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## ***November 19, 2019***

### ***Topic: Prison Reforms***

#### ***News: -***

- Petrol pumps initiative in Punjab jails lies in a state of ignorance.
- The government of Punjab had signed a Memorandum of Understanding with Indian Oil corporation to start petrol pumps on jail premises.
- The initiative is based on Telangana Jail model.
- Here, the convicts are successfully running the petrol pumps.

#### ***The Purpose of the scheme:-***

- To generate revenue for the state.
- To undertake reforms for the prisoners, so that their reintegration into the mainstream society could be smoothed.
- In Punjab, the project was supposed to take off from Patiala jail but it hasn't started yet.

## ***The issues:-***

- Jails department vs Finance department- the jails department asserts that the revenue earned out of this project should stay with the jails department only.
- Whereas the Finance department is seeking to include such potential revenue in the overall state budget.
- So, the political bickering between two departments of the government is responsible for the delay of the project.
- Indian jails are overcrowded with undertrials.
- Also, the management and conditions of the Indian jails are not satisfactory.

***So, bringing in overall prison reforms would be a great step for the entire country.***

Source:- The Tribune news)

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