

My No : JSC/SEC/CIR – L/2022

To all Judges and Judicial Officers,

**Overcrowding of Prisons.**

Having considered a letter dated 05.10.2022 by Mrs. Wasantha Perera, Secretary Ministry of Justice, Prison Affairs and Constitutional Reforms addressed to Secretary Judicial Service Commission on the subject referred to above, Commission directed me to bring the same to the attention of all Judges and Judicial Officers.

02. A copy of the letter dated 05.10.2022 is annexed hereto.

Under the command of the Judicial Service Commission,

H.S.Somaratne  
Secretary  
Judicial Service Commission  
**H. Sanjeeva Somaratne**  
Secretary  
**Judicial Service Commission**  
Colombo 12

04<sup>th</sup> November 2022  
Office of the Judicial Service Commission Secretariat  
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நீதி, சிறைச்சாலை அலுவல்கள் மற்றும் அரசியலமைப்பு

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Ministry of Justice, Prison Affairs and  
Constitutional Reforms

Web Site: [www.moj.gov.lk](http://www.moj.gov.lk)

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දිනය } 07.10.2022  
திகதி }  
Date }

Mr. Sanjeewa Somaratne,  
Secretary,  
Judicial Service Commission,

### Prisons Overcrowding

At a recent meeting co-chaired by my Minister and Hon. Tiran Alles, Minister of Public Security to address the issue of prison overcrowding, it was decided to make the following requests from the Judicial Service Commission.

- Not to mention the name of the prison/ rehabilitation centre when courts give orders for rehabilitation, so that the Commissioner General of Prisons can decide the location of the prison/ rehabilitation center depending on the available space.
- Consider limiting the period of rehabilitation to six months (The Commissioner General of Bureau of Rehabilitation, confirmed that the effectiveness of the vocational training is found to be only 4%)
- The Department of Community Based Corrections has informed that they have the capacity to handle more convicts than are presently referred. Therefore, it was decided to request that Community Based Corrections orders be made in respect of more convicts than at present, as appropriate.

Therefore, I shall be grateful if you could inform the above to the Commission.

Wasantha Perera,  
Secretary,  
Ministry of Justice, Prison Affairs and Constitutional Reforms.