

CHAPTER 31 - Sanitation

Capacity of buildings in prisons

Rule 745

- (i) The accommodation capacity of wards, barracks, cells and other buildings intended for the occupation of prisoners, shall ordinarily be regulated by the scale of superficial and cubic space and lateral ventilation prescribed in respect of each prisoner as shown below

	Floor space per head	Cubic space per head	Lateral ventilation
	Sqr. Meter	Cu. Meters	Sq. Meters
(a) Barracks			
i. Plains	18	220	7
ii. Hills	16	162	2½
(b) Cells			
i. Plains	31	366	9
ii. Hills	24	244	3½
(c) Hospital			
i. Plains	31	366	9
ii. Hills	24	244	3½

- (ii) In calculating the cubic space account shall not be taken of any air space above 3 Meter 96 Cm and in no case the height shall exceed 4 Meter 06 Cm.
- (iii) No building shall be within 4 Meter 87 Cm. of an enclosure wall.

Ventilation of wards and cell, Shutters and Fans

Rule 746

Direct circulation of air through every barracks, cell and other compartment shall ordinarily be secured by large grated openings on both sides and at each end of the barrack. Openings with gratings for lateral ventilation in barracks and hospital wards shall be provided between beams and shall extend right down to the floor level Shutters shall be provided in barracks during winter to protect the prisoners from extreme cold. During summer electric fans shall be provided.

Fitness for occupation

Rule 747

No newly constructed ward, barrack or cell, shall be occupied by any prisoner until the Medical Officer shall have certified that such ward cell or other compartment is in all respect fit for occupation.

Capacity of wards to be inscribed over the door

Rule 748

Outside every ward, barrack and other compartment ordinarily used, as sleeping accommodation for prisoners shall be inscribed the following particulars namely

- (a) The class of prisoners for whose occupation it is intended
- (b) The superficial floor area in square feet; and

(c) The number of prisoners it can accommodate according to its superficial area or cubic space.

Sleeping berth

Rule 749

Every ward, barrack or cell shall be provided with masonry sleeping berth according to the capacity of the barracks. Each berth shall be 1 Meter 97 Cm. long, 91 Cm. broad, and 37 Cm. high and shall be provided with a masonry pillow at one end. The space between two berths shall, ordinarily be not less than 91 Cm. In upper floors, the height shall be reduced to 30 Cm 5 Mm. be provided in cells for condemned prisoners.

Explanation The arrangement of berths in barracks will depend upon the position of gratings and the facilities provided for ventilation and their number will depend on the accommodation available.

Requirement of cells Daily visit to occupants

Rule 750

No cell shall be used for solitary confinement unless it is furnished with the means of enabling the prisoner to communicate at any time with an officer of the prison, and every prisoner so confined in a cell for more than 24 hours, shall be visited at least once a day by the Medical Officer or the Junior Medical Officer.

Height of walls of cell yard

Rule 751

For the purpose of admitting sunshine and air, the enclosure wall of cell yards shall in no case exceed eight feet in height.

Lock-up register to show authorized accommodation

Rule 752

The authorized accommodation available in each barrack shall be shown in the lock-up register, to enable the Superintendent to see whether any particular barrack is over-crowded.

Temporary accommodation for prisoners

Rule 753

Whenever it appears to the Inspector-General that the number of prisoners in any prison is greater than can conveniently or safely be kept herein, and it is not convenient to transfer the excess number to some other prison, or whenever due to outbreak of an epidemic within any prison, or for any other reason it is desirable to provide for the temporary shelter and safe custody of prisoners provision shall be made for the accommodation and safe custody of prisoners in temporary prisons by the Inspector - General in such manner as the Government may direct.

Procedure when it is necessary to provide shelter outside the prison

Rule 754

Whenever it becomes necessary to provide for the temporary shelter and safe custody of prisoners outside the prison, the Superintendent shall report the circumstances to the Inspector-General who will if necessary, take the special directions of the Government as to the provisions to be made, under section 7 of the Prisons Act, 1894.

Provision of tents to be maintained

Rule 755

The Inspector-General shall arrange to maintain a small number of tents at every prison for the relief of temporary overcrowding or other emergencies, a reserve supply of tents at each Central Prison and at such other prisons as he may select for the purpose.

Mode of calculating tentage

Rule 756

The tentage accommodation shall be calculated at the rate of 6.40 Squares Meters for each prisoner.

Explanation The standard prison tent covers a floor area 4 Meters - 87 Cm. x 4 Meters - 87 Cm. and can accommodate twelve prisoners.

Thatched huts when to be provided

Rule 757

When the tentage accommodation is inadequate or when the Inspector-General is of the opinion that such accommodation should be substituted for tents, thatched huts (chhappars), may be provided. The provisions of the proceeding rule shall also apply to these huts.

Tents to be kept serviceable

Rule 758

- (i) Tents shall be kept in serviceable condition and used only for prison purposes. These shall be occasionally pitched and aired. Every tent shall be marked with the date of manufacture and the date of receipt in the prison.
- (ii) Whenever tents are dispatched from one prison to another, an inventory showing the number of tents, their condition and the number of mallets, ropes, tat covers, etc., accompanying them shall be forwarded with the railway receipt and advice of dispatch. Before tents are returned they shall be repaired and all missing articles replaced.

Provision for custody of prisoners

Rule 759

- (i) All prisoners in a prison in excess of accommodation shall be provided with temporary shelter in huts or tents pitched inside or outside the main enclosure walls.
- (ii) The safe custody of prisoners accommodated outside the prison shall be entrusted to the Police.
- (iii) The Superintendent shall apply to the Inspector-General for sanction to entertain such temporary establishment as may be necessary.
- (iv) In case of emergency and before arrangements can be made to have tents or huts erected the workshop may be utilized to afford the necessary shelter, provided that all articles likely to facilitate escape or to be used as dangerous weapon are removed.

Precautions against overcrowding

Rule 760

When the population of a prison has approximately exceeded the maximum number for which accommodation is available, the Inspector-General shall be informed for having some of the prisoners transferred or arrangements made for the temporary shelter as the case may be.

Cleanliness of buildings and precincts

Rule 761

- (i) The prison precincts and enclosures shall be kept perfectly neat and clean at all times. Daily and continued attention shall be given to secure extreme neatness and tidiness of roads, paths, grassy plots and open grounds. The grounds outside the main wall shall be kept clear of all undergrowth and rank vegetation.
- (ii) The wall and ceilings of all workshops and factories shall be thoroughly cleaned once a week. The floors shall be swept daily either before the work begins or after it has stopped.
- (iii) The floors of all barracks, cells and hospital shall be cleaned daily and the walls brushed down weekly. The ceilings shall be cleared of cobwebs once a fortnight. The inside walls of all barracks and cells shall be lime washed with additions of yellow earth once a week up to a height of 1 Meters - 27 Cm. and the rest of the walls of barracks and cells shall be white-washed as often as the Medical Officer may consider necessary.

The hospital shall receive particular attention in this respect. The walls should be painted green up to 91 Cm., and the remaining portion shall be of cream colour. The ceiling shall be white washed.

- (iv) All beddings shall be spread out and exposed to the sun at least twice weekly.

General cleanliness

Rule 762

The main and partition walls of the prison, if kacha, shall be mud-plastered before the commencement of the rainy season. Patches of plaster which have come down due to rains shall be attended to forthwith. The main wall shall not present an unsightly picture. Pucca walls shall be rubbed down after the rainy season in order to remove weather strains. All ceilings, floors, walls, furniture, etc.; shall be kept clean and in good state of repair. Godowns shall be kept clean, well arranged and well ventilated and their contents aired as often as necessary. The roofs shall always be clean and tidy and no rubbish allowed to accumulate there.

Disinfection of cells

Rule 763

- (i) The wards or cells occupied by prisoners suffering from infectious or contagious diseases, shall be white-washed and disinfected as often as may be directed by the Medical Officer.
- (ii) During summer the walls and ceilings of barracks and cells shall be regularly sprayed with some insecticide to protect prisoners from mosquitoes.

Return regarding prisoners on the last day of the month

Rule 764

A return showing the number of prisoners locked-up in the prison on the last day of the month together with the capacity of the prison shall be submitted to the Inspector-General on the first of each month.

Sources of water supply

Rule 765

Water shall be obtained in sufficient quantity from the purest supply in the neighborhood. Before deciding upon the source from which water shall be taken; samples shall be sent to the Chemical Examiner for analysis. Every possible precaution shall be taken to prevent the contamination of water whether at its source, during its carriage or in its distribution.

Precaution to prevent contamination

Rule 766

The masonry cylinder of every well shall be watertight and a masonry platform and drain to prevent spill water soaking into the ground in the neighborhood of the well, shall be provided. To avoid contamination, filth or refuse of any description shall not be buried or allowed to lie near any well used for drinking or bathing purposes.

Wells to be protected. Periodical cleaning Tube wells

Rule 767

- (i) Wells shall be protected so as to guard against accidents and suicides Every well in the prison shall be thoroughly cleaned in the month of October each year and often if the Medical Officer considers it necessary.
- (ii) Where possible, electric or diesel tube wells shall be provided for the supply of water for drinking, bathing and other purposes.

Supply of water to prisoners

Rule 768

- (i) Every barrack and workshop shall be provided with sufficient number of earthen gharas filled with drinking water for the use of prisoners and each prisoner in a cell shall be provided with a small pitcher for his personal use.
- (ii) Gharas shall be placed on a raised platform and not on the floor. Water taps shall be provided in each yard. There shall be one tap for fifty prisoners. Overhead shower baths shall also be provided where possible.
- (iii) A water tap shall also be provided inside every barrack.

Analysis of Water

Rule 769

The water of all prison wells which is used or likely to be used for drinking or ordinary purposes, shall be got analyzed qualitatively by the Chemical Examiner or Provincial Chemical laboratory in January each year.

Premises to be kept clean - Cess pools prohibited - Other sanitary matters

Rule 770

The Superintendent, Medical Officer, Deputy Superintendent and all subordinate officers shall be responsible for proper attention to conservancy arrangements. It is the duty of the visitors to satisfy themselves that conservancy arrangements are adequate. The Superintendent and the Deputy Superintendent shall pay particular attention not only to the disposal of the night soil and refuse matter but also to every detail connected with the cleanliness and neatness of all parts of the prison and its surroundings.

The following matters require special attention: -

- (a) The ground shall be clean and free from leaves, weeds and rubbish of every description, the lawns and the hedges trimmed, the paths kept in repair, kacha drains dressed and their levels readjusted.
- (b) Drains and latrines shall be kept scrupulously clean and no sewage matter permitted to find its way into them. Cess pools of any kinds are prohibited within prison precinct. The use of sunk reservoirs for refuse water shall be avoided. Rubbish or manure pits shall not be allowed within or near the prison walls.

Latrines

Rule 771

- (i) Each enclosure shall have a separate day latrines with sufficient number of seats. Latrines with flush system shall, where possible, be provided. Number of seats shall not be less than ten per cent of the population.
- (ii) The floors of latrines shall be well raised and renewed at frequent intervals, Every latrines shall be provided with a roof and partitioned for the sake of privacy. Iron latrines pans shall be provided in every latrines to receive the excretes. The latrines pans shall be coated with crude oil or coal at least once a week. Every cell shall be provided with an iron or earthen pan for conservancy purposes. These shall be kept thoroughly cleaned and treated with crude oil or coal tar at least once a week.

Disposal of urine and night soil

Rule 772

- (i) The urine and night soil shall be disposed of in trenches dug in fields or other, selected open spaces in the prison garden but well away from the prison. The trenches shall than be filled in with all the earth that has been taken out. After six months the land can be used for cultivation, preferably a crop of fodder should be grown first.
- (ii) Incineration is the most sanitary method of disposal, it shall be employed when the prison is near a city and has a small garden

Latrines for warders

Rule 773

Flush type group latrines shall be provided in the warders' lines for the warders and their families. Cleanliness of old type latrines shall be carried out in the same manner as described for latrines for prisoners.

Sanitary arrangements in cells

Rule 774

Cells shall be provided with flush system where possible, otherwise with sanitary openings in the back wall of the cells to hold and allow removal of latrines pans. Old pattern cells shall be provided with a latrine pan or gamla in one corner or in the cell-yard if the occupant has access to it. These receptacles shall be removed and cleaned by the sweeper every morning, and should be frequently painted with coal tar or crude oil.

Drainage of prison land. Sanitary defects to be reported

Rule 775

- (i) The drainage of the land around the prison shall receive careful attention and all dew ground shall be filled up with clean earth. High crops shall not be grown within 45 Meters 72 Cm of the prison walls to avoid affording cover to any prisoner escaping or attempting to escapes.
- (ii) It is the duty of the Medical Officer bring to notice of the Superintendent any defects of drainage within the prison area or its vicinity The construction of public latrines, sewers, drains or the existence of any other in sanitary condition in the neighborhood of the prison likely to affect the health of the prison, shall be reported to the Inspector-General, through the Superintendent.