

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

Why in News?

Recently, the <u>Supreme Court</u> directed the Government of Jammu and Kashmir to **draft a** <u>policy for the</u> <u>premature release of convicts</u> based on the duration of their imprisonment.

Key Points

- About the Case:
 - A Supreme Court Bench addressed a petition filed by former <u>Central Reserve Police Force</u> (<u>CRPF</u>) 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 <u>Rapid Action Force (RAF)</u>, <u>Commando</u> <u>Battalion for Resolute Action (CoBRA)</u>, **VIP Security Wing, and Mahila Battalions**.
- Key Roles and Responsibilities:



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