by some persons with disabilities while communicating with dealing persons. Therefore, the use of new information and communication technologies need to be promoted in order to facilitate communicative and accessible interaction. Thus besides the accessible design, the development and production of Police websites and institutional social networks for persons with different types of disabilities is very necessary.

Besides, various ‘**App based services**’ need to be used for **making complaints with Police stations**, registering FIRs, making enquiries for various application forms, police verifications, etc.
The police must encourage active listening to the PwDs, ensuring that officers will make the best effort to understand what the person with a disability wants to convey, allowing them as much time as necessary to do so. It must be ensured and confirmed in the police procedure that the person with a disability has understood the information expressed by the officers.

There is a need to establish mechanisms to enable human assistance to persons with disabilities, including readers, professional sign language interpreters and experts in the legal & procedural field.

The following **Guidelines** must be followed in connection with Associated services for Police Stations and Prisons:

1. To take care of all necessary steps to eliminate discrimination caused by the barriers faced by some persons with disabilities while communicating with the concerned police officer.
2. To promote and facilitate the use of sign language and various communication systems, such as Braille, augmentative and alternative modes, means, and formats of communication.
3. To promote the use of new information and communication technologies in order to facilitate communicative and accessible interaction.
4. To promote accessible design, development and production of police websites and institutional social networks for persons with different types of disabilities.
5. To ensure and confirm in the police procedure that the person with a disability has understood the information expressed by the officers. Also to establish mechanisms to enable human assistance to persons with disabilities, including readers, professional sign language interpreters, experts in the legal and procedural field.
6. To guarantee access for women and girls with disabilities to information and services available in the area of gender-based violence, ensuring that formats are always accessible. Special consideration should be given to deaf women who primarily use sign language.
7. To establish and implement various communication systems for deaf persons, such as text messages, video calls with sign language interpretation, translation of documents in sign language, among others, to ensure that they can communicate with police personnel.
8. To provide accessible information in audio and Braille format so that visually impaired persons can communicate with police personnel.

9. To support verbal and/or written language with images or pictograms when dealing with persons with intellectual disabilities.

10. To ensure all aspects of accessibility for persons with disabilities in both urban and rural settings, the following should be considered:
   a) Suitable lighting for persons with low vision,
   b) Warning tapes, especially on the stair steps for persons with visual impairment.
   c) Service desks with different height levels for persons with short stature, skeletal dysplasia, persons in wheelchairs, among others.
   d) Have accessible hygienic services, WC at wheelchair height with folding support bar and free space around it, sink with enough frontal space for a wheelchair, an easy to handle faucet, and have a radius of movement on the axis of 1.5 mts.
   e) Have a bunk, stretcher or other similar device in the bathroom so that women with spinal cord injuries can perform their physiological functions properly.

11. To provide protection at all times, the dignity of the person with a disability when accessing and moving around the premises.

12. To ensure comfortable and safe places, at the request of the person with a disability, to give confidential testimony during the taking of statements and reports, except when the person with a disability wants to give his or her testimony publicly.

13. To have a remote video call sign language interpretation services available, via cellular or computer devices, for services given to deaf persons in the police premises.

14. To guarantee the protection of the life and property of persons with disabilities, with special consideration given to technical aids such as wheelchairs, orthopedic canes, guide canes for blind persons and hearing aids or telephones that facilitate communication for deaf persons and persons with aphasia. Police officers should not remove or confiscate technical aids from the person using them.
15. To recognize that persons with disabilities may be exposed to situations that violate their rights or subject them to abuse, so preferential treatment should always be given, considering their disability.

16. To ensure that the police officers make direct contact with persons with disabilities. This means addressing the person with a disability directly and not the person accompanying them or the interpreter, if any.

17. To ensure and corroborate that the information is delivered in a clear and precise manner by the officer, in an everyday vocabulary and without any technical jargon.

18. Allocate adequate time for interaction between persons with different disabilities and police personnel. Adequate time is defined as the time required or needed by the person with a disability to carry out their procedures before the police.

19. To recognize that persons with disabilities who are assisted by guide dogs, canes, wheelchairs or other technical aids should not be separated from them, either in the vehicle or at the police station.

20. To promote and develop knowledge about the different types of disabilities, in order to provide a high-quality service. It should be kept in mind that disability is an expression of human diversity. Even within the same type of disability, there may be differences between persons.

21. To consider that the restoration of public order also implies that the police institution takes the safeguards to protect the physical and mental integrity of persons with disabilities, who are participating in political and/or social demonstrations, consolidating good practices, such as explaining to the person with disabilities the willingness to accompany him/her to a safe place.

22. To bring the person with a disability who has been arrested or detained, before a judge without delay, so that the judge may decide on the legality of his or her detention.

23. To ensure that persons with disabilities have access to justice on an equal basis with others in order to facilitate their effective role as direct and indirect participants in a process or procedure, including as witnesses.
24. In situations in which the person with a disability is alleged to have participated in a crime as a perpetrator, accomplice or accessory. In such a case, following care should be taken:
   a) To promote due respect for the dignity of all persons with disabilities who are subjected to any form of detention or arrest,
   b) To eliminate any practice that involves the arbitrary detention of persons with disabilities,
   c) To consider that a person’s disability should not represent prejudices or stereotypes of criminal responsibility or culpability for police personnel.
   d) To ensure that the detained or arrested deaf person who uses sign language is able to use their hands to communicate. Handcuffing a deaf person in the back takes away their ability to communicate through sign language.

25. To encourage the use of new information and communication technologies, such as video calls, text messages, interactive chats and websites to make complaints, especially for persons with disabilities who are victims of domestic or gender violence, who will receive the due consideration by police officers to initiate the appropriate procedures.
8. References:

a) Harmonized Guidelines and Space Standards for Barrier free Built Environment for persons with Disability and Elderly persons (2016) by Ministry of Urban Development

b) Model Accessible Police Stations (Report and Checklist) by Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment, Department of Empowerment of Persons with Disabilities (2020)

c) Accessibility Standards and Guidelines for Civil Aviation by Ministry of Civil Aviation (2020)

d) Revision of Standards for Modern Police Station Buildings (2016) by BPR&D, Ministry of Home Affairs