

Prisoners' rehabilitation in Sri Lanka

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The problem of prisoners is a burden to current Sri Lanka as 1.5% of the total population of Sri Lanka are Srilankan prisoners, and the most important fact is that out of that percentage 46% are in between 20 to 30 years and 36.5% are imprisoned due to drug related matters. It is an obstacle for the current development of the society and the country, as the government has to allocate a large amount of funds from the budget for the prisoners.

The objective of the research is to introduce a new rehabilitation programme to civilize the prisoners, value and develop their own skills for the benefit of the country and release them to the society as good citizens.

When the prisoners are released to the society there are more possibilities of them engaging again in criminal activities due to many reasons such as poverty, lack of education, background and etc... That is why to prevent their re imprisonment and to adjust their mental formation and to start their lives through basic human requirements prisoners' rehabilitation is needed. Though there is a current rehabilitation programme conducts, it should be reviewed, restructured and reprogrammed through the vavles of the old programme and introduce new methods and techniques to the new society as a developing nation. It will be a better bench mark for the policy makers.

Both quantitative and the qualitative methods will be used to gather the information. There will be two focus groups, such as current prisoners and released prisoners. With the permission from the prison department around 100 prisoners from both the categories will be interviewed inside the prison individually, confidentially and respectfully. (*LTTE* prisoners are excepted from the research), The advice and the guidelines will be taken from the rehabilitation trainers and the scholars.

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