



Policy for Premature Release of Convicts | Jammu & Kashmir | 16 Nov 2024

Why in News?

Recently, the [Supreme Court](#) directed the Government of Jammu and Kashmir to **draft a policy for the premature release of convicts** based on the duration of their imprisonment.

Key Points

- **About the Case:**
 - A Supreme Court Bench addressed a petition filed by former [Central Reserve Police Force \(CRPF\)](#) personnel **sentenced to life imprisonment**.
 - He was **convicted for killing three CRPF personnel** after being publicly reprimanded over a leave-related issue.
 - The accused has **served over 18 years in prison and is seeking premature release**.
- The Union Territory of Jammu and Kashmir **opposed the petition, citing the absence of a policy for premature release** based on incarceration duration.
- **Court's Observation and Direction:**
 - The Bench remarked that the **lack of a policy is not a valid ground for denial**, as policy formulation falls under the state's domain.
 - The Bench emphasized **the need for an appropriate policy and directed submission of a compliance report by the state counsel**.

Central Reserve Police Force (CRPF)

- **About:**
 - The CRPF was **initially established as the Crown Representatives Police in 1939** in response to political turmoil and unrest within the princely states.
 - The force was **renamed the Central Reserve Police Force in 1949**.
 - [Sardar Vallabh Bhai Patel](#), the then Home Minister, envisioned a multifaceted role for the CRPF, aligning its functions with the evolving needs of a newly independent nation.
- **Specialised Units:**
 - The CRPF has several specialised units, including the [Rapid Action Force \(RAF\)](#), [Commando Battalion for Resolute Action \(CoBRA\)](#), **VIP Security Wing**, and **Mahila Battalions**.
- **Key Roles and Responsibilities:**

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