Private E-Sevai Center
CSC Center
STAR RAINBOW SERVICES
VADAPALANI
8144337349

HELLO MADRAS
hellomadrasdaily@gmail.com
HELLO MIRROR MADRAS
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Why a Supreme Court order may let Maharashtra's women prisoners live with their children



CHENNAI – 16 Nov, 2026 Maharashtra is planning its first open prison colony exclusively for women, where eligible inmates will be able to live with their children and families, take up jobs and gradually prepare for life outside prison. A committee appointed following a Supreme Court order has identified two possible sites — in Nashik and Chhatrapati Sambhajinagar — for setting up the facilities.

The committee is looking at making the facilities operational next year by identifying eligible prisoners and employment opportunities for them.

The committee is headed by Bombay High Court judge, Justice Bharati Dangre, with Additional Chief Secretary, Home (Appeals and Security), Radhika Rastogi, as a member and Additional Director General of Prisons and Correctional Services Suhas Warke as member secretary.

It was constituted in June following a February order of the Supreme Court, directing states to establish new open and semi-open correctional facilities, fill vacancies in existing ones and oversee their functioning, including the transfer of eligible prisoners.

"Based on the current criteria for choosing prisoners for open correctional institutions, establishing such colonies for women can be the first step.