

Annual Report on Performance for Financial Year 2024-2025





Mauritius Prisons Service

**Annual
Report on
Performance for
Financial Year
2024-2025**



Commissioner's Foreword

It is with a profound sense of duty and a clear-eyed view of our challenges and triumphs that I present the Annual Report of the Mauritius Prisons Service (MPS) for the Financial Year 2024-2025. This document is more than a mere compilation of statistics; it is a testament to our unwavering commitment to a dual mandate: ensuring safe, secure, and humane custody, while actively forging pathways to rehabilitation and successful reintegration.

The past year has been one of significant operational pressure. We witnessed a 14.5% increase in the admission of adult and juvenile convicts, a stark reminder of the complex societal issues that flow into our institutions. The fact that 53 out of every 100 individuals in our custody are convicted persons, while 47 await trial, underscores our critical role at the intersection of justice, public safety, and human rights. The consistent operation of our female prison near full capacity further highlights the need for sustained gender-responsive approaches.

In the face of these challenges, our resolve has not wavered. Our mission: "We serve society by keeping detainees in safe, humane custody and help prepare them for a useful life in society" has been the guiding principle for every initiative and action detailed in this report. We have moved beyond the concept of prisons as mere places of containment. Today, our institutions are dynamic environments of transformation, where the focus is on correcting offending behaviour, restoring dignity, and building capabilities.

Our achievements in rehabilitation are a source of immense pride. This year, we have further expanded our evidence-based programmes. The Residential Drug Rehabilitation Centre at Melrose and the Lotus Centre at Beau Bassin continue their vital work, addressing the root causes of addiction for both convicted and remand populations. Our partnership with the Mauritius Institute of Training and Development has empowered detainees with accredited vocational qualifications in Pastry, Welding, and Garment Making, providing them with tangible skills for a fresh start. The remarkable success of our agricultural and industrial workshops, achieving self-sufficiency in egg production and significantly contributing to our vegetable and bakery needs, demonstrates how productivity and rehabilitation can go hand-in-hand. Innovative projects, from the Aquaculture farm at Richelieu Open Prison to the 'Trash to Treasure' initiative at the Women's Prison, are not only fostering sustainability but also igniting entrepreneurial spirit among those in our care.

The health and well-being of both detainees and staff remain a non-negotiable priority. Our Prison Health Service, operating as a certified Continuing Professional Development provider, has delivered over 22,000 medical consultations, specialized gynecological and paediatric care, and critical mental health support through our dedicated psychologists. The continuation of Methadone Substitution Therapy for 33 new inductees is a clear reflection of our commitment to humane, health-focused interventions for substance use disorders.

None of this would be possible without the dedication, professionalism, and resilience of our officers. In the past year, we have strengthened our human resources by filling key vacancies and have invested heavily in continuous professional development through our ISO-certified Prison Training School. The ongoing modernisation of our infrastructure, including the implementation of the e-Prison system and the Electronic Attendance System, is a strategic investment to enhance our operational efficiency and security.

However, we look ahead with a clear understanding that our work is not done. The rising admissions for drug-related offences and assaults signal deeper societal currents that require a concerted, multi-agency response. As we concluded our successful 2013-2023 Strategic Plan, a new, dynamic five-year Strategic Plan (2023-2027) has been developed by our Strategic Planning and Research Unit. This forward-looking blueprint will guide our efforts in embracing new technologies, deepening our rehabilitation methodologies, and strengthening our partnerships across the criminal justice and social welfare sectors.

I extend my deepest gratitude to the Honourable Prime Minister's Office for its steadfast support, to our partners in government and civil society, and to every member of the Mauritius Prisons Service. Your collective effort is the bedrock upon which we build a safer Mauritius. To the detainees who have engaged in our programmes for second chances, we see your efforts and believe in your potential for change.

This report is a snapshot of a journey; a journey from custody to capability, from incarceration to integration. We remain resolutely committed to this path, confident that our work today is an essential investment in a more secure and cohesive society for all Mauritians tomorrow.

P. Jokhoo, PDSM

Commissioner of Prisons

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PART I - THE MAURITIUS PRISONS SERVICE

Mission, Vision, Goals and Objectives

Mission

We serve the society by keeping detainees in a safe, humane custody and help prepare them for a useful life in society.

Vision

A Safer Mauritius through best correctional practice.

Our goals

Keep detainees in safe custody.

Maintain order, control, discipline and a safe environment.

Provide decent conditions for detainees and meet their needs, including medical care, advice on and help with personal problems.

Provide positive regimes which help detainees to address their offending behaviour and prepare them to live a full and responsible life.

Help towards rehabilitation of detainees. Provide a delivery of prison services using resources provided by Parliament with maximum efficiency.

In meeting these goals, we cooperate closely with other criminal justice agencies and contribute to the effectiveness and development of the criminal justice system as a whole.

To monitor all statutory to intramural sentences.

Our Objectives

To provide a safe and healthy environment, that is conducive to the rehabilitation and spiritual enhancement as well as vocational training of the detainees.

To facilitate and safeguard ways and means for the detainees' contact with the outside world, i.e. spouse, children, parents and next of kin.

To provide the necessary structures that will be beneficial for all detainees in terms of education and vocational training.

To apprise and sensitize the detainees on the ill effects of substance abuse and to empower them so that they may lead a drug-free life.

To provide the detainees with all the required structures for their mental and physical development through sports and games and to continuously upgrade and rethink the existing physical structures of the prison so that they may be congruent with a healthy and peaceful environment.

Operational Structure

The Mauritius Prisons Service was established under the **Reforms Institution Act of 1988**.

The Commissioner of Prisons is accountable to the Honourable Prime Minister, Minister of Defence, Home Affairs and External Communications, Minister for Rodrigues, Outer Islands and Territorial Integrity.

The following documents are adhered to whilst on operational management: -

- ❖ Constitution of the Republic of Mauritius;
- ❖ Reforms Institution Act 1988;
- ❖ Reform Institutions (Amendment) Act 2018
- ❖ Bail Act;
- ❖ Courts Act;
- ❖ Prison Regulations;
- ❖ The Judicial and Legal Provision Act 2018
- ❖ Standing Orders;

- ❖ Commissioner of Prisons Circular;
- ❖ Standard Operating Procedures;
- ❖ Customer Charter;
- ❖ Code of Ethics for Prison Officers;
- ❖ MPS Anti-Corruption Policy;
- ❖ United Nations Convention on Human Rights (UNCHR);
- ❖ Optional Protocol to the Convention against Torture (OPCAT);
- ❖ UN Standard Minimum Rules for the treatment of prisoners (Nelson Mandela Rules);
- ❖ Standard Minimum Rules for the Administration of Juvenile Justice (Beijing Rules);
- ❖ Conventions and Treaties relating to Transfer of Prisoners; and
- ❖ The Children's Act 2020
- ❖ Bangkok Rules

GENDER STATEMENT

The Mauritius Prisons Service is firmly committed to upholding the principles of gender equality and inclusiveness in all its operations. Equal opportunities are provided to both male and female officers in recruitment, training, career advancement, and leadership roles, thereby promoting a balanced and equitable workforce. The Service continues to implement gender-sensitive policies aimed at preventing discrimination and fostering a safe and respectful working environment. Inmate management and rehabilitation programmes are also designed with a gender-responsive approach, ensuring that the specific needs of both male and female detainees are adequately addressed with dignity and fairness.

To ensure a better service delivery in the area of Gender Equality, with the collaboration of the Ministry of Gender Equality, Child Development and Family Welfare, there is ongoing training for Officers at the Prison Training School and through workshops and seminars outside prisons.

Finally, the Mauritius Prisons Service has already established a Gender Cell with the technical assistance of the Ministry. The Prisons Department provides equal opportunities for both male and female staff. Presently, the establishment depicts equal chance irrespective of grades or gender. The Mauritius Prisons Service has female staff up to the grade of Deputy Commissioner of Prisons.

General Overview

The Mauritius Prisons Service comprises of **15 institutions** including one in Rodrigues (*the 10th District of Mauritius*) as well as Correctional Youth Centres Boys/Girls and Rehabilitation Youth Centres Boys/Girls.



Central Prison Beau Bassin (BBP)

The Central Prison Beau Bassin is a maximum security prison which came into operation on the 1st May 1887. It has a current accommodation capacity of 1295 detainees and houses mostly remand detainees.

All detainees accommodated at BBP benefit from educational, vocational, recreational, rehabilitative and spiritual facilities.

However, given that a significant percentage of the prison population are sentenced or remanded for drug related offences, the monitoring of drug abusers became an important component of rehabilitation programs.

Towards this end, the Lotus Centre continues to build the coping capacities of illicit drug dependent detainees through provision of multi-disciplinary life skills programs.

They are also exposed to Methadone Substitution Therapy and antiretroviral treatment.

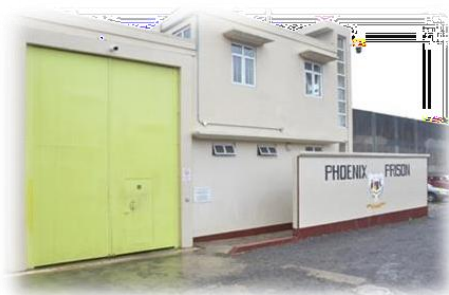


Eastern High Security Prison (EHSP)

Eastern High Security Prison was built to combat the overcrowding in our institutions in line with strategic plan 2013-2023. It is a modern facility institution which has been built on 37 acres of land situated at Melrose, in the district of Moka.

Eastern High Security Prison was inaugurated on 20th March 2014 and is characterized as a high security prison. It has a maximum bed capacity to accommodate 922 detainees, mostly convicted ones.

Detainees are engaged in vocational, recreational, educational and spiritual activities.



Phoenix Prison

Phoenix High Security Prison, also known as “La Bastille” is situated at Phoenix and is classified as a high security prison. It became operational on 10th December 1980 (*following Prison mutiny of 1979*) and accommodates a maximum of 26 detainees.

However, the institution was closed down on 27th May 2014 and all its detainees were transferred to Eastern High Security Prison.

Nevertheless, the said institution started re-operating on **29th March 2018**.

Detainees who are considered a potential threat to security, who commit serious and aggravated breaches of prison discipline and who have previously escaped from prison or other legal custody are transferred therein as a deterrence.



New Wing Prison (NWP)

The New Wing Prison is a medium security institution. Situated at the back of Beau Bassin prison, the said institution came into operation on 6th March 2003 and since April 2006; it started accommodating detainees selected to perform outdoor labour.

This institution accommodates mostly remand detainees and has a maximum bed capacity of 357 detainees.

All newly admitted detainees (*Remanded / Convicted by Court*) are kept at New Wing Prison to undergo the induction process during which they undergo a complete medical screening and are interviewed by a panel of senior staff, hospital staff and welfare officers or prison psychologists. In addition, they are informed about their rights and privileges, their responsibilities, the prisons rules and regulations, the prison regime etc.



Women Prison (WP)

The Women Prison is a Maximum Security prison catering for both remand and convicted adult female detainees. It is located adjacent to the Beau-Bassin Central Prison.

It became operational on the 11th May 1951. The institution can accommodate up to 146 female detainees.

Female detainees are allowed to keep with them their children up to the age of 5 years. Day care facilities are available for children under the care of NGOs.

Detainees are provided training in Pastry, Beauty Care, Basket and Rattan Wares, Garment Making, Embroidery and Vegetable Cultivation/Bio Farming.



Barkly Special Prison for Women (SPW)

Barkly Special Prison for Women is a maximum security prison which started operating from 09th January 2020. It can accommodate 12 detainees.

Women detainees committing aggravated prison defaults at Women Prison are temporarily segregated there. It is also used as a Segregation Unit for high risk women detainees.



Open Prison for Women (OPW)

The Open Prison for Women was built on a plot of land of approximately 11902 square metres located at Barkly near the Correctional Youth Centre for boys. The institution was inaugurated on 10th December 2015 and is classified as minimum security. It has a maximum accommodation capacity of 18 detainees.

Detainees are transferred from Women Prison to Open Prison based on good behaviour and after having served at least half of their initial sentence.



Grand River North West Remand Prison (GRNWRP)

The Grand River North West Remand Prison is a Maximum Security Prison. It became operational on 3rd July 1995. It has a maximum accommodation capacity of 384 detainees and houses mostly remand ones.

Some convicted detainees who have been selected for labour in the Prison Kitchen and cleaning are also detained there. Being given that most of the detainees housed at the institution are remand, only recreational and spiritual facilities are provided to them.



Petit Verger Prison (PVP)

The Petit Verger Prison (PVP), a medium security prison is located at Pointe Aux Sables, found in the district of Black River. The institution came into operation on 16th February 1982 and has an accommodation capacity of 308 detainees.

Convicted detainees nearing their date of release with no pending cases and those of good behaviour/conduct are eligible to be transferred to this institution.

Detainees accommodated at PVP are provided training in Gardening, Pastry, Food production, Livestock Rearing, Sheet Metal Works, Block Making, Builders and

Constructions, Tailoring and Carpentry. The Templin Training Centre found at the institution dispenses courses under the aegis of Mauritius Institute of Training and Development (MITD) in welding & metal fabrication and wood trade



Richelieu Open Prison (ROP)

Richelieu Open Prison came into operation on the 02nd October 1958. It is characterized by the absence of physical structures and by a system based on self-discipline and on a sense of responsibility which the detainees show towards the group in which they live.

Offenders whether committed for long term and reaching the end of their sentence or short term Imprisonment, are eligible for the transfer to the institution subject to a positive report on their conduct and behaviour.

Accommodation is available for 198 detainees who live in four dormitories. The Open condition of the institution allows detainees the privilege of having contact visits with their relatives.

Detainees are provided training in agricultural work and animal rearing as well as vocational work and industrial activities which has proved to be beneficial towards their eventual release. The multi- skilling programme, be it in vegetable production, animal husbandry, shoemaking, printing, layers and metal workshop pave the way for the rehabilitation of detainees. Mauritius Prisons Service is at present 100% self-sufficient in eggs due to egg production in the institution.

Moreover, a Solar Photovoltaic Project, which comprises ten solar panels is being funded by the Government of Germany with the assistance of the Central Electricity Board (CEB) is being integrated which aims to promote sustainability by providing reliable and renewable energy.

Also, an Aquaculture farm is being introduced which results through the collaboration between the MPS and the Albion fisheries Research Centre, which currently operates ten fish ponds, breeding around 55 000 “Berry Rouge Fish” annually with a target harvest of 20 tonnes. Its primary objective is to teach inmates vocational skills, increase food production, and aid in their rehabilitation and foster self-sufficiency within correctional institutions.



Correctional Youth Centre (CYC) Boys

The Correctional Youth Centre Boys previously known as Borstal Institution became operational on 30th June 1987. It can accommodate up to 50 juveniles. It caters for young offenders up to the age of 18 and is situated at Corner Sir Francis Herchenroder and Pope Hennessy Street, Beau Bassin.

The system of training aims at strengthening character and is based on progressive trust, demanding increasing personal decisions, self-responsibility and self-control.

The Correctional Youth Centre also provides facilities to juveniles to follow educational and vocational training. Likewise, the inmates also benefit from religious facilities.



Correctional Youth Centre (CYC) Girls

The Correctional Youth Centre for girls also situated at Barkly Beau Bassin keeps in safe custody female offenders up to the age of 18 years. The institution can accommodate up to 14 Juveniles. It provides opportunities for juveniles to follow educational and vocational courses along with religious facilities.



Rehabilitation Youth Centre (RYC) Boys

The Rehabilitation Youth Centre Boys is situated at Barkly, in the same compound of the three other centres mentioned above. This institution caters for male juveniles up to the age of 18 years old. They are engaged in educational and recreational activities.



Rehabilitation Youth Centre (RYC) Girls

The Rehabilitation Youth Centre Girls is situated in the same compound of the three other centres mentioned above. This institution caters for female juveniles up to the age of 18 years old. They are engaged in educational and recreational activities.



Rodrigues Prison

Rodrigues Prison is a medium security facility located at Pointe la Gueule, Rodrigues. It was proclaimed on 05th December 1963, it covers an area of sixteen (16) acres of land. It caters for 75 detainees male including 12 female detainees.

The Rodrigues Prison is under the direct supervision of the Island Chief Executive, Rodrigues. The general administration is, however, under the supervision of the Commissioner of Prisons.

PRISON POPULATION AS AT 30TH JUNE 2025

Institutions	Maximum Capacity	A	B	C	D	R/Con	CYC Inmate	RYC Inmate	Total Convict	Rem	Trial	CYC Rem	RYC Rem	Total Remand	GRAND TOTAL	Last Night lock up time
BBP	1295	10	7	46	5	3			71	680	1			677	752	17.45hrs
PHX Prison	26	5							5	4				4	9	15.30hrs
EHSP	922	788			30	5			823	115				115	938	17.15hrs
New Wing	357	2	66		170	44			282	73				73	355	17.50hrs
GRNWRP	384	3	6	11	23				43	269				269	312	17.10hrs
ROP	198				92				92					0	92	17.00hrs
PVP	308			54	121				175					0	175	17.00hrs
WP	160	29	6	7	10	6			58	127				127	185	17.05hrs
SPW	12					0			0					0	0	
OPW	18				13				13					0	13	17.15hrs
CYC Boy	50						1		1	1				1	2	17:15hrs
CYC Girl	14								0					0	0	
Gen Pop	3744	837	85	118	464	58	1	0	1563	1269	1	0	0	1266	2833	
RYC Boy									0					0	0	
RYC Girl									0					0	0	
ROD Male				16	1				17	22				22	39	16.32hrs
ROD Female									0	1				1	1	16.40hrs
ROD RYC (Boy)									0	1				1	1	16.30hrs
ROD RYC (GIRL)									0					0	0	

Number of babies - WP: 03babies(03 Female)

RYC (Girls) = 01 at large

Detainees admitted to Public Hospital:- 02

FOREIGNERS

Institutions:-	BBP	EHSP	NW	GRNWP	ROP	PVP	WP	OPW	SPW	PHX	CYC(B)	CYC(G)	RYC(B)	RYC(G)	TOTAL
Foreign Unc.	27	104	5	2	0	0	73	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	211
Foreign Conv	1	46	1	0	0	0	20	5	0	0	0	0	0	0	73
Total	28	150	6	2	0	0	93	5	0	0	0	0	0	0	284

PART II - ACHIEVEMENTS, CHALLENGES & GENERAL STATISTICS

Key Challenges

- Lack of reintegration into society as detainees are deprived of employment opportunities
- Increase in admission of drug-dependent detainees
- Increasing number of young offenders.
- The Central Prison, Beau Bassin which is operational since 1887 needs to be upgraded for the safety of detainees and security aspects
- Preventing entry of prohibited objects in Prison.

Strategic Direction 2023-2026

Strategic Direction	Enabler
Reduce recidivism and rehabilitate detainees for re-integration in society	• Implement best correctional practice and comprehensive rehabilitation programmes. • Enhance opportunities for vocational and education training • Adapt rehabilitation programmes to cater for an increasing number of young offenders
Reduce cost of maintaining detainees in custody.	• Increase vegetable production so as to achieve self-sufficiency in vegetable requirement • Engage detainees in purposeful activities, such as handicraft and carpentry so that they become skillful. • Reduce utility cost by using eco-friendly solutions and revamping of water network.

General Statistics

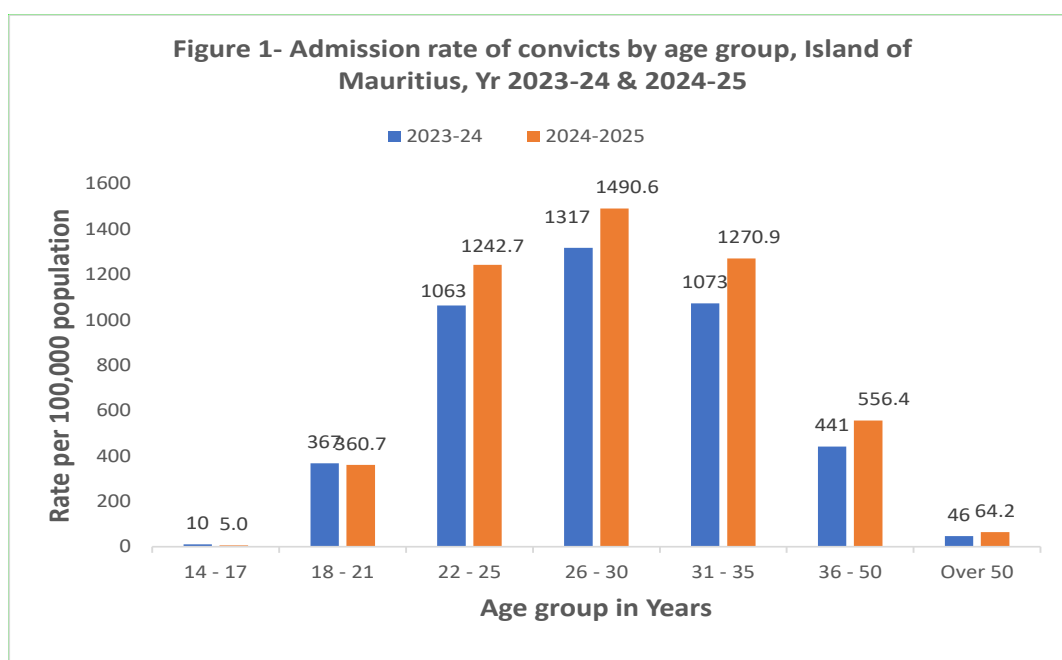
MALE & FEMALE ADULT CONVICTS INCLUDING JUVENILE AT CYC)

OVERALL REVIEW

- (i) In 2024-25, there were 5,361 adults and juvenile convicts admitted to prisons, representing an increase of 14.5% over the figure of 4,684 in 2023-24. Out of these 5,361 convicts, 95.8 % were males and 4.2% were females. The number of convict admission for juveniles decreased from 7 in 2023-24 to 3 in 2024-25. It is to be noted that among the 3 juveniles admitted in 2024-25, all were males.
- (ii) Out of every 100 detainees in prison, 53were convicts and 47were on remand and awaiting trial.
- (iii) From 2023-24to 2024-25, the daily average remand and trial population for adults increased by 5.8% from 1,214 to 1,285 and the number of juveniles was 7 for 2023-24 and 3for 2024-25 respectively.
- (iv) In 2024-25, the average prison occupancy level for all detainees was 73%, with the highest occupancy level for male prison being 88.0% and the lowest being 39.9%. Throughout the year the female prison consistently operated near its full capacity. An average of four juveniles were admitted in the correctional youth centre.

SNAPSHOTS ON ADMISSIONS OF CONVICTS

- (i) From 2023-24 to 2024-25, the number of male convicts admitted increased by 13.7% from 4,517 to 5,138 and that for female increased by 33.5% from 167 to 223.
- (ii) The admission rate per 100,000 populations was 521.3. in 2024-25 with 1,013.6 for males and 42.8 for females. The admission rate was prominent for the age group 26-30. See figure 1.



(iii) In 2024-25, the distributions of the admission for males and females by age group show a peak for the age group 36-50 years. See figure 2&3.

Figure 2 - Admission of Males by age group, Island of Mauritius, 2024-25

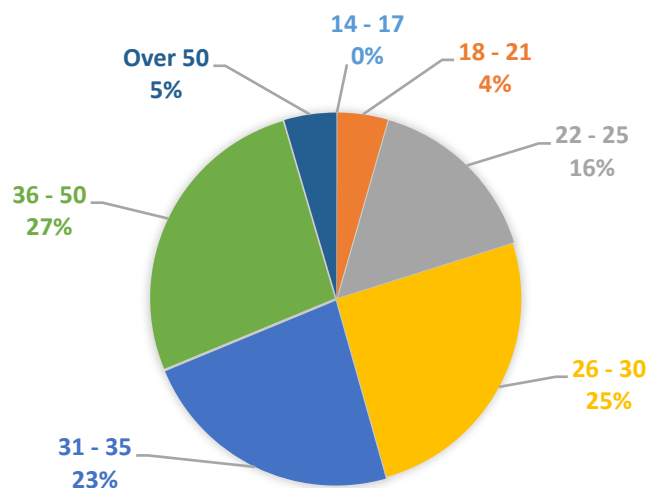
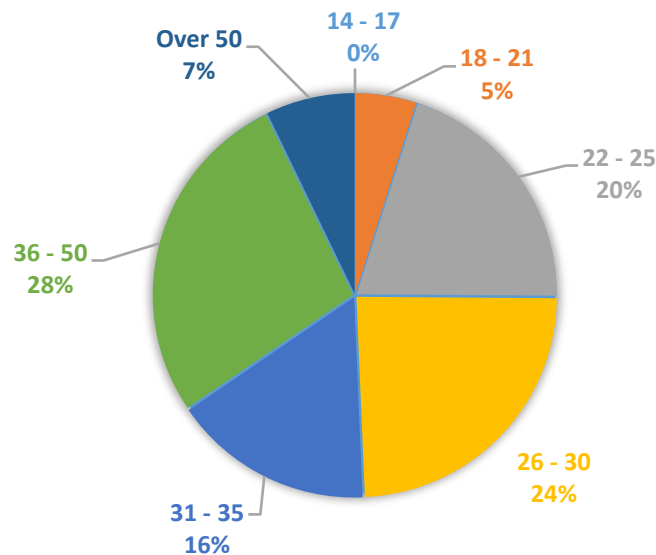
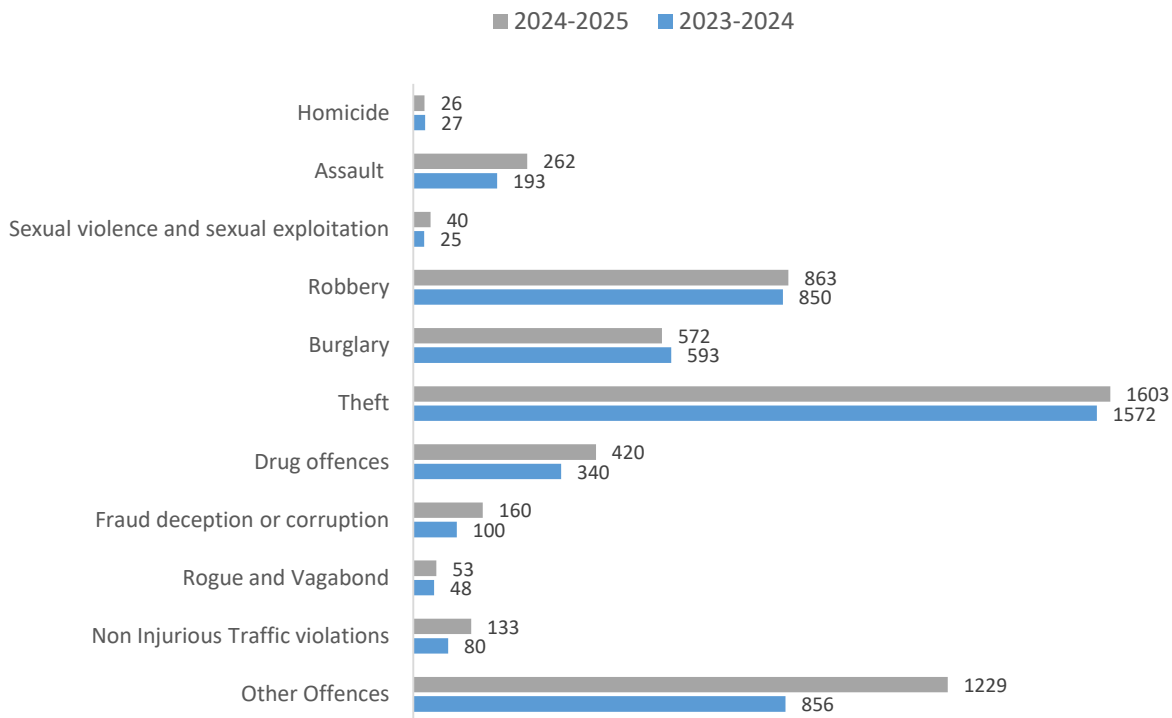


Figure 3 - Admission of Females by age group, Island of Mauritius, 2024-25



(iv) From 2023-24 to 2024-25, an increase in the number of admissions were mainly due to arise in the admissions for the following offences (Breach of condition of release from 362 to 638, assault from 166 to 262). There was 23.5% increase in admission for drug offences from 340 to 420 and the number of admissions for violence and sexual exploitation increased from 25 to 40 during the two periods. See Figure 4.

Figure 4- Admission of convicts according to UN classification of offences, Island of Mauritius 2023-24 & 2024-25



- (v) For the same period, the admissions for drug offences related to heroin increased by 43.2% from 81 to 116. Those related to cannabis increased by 16 % from 81 to 94 (Figure 5). Some 87.1%, 366 of the 420 admissions in 2024-25 were due to the possession of drugs (Figure 6). It is to be noted that there was no admission for drug offences among juvenile inmates in 2024-25.

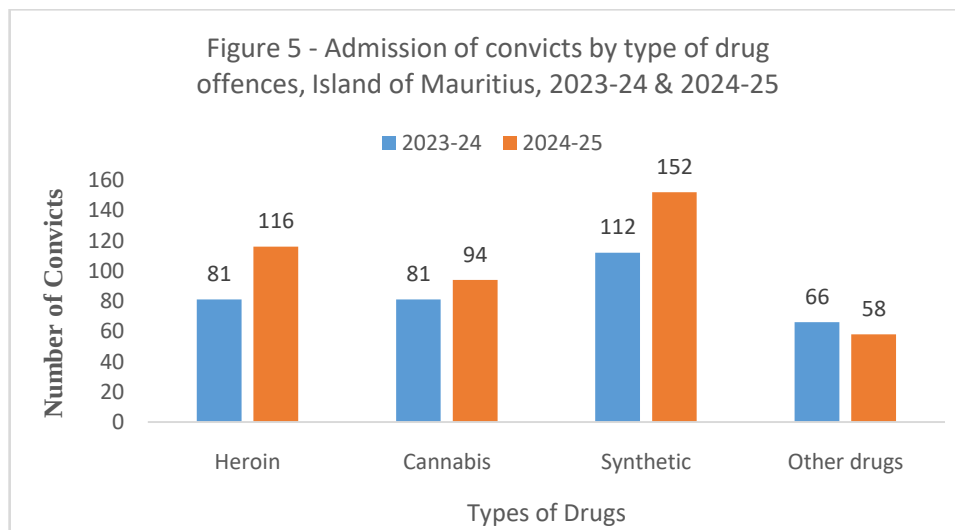
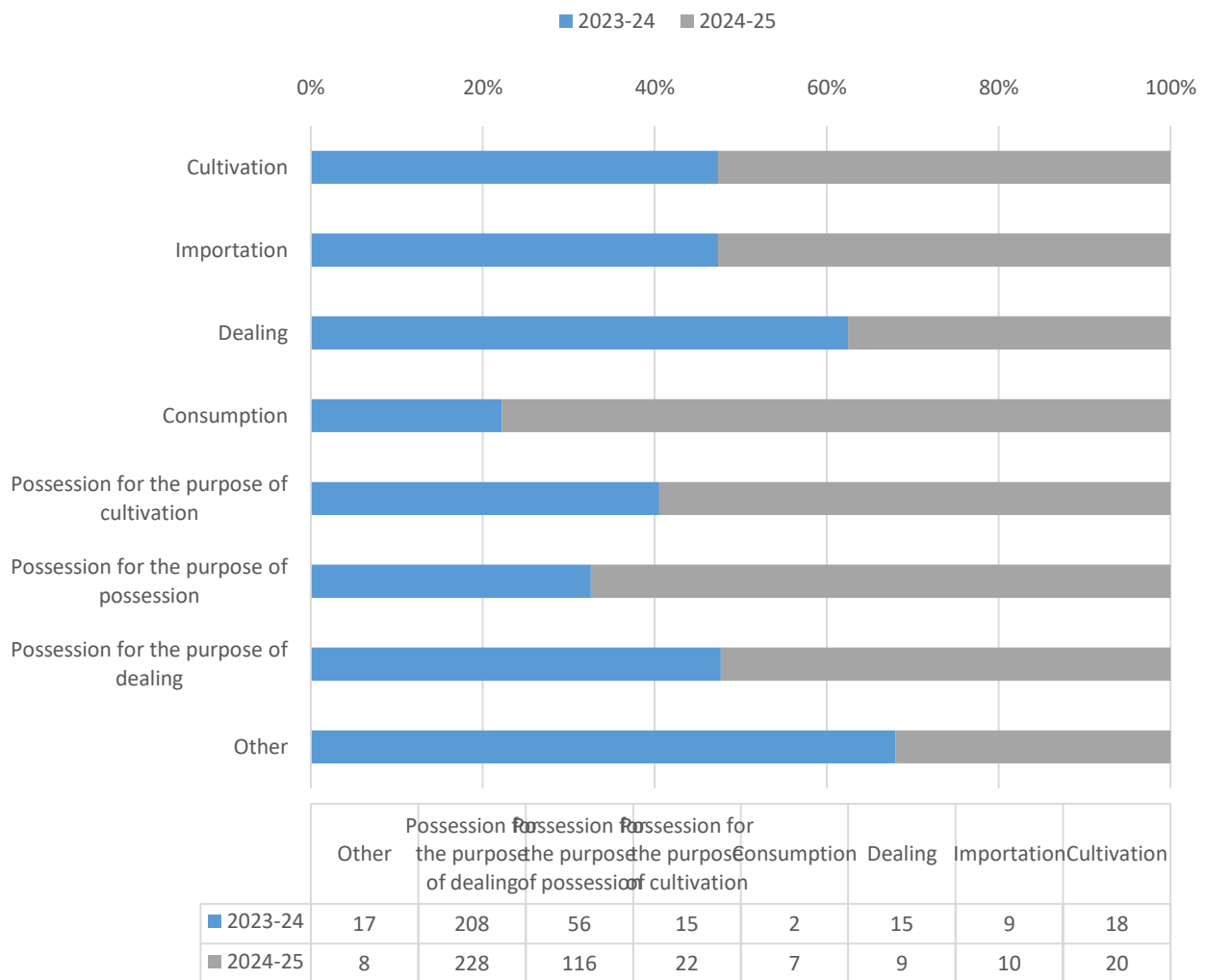
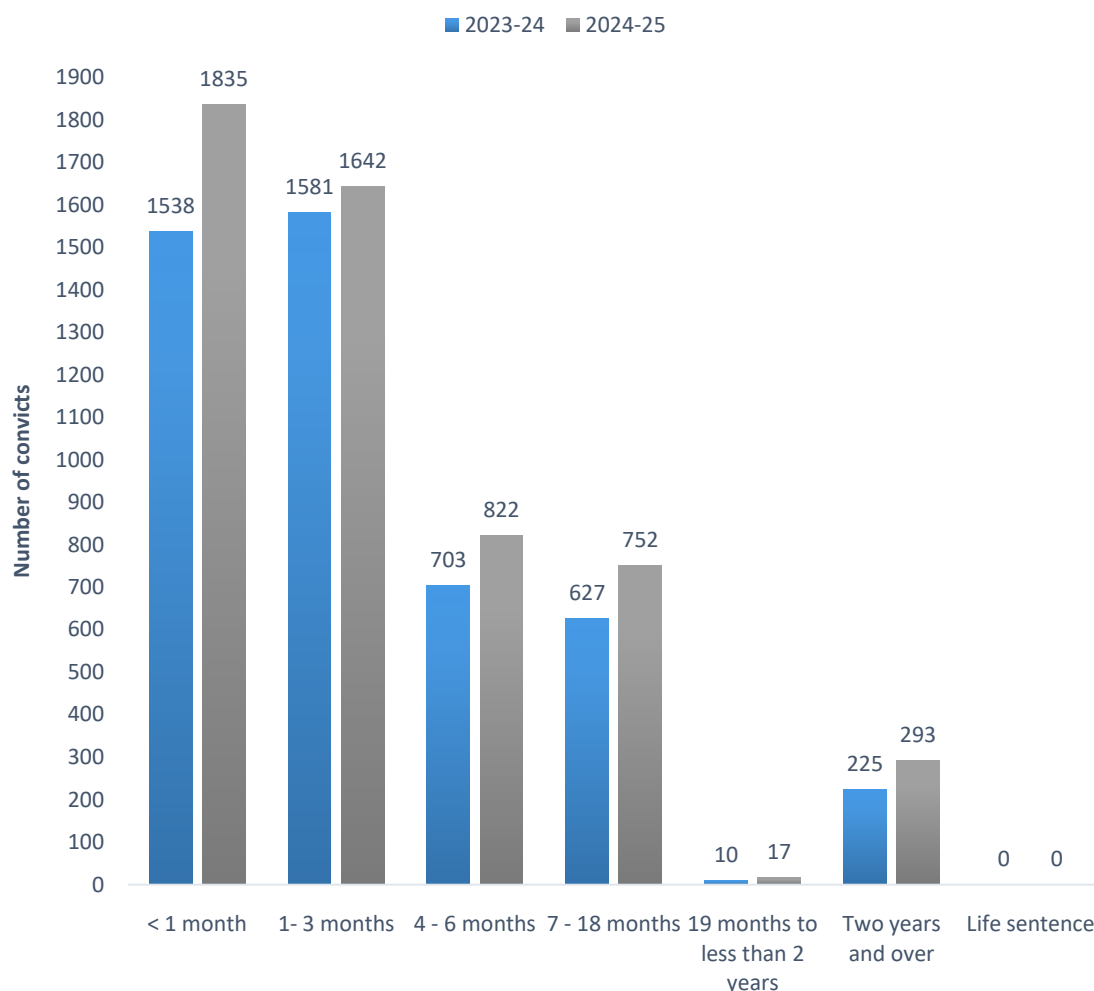


Figure 6 - Convicts admitted for type of drug offences, Island of Mauritius, 2023-24 & 2024-25



- (vi) The adult convicts, with no previous imprisonment, increased by 9.7% from 1,285 (1,208 males and 77 females) in 2023-24 to 1,410 (1,278 males and 132 females) in 2024-25. On the other hand, the adult convicts, who were readmitted to prison, increased by 16.2%, from 3,397 (3,302 males and 90 females) in 2023-24 to 3,948 (3,857 males and 91 females) in 2024-25 without considering any observation period for the admissions.
- (vii) Compared to 2023-24, the number of convicts in 2024-25, with short sentences of less than one month increased by 19.3% from 1,538 to 1,835. Similarly, those sentenced for 1-3 months increased by 3.9% from 1,581 to 1,642. Those with long sentence of two years and over showed an increase of 30.2% from 225 to 293. It is to be noted that no convict was sentenced to life imprisonment in 2024-25. Excluding fine defaulters, some 64.8% of all the admissions of convicts in 2024-25 were condemned for short sentences of three months and less (Figure 7).

**Figure 7 - Admission of convicts by length of sentence , Island of Mauritius
2023-24 & 2024-25**



From 2023-24 to 2024-25, the number of fine defaulters admitted to prison increased by 20.4% from 511 (495 males and 16 females) to 615 (592 males and 23 females). The admissions due to non-payment of fines of Rs 30,000 or less also increased by 24.3% from 470 in 2023-24 to 584 in 2024-25.

REMANDS

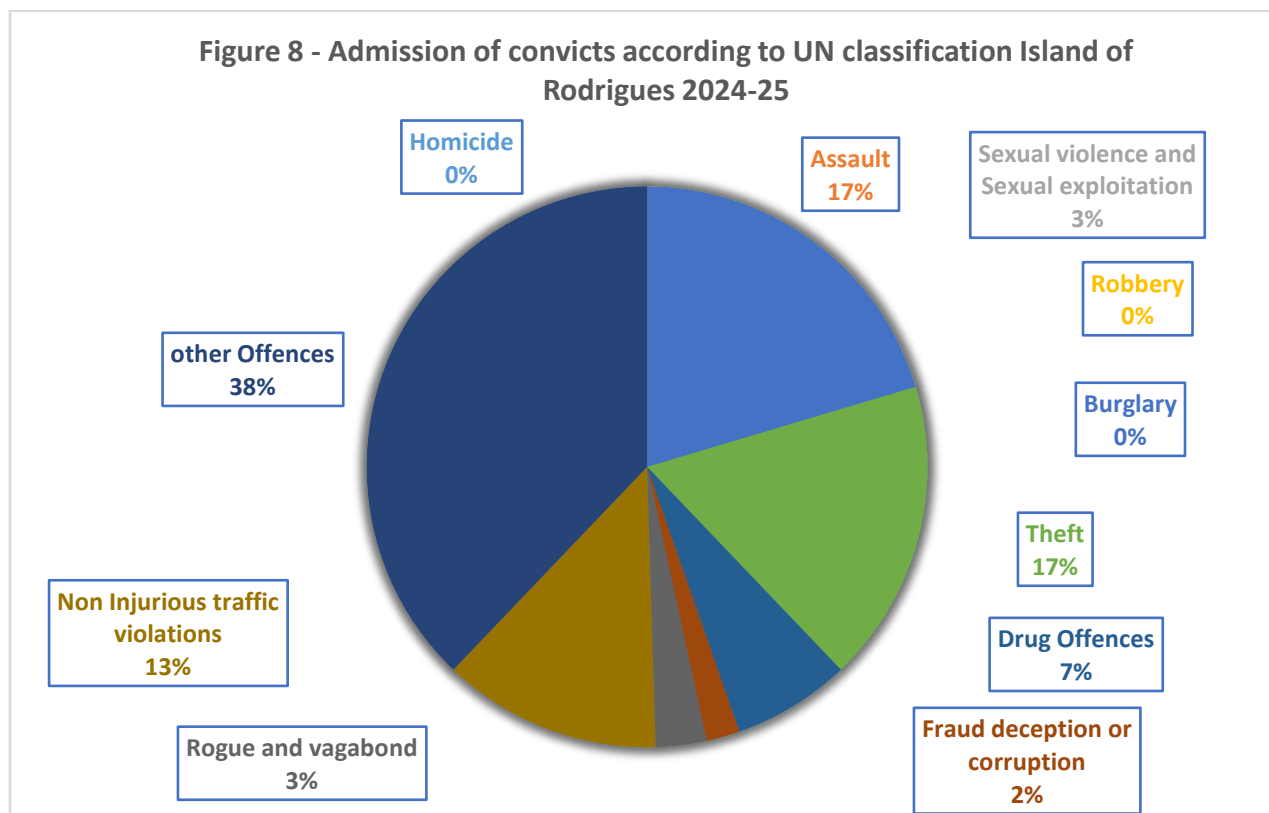
From 2023-24 to 2024-25, the number of detainees remanded to prison showed a decrease of 11.7 % from 5,305 (5016 males, 275 females and 14 juveniles) to 4,685 detainees (4,366 males, 308 females and 11 juveniles).

Island of Rodrigues

An overview for year 2024-25

- (i) The average prison occupancy level for all detainees was 47.8%.
- (ii) Some 21.4% of the admitted convicts aged 25 years and less, another 32% between 26 and 35 years, another 38.8% between 36 and 50 years and the rest above 50 years.
- (iii) There were 17.5% of the admissions related to theft, 17.5 % to assault, 2.9% to rogue and vagabond. There was 6.8% of admission related to drug offences. Some 37.9% were due to admissions for other offences.
- (iv) Some 23.3%, 24 of the 103 admitted convicts had no previous imprisonment whereas 57.3%, 59 of the 103 admitted convicts had been imprisoned more than once in the past.
- (v) 86.4%, 89 of the 103 admitted convicts were sentenced for short sentence of three months and less whereas 3.9 %, 4 of the 103 admitted convicts were for long sentence of two years and over.
- (vi) There was 1 fine defaulter admitted to prisons, due to non-payment of fines of (1,001 to 5,000)

Figure 8 - Admission of convicts according to UN classification Island of Rodrigues 2024-25



PART III - PRISON HEALTH SERVICE

Introduction

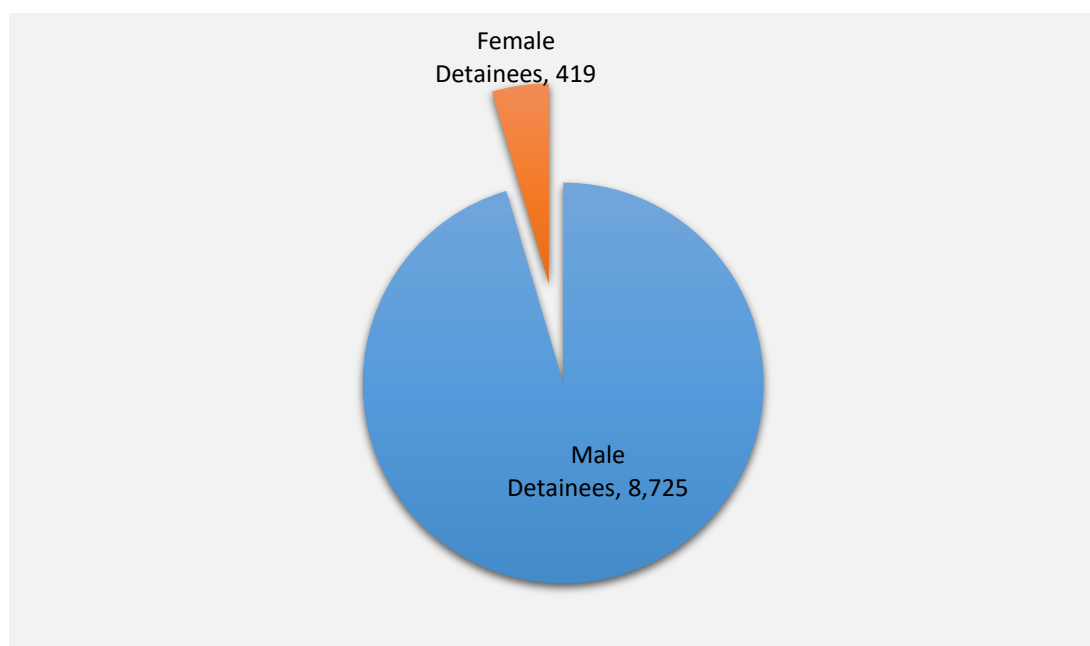
Incarcerated individuals have the same right to healthcare as the general population. Ensuring the health of detainees is a fundamental responsibility of every prison. The foundation of prison health services is primary care, with the role of the health department in prison settings mirroring that of any clinical environment. Medical treatments are administered in accordance with standards, protocols, and recommendations from the World Health Organization, alongside the specific security regulations of correctional institutions. Our primary objective is to provide appropriate clinical care to our patients, with our scope of action extending to disease prevention and health promotion.

The Mauritius Prisons Service has established several health facilities, with the primary duty of the Prison Health Service officer being the comprehensive assessment, diagnosis, and maintenance of detainee's health. Upon entry into prison facilities, each detainee is examined by both a Prison Medical Officer and a Prison Health Service Officer. This procedure aims to promptly detect critical health conditions requiring immediate intervention. Additionally, in the event of an outbreak of transmissible diseases, either within the community or the penal setting, these examinations provides vital data on the progression of the outbreak and the necessary measures to protect the prison population.

Prison health professionals also perform additional duties and services, such as attending court hearings when required. They are involved in the release process of prisoners on general or specific health grounds and implement rehabilitation programs for detainees. All detainees, whether sentenced or remanded to prison, are examined and tested for various infectious diseases such as HIV/AIDS, hepatitis B, and hepatitis C by healthcare providers upon their arrival.

From July 2024 to June 2025, a total of 8,725 male and 419 female detainees were admitted to prison facilities.

The chart below represents the number of detainees seen by the Prison Medical Officer upon admission.

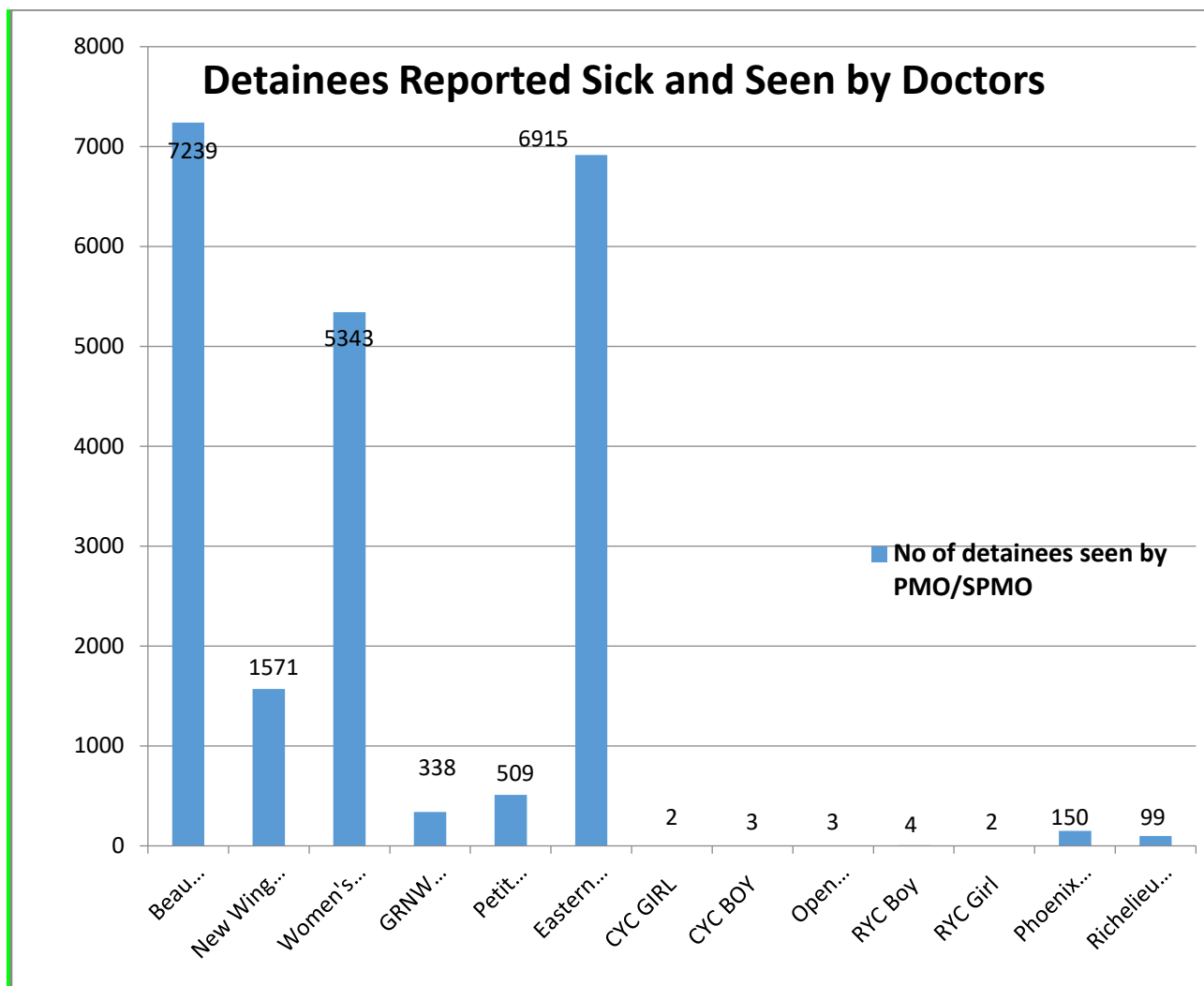


2. Health Infrastructure

All prison institutions have a healthcare section dedicated to dispensing care and treatment to both detainees and officers. Institutions including G.R.N.W.P., P.V.P., R.O.P., O.P.W., S.P.W., C.Y.C., PHX and R.Y.C. (boys and girls) operate dispensaries from 07:30 to 15:30 hours. NWP is the only dispensary that operates from 0730 to 1800 hours to accommodate admissions of detainees. Additionally, Beau Bassin Central Prison and the Eastern High Security Prison are equipped with inpatient wards that can accommodate between 10 to 20 patients, while the Women's Prison medical complex can accommodate up to 2 patients.

During weekends, public holidays, and nighttimes, hospital officers from Beau Bassin Central Prison are called upon to attend to any emergencies in the male section dispensaries. Similarly, Prison Health Service officers from the Women's Prison medical complex handle emergencies at O.P.W., S.P.W., and C.Y.C. (girls).

During the financial year 2024/2025, a total of 22,178 detainees were seen by doctors. The table below illustrates in detail the number of detainees who reported sick and were examined by Prison Medical Officers (PMO/SPMO). The highest number of detainees attending medical facilities was recorded Beau Bassin Prison (7,239 inmates),



3. Public Hospitals

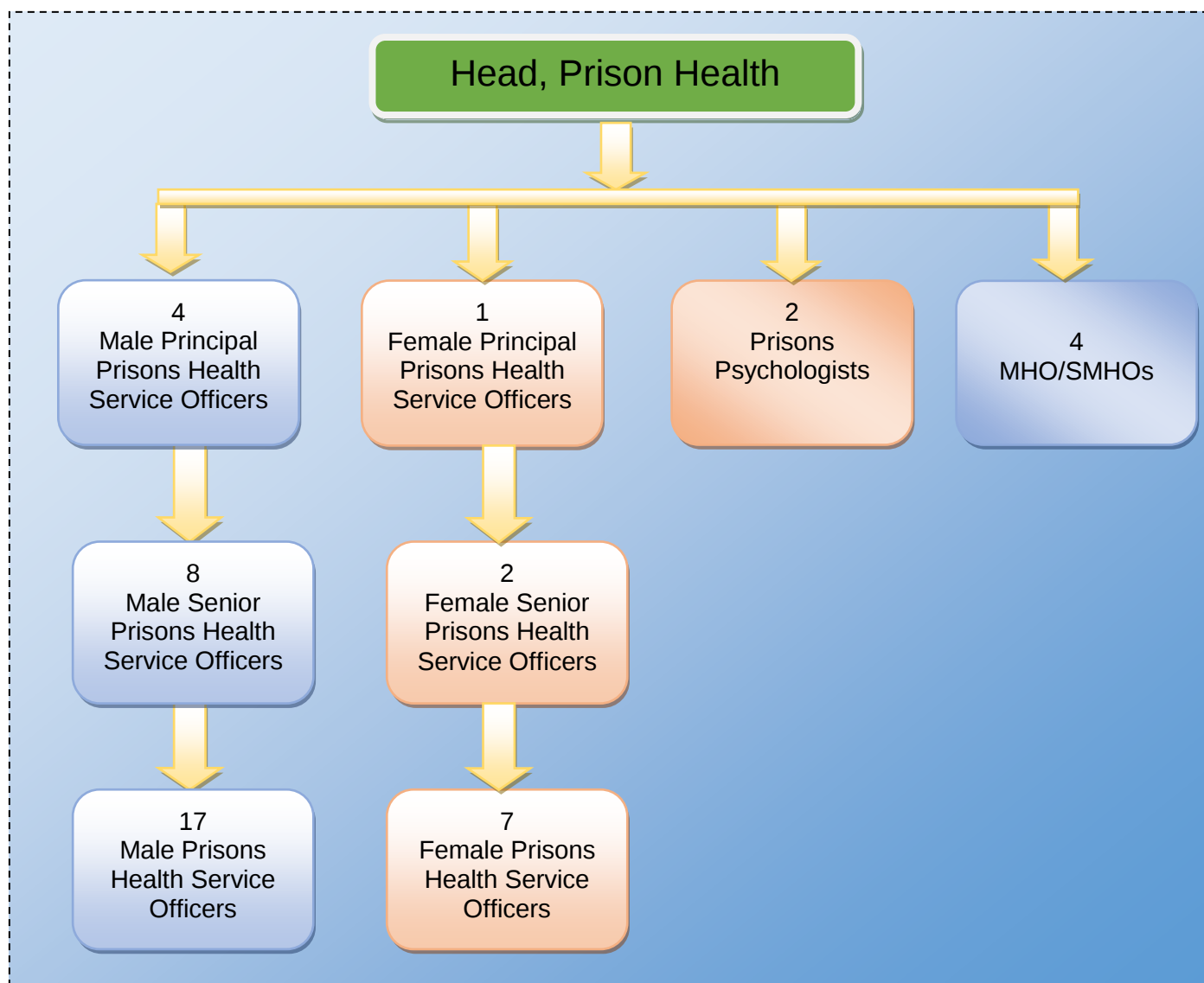
Detainees requiring admission, surgical interventions, or specialized care and treatment are referred to the Jawaharlal Nehru Hospital (JNH)-Prison Ward. Two wards have been specially designed to receive inmates without compromising the safety of other patients and staff. These wards can accommodate up to 10 males and 5 female patients. However, detainees needing further specialized care are admitted to other institutions such as Brown Sequard Mental Health Care Centre (BSMHCC), the New Cancer Hospital, Poudre d'Or Chest Hospital.

From 1st July 2024 to 30th June 2025, approximately 513 detainees were referred to public hospitals, and 436 detainees were admitted to these hospitals.

4. Medical and Para Medical staff

The prison health care team, actually, consist of 40 qualified nurses including 10 female nurses. Four doctors and one dental surgeon, seconded from the Ministry of Health and Wellness. Furthermore, two Psychologists have been appointed to dispense psychological support and follow up of detainees and employees.

Organisation chart of the Prison Health Sector



5. HealthCare Services

Visiting specialist/consultant attended to detainees

Medical officers provide a round the clock service to detainees and prison staff, as well as to family of staff. To improve the physical and mental health of detainees' arrangement has been made with the Ministry of Health and Wellness to provide specialised clinic at prison level. Specialists in the field of psychiatry, orthopedic, medical and surgical attend to detainees at the medical unit Beau Bassin and EHSP on a monthly basis. Moreover, specialities such as E.N.T, Dermatology and Aids Physicians provide weekly follow-up services. Over and above those existing services the Prisons Health Service is now offering to female detainees Gynecological consultation each month. Furthermore, Pediatric medical review is also available in our catalogue of service offered.

Gynecology

The Mauritius Prisons Service continued to provide dedicated gynecological care to female detainees to ensure their reproductive and maternal health needs were adequately addressed. A total of 75 patients were attended by the visiting gynecologist. The services rendered included routine gynecological examinations, antenatal and postnatal follow-ups, screening and management of reproductive health conditions, as well as counselling and health education on women's health. This service remains an essential component of the Prison Health Unit's commitment to safeguarding the health and well-being of all female inmates.

Pediatrics

During the reporting period from July 2024 to June 2025, pediatric services were provided to children residing within the Mauritius Prisons Service. A total of 37 children benefited from medical care, which included routine health assessments, growth monitoring, vaccination follow-up, and treatment of minor ailments. The service aimed to ensure the well-being and development of all children in a safe and supportive environment, in collaboration with Ministry of Health and Wellness

Vaccination

In collaboration with the Ministry of Health and Wellness and the National Vaccination Centre, several vaccination sessions: against measles and flu vaccine has been put in place to reduce risk of epidemic in the Mauritius Prisons Service among inmates; they also provide Information, Communication and Education (I.C.E) campaign.

6. Prison Methadone Unit

Detainees who enter prison while currently enrolled in a community methadone maintenance program continue their treatment during incarceration. Methadone is currently dispensed in five institutions: NWP, BBP, WP, PVP, and EHSP. Specifically, methadone for EHSP is supplied by Flacq Pharmacy, and the methadone clinic is conducted by doctors from the Addictology Unit of Sir AneeroodJugnauth Hospital.

Since December 2011, an induction unit for methadone has been implemented at Beau Bassin Central Prison to address opioid use disorders among detainees. This program is part of an integrated approach to managing drug issues, which includes case management and access to psychosocial services, health services, and drug and lifestyle education programs. Eligible detainees at high risk of opioid-related harm in prison have the opportunity to be inducted into methadone treatment while incarcerated. A total of 33 detainees have been induced into methadone substitution therapy from July 2024 to June 2025.

Doctors from the Harm Reduction Unit of the Ministry of Health and Wellness regularly attend the clinic. The prison health service, in collaboration with the Harm Reduction Unit, is developing a protocol to revamp the methadone service within the carceral milieu.

7. Prisons Psychologist

At present there are 2 psychologists present in prison. Psychological clinics are now available in all prison institutions for detainees referred by the MHO/SMHO and for follow-up cases upon admission. Currently, one prison psychologist is posted at Eastern High Security Prison, while another is based at the Florence Nightingale Medical Complex.

Between July 2024 and June 2025, 751 detainees have been seen by the prison psychologists. Additionally, 24 officers have received psychological interventions, and 44 temporary prison officers have undergone psychological evaluations during their training period.

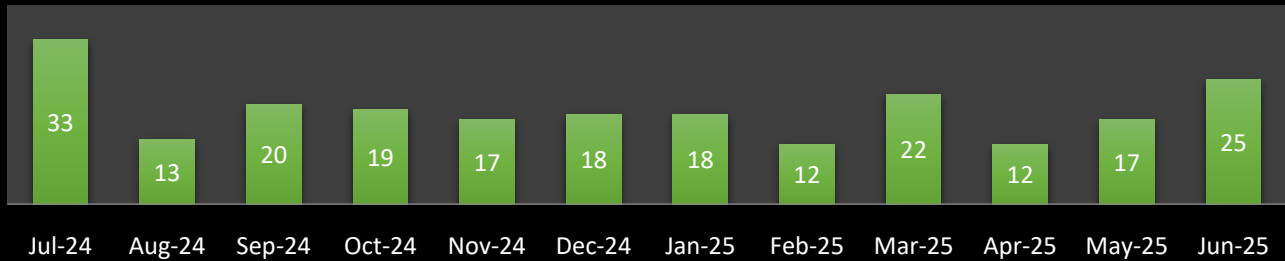
8. Prison and MOH & Wellness Partnership

Detainees have access to a comprehensive range of healthcare facilities, with a strong connection between healthcare services in prisons and those in the community. A referral system has been established between the Prison Department and the Ministry of Health and Wellness to ensure proper medical case management for health facilities not available in prison, such as X-rays and scans.

Chart below shows the number of detainees referred to public hospitals for specialized treatment.

Detainees referred to public hospitals for specialized treatment

■ Period July 2023- June 2024



9. Additional Service in the MPS

Ambulance Service and nursing coverage

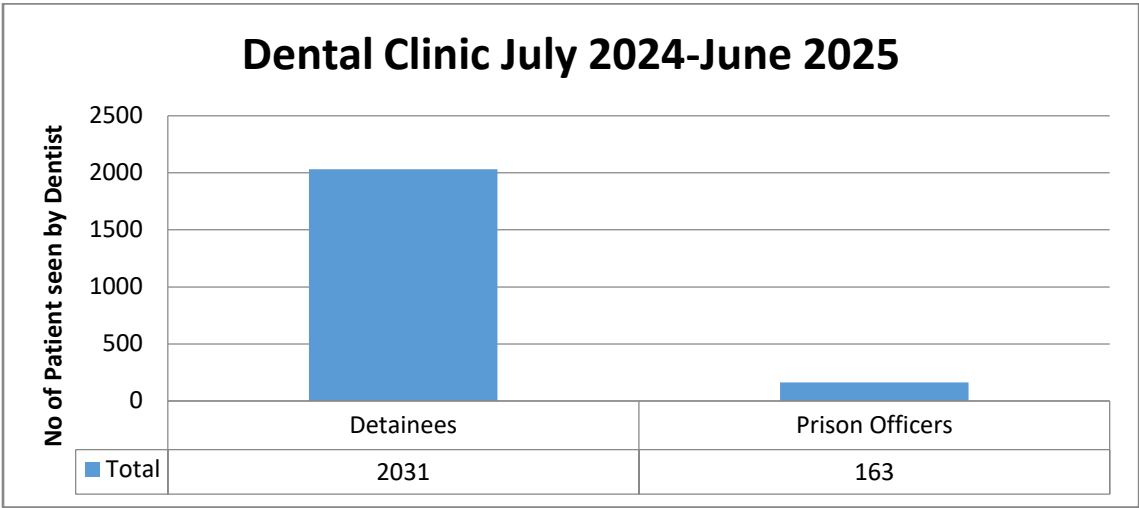
A Basic Life Support (BLS) ambulance is available to provide emergency care and transportation for critical cases from prisons to public hospitals. It is equipped with a range of essential visual and audible monitoring devices. These devices are vital for ensuring medical and nursing coverage during activities organized by the Mauritius Prisons Service, such as the Passing-Out Parade, Medals Ceremony, football tournaments, and other outdoor events.

Dental Clinic

The prison health service is equipped with three dental clinics to cater to the oral health needs of detainees. Two of these clinics are designated for male detainees, located at Beau Bassin Prison (BBP) and Eastern High Security Prison (EHSP). The third clinic, situated at the Women's Prison Medical Complex, serves female detainees. These dental clinics provide a comprehensive range of treatments, including tooth extractions, scaling, and fillings, ensuring that detainees receive essential dental care.

The provision of dental services in prisons underscores the commitment to maintaining the overall health and well-being of detainees. Regular dental check-ups and treatments help prevent and address dental issues that could potentially lead to more severe health complications if left untreated.

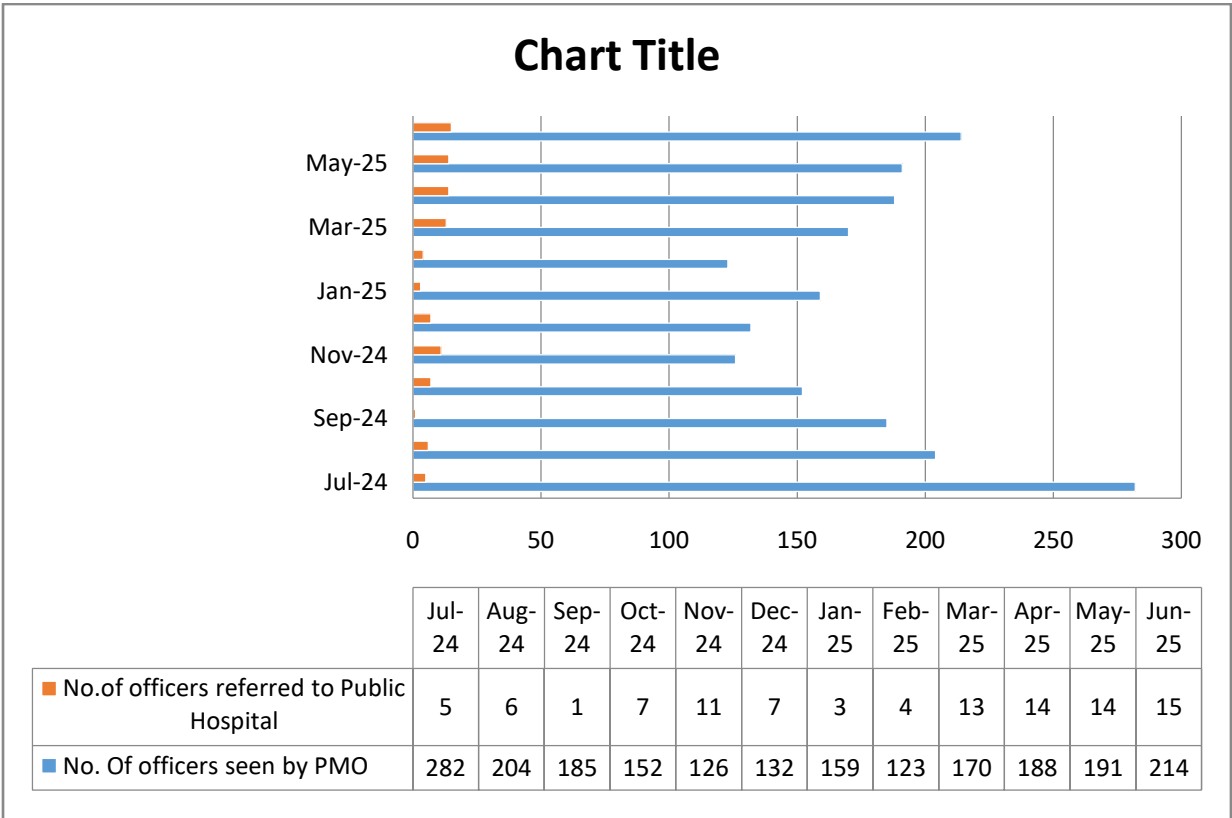
Since mid-2024 until June 2025, a significant number of individuals have benefited from these services. A total of 2031 detainees have received dental care, highlighting the substantial demand and utilization of these facilities. Additionally, 163 officers have also availed themselves of the dental services provided by the prison dental clinics, ensuring that both detainees and prison staff maintain good oral health. This inclusive approach to healthcare within the prison system reflects a broader commitment to the well-being of everyone within the correctional facilities.



10. Services Provided to Officers and families

Officers and relatives are entitled to free medical care and treatment. Medicines and medical treatment prescribed by the Prison Medical Health Officer are dispensed free of charge.

Chart below represent the number of officer who reported sick and examined by Prison Medical Officer and those referred to public hospitals since July 2024 to June 2025.



11. HIV and Aids

Every detainee is screened for HIV and AIDS upon admission, with pre-test counseling provided to ensure they understand the process and can give informed consent for voluntary testing. This initial screening is crucial for identifying new cases and ensuring that all detainees receive appropriate care from the start of their incarceration.

For detainees who are known to be HIV-positive or are diagnosed during the screening process, follow-up care and treatment are administered at the prison level. This care includes regular monitoring and management of their condition to prevent disease progression. Specific blood investigations, such as CD4 cell counts and HIV viral load tests, are routinely conducted. These samples are sent to the virology section of the Ministry of Health for thorough analysis. Once the results are received, they are reviewed by medical professionals, and an appointment with an AIDS physician is scheduled. This ensures that each detainee receives tailored medical advice and treatment adjustments as needed.

Additionally, recognizing the importance of nutrition in managing HIV, detainees undergoing antiretroviral treatment are provided with an extra 20% diet during their incarceration. This dietary support helps mitigate the side effects of antiretroviral medications, such as muscle wasting and weakness, and supports overall immune function.

This comprehensive approach to HIV and AIDS care in prisons reflects a commitment to maintaining the health and well-being of all detainees. By integrating medical care with nutritional support and regular monitoring, the prison health service ensures that detainees with HIV can manage their condition effectively. This approach not only benefits the individual detainees but also helps prevent the spread of HIV within the prison population and contributes to the overall public health goal of controlling the HIV epidemic.

12. Continuous Education Program

Regular training is offered to hospital staff throughout 2024 and 2025 to ensure they remain updated with the latest medical knowledge and practices. Our team has participated in various courses, training sessions, and workshops in collaboration with the Ministry of Health and Wellness, the Harm Reduction Unit, and NGOs such as PILS and KINOUETE. These partnerships enable our staff to gain diverse insights and skills in managing healthcare within the prison environment.

The Prison Health Service is now a registered Continuing Professional Development (CPD) provider for the Nursing Council of Mauritius. This accreditation allows us to deliver high-quality CPD sessions, which are essential for the professional growth and license renewal of nursing staff. Throughout the year, we have organized numerous CPD sessions covering a wide range of topics relevant to prison healthcare. These sessions are designed to enhance the clinical skills, knowledge, and competencies of our nurses, ensuring they can provide the highest standard of care to detainees.

To improve the prompt detection and management of HIV/AIDS in prisons, nurses are regularly invited to attend specialized workshops on HIV/AIDS rapid testing. These workshops are organized by the National AIDS Secretariat and the Ministry of Health and Wellness. They provide hands-on training and the latest information on rapid testing techniques, protocols, and best practices. By equipping our nurses with these critical skills, we aim to enhance early detection and timely intervention, which are crucial for managing and controlling the spread of HIV/AIDS within the prison population.

In addition to HIV/AIDS training, our comprehensive CPD program includes sessions on various other health issues pertinent to the prison setting, such as mental health, substance abuse, and chronic disease management. This holistic approach ensures that our healthcare staffs are well-prepared to address the complex health needs of detainees.

Furthermore, the Prison Health Service actively encourages a culture of continuous learning and professional development. By fostering an environment where staffs are motivated to pursue ongoing education and skill enhancement, we ensure that our team remains competent, confident, and capable of delivering exceptional healthcare services. This commitment to excellence not only benefits the detainees but also contributes to the overall improvement of public health standards within the prison system.

PART IV - HUMAN RESOURCE

Staffing Position as at 30 June 2025 - MAURITIUS PRISONS SERVICE

S/N	Grade	No. of established posts in CEO 2024	Funded positions Estimates 2024 - 2025	No. of Officers In Post
1	Commissioner of Prisons	1	1	1
2	Deputy Commissioner of Prisons	4	4	4
3	Assistant Commissioner of Prisons	6	6	4
4	Assistant Commissioner of Prisons (Trades)	1	1	0
5	Woman Assistant Commissioner of Prisons	1	1	1
6	Superintendent of Prisons /Senior Superintendent of Prisons	18	18	13
7	Superintendent of Prisons/Senior Superintendent of Prisons (Works)	1	0	0
8	Superintendent of Prisons/Senior Superintendent of Prisons (Industries)	1	1	1
10	Woman Superintendent of Prisons/Senior Woman Superintendent of Prisons	1	1	1
11	Assistant Superintendent of Prisons	53	53	45
12	Assistant Superintendent of Prisons (Industries)	3	3	2
13	Assistant Superintendent of Prisons (Works)	3	2	2
14	Woman Assistant Superintendent of Prisons	7	6	5
15	Principal Prisons Officer	112	112	100
16	Principal Prisons Officer (Industries)	8	8	4
17	Principal Prisons Officer (Works)	5	5	5
18	Principal Woman Prisons Officer	8	8	8
19	Prisons Officer/Senior Prisons Officer	1027	1027	969
20	Woman Prisons Officer/Senior Woman Prisons Officer	105	105	101

PART V - PRISON TRAINING SCHOOL

Prison Training School marked a significant milestone in the development of the Mauritius Prisons Service system, providing a dedicated facility for comprehensive training of Prison Staff and enhancing the professionalism and effectiveness of the Service.

Prison Training School successful transition to ISO 9001:2015 in April 2019 and its continued accreditation through 2025 demonstrate its commitment to maintaining a high-quality Quality Management System, which is essential for ensuring effective and consistent training of prison officers. This accreditation underscores the institution's focus on continual improvement, standardized processes, and enhanced staff competency, ultimately contributing to increased operational efficiency and improved prison management.

Regular training for Prison Staff is essential to maintain high standards of security and discipline within penal institutions, as it helps officers stay current with best practices, enhance their skills, and reinforce their understanding of crucial protocols. Continuous education not only updates their knowledge but also positively influences their attitudes and behaviours, reducing the risk of complacency or oversight caused by routine and monotonous tasks, thereby ensuring a safer and more secure environment for both staff and inmates. Moreover, from July 2024 to November 2024, a total of (45) forty-five Temporary Prison Officers were enlisted in batch-wise including (01) one Woman Temporary Prison Officer.

Different training dispensed at the Prison Training School such as follows;

Courses
Induction Course for Temporary Prisons Officer
Suicide Prevention in Prisons
Psychology of prisoners
Refresher Courses
Training of Rehabilitation Youth Centre
Awareness Campaign on Substance Abuse
Fire Safety Awareness Training
Combating Corruption and other Crime
Chikungunya Prevention
Training Highlights on OSHA 2005
Awareness Campaign on Roles of Ombudsman in Prison Service
HIV and AIDS Awareness Campaign
Weapon Handling
Training on HIV and AIDS Awareness
Induction Course for Trainees in Rodrigues
Completion of Induction Course
Workshop on Harmful Effects of Tobacco Smoking
In Service Training for RYC Officers
Drug Addiction
Awareness Campaign on Role of Ombudsman in the Prison Service
Workshop Artificial Intelligence in Prison Service

PART VI - PRISON IT UNIT

The IT Section of the Prison Department operates under the supervision of the Acting Assistant Commissioner of Prisons. The section comprises five qualified technical officers, including one female officer, who collectively to handle all IT-related issues across the twelve penal institutions in Mauritius and Rodrigues.

From **July 2024 to June 2025**, the following achievements were recorded:

1. **Refurbishment and Deployment of Computers**

Twenty-five (25) second-hand personal computers were obtained from the Master and Registrar and the Prime Minister's Office. These computers were re-engineered by the MPS IT Team and deployed across various sections to enhance operational efficiency.

2. **Procurement of Spare Parts**

Spare parts for twenty-five (25) personal computers were procured and installed in the different penal institutions to ensure proper maintenance and functionality.

3. **Implementation of e-Prison Phase III**

An allocation of Rs 3 million was earmarked in the 2024/2025 Budget under the item for the implementation of e-prison Phase III.

4. **Network Survey and Repairs**

Technicians from **Enterprise Data Services Ltd** conducted site surveys to assess technical issues related to computer networks across all penal institutions. Repair and maintenance work are currently ongoing by their technical team.

5. **Electronic Attendance System**

The **Electronic Attendance System** has been operationalized at the **Central Prison, Beau Bassin**, and the **Women's Prison**. The system will soon be implemented at the **Eastern High Security Prison (EHSP)**.

6. **Electronic Inventory Management System (EIMS)**

The **EIMS** has been implemented in collaboration with technical staff from the **Central Information Systems Division (CISD)**. The system is now operational in all penal institutions and is being directly monitored by the **Ministry of Finance**.

7. **Procurement of Main Server**

Technical specifications for the procurement of a **Main Server** were obtained from the **Central Informatics Bureau (CIB)**, and the tender process has been duly launched.

8. **Maintenance Fee for e-Prison Software**

The maintenance fee for the **e-Prison Software (NICSI)** has been reviewed and is currently being finalized by a **Due Diligence Committee**.

PART VII - PRISON WELFARE SECTION

The Prison Welfare Division plays a significant role within the Mauritius Prisons Service. It operates under the direct supervision of the Chief Prisons Welfare Officer.

Prisons Welfare Officers are appointed with a view to help solve the domestic, marital, personal and employment problems of detainees. Such problems, if not solved, could prevent a detainee from settling down satisfactorily both during and after his sentence.

The duties of the Prisons Welfare Officer primarily include:

- 1) Interview all detainees on admission;
- 2) Maintain contact between detainees and their relatives;
- 3) Attend to detainees' problems;
- 4) Assist Officers in Charge of prisons in the rehabilitation and welfare of detainees; and
- 5) Prepare detainees for release.

THE PRISONS WELFARE CADRE

DESIGNATION	ESTABLISHED POST
Chief Prisons Welfare Officer	01
Principal Prisons Welfare Officer	02
Senior Prisons Welfare Officer	03
Prisons Welfare Officer	12
TOTAL	18

PART VIII - REHABILITATION AND RESETTLEMENT OF DETAINEE

The rehabilitation and resettlement of detainees is among the basic objectives of our criminal justice system. Effective prison programmes have helped detainees to achieve progress during detention. Adopting corresponding measures as identified hereunder is one of the best and most cost-effective ways of preventing reoffending:

1. Physical and Mental Health Care

- Tuberculosis; Hepatitis and HIV/AIDS
- Mental health care and psychological support
- Treatment for drug use disorders
- Individual / Group Counselling
- Tai Chi Chuan
- Yoga & Meditation
- Tobacco Cessation

2. Programmes to change behavior and attitudes

- Cognitive- behavioural programmes
- Relapse prevention therapy
- Basic life and relationship skills
- Peace Education Programme
- Breathing Techniques / Coping mechanism for long-term detainees

3. Faith-based programmes and activities

- Detainees have received spiritual and moral instructions by Religious Ministers at the RC Chapel; Hindu Temple; Tamil Temple and Mosque on a regular basis at least once weekly. All facilities are provided to detainees for prayer sessions and fasting on specific occasions.
- Pastoral Care / Spiritual Programme
- Bereavement Programme

4. Education

- Numeracy & Literacy / Functional Literacy
- Primary / Secondary Education (Educators seconded for duty from Ministry of Education)
- Distance Learning / Undergraduate Programme
- Arts & Paintings
- Music Course
- Library Facilities

5. Vocational Training and Work

- MITD-approved training programme leading to National Certificate Level 3 (NC3)
- Accredited short course / Attendance Certificate
- Employability in prison
- Payback Mauritius Scheme
- Job placement

6. Pre-Release Interventions

- A comprehensive induction programme for all detainees on admission
- Involvement of Organisations within the Civil Society

7. Contacts with family and the community

- Visit
- Telephone Facilities
- Online Video Conference
- A family outreach centre has been put in place in several institutions to enable Welfare Officers help families overcome difficulties arising.
- Live radio broadcast: Baro Pa AretLavi
- Personal pocket radio

8. Post-Release services and supervision

- Accommodation for homeless detainees
- Follow-Up by NGOs

Induction of Detainees

During the year under review, Prisons Welfare Officers from all prisons have been scheduled on week days to attend detainees (Adult Male) on admission at the New Wing Prison on a roster basis from 1400 hours to 1800 hours.

Total Admission during Financial Year 2024 / 2025:

	Adult Male	Women	Juvenile / CYC (Boys)	Juvenile / CYC (Girls)	Total
Remand	4426	310	10	1	4747
Convicted	5231	230	3	-	5464
Total	9657	540	13	1	10211

Organisations assisting the Mauritius Prisons Service in Rehabilitation and Resettlement of detainees.

Government Organisations

SN	ORGANISATION	DETAILS OF ACTIVITIES
1	Harm Reduction Unit / AIDS Unit Ministry of Health and Wellness	Information Education and Communication Campaign on HIV/AIDS
2	Mauritius Institute of Training and Development (MITD)	Technical support for implementation of Accredited Programmes
3	Food and Agricultural Research & Extension Institute (FAREI)	Technical support in Agriculture
4	Ministry of Environment, Sustainable Development and Disaster and Beach Management	Nursery Project/Payback Mauritius Scheme
5	National Empowerment Foundation (NEF)	“Kids R Kids” (Child Day Care Centre) Women Prison
6	Ministry of Agro-Industry and Food Security	Promoting a culture of plant propagation in the Prison Department to support agricultural activities
7	Albion Fisheries Research Centre Ministry of Blue Economy, Marine Resources, Fisheries and Shipping	Aquaculture project Fish Production and Processing
8	National Social Inclusion Foundation (NSIF)	Collaborative training and social integration of detainees Monitoring & Evaluation of NGOs involved in the follow-up of released detainees

Non-Governmental Organisations

S.N	ORGANISATION	DETAILS OF ACTIVITIES
1	Brahma Kumaris World Spiritual University	Human Values, Positive thinking & Meditation
2	Groupe Elan	Empowerment of detainees / Resettlement Programme
3	Prison Fellowship International	Pastoral Care/Bereavement Programme/ Angel Tree
4	Action Familiale	Family life Education
5	Befrienders Association	Support to detainees having suicidal and self-harm tendencies
6	Association KINOUETE	Pre-Release and Post-Release Programme
7	HOPE	Psycho-social support of Foreigners in Prison
8	Association les Mains Ouvertes Diocese de Port Louis	Pastoral Care and Spiritual Support
9	Peace and Well Being Association	Peace Education Programme
10	CARITAS Ile Maurice	Functional Literacy
11	Not A Number	Brick by Brick Masonry Project Pre-Release and Post-Release Programme

MoU / Agreement

The MPS has entered into MoU/Agreement with different stakeholders in relation with Rehabilitation and Resettlement of detainees as follows:

SN	Organisation	Remarks
1.	NGOs	Authorised to attend detainees
2.	Faith-based Organisations	- Diocese de Port Louis - Mauritius Sanathan Dharma Temples Federation - Tamil Temple Federation - Jummah Mosque
3.	Mauritius Institute of Training and Development (MITD)	Technical assistance for accredited vocational training to detainees
4.	Beach Authority	- Restoration of public beach
5.	Ministry of Blue Economy, Marine Resources, Fisheries and Shipping	- Payback Mauritius Scheme - Aquaculture Project - Fish production / Processing
6.	Social Integration Division - Ministry of Social Integration, Social Security and National Solidarity National Social Inclusion Foundation (NSIF)	- Collaborative training and social integration of detainees - Monitoring & Evaluation of NGOs involved in the follow-up of released detainees
7.	MCB Forward Foundation (MCBFF)	- Compost Project (EHSP) - Rehabilitation and Resettlement of detainees

Accredited Vocational Training

SN	Course	No. of Detainees	Duration	Award
1.	Pastry	05	One Year	National Certificate Level 3 (NC3)
2.	Welding	08	One Year	National Certificate Level 3 (NC3)
3.	Garment Making	04	One Year	National Certificate Level 3 (NC3)

Residential Drug Rehabilitation Centre at Eastern High Security Prison, Melrose

The Residential Drug Rehabilitation Centre (Lotus) has been set up at the Eastern High Security Prison since 07 August 2017 and caters for convicted detainees. It started as a semi-residential centre and it became fully residential on 28 August 2017.

The aim of this project is to help substance abusers released from Prison to live a drug-free life in the community:

- (a) to ensure that drug users have the opportunity of leaving prison in a better physical state in a less chaotic lifestyle than when they entered.
 - (b) for them to establish good working relationships and clear lines of communication between prisons and external service agencies.
- In the year 2023, **31** detainees following the Substance Abuse Rehabilitation Programme (Residential).
- Number of detainees who have benefitted from the Substance Abuse Rehabilitation Programme is as follows:

Year	Total
2017	50
2018	75
2019	75
2020	62
2021	79
2022	38
2023	31

Lotus Centre at Central Prison, Beau Bassin

- The Lotus Centre at Central Prison, Beau Bassin caters for remand detainees only. The number of detainees who benefitted from sensitization programme is as follows:

Year	Follow Up	New Cases	Total
2015	45	33	78
2016	49	54	103
2017	31	46	77
2018	79	66	145
2019	77	34	111
2020	30	140	170
2021	19	150	169
2022 (as at 31 May 2022)	53	212	265
2023	510	1217	1727

- A Tobacco Cessation and Prevention Unit has been put in place to address nicotine addiction.
- Psychosocial Support for Methadone Induction Programme: 40 detainees.
- Prevention and sensitisation for remand detainees on addiction, HIV/AIDS, Hepatitis C, Tuberculosis and Covid-19.
- Peer Support Training Programme for 16 detainees

REHABILITATION PROGRAMMES: EDUCATIONAL & VOCATIONAL PROGRAMMES

Emphasis is being placed on the rehabilitation of detainees with a view to enhancing the detainees' skills so that they can find employment on their return to the society, as well as reducing dependency of drug offenders.

During the year 2023, some **369** detainees have followed educational and vocational programmes:

- **Educational Programmes for Detainees**

188 detainees followed educational programmes consisting of Literacy and Numeracy, Functional Literacy, Music Course, Arts & Paintings and others.

- **Vocational Training for Detainees**

28 detainees followed accredited and Mauritius Qualifications Authority Approved vocational training in Pastry, Garment Making, Wood work, Gas Welding and Metal Fabrication. Only detainees who have academic qualification up to Form III are allowed to follow MITD approved courses.

The Ministry of Agro-Industry and Food Security is constantly extending its technical support and this has been instrumental in the setting up of an Aquaponic plant. This new field of vegetable production is focusing on the empowerment of women detainees.

Two additional sheltered farms have been put in place and the quality and quantity of farm produce has been registered. This trend is giving more thrust to this type of farming.

Convicted detainees followed training in the vocational trades such as:

- Welding and Metal Fabrication
- Poultry farming/Egg Production
- Agriculture: Vegetable production, Nursery
- Garment Making, tailoring and embroidery
- Masonry and Concrete Works
- Shoemaking
- Handicraft, Basketry and Fibre Craft
- Bakery
- Automotive body repairs and painting/ Automotive mechanics

- Other programmes include:
 - Life skills programme
 - My Business Program with collaboration of SME Mauritius
 - Food Handling Certificate with collaboration of Ministry of Health & Wellness
 - Yoga, Meditation and Breathing Techniques
 - Indoor and outdoor activities
 - End of Year Annual Musical Concert
 - Celebration of International Days

Other Activities

EHSP

- A Compost Plant for organic waste was operational at EHSP with the collaboration of MCB Forward Foundation since 27 September 2023.
- Assemblage Des Meubles – Courts Mammouth. Detainees of EHSP have continuously been involved in this project which initially started in 2018 and they are receiving a stipend as appropriate. The agreement is being renewed every two years.

Women Prison

- ‘From Trash to Treasure’ project is another innovative initiative undertaken at the Women Prison. In fact, Rug Mats are being made out of waste material provided by a textile factory. This has aroused interest among the detainees thereat and the possibility of outsourcing is being envisaged for detainees upon release. 15 women detainees were involved in this programme.
- Floral Arrangement
9 women detainees and 2 Prison Staff followed the programme for duration of 40 hours. The programme was held with the technical collaboration of MITD.
- Up cycling of old garment
10 women detainees and 2 Prison Staff followed the programme for duration of 40 hours. The programme was held with the technical collaboration of MITD.

Workshops Overview

The Mauritius Prisons Service (MPS) has demonstrated impressive self-sufficiency and sustainable development initiatives producing bread, chicken, eggs, and a significant portion of vegetables, while expanding food production through aquaculture, hydroponics, and agricultural projects to enhance food security.

Its workshops provide vocational training for detainees, fostering skill development and productive reintegration into society. The MPS also operates a Pastry Section serving various institutions and occasions, alongside a fish processing plant with a goal to produce fish, supporting food security and sustainable practices. These efforts align with the MPS's mission to promote productivity, cost-effectiveness, and rehabilitation.

Industries Section

Vegetable Garden

S/N	Vegetables	Quantity in Kg	S/N	Vegetables	Quantity in Kg
01	Aubergine	2736.6	17	Papaya	25 units
02	Species	1456.1	18	Pepper	03
03	Breadfruit	1036	19	Bitter gourd	6.7
04	Tomatoes	4824.4	20	Rave	3977.3
05	Cucumber	3259	21	Beet root	1473.2
06	Lettuce	759	22	Carrot	3027.5
07	Tarrow Leaf	1455	23	Potatoes	20633.5
08	Calbasse	4476.3	24	Banana	2800.6
09	Fruicitaire	302	25	Bean	115
10	Mango	528	26	Onion	513
11	Cabbage	53220	27	Anguive	590
12	Brede	6601	28	Jack fruit	2406.2
13	Beans	60	29	Voem	921.5
14	Radish	16.9	30	Gourgette	102
15	Egg plant	2215.4	31	Pumpkin	191
16	Chilli	2302	32	Compost	2530.6

Tailor Shop

S/N	Particular	Units
01	Orange Trouser	1272 pairs
02	Orange Shirt	541Pairs
03	Bed sheet	3171 units
04	Stitching of shirt	591 units
05	Green Trousers	57 units
06	Ceremonial No 02 dress	01 set
07	Overall	52
08	Apron	195
09	Pillow case	561
10	Remand Garbs	636
11	Tunic	09
12	Towel	773
13	Nightdresses	160
14	Prayer dress for Muslim	45
15	Knickers	211
16	Blanket	13
17	Maternity dress	04
18	Cosmetic bag	12
19	Mattress cover	02

Locksmith

S/N	Particular	Manufacture	Modification	Repair	Fixing of Lock
01	Keys	17	30	58	
02	Lock	26	24	65	16
03	Padlock			16	
04	Tags			55	

Bakery

S/N	Particular	Units
01	Loaves	2956150

Basket Shop

S/N	Particular	Units
01	Synthetic Box	13
02	Basket	228
03	Rattan Laundry	17
04	Rattan Bowl	13
05	Rice Straining Basket	10
06	Big Bread Rattan Basket	22
07	HOLDERS	48
08	Hanging Decorative	11
09	Multi purpose	05
10	Bread Basket with cover	02
11	Big Plates	02
12	Natage of Synthetic sofa	02
13	Flower Basket	06
14	Maquette with Rattan	01
15	Tray	08
16	Rattan table matt	11
17	Cavadee structure	01
18	Sofa set	03

Aluminum Workshop

S/N	Particular	Units
01	Swing Door	05
02	Double Swing Door	02
03	Partition Oversize	02
04	Sliding	03
05	Top hung	04
06	Notice Board	01
07	Reparation	03
08	Shelves	03
09	Servery EHSP	09
10	Cupboard	03
11	Windows	03
12	Door Closer Fixation	03

Mechanical Workshop

S/N	Cost of Spare Parts (Rs)	Cost of enhance Payment (Rs)	Net cost of Repair Rs)	Outdoor Repair (Rs)	Net Profit (Rs)	Detainees Involved
01	611470.17	12100	623570.17	1287334	663763.83	50

Pastry

S/N	Mini cakes	Prison Cake	Officer order	Birthday Cake	Event in Prison
01	82231	428	843	97	19553

S/N	Night Officers	Children Cakes	Recruit Cakes	Detainees Cake	PTS
01	53082	457	4635	9462	712

Laundry

S/N	Particular	Units
01	Bed sheets	7938
02	Orange Shirts	3240
03	Orange Pants	1050
04	Blankets	101
05	T shirt Remand	34
06	Pillow case	1220

Carpenter Workshop

S/N	Particular	Units
01	Reparation of wooden table	37
02	Manufactured and fixed curtain holder	32
03	Manufacture mirror frames	06
04	Manufacture gift of Map of Mauritius	12
05	Manufacture palette flower boxes	38
06	Manufacture of palette stool bar	40
07	Manufacture of palette tables	25
08	Manufacture of wooden coat hanger	08
09	Manufacture of coffee table	02
10	Manufacture foldable table	19
11	Renovation of container at women prison	01
12	Manufacture of office table	07
13	Manufacture of wooden chair	08
14	Manufacture photo frames	05
15	Manufacture foot rest	04
16	Manufacture spatula for kitchen	16
17	Reparation	12
18	Manufacture of Jewel box	07
19	Manufacture of Holder	16
20	Manufacture of wooden portrait	03

Shoes Maker Workshop

S/N	Particular	Unit
01	Mounting of Light shoes	576
02	Mounting of Boots	52

Poultry Farm/ Slaughter House

S/N	Particular	Unit/ Kg
01	Eggs Produced	500398 Unit
02	Duck Sold to officers	75 Unit
03	Broilers	9068 Unit
04	Life Birds	24172.4 kg
05	Clean Birds	15396.3 Kg
06	Liver and Gezier	683.2 Kg
07	Chicken Legs	829.3 Kg

Tin Smith

Particular	Roll
Fencing rolls	13 (50"x 6")

Fish Processing Plant

S/N	Particular	Kgs
01	Harvest	1696.7
02	Process	1345.6

Garment Making Workshop

S/N	Particular	Units / Pairs
01	Pillow Case	23 Pairs
02	Set of napkin	12 Pairs
03	Children dress	20 units
04	Pencil case	07 units
05	Apron	34 units
06	Patchwork	25 units

Rug Matt Production

S/N	Particular	Units
01	Door mat	43
02	Handbag	61

Metal Workshop

S/N	Particular	Qty
01	Fixation of Bed	157
02	Manufacturer of Metal Chairs	04
03	Fabrication of Support	48
04	Reparation	38
05	Fixation of Razor Blade	03
06	Fixation	223
07	Manufacturer of Waste Tray for Poultry	51
08	Manufacturer of Metal Box	04
09	Manufacturer of Strong Door	02

PART IX- PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY SECTION

The Procurement and Supply Unit is a mission-critical pillar for the Mauritius Prisons Service (MPS) and is vital to the efficient, lawful and secure operation of all correctional institutions under the MPS. It comprises of a **Procurement Unit** (responsible for all aspects of procurement and tendering process for goods, works and other services) and **Warehouse Unit** (responsible for the supply of goods) – which is further subdivided into different sub-stores across the different penal institutions.

A. Core Importance and Operational Impact

Every aspect of prison management depends on reliable supplies. Procurement and Supply ensures that prisons have uninterrupted access to essential goods and services — food, uniforms, bedding, medical items, cleaning materials, vehicles, and security equipment. These directly sustain inmate welfare, staff safety, and institutional order.

Disruption to supply lines (delays, poor quality, single-source dependencies) directly affects inmate welfare, staff safety and routine operations.

Procurement failures can lead to food shortages, hygiene issues, safety lapses, and human rights complaints. A resilient supply chain is therefore central to prison security and health standards.

B. Legal & Governance Context

All procurement activities fall under the Public Procurement Act 2006 and related regulations overseen by the Procurement Policy Office and supply activities fall under the Financial Management Kit and related Financial Instructions issued by the Ministry of Finance. Compliance safeguards the MPS against audit risk, financial loss, and reputational damage.

C. Financial Stewardship

With substantial recurring budgets, the Procurement Unit must deliver value for money through competitive bidding, contract monitoring, and transparent records. Effective procurement reduces emergency spending and wastage.

D. Security, Safety, Specialised procurement & Technical Expertise

Prisons require specialised items (secure transport vehicles, restraint equipment, search/sniffer dogs, secure doors and surveillance systems). Procurement decisions here are about more than cost — they affect security protocols, staff safety and prisoners' rights.

Invitation for bids published for items such as patrol/sniffer dogs, surveillance systems, baggage and body scanner, security and anti-riot equipment among others illustrate the specialised procurement profile of the MPS. The Procurement team must liaise with experts in-house and outside to apply technical evaluation and ensure specifications meet operational and safety standards.

E. Health, human rights and standards of care

Prisons are custodial health environments (medical care, food hygiene, infection control). Global and local reports highlight the challenge of delivering essential healthcare and maintaining standards in custodial settings; procurement of medicines, medical consumables and nutritious food directly influences compliance with health and human rights obligations. Poor procurement choices can create outbreaks, human rights complaints and litigation.

F. Ethics & Transparency

Because prisons handle significant recurring purchases and security-sensitive contracts, they can be a target for corruption or weak procurement practices.

Robust controls (segregation of duties, use of e-procurement, timely publication of contract awards; training of staff in ethics and record-keeping) protect the organisation from corruption risks and reinforce public confidence in government spending.

G. Sustainability & Social Value

Procurement can promote sustainability (energy efficiency, waste reduction) and social objectives (local sourcing, rehabilitation programmes such as the different workshops (metal, carpentry, aluminium, shoe-making, electrical, mechanical, plumbing), gardening including hydroponic and aquaponic, fish farming and the likes using inmate labour or vocational training) — thereby aligning prison operations with national sustainability goals.

PART X- FINANCE

BUDGETED EXPENDITURE	Rs
Recurrent	1,025,000,000
Capital	60,000,000
CFA-Recurrent Expenditure	
Allowances	31,000,000.00
Provision & Stores	18,600,000.00
Total Expenditure	1,134,600,000.00

Summary Statement of Expenditure by Economic Categories

Financial Year July 2024-June 2025

Details of Expenditure	Rs
Compensation of Employees	850,629,261.00
Goods & Services	230,554,293.00
Other expense	71,494.00
Acquisition of Non-Financial assets	35,473,979.00
Total Expenditure	1,116,729,027.00

Statement of Revenue Financial Year 2024-2025

Economic Classification	Description	ITEM	Total as at Jun 2025 (Rs)
14220280	Prison Services	Miscellaneous	16,266.00
14220280	Prison Services	Basketry	36,975.00
14220280	Prison Services	Bread	20,941.80
14220280	Prison Services	Pastry	983,917.00
14220280	Prison Services	Furniture	219,118.00
14220280	Prison Services	Use of Prison Transport	243.00
		TOTAL PRISON SERVICES	1,277,460.80
14230080	Sale of Farm Produce	Miscellaneous	77,000.00
14230080	Sale of Farm Produce	Potatoes	27,500.00
14230080	Sale of Farm Produce	Compost/Manure	20,020.00
14230080	Sale of Farm Produce	Poultry	99,950.00
14230080	Sale of Farm Produce	Eggs	1,602,460.00
14230080	Sale of Farm Produce	Ducks	18,771.00
		TOTAL FARM PRODUCE	1,845,701.00
14299016	Rental of Govt Property	Rent of Quarters	19,600.00
14220001	Court Fees	Cost	357,400.00
14310001	Judiciary	Fine	6,305,295.20

PART XI- THE WAY FORWARD

Strategic Direction

The Strategic Planning and Research Unit (SPRU), housed at Orchids House and led by a Deputy Commissioner of Prison, marked its operational inception in 2013. Its creation was the first pillar of the Mauritius Prisons Service's ten-year Strategic Plan 2013-2023. This foundational Plan, developed under the guidance of a UNODC Consultant, successfully achieved its mandate by establishing key operational and legislative frameworks, including:

- The institutionalization of the SPRU itself for evidence-based policy formulation and legislative reform.
- Implementation of the Integrated Detainee Management system.
- Development of new high-security infrastructure to address systemic overcrowding and introduce modern rehabilitation methods.
- The enhancement of Rehabilitation and Resettlement programmes, alongside comprehensive Capacity Building and Improved Security strategies.

Following the successful implementation of the 2013-2023 Plan, the Mauritius Prisons Service transitioned into a decisive new era of reform. The Commissioner of Prisons assigned a dedicated team of qualified officers to formulate the 5-Year Strategic Plan 2024-2028, which guides the Service toward its vision of "A safer Mauritius through best correctional practice."

The 2024-2028 Plan is structured around six overarching strategic goals:

- Security in Prisons;
- Rehabilitation and Resettlement;
- Capacity Building;
- Health and Wellness;
- Infrastructure and Sustainability; and
- Digitalization.

For the 2024-2025 reporting cycle, the SPRU's function is fundamental to the execution and monitoring of this new mandate. The officers posted at the Unit are expected to undertake a detailed, tripartite role:

1. **Conduct Robust Research and Analysis:** This involves analyzing quantitative and qualitative data to identify emerging trends in prison management and related social sciences. Specifically, this work provides intelligence crucial for realizing Strategic Goal 1 (Security in Prisons) by informing the re-engineering of collaboration with police and external agencies and supporting Strategic Goal 2 (Rehabilitation and Resettlement) by measuring the impact of new Criminogenic Needs Programs and Case Management initiatives.
2. **Provide Accurate Advisory Support:** The Unit serves as the primary advisory body to the Senior Management Team. This support is vital for driving complex decision-making related to infrastructure planning, ensuring that new constructions comply with human rights norms (Strategic Goal 5), and for formulating progressive policy proposals, particularly those related to the implementation of the new e-Health System (Strategic Goal 4) and overall prison services.
3. **Drive Internal Reform (SPRU Revamping):** As an objective specifically stipulated under Strategic Goal 3 (Capacity Building), the SPRU is leading its own internal reform to ensure the Unit is optimally structured, equipped, and trained. This revamping process guarantees the SPRU remains agile and capable of fulfilling its forward-looking role in a rapidly evolving correctional landscape, particularly as the Service moves towards full **Digitalization** (Strategic Goal 6).

The Strategic Planning and Research Unit remains a pivotal component of the Mauritius Prisons Service's commitment to continuous improvement. By providing essential, evidence-based intelligence and driving its own structural modernization, the SPRU is directly contributing to the effective implementation of the ambitious 2024-2028 Strategic Plan. The Unit ensures that all major policies, infrastructure investments, and reform programmes are grounded in sound data and best international correctional practice, thereby securing the long-term vision of a safer Mauritius.

Abbreviations

♦	ADSU	-	Anti Drug and Smuggling Unit
♦	BBP	-	Beau Bassin Prison
♦	CJS	-	Criminal Justice System
♦	CYC	-	Correctional Youth Centre
♦	DCP	-	Deputy Commissioner of Prisons
♦	EHSP	-	Eastern High Security Prison
♦	GRNWRP	-	Grand River North West Remand Prison
♦	ICAC	-	Independent Commission against Corruption
♦	JNH	-	Jawaharlal Nehru Hospital
♦	MITD	-	Mauritius Institute of Training and Development
♦	MOHQL	-	Ministry of Health & Quality of Life
♦	MOU	-	Memorandum of Understanding
♦	MPF	-	Mauritius Police Force
♦	MPS	-	Mauritius Prisons Service
♦	NMR	-	Nelson Mandela Rules
♦	NWP	-	New Wing Prison
♦	NGO	-	Non-Governmental Organization
♦	NICSI	-	National Informatics Centre Service Inc.
♦	OPCAT	-	Optional Protocol to the Convention against Torture
♦	OPW	-	Open Prison for Women
♦	PSS	-	Prison Security Squad
♦	PTS	-	Prison Training School
♦	PVP	-	Petit Verger Prison
♦	PWO	-	Prison Welfare Officer
♦	RIA	-	Reforms Institution Act
♦	ROP	-	Richelieu Open Prison
♦	RYC	-	Rehabilitation Youth Centre
♦	UNCHR	-	United Nations Convention on Human Rights
♦	UNODC	-	United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime

Glossary Terms

Absolute discharge is complete and unconditional release.

Admission rate is defined as the number of people admitted to prison in a given year per 100,000 mid-year population.

Assault is defined as physical attack against the body of another person.

Acquitted means dismissed.

Burglary is defined as unlawful entry into someone else's premises with the intention to commit a theft.

Conditional discharge is a sentence whereby an offender is released under certain conditions, e.g., regular reporting to police stations for a specified period of time.

Contraventions (least serious offences) are defined as offences that are punishable by:

- imprisonment for a term not exceeding 10 days;
- fine not exceeding 5,000 rupees.

Crimes (most serious offences) are defined as offences that are punishable by:

- penal servitude;
- fine exceeding 5,000 rupees.

Criminal case means dealing with an offender indicted for an offence.

Detainee is referred to as any person confined to prison and is classified as follows:

- Convict: person sentenced to imprisonment.
- Person on remand and trial: person charged for an offence with a court of law and awaiting judgment.

Drug offences are spelt out under the Dangerous Drug Act 2000. They relate mainly to drugs like cannabis, heroin, hashish, opium, cocaine and other psychotropic substances.

Embezzlement is defined as the wrongful appropriation of another person's property that is already in the possession of the person doing the appropriating.

Fine defaulters are convicts sentenced to imprisonment for non-payment of fines; they either stay in prison for a specified period or are released as soon as they pay the fines.

Fraud is defined as the acquisition of another person's property by deception.

Intentional homicide is defined as death deliberately inflicted on a person by another person, including infanticide and abortion.

Juvenile is defined as a person aged below 18 years.

Misdemeanors(less serious offences) are defined as offences that are punishable by: Imprisonment for a term exceeding 10 days; Fine exceeding 5,000 rupees.

Property offence includes theft, fraud, embezzlement, damage to property, and illegal possession of property and stolen goods.

Prison occupancy level is defined as the prison population divided by the prison capacity (number of beds).

Robbery is defined as the theft of property from a person, overcoming resistance by force or threat of force.

Sexual offence is defined as sexual intercourse or assault without valid consent. It includes sexual act, attempt to obtain a sexual act and dealing in obscene matters.

Theft is defined as the removal of property without the property owner's consent.

Victim is referred to as a person who has been affected by an offence committed by another person