



Issues of Material Support of Convicts in Penitentiary Institutions of the Republic of Uzbekistan

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Abstract

The material and social and medical-sanitary provision of convicts has a social-legal character according to its content. It is carried out in the direction of creating normal living conditions for convicts, meeting (or providing) the necessary needs for food, clothing, medical care and ensuring the normal functioning of the penitentiary institution. This article examines the material and social security of prisoners in penitentiary institutions of the Republic of Uzbekistan, in particular, the accommodation of prisoners, their food and shelter.

Keywords: *Penitentiary Institutions; Material Support of Convicts; Pre-Trial Detention Center; General Cell; Disciplinary Unit; Address Colony; Supply Sheet*

Introduction

According to the Decree of the President of the Republic of Uzbekistan dated March 26, 2021 PD-6196 “About measures for raising the activity of law-enforcement bodies to a qualitatively new level in the field of ensuring public safety and combating crime”, the Department of Penitentiary is directly subordinated to the Minister of Internal Affairs and the Minister is personally responsible for the development of the penitentiary system and strict discipline. All pre-trial detention facilities and penitentiary institutions of the internal affairs bodies are excluded from the structural and functional subordination of the territorial internal affairs bodies. The Penitentiary Department has been transferred to its jurisdiction, and the effective operation and day-to-day control of pre-trial detention facilities and penitentiary institutions is being carried out by six regional coordination centers established within the Penitentiary Department.

Material and social and medical provision of convicts shall be organized on the basis of the Constitution of the Republic of Uzbekistan and criminal-executive legislation adopted in accordance with it, including the Criminal-Executive Code and other legislative acts, Government decisions and normative acts adopted by competent or interdepartmental bodies.

The Main Findings and Results

The Place of Residence of the Prisoners

Persons sentenced to deprivation of liberty live in dormitories, rooms or cells, depending on the conditions of detention.

The norm of living space per convict may not be less than the following amount:

- in common accommodation - two square meters;
- in general cells of pre-trial detention facilities and prisons - two and a half square meters;
- in dormitories for women and juveniles - three square meters;
- in the wards where sick prisoners are kept - four square meters;
- four and a half square meters in the cells of disciplinary units and in the room-type accommodation intended for convicts exercising the right to walk without guards or observers, as well as for persons serving their sentences in penal colonies.

Prisoners will be provided with a separate place to sleep, bedding, sheets and necessary inventory.

Living rooms shall be constructed in accordance with sanitary and hygienic requirements in the form of dormitories, rooms for spiritual and educational work, rooms for storage of personal belongings, etc., based on the placement of convicts in groups (detachments), brigades. In particular, the rooms must be dry, ventilated, have natural and artificial (electric) lighting, appropriate equipment, including inventory, which must be specified in the applicable regulations, such as tables, stools, bedside tables, each room must be connected to the radio. During the cold season, the temperature in the living quarters of prisoners should not be less than 18-20 degrees.

In order to create normal living and communal conditions, kitchens, bathrooms, barbershops, disinfection and laundry rooms, clothing and shoe workshops and other similar buildings and rooms shall be located in the living quarters (or part) of the penitentiary institutions.

Food for Prisoners

Persons sentenced to imprisonment are given food that ensures the normal life of the human body.

The norm of food is set by the Cabinet of Ministers of the Republic of Uzbekistan depending on the state of health of convicts, their age, the nature and severity of the work performed. Convicts may be provided with additional meals at the expense of enterprises, institutions and organizations that employ them.

Convicted pregnant women, nursing mothers, minors, as well as people with disabilities of groups I and II are prescribed increased norms of food. Based on a medical report, they may be allowed to take additional food.

Another aspect of the material well-being of convicts sentenced to imprisonment is food security. The minimum norms of nutrition of convicts are regulated by the relevant decisions of the Cabinet of Ministers of the Republic of Uzbekistan and orders of the Ministry of Internal Affairs. Convicts may be provided with additional meals at the expense of enterprises, institutions and organizations that employ them.

In addition, the Criminal Procedure Code provides for increased food rations for convicted pregnant women, nursing mothers, minors, as well as persons with disabilities of the first and second groups. Based on the medical report, they may be allowed to take additional food.

A disciplinary measure in the form of admission to a disciplinary unit of a penitentiary institution shall be imposed on convicts for a period of up to fifteen days at a reduced rate.

Certain categories of convicts, i.e. those involved in hard labor, are provided with food at an increased rate. Each penitentiary institution will have special cooking areas and they will be provided with the necessary utensils. Prisoners must be fed three times a day. It is also allowed to provide additional meals at the expense of enterprises or institutions that employ convicts. Meals for prisoners are prepared in special kitchens by hired laborers and using the prisoners themselves. Prisoners are fed at scheduled times. The food cooked for the convicts must first and foremost be of good quality and rich in calories.

Raw materials needed for cooking are stored in special warehouses. Prisoners are allowed to purchase additional food in the amount specified in the norm from the shop in the territory of the colony. In addition, the fact that they are allowed to receive parcels in the prescribed amount also allows them to receive additional food.

Persons sentenced to imprisonment are given food that ensures the normal life of the human body.

Providing Prisoners with Clothes

The creation of the necessary living and communal conditions in the penitentiary institution is mandatory for the administration of the institution and is one of the main responsibilities.

A third aspect of the material well-being of convicts sentenced to imprisonment is the provision of clothing and headgear. In accordance with Article 86 of the Criminal Procedure Code of the Republic of Uzbekistan, persons sentenced to imprisonment, except for those serving their sentences in penal colonies, shall be provided with uniforms, footwear, depending on the season, gender and climatic conditions.

Prisoners will be provided with seasonal clothing, bedding, and inventory sheets (hereinafter referred to as supply sheets) and personal accounts will be opened.

Convicts serving their sentences in penitentiary institutions of the Ministry of Internal Affairs of the Republic of Uzbekistan in accordance with the Criminal Executive Code of the Republic of Uzbekistan, persons detained in pre-trial detention facilities and temporary detention facilities, as well as in order to further improve the conditions for persons serving administrative sentences in special receptions, the Cabinet of Ministers decides:

The following:

Norms of provision of food to convicts serving sentences in penitentiary institutions of the Ministry of Internal Affairs of the Republic of Uzbekistan, persons detained in pre-trial detention centers and temporary detention facilities, as well as persons serving administrative sentences in special receptions in accordance with Annex 1;

Norms of provision of clothes and bedding to convicts, pre-trial detention centers and temporary detention facilities of the Ministry of Internal Affairs of the Republic of Uzbekistan according to Annex 2;

Norms of provision of food, clothing and bedding to pregnant and lactating women detained in pre-trial detention centers, penal colonies and temporary detention facilities of the Ministry of Internal Affairs of the Republic of Uzbekistan in accordance with Annex 3;

Norms of providing food and clothing (items) to patients undergoing inpatient treatment in medical institutions of the Ministry of Internal Affairs of the Republic of Uzbekistan, medical departments of penitentiary institutions in accordance with Annex 4;

To approve norms of provision of penitentiary institutions and pre-trial detention centers of the Ministry of Internal Affairs of the Republic of Uzbekistan with soap and detergents according to Annex 5.

To the Ministry of Internal Affairs of the Republic of Uzbekistan:

- establishment of the procedure for application of norms of food, raw materials, soap and detergents to convicts serving sentences in penitentiary institutions of the Ministry of Internal Affairs of the Republic of Uzbekistan and persons detained in pre-trial detention facilities and temporary detention facilities, as well as expenditures for storage;
- determination the model of clothing for convicts, the procedure for providing and using clothing;
- establishment of the procedure for providing food to sick convicts serving sentences in penitentiary institutions of the Ministry of Internal Affairs of the Republic of Uzbekistan, as well as persons detained in pre-trial detention facilities, arrested and in need of healing food. In this case, the added value of curable foods shall not exceed 20% of the value of food products provided for in the food supply standards approved by this resolution;

Together with the Ministry of Health of the Republic of Uzbekistan to give the right to establish the norms of substitution of some food products with others and the procedure for their application.

Conclusion

It should be noted that convicts serving their sentences in penitentiary institutions of the Ministry of Internal Affairs of the Republic of Uzbekistan; the clothes and bedding of persons detained in pre-trial detention facilities and temporary detention facilities, as well as of persons serving administrative sentences in special reception centers, shall be renewed upon expiration of the period of use of previously issued clothing and bedding.

To the Ministry of Internal Affairs of the Republic of Uzbekistan together with the interested ministries and departments in a month to bring the accepted regulatory legal acts into accord with this resolution.

References

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Resolution of the President of the Republic of Uzbekistan dated April 2, 2021 “On additional organizational measures to further improve the activities of law enforcement agencies in the field of public safety and the fight against crime” № PD-5050.

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