CHAPTER V

DISCUSSION AND CONCLUSIONS

5. Discussion

5.1: Main Findings of the study:

5.1.1 DEMOGRAPHIC PROFILE

The major findings of the present study are:

1. Majority of the sample respondents (41) belonged to 31-40 years.

2. Majority of the (90) respondents were married and only 7 respondents was unmarried.

3. Among the 97 respondents 37 respondents studied only SSLC, 34 respondents were illiterate, 17 of them belongs to primary level only, further 3 respondents studied up to PUC and 6 of them were graduates.

4. Majority of the respondents (35) of them have un employed, (30) of them working as Cooli, (17) of them working in Private Sector, (8) of them are in working in agriculture area, (5) of them working in other areas and only (2) are working in Menial area.

5. Majority of the respondents (51) belongs to urban area and only 46 belong to rural area.

6. Majority of the respondents (55) of them belonged to more than 5 members in the family, (42) of them belonged to below 5 members in the family.

7. Majority of the respondents (62) of them having 16+ years of punishment, (15) of them belonged 6-10 years punishment, (10) of them belonged to 5-15 years punishment.

8. Majority of the (74) are committed murder, (10) are belonged to Dowry Case, (4) are committed Theft, (3) committed Rigorous injury and Kidnap, (2) are committed Theft and Robbery, and only (1) belonged expiry of visa case.
5.1.2 Facilities available in Central Prisons of Karnataka State:

1. It was found that accommodation facilities were only up to 50%.

2. Though 60% of the health facilities are available counselling facilities were not adequate.

3. It was found that 100% legal assistance was available for prisoners.

4. Though 70% of the training programmes are available, facilities for fabric painting, bag making, bakery products making, leaf cup making and midwife & home nursing facilities were absent.

5. It was found that usual other programs more of them were compulsory have proved facilities.

5.1.3 Psycho-social problems of women convicts:

1. Somatic symptoms, anxiety, social dysfunction and severe depression symptoms are high, hence low general health status. A score of 2.59 indicates levels of somatic symptoms are high, hence low general health status, a score of 2.95 indicates levels of Anxiety symptoms are high, hence low general health status, a score of 3.99 indicates levels of Social Dysfunction are high, hence low general health status, a score of 3.69 indicates levels of Severe Depression are high, hence low general health status.

2. Saxena’s adjustment inventory A score of 7.16 indicates levels of health adjustment were very near to average adjustment, a score of 17.27 indicates levels of emotional adjustment were maladjusted, a score of 10.42 indicates levels of Social adjustment were slightly maladjusted, a score of 4.34 indicates levels of occupational adjustment are normal, a score of 9.233 indicates levels of total adjustment are not up to the mark, as the sample selected is slightly maladjusted in total adjustment.

3. Taylor manifest anxiety scores are high in women convicts.
5.2 Verification of Hypotheses:

H1: The existing facilities provided to women convicts are inadequate.

H1 stated as “The existing facilities provided to women convicts are inadequate” is accepted. The researcher found that in case of accommodation and other related issues only 50% adequacy, 60% health adequacy, 70% training programmes adequacy and 50% other programmes adequacy were found whereas 100% legal assistance was provided for Women.

The overall findings under H1 are found to be inadequate except legal assistance and the health issues. Accommodation related facilities are found to be inadequate as the UT’s are also put together along with children with that of the convicts in all women prisons which is a common scenario in all central prisons. Health related issues are found to be adequate as there will be a resident medical officer round the clock available for medical assistance and the facilities for treatment as and when required by the women convicts is available again counselling and health related facilities are found to be sufficient in all women prisons.

H2. Women convicts significantly maladjusted in different areas (family, health, emotional, social and occupational).

H2 stated as “Women convicts significantly maladjusted in different areas (family, health, emotional, social and occupational)” is also accepted. It is sociologically significant to notice that crimes committed by the women convicts and the deserted persons are of serious types. Perhaps it may be due to their loneliness and family, health, emotional, social and occupational adjustment. Further, when one looks into the gravity of offences committed by the women convicts, in the central prison, indicates that the crimes committed by the women convicts of the urban Segment i.e., 52.6% of the central prisons were high. Even when the comparison is made on the gravity of crimes, majority of women convicts from urban and rural segments of central prison show their involvement in heinous crimes like Murder, Dowry death, theft, dacoity etc., and the other offences which is a non-significant factor to be noted. It is also important that the offences against human body are more when compared with the offences against property. Thus, the above analysis has
provided convincing answer in support of H2 hypothesis that “Women convicts significantly maladjusted in different areas (family, health, emotional, social and occupational) are graver in nature.

**H3. Women convicts experience significantly higher level of anxiety.**

H3 stated as “**Women convicts experience significantly higher level of anxiety**” is accepted. The anxiety of women convicts starts with the societal approval, acceptance and their participation on par with others in their day-to-day activities. The cultural differences that exist in every society will certainly put some obstacles for women convicts not to participate in some activities. Though they had served their sentences and but the community restricted them overly and imposed some kind of obstacles or by showing indifference neglect. This does hurt the concerned women convicts.

The anxiety level of women convicts found to be higher in case of married and married and being with children as their social experience and attachment to obligations often recalls their old memories or past life. As the women convicts departed were loud once result in increase anxiety level. This largely led them to loneliness, timid and anxiety. The anxiety level of women prisoners are subsided by regular counselling and health check up with which

**H4. The General Health Status of women convicts (somatic, anxiety and depression) is low.**

H4 stated as “**The General Health Status of women convicts (somatic, anxiety and depression) is low**” is rejected. In case of hypotheses number 4 the expected result has been disproved as the health status of women convicts proved to be better due to sufficient health care measures. This reflects the proper medical attention is being paid by the prison authorities towards women convicts and their dependents. Further, it can be noticed that the quality of food served to the prisoners is up to their satisfaction with required nutrient factors. The good health conditions of women convicts confirm better health care measures being implemented by the prison department. In general the Government has extended maximum medical assistance to the general public and so also towards the prison department. Hence, opinion under
this hypothesis drawn by the researcher has been disproved and categorically considered has null hypotheses.

**H5. Secondary variables age, marital status, education, health conditions, nature of crime, years of imprisonment etc., significantly influence adjustment of women convicts.**

H5 stated as “Secondary variables age, marital status, education, health conditions, nature of crime, years of imprisonment etc., significantly influence adjustment of women convicts” partially accepted. It is observed that several psycho-social factors reveal certain ratios and shown which are more or less identical or near identical to the present study though comparison was not possible as parameters differ. Trivedi B.V and Tiwari, Rita E in their paper entitled “Etiology of Crimes Committed by convicts of Indian Prisons” (CBI Bulletin, No.9. September 1997, pp.18-19), analyse their data from such factors as age, marital status, education, health condition nature of crime and years of imprisonment.

According to researcher the usual age group vulnerable for commission of crime is 31-40 whereas there is declining in trend in percentages of crime in the age-group of 50 years shown above. When the factors of education are taken in consideration it is observed that crime percentage among illiterate convicts is 35.1 while it is 38.1 to those who had studied up to SSLC. Marital status reveals that married convicts have high percentage of 92.8, whereas the unmarried has 7.2. Among those occupation who belong to the category of agriculture and labour, the most convicts came from urban areas which of course, is natural in rural area, the convicts belong to the categories or service, business and self-employment.

The above data shows that at the all India level, crime ratio in good proportion and is considerably high. the resultant conclusion, one can arrive is that crime rate is high and has to be tackled urgently, effectively and with humane approach, keeping in mind the basic roots of the psycho-social fabric of the society.
5.3 General discussion:

The main objectives of the study was to examine the different psycho-social conditions in the family, neighbourhood, occupational groups and associational and recreational groups that have influenced and provoked the women convicts to commit different types of crimes and also recidivism. Conceptual framework of the topic has been to analyse the various situations to which criminal behaviour responds. The research was taken up with the intention of providing a picture of the pattern and intensity arrowed of crimes prevalent in the state and compares it with the rural and urban categories of the selected Central prisons of Karnataka state. Further, attempts have also been made to provide a comprehensive data regarding the experiences of prison life of convicts and the psycho-social background of the women convicts in the central prisons and also analyse the impact of prison in re-socialization and rehabilitation of the women convicts.

The sample drawn from central prisons of Karnataka state. Prior to commencement of final data collection, this was done in order to find out defects, if any in our research design and make suitable modifications therein, if necessary. The data comprises only the women convicts, those who have served in prison as convicted women prisoners. The prison records had given the necessary information on the particulars of the women convicts which are used for tabulating and analysing the data.

The interview schedule was carefully developed for this study. The Inspector General of Prisons, Government of Karnataka permitted me to collect the information about women convicts. Inspite of convincing the women convicts to the effect that the information was being used for study purpose and their names were not be revealed. There always lurked an iota of fear and suspicion in the minds of the women convicts about the sudden appearance of a stranger even in their usual life. Thus, the information supplied by them when they were interviewed to respond to the questionnaire could not perhaps be completely free from personal reservations, and indifferences. Yet, by trying to establish a good rapport and a positive approach like showing affection and sympathy to women convicts, the data was collected in a co-operative atmosphere and thus is reliable.
Case studies of some women convicts were taken up by interviewing them personally on several conditions in order to have extensive coverage on the study. Some aspects of the enquiry like the amenities provided to the convicts and their living conditions inside the prison etc., were recorded through observation and leisurely discussing with the prison staff. For convenient statistical analysis and interpretation the women convicts have been classified under categories of crimes based on their involvement spelled out under different sections of IPC.

The various crime patterns analysed in the present study indicate that crime is the result of varied frustrating socio-economic and psychological situations emerging from different kinds of human relations. Very often these create such conflicting pressures, stresses and strains in the life of an individual that they become a source of mental agony and exert pressures on the individuals (offenders). This creates problems of adjustment for the individual which in turn become the potential source of recurrence of crime. One may believe therefore that the women convicts anti-social acts are either created or abetted by the unbearable tension and anxiety which are the products of social interaction. The source of tension may be within the environment but the impact of frustration is seen as the individual’s personality lives.

The most important situation which have created stresses and frustrations in the minds of the women convicts emerge in the family, the neighbourhood, occupational sphere, friendship circle and recreational atmosphere.

It is observed from the data that the distribution of women convicts on the basis of their native background reveals that about 47.4 percent have come from Rural background and 52.6 percent from the Urban background. Their psycho-social level shows that majority of them have come from the middle class family with average income groups. 30.9 percent of the women convicts are in the category of cooli, where as income wise assessment shows that the middle and lower income groups have higher rate of crimes.

The higher concentration of crimes has been found in the case of illiterate and less literate women convicts class. Most women convicts belong to the age group of 31-40 years. Thus, sharing a significant link between the age groups of the women convicts and the rate of crimes. It was observed that there was a decline in the rate of
crime with the advancement of age. Majority, of the women convicts are Hindus and the rest belonged to Muslims and Christians in the central prison.

As regards occupation and employment are concerned it may be noted that majority of women convicts are from the background of cooli. i.e., 30.9 percent followed by 17.5 percent women convicts employed in private and 36.1 percent women convicts having no work at all. It may be observed that there was not any significant association between employment conditions and crime. However, disputes relating to land seem to have been one of the major factors which have resulted in creating a misunderstanding among members of the family, relatives and neighbours that provoked majority among the women convicts to commit various crimes in rural and urban segments.

While classifying the women convicts on the basis of type and size of the family it is found that majority i.e., 56.7 percent of the respondents belong to the extended family having members up to 5. Looking into the economic conditions of the women convicts it may be stated that the majority of them come under the middle income group. In most of the cases the women convicts themselves were the major contributors towards their family income. Most of the women convict leading a hard pressed life before their imprisonment. These adverse economic conditions had to a great extent becoming in their life is therefore instigated them to indulge in committing crime.

It is recognised that, overt or covert factors were responsible for instigate and has motivated women convicts for the commission of crimes. The attitude of women convicts towards prison authorities and their administration and work programmes were important in the lives of convicts during their incarceration period. The most common causes behind commission of crime have been the emotional stress and insecurity that resulted in frustrating situations within the family, land disputes, economic hardship, and other factors exogenous to family like quarrels with neighbourhood and bad company.

The study concentrated on the 13 crime categories as per I.P.D. Classifications and the convicts serving their sentences. Among them there were convicts who had long terms of incarceration period and others for lesser times. For
any policy of prison reform and rehabilitation, the two perspectives, namely ‘long’ and ‘short’ stay of convicts may have to be considered for effective administration. The serious crimes like murder, homicide, and dacoity have to be considered as ‘long’ term and others as ‘short’ term categories. I.P.C classifications will help such categories. The policy should deal with these categories so far as reform and rehabilitations are considered. For ‘short’ termers, as one may call, speedy implementation, as suggested earlier, like training and educational programmes should be taken up by arranging voluntary of governmental assistance in their rehabilitation and settlement, as per the requirements of the convicts after they are released from the prison. This would angur well for the women convicts for proper rehabilitation that they might not, in all probabilities resort to recidivism.

For ‘long’ termer the women convicts will have to face a lot of hardship initially from the society in their rehabilitation and settlement. The serious nature of crimes like murder, homicide etc., will dampen their spirits and they would have lost their moral ground by the time they are released. Of course, their crime is serious and society thinks they have ‘criminal mind’ and that they are not averse to repeating any crime should the occasion demanded, though they might have been ‘victims’ of circumstances, innocent accomplices of psychological tensions mounting on them on the ‘spur of the moment’.

It may be stated that in theory the convicts do not deserve any ‘soft’ treatment. Yet, humanitarian considerations have to override the practical treatment of their rehabilitation, lest they should not become a ‘criminal menace’, If that word can be used, in the context of society. So the policy advocated is that there is enough recourse or way for the prison administration in liason with governmental and voluntary agencies to keep individual prison records to meet them frequently, consider their difficulties and problems and try to solve them. Perhaps this would help the women convicts to rehabilitate themselves. Infact, the present study has shown that many of the women convicts who had completed ‘long’ term sentences and yet, have settled themselves. But if the voluntary and governmental agencies could take care of each individual women convicts, occasionally meeting them and helping them, if need be, then it would be a step in the right direction of after care as rehabilitation processes.
There should not be any kind of idealism in dealing with crime, nor an impression should be created that humanitarianism should not press for a ‘mild’ treatment to criminals and also that the prisons should not be ‘lodges’ with all facilities and ‘free’ services at the government cost. This would only help the criminals to make a mockery of prisons and also there was the danger of the paper making the crime and its rate increasing day-by-day. In this regard, a news item, published in the Indian Express the view of a police official of high esteem, Mr. S.P. Sangliana, Director General of Police and I.G.P of Prisons holds is noteworthy. To growth him; “A criminal will not confess to committing crime if we offer him coffee or ice cream. If we want to safeguard society, use of minimum punishment is necessary while detecting cases”. Further Sangliana laments for lack of funds for reformatory measures. According to him, he had launched ‘Prisoners Transformation Project’ to make prisoners social messengers of peace. After having the strategy for prison reforms, care and rehabilitation of women convicts.

5.4 Suggestions:

It is worthwhile to present a few observations by way of suggestions rather, which will have far reaching consequences in bringing some changes in the concept of penal measures vis-a-vis criminals and convicts. As has been spelled out in the beginning the ideologies of strict punitive measures have given rise for correction and rehabilitation which alone tackle the subject of crime, criminals and convicts, more effectively. Though conceptionally convincing the above strategy, there are many problems confronted with by the prison administration and those who are concerned with them in their implementation.

1. Due to increase in admission of more convicts in the prisons, space or accommodation to house the convicts has become a major problem. As a result of lack of space, convicts are huddled in smaller space and this naturally affects the health and creates tensions leading to all sorts of problems. Though the present researchers study it is felt that women convicts do not overly give their responses; rather they avoid enquiry on this point by remaining either silent or denying any cases having occurred. Yet, the point is well taken and the lack of space is also recognized by the prison administration. It has been learnt that in recent years, steps are being taken and one such example is
Tumkur Central Prison for women Prisoners. This should be pursued vigorously.

2. Another problem of course connected with space, is the inadequate facilities in regard to the provisions of latrine and bath rooms particularly the former. Since the number of convicts is increasing day-by-day, it is well high possible to cope up with the existing facilities. So there is greater need to give more attention on this count. It is, therefore, suggested that the prison authorities should do all out efforts to give priority and reduce tension, as this would create unhealthy conditions and spread of diseases.

3. Another important reform that is needed is provision of ‘open air prison’. Though some attempts were made in the study it was observed that it is not done enthusiastically. In some prisons of the other States of India experiments done on ‘open air prisons’ have yielded good results. It is therefore, needed that in the Central Prisons in Karnataka, attempts to provide adequate measures in this regard should be made but with a caution that the convicts should not take undue advantage of facilities.

4. As health conditions of convicts in the prisons are concerned, it is far from satisfactory. Though the prison authorities have taken some measures, but there is increasing need for visits of doctors, and prison of medicines etc. As per the conditions of providing proper diet to the convicts it is observed that the diet is given as per the rules prescribed in the Jail Manual which needs to be changed and new era should be established with nutrition’s allegation diet to the convicts.

5. In the present study focus is on the after care and rehabilitation. From this angle, the most important aspects of training in crafts and small scale industries in the prisons for the convicts are totally neglected. Though there was a semblance of some training programmes, they are far from satisfactory perhaps, it is not realized the implications of such training schemes which would promote the interests of the convicts after they are released. It is not enough if only training programmes are undertaken formally and let the convicts fend for themselves later after their release. Usually the women
convicts suffer initially after their release to rehabilitate themselves and hence there is the urging for effective and useful programmes and their implementation.

6. Apart from the training programmes made available in the prisons for convicts, provision of educational facilities is to be made for those who would like to pursue their further studies. The present research reveals that while the illiterates were more in number, there were several of them who had left their school or discontinued. The illiterate may be interested to read write, and the slogans like adult education, removal of illiteracy can be beneficial in the case of convicts especially after their release. Facilities like library, sports and entertainment are lacking in the prisons. The usual response of the prison authorities is the lack of funds and inadequate staff to look after the well being of convicts during their incarceration period. Therefore, there should be priority to give proper thought the prison authorities to make available the facilities for the convicts, almost in stages.

7. One is aware that the people see the women convicts with suspicion, disbelief and the stigma of crime. For this the concerned prison administration has to take extensive measures by contacting some governmental and voluntary agencies well-versed in social services to act as liason for helping them to overcome this problem in the rehabilitation of women convicts. On this count, it is suggested that greater attention need be given on such activities relating to after care and rehabilitation.

5.5 Implications:

The researcher is much attracted by the correctional strategy that is, bringing in reform in prison and among the prisoners, American academicians look at it in the following way. “Perhaps no issue in corrections is as critical as training, educating and recruiting qualified staff for the various systems” observe Allen and Simonsen (1975). The change during the nineteenth century in the prison system was custody and control but presently the strategy of corrections is for the rehabilitation and reintegration of criminals into the mainstream of societies.
The above stated view which is the focal point of the American strategy of tackling the problems of incarceration and punishment appears to be a most reasonable approach and therefore needs to be considered globally by the academicians, prison administration and policy makers as well as those who administer criminal jurisprudence. So far as India is concerned the recent Draft on Indian Prisons Bill 1986, however does not incorporate such views in its nuances. The present researcher after studying the subject of prisons, criminals and women convicts with some depth would like to vouch safe that serious thought should be given to the aspects of aftercare rehabilitation and reintegration peruse in bringing down crime rates, recidivism and at the same time bringing up the well being of the women convicts.

The concept in free India about prison administration has brought about certain changes. The earlier retribution and penal action to criminal offenders that is imprisonment as the only way out to contain crime and bring normalcy society is no more tenable, instead the outlook is towards rapid improvement in prison administration especially with reference to proper aftercare and rehabilitation of the convicts both within the prison and outside, when the later come out of the prison.

Prison reforms have not been a new experiment in India. While it was talked freely about the open air jail system and Walter C. Reckless advocating reformatory measures in the prison system, the first cinemaric experiment undertaken by the film visionary, late V.Shantaram through his famous film ‘Do Ankhen Bara Hath’ (Hindi). But a big experiment in the jail came from and I.P.S offer with a missionary zeal, Mrs.Kiran Bedi, who established a remarkable impression in bringing several reformations for the convicts in Tihar Jail in Delhi. She says that her work has been corrective in Tihar Jail in Delhi. She says that her work has been corrective one and not punitive at all. “it is not arresting people. You only make people happier: (Kiran Bedi Indian Express, dated 25 December 1994).

Kiran Bedi, in tune with the new thinking, states that ‘arresting’ (the accused) be called ‘hard policing’ where as ‘rehabilitation’ be considered as ‘short policing’. This policy indeed appears to be ‘nearer the truth’ in bringing reforms in prisons in so far as crime strategy is concerned. Normally, it is seen that the offenders of any crime are regarded as ‘detrimental’ to the society, even after their release and
settlement. If is also ones thinking that suspicion on women convicts as ‘criminals’ cannot so easily be ‘wiped out’. As it is said in the criminal jurisprudence ‘needle of suspicion’ remains with convicts even after their release.

The ideologies on crime correction reformation in prison administration, soft poling, aftercare especially for women convicts and so on would indeed be of meaningful and beneficial if only proper measures are planned and effectively implemented. Some of the measures that are urgently needed are improving conditions of life style of convicts in the prisons such as facilities for continuing education, keeping them in ‘open air camps’, training programmes in arts and crafts, small scale industries like weaving, tailoring, leather work, typing and short hand, carpet, mat and cane work, and also providing library, play and entertainment facilities besides attending to other usual welfare programmes on food, health and sanitation etc.

It is worthwhile to consider another important aspect in the rehabilitation of women convicts when convicts are inside the prison. There should be constant contact with them by the Government and voluntary agencies in order to keep them posted with ‘external’ help required by them in settling down whenever they wished, and in whatever profession they liked to be absorbed, when they come out of the prisons. In several developed countries, such steps are taken to mitigate the ‘woos; and ‘worries’ of women convicts.

When the conditions in prison are improvised, the life of convicts are made comfortable and if necessary help is provided to the convicts after their release, then one would like to contend that the prison is ‘heaven’, and then a moot question may arise if that is so, would that not ‘inspire’ people to encourage to go that ‘prison (heaven)’ and live there as long as they could and again try to ‘return’ there? Given the human nature as it is of course it might prompt people especially, the lazy, crazy and deviant ones, to take advantage if this strongly commit crime often and thus give rise not as for the increase in crime rate but fail the prison system miserably and correctional strategy.

The picture that is given above is perhaps would be in an ideal situation only. But that would not happen in the general situation. It would be appalling to see
the increased crime rate and the intense activity of offences being committed by people. The recent amount published in newspaper is any indication the crime situation perhaps is replete with increased vigour and intensity. Some noting on this situation in very recent times is very essential to elaborate the point.

“Karnataka figures among 12 ‘high risk; states in the country which record higher crime-rates than national average, a study conducted by National Crime Records Bureau”. (M.K.Madhusudhan, Indain Express, dated 10/12/1997). The article reports the high incidence of cases in cities and megacities of India relating to kidnap, murder, rapes, burglaries etc., which reflect the sensitive issue on crime situation certainly calls for a systematic reformatory and also precautionary measures to combat the evil of crime and awe-some of its consequences to harm the normalcy in society.

It was rather astonishing to see a hardened policy on crime and convicts by no less a personality like the Karnataka High Court Judge, M.F.Daldhana. To quote an Indian Express News report. He urged the law courts in the state not to space the guilty and increase the conviction rate, which was the lowest in the country”. It would be difficult to express any opinion on such observance by a legal luminary, though this approach sounds a rigid stand on penal strategy rather than that of the reformation and rehabilitation.

The foregoing observance of Justice Saldhana, should be taken as ‘advisory’ rather than obligatory, though this would only suggest that there is greater need for elaborate debate on this relevant subject by sociologists, criminologists, jurists and in police and prison administration. Perhaps, the future lies with the ‘considered’ policy of “Retribution vis a vis, after care and rehabilitation” as strategic principles of complementary to each other to deal with the subject of ‘crime, criminals and convicts’ to bring some semblance of normalcy in society so far as fear of criminals are concerned. In other words, the policy of ‘hard policing’ and ‘soft policing’ ad Kiran Bedi has propounded should be the better method for adoption.

Some more interesting information has come out and it is thought relevant that it should be given here. The process of bringing in reforms in Jails (prisons) in Karnataka is being well planned, as was spelled out by the Additional General of
Police (Prisons) Shri. Sangliana. According to him all the six Central Jails in the state will be upgraded shortly with the introduction of close circuit T.V network to monitor the prisoners”. The intention of the reformation programme is revealed that “the programme will aim to reform prisoners. While they serve their sentence and live as law abiding citizens, after their release.

In this context, Sangliana ‘proposed to introduce a prisoners’ reformation programme with the help of lawyers and other concerned citizens’. So far as prisoners inside the jails are concerned, it appears that proper attention is being given. It is a welcome move. This is a progressive reformatory step. But what is required, along with this step are also the progressive programmes of After-care and rehabilitation of prisoners (Convicts) when they are released. For this purpose, the prison authorities, should also take into cognizance of expertise of sociologists, criminologist and social workers as also few right thinking people from among the ‘women convicts’ and seek their help as the researcher feels. After-care and rehabilitation are essential parts in dealing with the crime factors and women convicts spelled out clearly in the text, and therefore, earnest efforts should continue gradually, effectively and progressively.

When convict in Indian Prisons are studied, it is observed that several psycho-social factors reveal certain rations and shown which are more or less identical or near identical to the present study though comparison was not possible as parameters differ.

Education has attracted the needed attention by the prison authorities, especially in Karnataka. K.Kavitha (Deccan Hearald, May 25, 1996) in a lengthy article writes that the central jail in Bangalore was the first prison in the country to introduce Indira Gandhi National Open University courses for its inmates. Though the present research study had concerned itself with respects to the women convicts prior to the period of such reformatory step it is worthwhile, however, to present a gist of the writers article in order to show the progressive steps or more importantly, the future trends that are being indicative of the direction with which the prison authorities and thinkers on convicts welfare and after care of the punishment ideologue.
The idea of setting up an IGNOU study centre at the Bangalore Central Prison was mooted in 1992 to help prisoners put their time to good use and continue their education (those interested ones) in spite of staying behind bars. Government of Karnataka took quite some time to approve and support the pioneering project. Senior police officials like then (Bangalore) City Police Commissioner, T. Srinivasalu, Additional Director General (Law and Order) S.C. Burman and Dr. Srinivasan had evinced a keen interest in the tryout. The views of Dr. K. Soundaravalli, the then Regional Director of the Bangalore Centre of IGNOU are significant and innovative with particular reference to the prisoners life and career. To quote her: “A Study centre in a prison is a particularly interesting idea because the concept of punishment is outdated. The emphasis is on reform and rehabilitation and IGNOU’s aim has always been to reach people and places either to untouched.”

Though there was inadequacy of funds, the state Government has released funds for the course material and staff salaries. The State Bank of Mysore also offered financial assistance with which books, television sets and audio-visual equipment for the course could be bought. The article says that ‘today. The Centre has enviable collection of 300 Video cassettes and over 30000 books in a well maintained library in the prison premises. Indeed this was no mean achievements and trend better. Other Central Prisons in Karnataka should emulate the Bangalore Central Prison Study Centre as a model.

The adverse impact of prisonisation is felt primarily by the members of family first and then by the individual women convicts. Separation of member in the family leads to the loss of work and employment affecting ones day to day living. In order to minimise adverse impact of prisonisation mad get substitute benefits, members of family of the women convicts should take initiative to the process of rehabilitation policies by which the concerned women convicts can find out some means to book out for their livelihood in a honourable way of the fail to do so their conditions gradually might deteriorate which is not in the interest of either the community or the society. Family members should show sympathy and affection so that the women convicts would not feel that they were neglected. This positive attitude would brighten their spirits and help them they to adopt to the changing awareness of the community to have better resocialisation and reintegration. This would make the women convicts to forget the serious prison life and be a changed human being.
Depending on government or voluntary agencies programmes for day to day living as subsistence should be avoided. The family should concentrate on developmental activities of resources along with mental activities of resources along with their regular earnings for their needs.

The attitude relating to separation segregation, negligence etc of women and elderly members in the family should change and work in favour of women convicts readjustment with the family and community.

Change in occupation from traditional cultivation due to training received in the prison may take place among the women convicts. The taker should be encouraged to practice said occupations in a full pledged way by the members of the family, so that it would make the women convicts to become self reliant and independent. The role of social activities and social workers should be encouraged in the reformatory aspects of the women convicts is their reintegration to the society.

5.6: Limitation of the study:

1. The available women convicts in central prison at the time of data collection are considered; hence, the sample may vary slightly depending on women convicts’ population.

2. The study excluded the children and the under-trial prisoners detained along with the convicts.

3. The selection of women convicts from each central prison may vary depending on the women convicts’ population.

4. The present study will not cover either the district, local or special prisons other than central prisons of Karnataka state.

5.7 Suggestions policy makers:

1. Effective reformation and rehabilitation policies for women convicts in central prison of Karnataka state.

2. Efforts to re-integrate after releasing the women convicts for better living

3. Proper Implementations to reformation and rehabilitation of women convicts
4. Providing after care services by Government and NGO’s to make the women convicts re-socialized in the society

5. Provision of Job opportunities for the released women convicts in the society.

5.8 Suggestions for future research:

1. The present study involved only 2 prisons and limited sample size/population. Higher sample size and representation of sample from different prisons in South India can have better results

2. The tools employed in the present study measured few of the psycho-social issues. Quality of life, subjective well being, and psychological wellbeing be of special interest for future researchers

3. The present investigation involved one time study with women convicts. Future researchers can also include under trials for better results.

4. Intervention programmes to reduce stress ans anxiety could be of added interest.

5. Further, future researchers can study effectiveness of educational facilities available for women convicts in the premises of prison with in the four walls through distance education.