



COMMITTEE
FOR THE
WELFARE OF
PRISONERS



Remissions and Early Discharge



01

What is a Remission?

The purpose of a remission is to provide incentives to assist the reformation and rehabilitation of prisoners. The scheme of remissions is intended to ensure prison discipline and good conduct on the part of the prisoners, with the prospect of their early release from prison as an incentive.

The remission system is an arrangement by which a prisoner who is sentenced to imprisonment, (whether by one sentence or by consecutive sentences) for a period of four months or more may by way of good conduct become eligible for release when a portion of his or her sentence which ordinarily does not exceed one-third of the whole sentence has yet to run.



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How can I get Remission?



Ordinary remission may be awarded to a prisoner on the following scale:-

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Four days per month for thorough good conduct and scrupulous attention to all prison regulations; and

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Four days per month for industry and the due performance of the prescribed daily task.

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03 TABLE

Prisoners classification as per labor allotment	Extent of award of ordinary remission per month
Cook	8 days
Teacher or Instructor or Trainer	10 days
Sweeper	8 days
Office Helper, Gardener, Electrician, Plumber, Carpenter, Mason, Barber, Hospital Attendant, Cleaner and prisoners who work on Sundays and holiday.	7 days
Any other task prescribed under Regulations	As prescribed under Regulations

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What is the procedure of awarding remissions?

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An officer awarding ordinary remission shall, before making the award, consult the prisoner's history ticket in which every punishment awarded must be carefully recorded.

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If a prisoner has not been punished during the quarter, otherwise than by a formal warning, he shall be awarded full ordinary remission for that quarter under these rules.

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If a prisoner has been punished during the quarter otherwise than by a formal warning, two days remission shall be deducted from the month in which he has been punished and the balances of remission to which he is entitled shall be awarded; provided that not more than two days shall be deducted for one month even if the number of punishment is more than one in that month.



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What is the good conduct remission?

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Any prisoner eligible for ordinary remission under these rules who for a period of one year commencing from the first day of the month following the date of his sentence or recommittal to prison or the date on which he was last punished for a prison breach of discipline or offence, has not committed any prison breach of discipline or offence whatever, shall be awarded fifteen days ordinary remission in addition to any other remission earned under these rules.

[What given in act.--The deduction of two days remission under this sub-rule shall be in addition to any forfeiture of remission which may have been ordered for any breach of discipline or offence committed by the prisoner.]

2

A prisoner who completes three years of his sentence without having committed a prison breach of discipline or offence during the whole of his period of incarceration whatsoever shall, in addition to the annual remission of fifteen days under sub-rule (1), be granted, at the end of the third year of his sentence, a further remission of thirty days for good conduct; provided that the total remission earned shall not in any case exceed the maximum remission permissible under these rules.

3

Prison breach of discipline or offence punished only with a warning shall not be taken into account for the award of remission under this rule.

Are there any special remissions?

Special remission may be given to any prisoner, whether entitled to ordinary remission or not, for special services such as -

- a** marked diligence in teaching other prisoners to read and write;
- b** special proficiency in learning to read and write or passing an examination;
- c** marked success in teaching handicraft;
- d** special excellence in work or greatly increased outcome of work of good quality;
- e** protecting or saving life of any officer or a prisoner or a visitor;
- f** special assistance to an officer of the prison in case of an out-break of fire or similar emergency;
- g** special economy in the use of clothes ;
- h** assisting in detecting or preventing breaches of prison discipline;
- i** regular prayers and observance of fasts during Ramadan;
- j** preventing or assisting in prevention of escape of prisoners, apprehending prisoners attempting to escape, or giving material information about any plan or attempt by a prisoner, or a group of prisoners, to escape;
- k** assisting any officer in handling emergencies like fire, outbreak of riots and strike;
- l** reporting of, or assisting in, prevention of serious breach of prison;
- m** outstanding contribution in cultural activities or education;
- n** engagement in legal empowerment or para legal program provided by Government or civil society organizations.

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Extent of total remission

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The total remission both ordinary and special awarded to a prisoner under these rules other than remission for donating blood awarded under rule 785, and surgical sterilization under rule 786 and for passing an examination under rule 787, shall not exceed one-third of his sentence; provided that Government may grant remission beyond the one-third limit.

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Remission, both ordinary and special, earned by a life shall be so much that a sentence of imprisonment for life is not shortened to a period of imprisonment less than fifteen years.

What is Education Remission?

A sentenced prisoner who has not already passed an examination specified in the table below may appear in any one of the said examinations in an academic year and shall on passing such examination be entitled to earn remission according to the scale given below provided that he is certified by the Officer In-charge to be of good character.

Name of Examination

- a** Any examination held by a University, Any Board of Intermediate or Secondary Education or Technical Education, Director of Education or a district Education Officer or training imparted by any registered NGO.
- b** Language examination in English, Arabic, Urdu, Sindhi, Punjabi, Balochi, Pushto or any other language.
- c** Primary classes' examination conducted by the District Education Officer.
- d** Examination of reading the Holy Quran held for prisoners who learn during confinement.
- e** Examination of reading the Geeta in the case of the Hindu Prisoners and the Bible in the case of the Christian Prisoners who learn their respective religious books during confinement.
- f** Examination of understanding the meaning of the Holy Quran or acquiring proficiency in understanding Fundamentals of Islam.
- g** Examination of having learnt the Holy Quran by heart (Hafiz-e-Quran) held for sentenced prisoners who learnt Quran by heart during confinement.



Can I get remission by donating blood?

- 1** A sentenced prisoner subject to his medical fitness shall be allowed to donate blood and for such donation, he shall be awarded thirty days extra remission.
- 2** The number of times a prisoner shall be allowed to donate blood and earn remission therefor shall be in accordance with the table below:

Period of Imprisonment	Nature of Imprisonment	Interval Permissible between each donation	Name of Examination
1 month up to 6 month	Simple or rigorous or in lieu of fine	Once only
Exceeding 6 months up to 5 years	Simple or Rigorous or in lieu of fine	4 months	Four times
Exceeding 5 years and above	Rigorous	4 months	Six times



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What is early discharge and how can a prisoner get benefit from it?

Subject to the provisions of this Act and Rules, the Officer In-charge shall cause to release a Sentenced Prisoner prematurely under certain conditions where the Competent Authority, the prisoners of the following categories shall be entitled for an early discharge:-

- a** Any prisoner found incapacitated;
- b** Prisoner suffering from incurable diseases;
- c** Female where she has attained the age of sixty years;
- d** Male if he has attained the age of sixty five years;
- e** The persons found to be infirm;
- f** The prisoners' complete half portion of their sentence (including remission, if any) with demonstrated capability of reforms.
- g** Children and women who are not dangerous for the peace of society and not involved in heinous crime or act of terrorism.



2

It shall be the duty of the Deputy Superintendent or Medical Officer, as the case may be, to maintain the class of prisoners required to be early discharge under sub-rule (1). The list of such prisoners shall be provided to the Officer In-charge who shall submit the same to the Inspector General through Deputy Inspector General concerned for placing the same before the Prison Management Board for consideration and approval of the cases for early discharge.

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For the categories under clauses (i), (ii) and (v) of sub-rule (1), the prisoners shall be referred to the Medical Board for ascertaining the medical conditions and for recommendation of their early discharge.

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For the categories of (iii) and (iv) of sub-rule (1), the determination of the age shall be in the following manner:-

- (a) CNIC and educational certificates; or
- (b) If there is no such document is available, the Medical Board;
- (c) In case of transgender, the gender as mentioned in CNIC.



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