RAJASTHAN PRISONERS RELEASE ON PAROLE RULES, 1958

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RAJASTHAN PRISONERS RELEASE ON PAROLE RULES, 1958

[Notification No. F.16(306) Home/2/54, dated 20-12-1958, published in Rajasthan Gazette, Part IV-C, dated 23-7-1959.] and as amended by

In exercise of the powers conferred by sub-section (6) of Section 401 of the code of Criminal Procedure, 1989 (Act V of 1898), the Government of Rajasthan is pleased to make the following rules namely:-

1. **Title, Commencement & application**-
   (a) These Rules will be called Rajasthan Prisoners Release on Parole Rules, 1958;
   (b) They shall come into force on the date of their publication in the official Gazette;
   (c) These rules shall not apply to persons under a sentence of imprisonment for an offence against any law relating to a matter to which the executive power of the Union of India extends and such persons shall be governed by the Central Rules made under Notification of the Government of India. Ministry of Home Affairs No. 40/32/55-Judl.I, dated the 9th November reproduced in the Appendix to these rules.

**COMMENTARY**

1. **General.**- Power of Executive- The executive has sufficient powers to deal with the applications for grant of parole and that they should exercise their powers and not force the prisoners to approach the High Court, for grant of parole even in emergent cases like death of mother or father, serious illness of a family members, marriage of a close relation or to attend a family member who is sick or has died or he has to appear in some examination or there has been loss or damage to the property on account of natural calamity. Applications for parole in such circumstances have to be considered by the Jail Superintendent, I.G. Prisons and if necessary by the District Magistrate expeditiously so that the prisoners may not have to approach the High Court for release on petty grounds. The Executive Authorities have means to find out the correctness of the grounds on which parole is sought while the High Court has to depend upon the information furnished by the Government Advocate which in all cases is practically nil and the High Court has to deal with petitions for release on parole without being able to verify the correctness of the grounds. A large number of applications coming up before the High Court ought to have been disposed by the executive authorities.

   Release on parole for a short period or even the permanent release on parole is not very much different from the shortening of sentences. In cases of temporary release on parole, a prisoners has to surrender and undergo the remaining period of his sentence while in case where the sentence has been shortened, the punishment is complete but he can be rearrested when the release is constitutional and he commits the breach of the terms of release as contained in From No. 11 appended to the Rules. After permanent release on parole also, a person can be ordered to undergo the unexpired part of his sentence in case he
commits the breach of the conditions. The permanent release on parole is always condition, as the effect of a permanent parole is the commutation or remittance of the sentence this benefit shall be available to prisoners convicted of offences for which death sentence is also one of the sentences but he is to be released only after undergoing 14 year's actual punishment as the rules cannot override the provisions of the Code. Lakhi V. State of Rajasthan, 1996 (2) WLC 613=1995 (1) RLR 684=1995 RCC 644=1996 (2) RLW 200 (Raj.) (DB).

2. Applicability to convict of NDPS Act.- [1] The Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Act, 1985 being a Central Act, in view of S. 432 Cr.P.C., statutory rules relating to release of convict of NDPS act on parole can be framed only by Central Government. Prayer of persons convicted under the said Act can be considered only under rules framed in that regard by the Central Government. Till such rules are framed, certain guide lines provided by the Court for releasing a convict of NDPS Act on parole or transferring to open Jail. State of Rajasthan V. Mana Singh, 2002 (2) RLR 285=2002 (2) WLN 719=2002 (1) CDR 592 (Raj.)(DB) [2] See also; Samiullaha V. State of Rajasthan, 2002 (4) WLN 456=2002(1) RLR 41 (Raj.)(DB)

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2. Definition. - In these rules unless there is anything repugnant in the subject or context,-

(b) "Superintendent" means the Superintendent of a Jail in which a convict to be released on parole under the Act is confined;
(c) "Government" means the Government of Rajasthan;
2(d) "Parole" means condition enlargement of prisoner form the Jail under these rules;
(e) "Probation Officer" means any officer or a person so appointed by the Government for the purpose of looking after a prisoner who has been released on parole.

3[(f) Prisoners Parole Advisory Committee (hereinafter referred to as "State Government") means a committee consisting of the following which will make recommendation to the govt. for the release of those prisoners on parole whose cases do not fall within the purview of the District Parole advisory Committee and decided (i) as to release of those prisoners on parole in respect of whom the functions of the District Parole Advisory Committee have been assigned to the State Committee, (ii) revocation of the orders of prisoners released on parole, and (iii) other like matters arising under the rules which State Committee is required to deal with:--

1. Inspector General of Prisons, Rajasthan Chairman
2. Dy. Secretary to Government Home (Jails) Member
   Department
4. Prison Psychologist Member
5. Chief Probation Officer Member

The quorum for transaction the business of the committee will be three including the Chairman.]

1 Subs. by Noti. of 15-10-90
2 Subs. by Noti. of 15-10-1990.
3 Ins. by Noti. of 1977 and subs. by that of 1978
4 Subs. by Noti. of 15-10-1990
4. The Superintendent, Jail to forward the application to the District Magistrate.- The Superintendent of Jail concerned will enter the application in a register in Form II and will put his remarks on the application regarding condition of release and the prisoners conduct in the Jail etc. on the application of the prisoner and would forward on copy of it in original to the District Magistrate of the District in whose jurisdiction the prisoner wants to spend his parole period and one copy of the application will be sent to the Probation Officer. The District Magistrate shall enter the application in a register in Form III.

5. District Magistrate may reject the application or forward the same to the [appropriate Committee].- (a) After consulting the Probation Officer where appointed and if felt necessary the Superintendent Police of the District Magistrate concerned will give his remarks, whether the convict in question should be released on Parole or not. In case the District Magistrate raised no objection to let off the prisoner on parole, he would send all the papers in original to the [State Committee or District Committee as the case may be] for orders stating the conditions on which the prisoner may be released on parole. In case the District Magistrate dis-approves of the release, the application will be sent to the Superintendent Jail concerned, stating the reasons of disapproval.
(b) When the ¹[State Committee/District Committee] receives the recommendations of the District Magistrate, it may consult the Presiding Judge of the Court before or by which the conviction was had or confined under ²[Section 432 of the Act], and may accept or reject the application.

COMMENTARY

1. Decision illegal. - As stated above in Rule 2(g), if a meeting is not attended by some persons who are not authorised, the decision taken in such a meeting is illegal. Direction for reconstitution of meeting and taking fresh decision given. Bhuri Singh V. State, 2000 (2) RLR 513=2000 (4) RLW 175=2001 (1) WLN 558 (Raj.), see also case under S.2, 2000(3) WLC 189 (Raj.)


6. Condition for release. - If the [State Committee/District Committee] accepts the recommendation of the District Magistrate, the prisoner shall be released on parole on such conditions and for such period as the [State Committee/District Committee] may direct. The order of release will be in Form IV.

7. Release on bond and security. - The Superintendent of Jail will release the prisoner on parole when he has furnished personal bond and security to the District Magistrate and has thoroughly understood the conditions of his release while on parole or any other condition which the District Magistrate may like to impose on such prisoner.

8. Journey expenses on parole. - The prisoner shall bear the journey expenses from and to the Jail. In cases of destitute prisoners, Government may bear the cost of the prisoners' journey from and to the Jail. This concession will only be granted when the prisoner's family is so poor that they cannot meet his traveling expenses which should be mentioned in the application for parole giving at the same time the reasons therefore. In such cases the District Magistrate may cause enquiries to be made as regards the prisoner's financial position and state whether the concession should be allowed or not.

9. Parole Period. - A prisoner, who has completed with remission, if any, [one-fourth] of his sentence and subject to good conduct in the Jail, may be released on 1st parole for 20 days including days of journey to home and back, and for 30 days on 2nd parole provided his behaviour has been good during 1st parole and for 40 days on third parole provided his behaviour has been good during the second parole. If during the third parole also the prisoner has behaved well and his character has been exceedingly well and if the prisoner's conduct has been such that he is not is not likely to replace into crime, his case may be recommended to the Government through the ³[State Committee] for permanent release on parole on such conditions as deemed fit by the Superintendent Jail and the District Magistrate concerned; the Chief condition among them being that if the prisoner while on parole commits any offence or abets, directly or indirectly, commission of any offence, he has to undergo the unexpired portion of the sentence in addition to any sentence imposed upon him by reason of such an offence. In case the permanent release on parole is rejected, the prisoner will be eligible for release on parole for 40 days every year subject to the same conditions for the remaining period of his sentence;

⁴[Provided that cases of prisoners who have been sentenced to imprisonment for life, for an offence for which death penalty is one of the punishments provided by law or who have been sentenced to death but this

¹ Subs. by Noti. of 1978
² Subs. by Noti. or 15-10-90
³ Subs. by Noti. of 1978
⁴ Added by Noti. of 26-5-94
sentence has been commuted under section 433 of Code of Criminal Procedure into one of life imprisonment shall not be placed before the State Committee for permanent release on parole unless he has served 14 years of imprisonment excluding remission, but including the period of detention passed during enquiry, investigation or trial. Such prisoners may be released on parole for 40 days every year for the remaining period of their sentence subject to the conditions stated above.]

COMMENTARY

1. **Refusal of parole not justified- District Magistrate should examine matter.** - [1] In the instant case, the police report apprehended breach of peace if the prisoner was released on parole but there was no material to support the apprehension and the District Magistrate, mechanically supported the report of the Police, though it was necessary, for the District Magistrate to examine the matter afresh on the basis of the report of the Superintendent. In Anil Thankur V. State of Rajasthan [2001 WLC 460 (Raj.), it was held that release of a convict cannot be refused merely on ipse dixit of police report. The conduct of the convict in the instant case in Jail was not bad and there was no reason to refuse release on parole. Parasram V. State of Rajasthan, 2002 (1) WLC 429=2002 (1) CDR 101 (Raj.) (DB)

[2] Release of a convict cannot be refused merely on ipse dixit of police report. Petitioner directed to be released subject to just and proper conditions. Anil Thankur V. State of Rajasthan, 2001 WLC 460 (Raj.)


2. **Rr. 9, 10 & 12- Release not a vested right-Discretion of Advisory Board.**- The convict who applies for his premature release does not have an absolute vested right to claim the same. It is up to the discretion of Advisory Board to recommend or not recommend the premature release of a convict since the same is subject to fulfillment of the conditions stipulated under the rules. What is required of the Advisory Board to carefully scrutinise and consider the material placed before it, and also to examine objectively the reports of law enforcing agency particularly, the conduct and character of the convict who is recommended for premature release before arriving at the decision which would be dependent upon overall assessment of the matter by the Advisory Board. On consideration in accordance with rules, the Advisory Board may in appropriate cases recommend the release of a convict prematurely, subject to imposition of any condition or stipulation as it may deem just and proper to impose upon under facts and circumstances of each particular case.

It is nevertheless obligatory on the State Government as per rule 10 & 10A to consider the recommendations of the Advisory Board before directing premature release of a convict and further under rule 12, the appropriate authority shall order release of the prisoner having regard to all the facts and circumstances of the case on the basis of overall assessment of the matter and recommend his premature release if he is entitled to be so released on the basis of his having earned any special remission sanctioned by the appropriate authority under section 401 of the Act. Smt. Prem Saini V. State of Rajasthan, 1999 (2) WLC 415 (Raj.) (DB)

3. **General.**- Convict completing more than one-fourth of sentence- Nothing adverse against conduct and behaviour of petitioner- Parole required for looking after ailing mother-Authorities directed to consider petitioner's case and to release on befitting terms. Mangu V. Mangilal, 1998 (1) WLC (Raj.)(DB)
9A. Parole in Emergent Cases. - In Emergent cases the Superintendent of Jail Shall grant parole up to a period of 7 days only subject to confirmation by the Inspector General of Prisons, and for a period of not more than 15 days by the Inspector General of Prisons.

10. Once in eleven months. - No second and subsequent release on parole shall be made unless eleven months have elapsed from the date of the expiry of the period of release on parole immediately preceding.

10A. (i) Notwithstanding the provisions of rules 9 and 10 in emergent cases, involving humanitarian consideration viz. (1) critical condition of account of illness of any close relations i.e. father, mother, wife, husband, children, brother or un-married sister; (2) death of any such close relation; and (3) serious damage to life or property from any natural calamity.

A prisoner, [xxx], may be released on parole for a period not exceeding 7 days by the Superintendent of the Jail and for a period not exceeding 15 days by the Inspector General of Prisons. [District Magistrate] on such terms and conditions as they may, consider necessary to impose for the security of the prisoner including a guarantee for his return to the Jail, acceptance or execution whereof would be a condition precedent to the release of such a prisoner on parole.

11. (i-a) Notwithstanding anything contained in these rules, where a pregnant woman prisoner applies for parole to have her delivery outside the prison, the Director cum Inspector General of Prisons may grant parole to such a woman prisoner for a period not exceeding forty-five days on such terms or conditions as he may consider necessary to impose for the security of the prisoner including a guarantee for her return to Jail, acceptance or execution whereof shall be a condition precedent to the release of such a prisoner on parole.

Provided that no prisoner shall be granted or released on parole under this sub-rule, if, in the opinion of the Director cum Inspector General of Prisons, the prisoner is under high security risk or is undergoing sentence for committing a grave offence

(ii) A copy of the order for release of prisoners on parole shall be endorsed to the next higher authority giving full circumstances under which the parole has been allowed.

In case the next higher authority does not approve the grant of parole, he may ask the authority granting the parole to revoke the same who shall act accordingly.

COMMENTARY

1. Interpretation. - [1] The parole under the rule involves humanitarian considerations. The words used should be given wide and beneficial interpretation. Parole may be granted for preparation for or to appear in examination. Ramesh V. State, 1991 (2) RLR 378=1992 (1) WLC 284=1992 RCC 156.
Mother of prisoner in critical condition in hospital. Petitioner released on parole of 4 weeks on personal bond of Rs. 5,000/- with one surety in like amount. Kishanlal V. State of Rajasthan, 1998 WLC UC 767 (Raj.) (DB)

2. Object of. - The aim for the grant of parole to a convict is to encourage his good conduct. The object of the parole is that prisoners should not feel that they are not the member of the society and they should be allowed to mix up with their kith and kins.

Where the daughter and mother were suffering from serious ailments and the accused has undergone 8 years imprisonment. The petitioner is entitled to parole and should not be denied the concession simply for the reason that his co-accused did not surrender after he was released on bail. Smt. Sushila Kanwar V. State of Rajasthan, 1994 (1) RLW 469=1994 (2) WLC 647=1994 RCC 564=1994 (2) WLN 599.

3. Parole by High Court. - Normally no petition should be entertained either under Article 226 of the Constitution or under Section 482 of the Criminal Procedure Code for grant of parole unless the prisoner has approached to the concerned authority. Ramesh V. State, 1991 (2) RLR 378=1992 (1) WLC 284=1992 RCC 156.

11. Supervision of probation officer. - (a) In course of release on parole except the permanent release, the prisoner shall remain under supervision of a guardian approved by the ¹[State Committee/District Committee] who shall report any breach of the conditions of parole to the District Magistrate concerned.

(b) In case of permanent release on parole the prisoner should be under the supervision of a probation officer, where appointed. The supervision of a probation officer will be for the unexpired period of sentence allowed to be spent or parole.

12. Parole period regarded as imprisonment served. - The period for which a prisoner stays on parole under Rule 9, without violating the conditions laid down for the purpose, shall be treated as imprisonment served by him. All other kinds of parole shall be treated as sentence suspended.

13. Aim of parole to encourage good conduct. - The grant of parole should be regarded as occasion to encourage good conduct and it shall not be claimed by prisoners as a matter of right.

14. Ineligibility for release. - The following clauses of prisoners will ordinarily not be eligible for release on parole.

(a) Persons whose ordinary place of residence is outside the State of Rajasthan or who have been convicted by a court Martial or a Court of another State;

(b) Persons convicted under the Explosive Substances Act, 1908;

(c) Prisoners who have escaped from the Jail or Police custody or attempted to escape;

(d) Persons who have been convicted for offences under sections 121 to 140, 216A, 302, 303, 311, 328, 332, 364, 386, 387, 388, 389, 392, 393, 394, 395, 397, 398, 399, 400, 401, 402, 413, 455, 458, 459 and 460 of the Indian Penal Code, 1860;

unless they have undergone ²[one fourth] of the sentence including remission and the Superintendent of Jail recommends the case in consultation with the District Magistrate with special reasons therefor, in granting parole to prisoners sentenced u/s. 302 IPC, the circumstances of the case under which the murder was committed, such as murder committed for possession of land or over honour of women or as a result of family feuds shall be kept in view and favourably considered for parole.

¹ Subs. by Noti. of 1978
² Subs. by Noti. of 15-10-90
³ Subs. by Noti. of 1977
1. **Release of for the fourth time-Requirements.** Where the petitioner was already granted leave on parole three times before, it was necessary for him to apply freshly. Where he states in his application that his house property has been damaged then on being satisfied about the fact alleged, he should be parole should be granted to the petitioner to enable him to reconstruct or repair his damaged house. *Barkat Ali V. State,* 1989 WLN UC 427.

2. **Release on parole-Person convicted of an offence of the category specified in Rule 14-Condition under Rule 10-A satisfied-Should be released on parole.** There is every justification for saying that ordinarily the persons who are convicted for an offence specified in Rule 14 may not be given the benefit of parole without fulfilment of the condition of having undergone 1/4th of the sentence including remission. However, the term 'ordinarily' if construed in contradistinction to extraordinary situation, it will be clear that there is no conflict between Rule 10-A and Rule 14. Rule 10A deals with emergent cases involving humanitarian considerations. This carves out an exception to other rules. Where conditions of Rule 10A are satisfied, the applicant is entitled to be released on parole. *Kishan V. State of Rajasthan,* 1990 (1) RLR 652.

3. **Scope and Constitutional Validity of the Rule.**

   [1] The use of negative expression, qualified with word "Ordinarily" coupled with providing conditions in which conditions for exception to ordinarily envisaged prohibition has been stated, leave no room of doubt that Rule 14 does not create an absolute bar against considering the applications for release on parole by a convict who falls in any of the category mentioned in Clauses (a) to (d) of the rule. Words of rule 14 are expression with "ordinarily" and the conditions for release of the persons, who have been named in clause (a) and (b) are to be considered only on conditions specified in the later part of the said rule.

   The expression "unless" denotes that the persons falling in any of category (a) to (d) cannot be considered for release on parole, unless they have undergone 1/4th of the sentence including remission and release on parole can take place only if Superintendent of Jail recommends the case in consultation with the District Magistrate with special reasons therefore.

   This conveys that ordinarily the class of prisoners (a) to (d) will not be eligible for release on parole but if they have undergone 1/4th of the sentence including remission the application for release on parole becomes liable to be considered. Such consideration which must take place by the Superintendent of Jail in consultation with District Magistrate, if on such consideration the Jail Superintendent finds that there exist any special reason to release a person falling in category (a) to (d), such convict applicant can be released on parole, otherwise not.

   Thus, there is no absolute impediment in considering the application for release of person falling in category (a) to (d), after they have undergone 1/4th of the sentence. Therefore, there is no discrimination affecting the fundamental rights of the prisoners as a class under Articles 14, 15 and 21 of the Constitution. *Mohanlal V. State of Rajasthan,* 2002 (2) WLC 484=2002 (2) RLR 383=2002 (2) WLN 615 (Raj.)(DB)

   [2] Rule prohibiting release of prisoner resident of other State in comparison to local prisoners on parole make geographical discrimination and is therefore violative of Arts. 14 and 21 to the extent of "person who ordinary place of residence is outside State of Rajasthan." *Omparaksh V. State of Rajasthan,* 2002 (2) WLC 491=2002 (2) RLR 292=2002 (3) WLN 61 (Raj.)(DB).


   [4] Petitioner convicted under S. 302 IPC. Case falling under Rule 14. Recommendation against petitioner made by Superintendent of Jail without consulting District Magistrate. The Superintendent was directed to consult District
15. **Computation of Sentences.** - For the purpose of these rules the following principles shall be observed in computing the period of sentence of imprisonment, namely;-

(a) When a prisoner has been sentenced to several to several terms of imprisonment for several offences, and the sentences of imprisonment have been ordered to run concurrently, then the longest single sentence which the prisoner is undergoing shall be deemed to the term of his imprisonment;

(b) When a prisoner has been sentenced to several terms of imprisonment for several offences and the sentence of imprisonment have been ordered to run consecutively, the total period which the prisoner is to undergo shall be deemed to be the term of his imprisonment;

(c) Remission already earned by the prisoners \[^{[xxx]}\] shall be counted as imprisonment served by him; and

(d) Life sentences shall \[^{[for the purposes of these rules]}\] be reckoned as 20 years.

Explanation. - The expression "Sentence of imprisonment" in these rules shall include imprisonment in default of payment of fine and imprisonment for failure to furnish security under Chapter VIII of the Act.

**COMMENTARY**

Under rule 15(c), remission already earned by the prisoner as well as the period of release on parole shall be counted as imprisonment served by him. Lakhi V. State of Rajasthan, 1996 (2) WLC 613=1995 (1) RLR 684=1995 RCC 644=1996 (2) RLW 200 (Raj.)(DB).

16. **Revocation.** - (i) The District Magistrate, on receiving information from the probation officer or any other source, of the breach by the prisoner of the conditions of parole, shall serve a notice on him, to show cause why his parole should not be revoked. If the prisoner presents himself in response to the notice then, after hearing him and if he does not present himself, then without hearing him, the District Magistrate may request the \[^{[State Committee/District Committee]}\] for revocation of the prisoner's parole.

(ii) In case the District Magistrate decides to recommend the revocation of the parole, he may, at the same time, if he considers that prisoner is unfit to be allowed to remain at large under parole, order his arrest and detention in the Jail from which he was released pending the receipt of the order of the \[^{[State Committee/District Committee]}\] for revocation of the prisoner's parole.

(iii) the \[^{[State Committee/District Committee]}\] shall, on receipt of the District Magistrates recommendation, pass such orders as it may deem proper. In case of revocation an order under section 401 (3) of the Act shall be issued by the \[^{[State Committee/ District Committee]}\] in Form V.

\[^{[17. Government and the \[^{[State Committee/District Committee]}\] have power to cancel.]}\] - (a) The \[^{[State Committee/District Committee]}\] can cancel the grant of parole during the period of parole, whenever it thinks proper to do so.)

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1 Deleted by Noti. of 15-10-90
2 Ins. by Noti. of 15-10-90
3 Subs. by Noti. of 1978
4 Subs. by Noti. of 1978
5 Subs. by Noti. of 1978
6 Subs. by Noti. of 1978
7 Subs. by Noti. of 1978
8 Rule 17 Renumbered as cl. (a) and cl. (b) added by Noti. of 1977
9 Subs. by Noti. of 1978
2[(b) The Government can also cancel the grant of parole during the period of parole, whenever it thinks proper to do so.]

18. Punishment for breach of conditions of Parole.- The following punishments may be awarded to the prisoners for over staying their sanctioned parole period or for breach of any other conditions laid down namely:-

(i) He should not be let off an parole in future unless the Superintendent of Jail is fully satisfied that he will not commit any breach of condition in future.

(ii) In case the prisoner is released on the recommendation of the Superintendent of Jail concerned after the breach of condition, the period release of parole would be 7 days excluding days of journey to home and back. The next parole will be 15 days (Provided he has behaved himself well during the period) and 30 days in the fourth parole.

(iii) If the prisoner again over-stays or commits any breach of the terms of the parole, he shall be permanently debarred from the concession of release on parole.

19. General.- If a prisoner does not surrender himself on the expiry of the parole without sufficient reasons therefor, he may be arrested by any police officer without a warrant and shall be remanded to undergo the unexpired portion of his sentence besides and other sentence that may be awarded to him.

21. Consideration of Application. - For the prompt disposal of application regarding release of prisoners on parole on the ground of serious illness or death of their near relations (Father, Mother, Daughter, Son, Husband or Wife), the District Magistrate will deal with the application expeditiously and cause immediate enquiries to be made and communicate his recommendations to the 3[State Committee/District Committee] within four days of the date of receipt of the application for parole.

4[22. Where the State Government considers it expedient in the interest of effective and quick disposal of application for release of prisoners on parole or it appears to the State Government that the District Committee is not able to function properly, it may assign the functions of the District Committee to the State Committee.]