Society & Social Justice · GS - II

Discuss the importance of gender-sensitive prison reforms in protecting the dignity, equality and human rights of transgender prisoners in India.

EXAM YEAR	PAPER	SUBJECT
DAILY PRACTICE 05/11/2026	GS - II	Society & Social Justice

MARKS	WORD LIMIT
10	~150 words

Answer Hint

Constitutional equality, human dignity, transgender rights, prison discrimination, custodial safety, healthcare access, privacy, NHRC, inclusive prison administration, legal safeguards

Model Answer

Introduction

Transgender prisoners are particularly vulnerable to discrimination, harassment and inadequate access to healthcare within correctional institutions. Gender-sensitive prison reforms are essential to protect their dignity and fundamental rights.

Importance of Gender-Sensitive Reforms

Equality and Dignity: Article 14 guarantees equality before the law, while Article 21 protects life and personal liberty, including human dignity.

Protection from Discrimination: Separate, safe and appropriate accommodation can reduce harassment and custodial violence.

Healthcare Access: Specialised medical and mental healthcare services should be accessible without discrimination.

Identity and Privacy: Respecting gender identity, preferred clothing and personal dignity promotes humane treatment.

Institutional Accountability: NHRC monitoring and effective grievance-redressal mechanisms can strengthen prison oversight.

Way Forward

Prisons should adopt inclusive policies, sensitise staff, ensure confidential complaint mechanisms and provide appropriate healthcare in consultation with transgender prisoners.

Conclusion

Prisoners do not lose their fundamental human dignity upon incarceration. Inclusive prison administration is essential to uphold constitutional morality and human rights.

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