



CNR: KAHC010155052025

NC: 2026:KHC:40225
WP No. 6986 of 2025

IN THE HIGH COURT OF KARNATAKA AT BENGALURU

DATED THIS THE 31ST DAY OF JULY, 2026

BEFORE

THE HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE S SUNIL DUTT YADAV

WRIT PETITION NO. 6986 OF 2025 (GM-POLICE)



BETWEEN:

SRI. GOVINDARAJU,
S/O VENKATAIAH @ YALLAPPA,
AGE. 36 YEARS,
R/AT. NO. HOSAPURA VILLAGE,
AMRUTHURU HOBLI, KUNIGAL TALUK,
TUMAKURU-572130.

PRESENTLY SERVING SENTENCE
IN BENGALURU CENTRAL PRISON (CTP NO.8348)

...PETITIONER

(BY SRI. PRADEEP PATIL, ADVOCATE FOR PETITIONER
SRI. CLIFTON D' ROZARIO, APPOINTED AS AMICUS CURIAE)

AND:

1. THE UNION OF INDIA,
REPRESENTED BY THE UNDER SECRETARY
(JUDICIAL WING), GOVERNMENT OF INDIA,
MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS,
HALL NO.17, 2ND FLOOR,
MAJOR DHYAN CHAND NATIONAL STADIUM,
INDIA GATE,
NEW DELHI-110 002.
2. THE STATE OF KARNATAKA,
BY THE PRINCIPAL SECRETARY,
HOME DEPARTMENT,
VIDHANA SOUDHA,
BENGALURU-560001.
3. THE DIRECTOR GENERAL OF POLICE
PRISONS AND CORRECTIONAL SERVICES NO.9,
SHESHADRI ROAD,
GANDHI NAGAR,
BENGALURU-560009.

VINAYAKA
B.V.
Digitally signed by
VINAYAKA B.V.
Location: High Court of
Karnataka, Dharwad
Bench
Date: 2026.08.13
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4. THE CHIEF SUPERINTENDENT,
CENTRAL PRISON, PARAPPANA AGRAHARA,
BENGALURU-560100.

...RESPONDENTS

(BY SRI. SHANTHI BHUSHAN. H, DSGI FOR R1;
SRI. V.G.BHANUPRAKASH, AAG FOR
SRI. HEMAKUMAR, AGA FOR R2 TO R4)

THIS WRIT PETITION IS FILED UNDER ARTICLES 226 AND 227 OF THE CONSTITUTION OF INDIA, PRAYING TO ISSUE A WRIT, ORDER OR DIRECTION IN THE NATURE OF MANDAMUS TO THE RESPONDENTS TO BE PLEASED TO ACT IN STRICT COMPLIANCE OF THE NOTIFICATION BEARING NO.HD 119 PRA 2018, BENGALURU, DATED 21.04.2020 PRODUCED AS ANNEXURE-A AND BE FURTHER PLEASED TO DIRECT THE PREMATURE RELEASE OF THE PETITIONER IN TERMS OF THE ANNEXURE-A AND ETC.

THIS WRIT PETITION COMING ON FOR FURTHER HEARING, THIS DAY, ORDER WAS MADE THEREIN AS UNDER:

CORAM: HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE S SUNIL DUTT YADAV

ORAL ORDER

The present petition has been filed seeking for extension of parole granted to the petitioner, till decision is taken by the State Government for premature release of the life convict.

2. The petitioner has also sought for strict adherence to the Government Order bearing No.HD 119 PRA 2018, BENGALURU dated 21.04.2020.

3. The facts made out are that the petitioner was convicted for the offences punishable under Section 498A and 302 read with Section 34 of Indian Penal Code. It is asserted that though the petitioner as on 12.11.2024 had undergone



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imprisonment of 15 years and 4 months and despite his case falling within the framework of Government Notification which would entitle him for 'premature release', there was undue delay in considering his case for 'premature release'.

4. It is in the context of delay in considering and passing orders by the Executive Authorities in considering the case for 'premature release' that the Court had embarked on the exercise of engaging with the State for formulating a Standard Operating Procedure [SOP] to facilitate the expeditious consideration of cases of convicts for premature release as is permissible under the applicable framework of the Government Notification.

5. Mr. Clifton D' Rozario, Amicus Curiae has filed a short brief on premature release of life convicts.

6. It is submitted that the SOP prepared by the National Legal Services Authority (NALSA) is exhaustive and comprehensive and has received an imprimatur from the Apex Court in Suo Motu Writ Petition [Crl.] No.4/2021 'In Re: Policy



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Strategy for Grant of Bail' with Special Leave Petition [Crl.] No.529/2021.

7. Sri V.G.Bhanuprakash, learned Additional Advocate General appearing along with learned Additional Government Advocate Sri Hemakumar for respondent State also relies on the Affidavit filed by the Under Secretary to Government, Home Department (Prison and Cinema) and states that the SOP by NALSA appears to be comprehensive.

8. It is further submitted that in order to avoid duplication, the present proceedings may be closed, while reiterating the requirement of following the SOP of NALSA in letter and spirit.

9. It is noticed that the SOP is required to be adhered to. It would be appropriate for a reiteration of timelines in the SOP as extracted hereinbelow:-

"Timelines:

26. The timelines prescribed across the SOP, stage by stage, are as follows:

Stage	Specified time period
Preparation of the eligibility list by the prison superintendent	Once every four months, in January, May, and September



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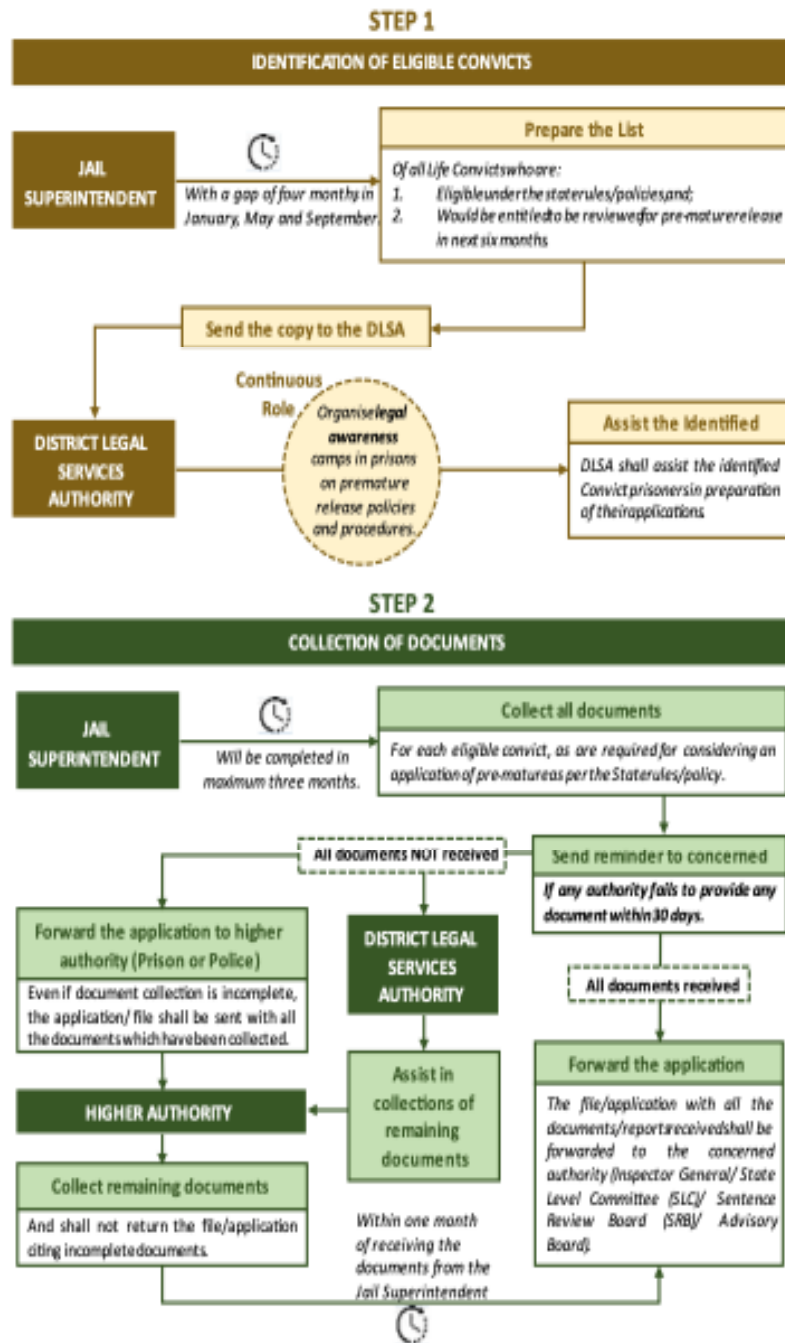
Sharing of the eligibility list with the DLSA	Within 10 days of its preparation
Issuance of the DLSA's roster of jail visiting lawyers/paralegals	Within 4 days of receiving the list
Reminder to authorities for documents not received	If not received within 30 days of the request
Completion of document compilation and the application	Within two months
Forwarding of the complete file by the Nodal Officer to the recommending authority	Within one month
Meeting of the recommending authority	Once every four months, preferably in April, August, and December
Forwarding of the recommendation to the appropriate government	Within 10 days of the meeting
Decision of the appropriate government on the recommendation	Within one month of receiving it
On rejection: - appointment of a panel lawyer by the High Court Legal Services Committee - interaction with the convict - filing of the petition	- Within one week - Within one week - Within fifteen days
On rejection: - appointment of a lawyer by the Supreme Court Legal Services Committee - interaction with the convict - filing of the petition	- Within one week - Within two weeks - Within thirty days
Updating of parole/furlough records by the Prison Legal Aid Clinic	Once every quarter, in January, April, July, and October
Quarterly report by the DLSA to the SLSA, and annual State-wise report by the SLSA to NALSA	
Meeting of district-level coordination committees	Once every three months, with minutes sent to the SLSA within 15 days.

10. Further, the Flow Chart of procedure for handling applications of 'premature release/remission', which is part of SOP of NALSA is also extracted hereinbelow for the purpose of reiteration.



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Flowchart of Procedure For Handling Applications Of Premature Release/ Remission

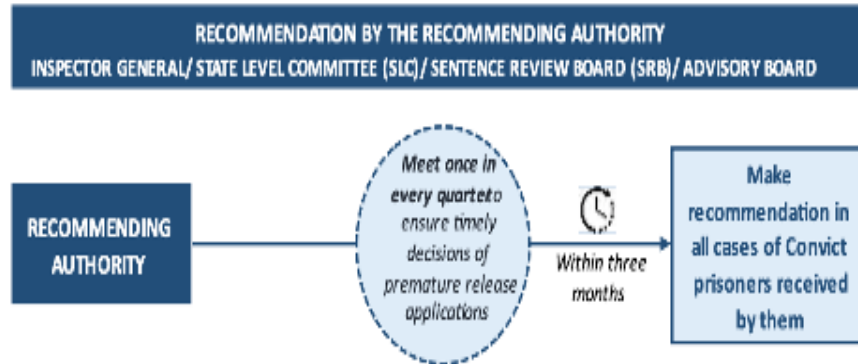




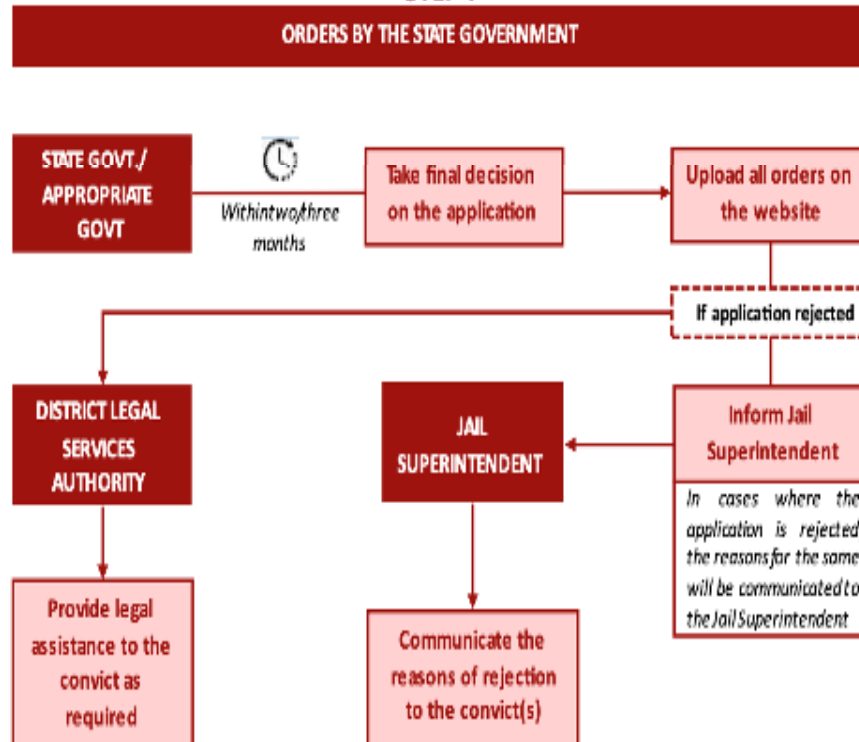
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STEP 3



STEP 4





11. Insofar as the case of the petitioner is concerned, it is submitted on behalf of the respondent State that his case is at an advanced stage of consideration and decision would be taken shortly. This Court has already ordered for release of the petitioner on parole till final orders on his 'premature release' is passed. Such order would be in force and be subject to the conditions imposed till a final decision is taken by the State Government.

12. Needless to state that, in the event that the petitioner has any subsisting grievance, it is open for the petitioner to take appropriate proceedings.

13. Accordingly, the proceedings are closed and petition is ***disposed*** of, in light of the above observations.

14. It is only expected that the procedure prescribed by NALSA would be adhered to in letter and spirit.

15. The Court places on record its appreciation for the assistance and efforts of Sri Shanthi Bhushan. H, learned Deputy Solicitor General of India, High Court of Karnataka,



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Bengaluru, Sri V.G.Bhanuprakash, learned Additional Advocate General, Sri Mallanna Goud, learned CGSC, Sri Hemakumar learned Additional Government Advocate, Ms. Sakshi Khotari, learned advocate and Mr. Clifton D' Rozario, Amicus Curiae.

**Sd/-
(S SUNIL DUTT YADAV)
JUDGE**

VGR
LIST NO.: 19 SL NO.: 1