

CENTRAL PRISON VISIT PONDICHERRY

APRIL 30, 2024



As a part of the Student Outreach activity, the School of Law organized a field trip to the **Central Prison, Puducherry** on **April 30, 2024** for the students of LL.M. (Criminal Justice and Human Rights), PG Diploma (Criminology and Forensic Science), and MA SEAL (Integrated Five Year Program). The event was Coordinated by **Dr. Shyamtanu Pal**, Assistant Professor, School of Law. The visit aimed to provide students with firsthand insight into the functioning of the criminal justice system.

Located 7.5 km away from the University in Kalapet, the Central Prison of Puducherry is renowned as a model correctional facility. During the visit, **Mr. Bhaskar**, the **Prison Superintendent**, guided the students through various aspects of prison life, including the inmates' backgrounds, rehabilitation programs, and operational challenges. They witnessed firsthand the agricultural initiatives, including the cultivation of fruits, vegetables, and medicinal plants, as well as poultry farming. Profits from these endeavors are channeled towards supporting the welfare and education of inmates' families. The prison boasts a medical facility staffed by a physician for two hours each day and a workshop area sponsored by NGOs like the Aurobindo Society, where inmates engage in productive activities such as spinning and weaving, aimed at their rehabilitation. Additionally, a jail bakery, supported by the Sri Aurobindo Society, has been operational for six months, providing snacks and juices to inmates.

Students were granted access to the various sections of the prison, including separate cells for convicted and undertrial prisoners, a library known as the Human Library, and

facilities such as a tailoring station, radio station, and gym. They also learned about the dedicated female ward as well

The visit provided students with a unique opportunity to gain practical insights into the functioning of a correctional facility and the challenges faced by both inmates and prison authorities. It was an enriching experience that deepened their understanding of the criminal justice system and its complexities.