

Prisons should be reforming institutions - Minister

by Maharagama special Correspondent

Prisons should not be save dens. Prisons should be character reforming and building institutions said Minister C.B. Ratnayake.

He made these observations participating in the International Women's Day ceremony recently held at the women's division of Welikada prison.

Ms. Shiranthi Rajapakse was the chief guest.

Speaking further Minister Ratnayake said.

Our prisons and prison laws and regulations are all outdated the prisons were started in 1844 in the colonial regime. Still the administration of prisons is done according to outdated colonial laws.

I heard that the administration of this prison is greatly changed under the present commissioner general Romy Marshook.

I heard 80% of the women prisoners are convicted for drug business.

The big racketeers who import drugs are safe. Innocent women who sell drugs to feed their children are punished.

We highly praise the administration for giving woman prisoners some training to build up the lives once they are freed.

The commission of prisons Ms M.P. Sarathchandra, The Chief Welfare officer of the prisoner W.A.J. Laxaman and a woman prisoner



The chief guest of the International Women's Day celebration of the Women's Division of Welikada prison Mrs. Shiranthi Rajapaksa presents a certificate to a woman prisoner who had successfully completed a course in handicrafts. The chief Jailer Mrs. Kumari Ratnaweera was present.

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Mrs. Seetha Kumarihamy also spoke. A wheelchair presented by 'Sanya' organisation was presented to a disabled woman prisoner by the chief guest Shiranthi Rajapakse.

The handicraft exhibition of the women prisoners was declared open by the chief guest.

The women prisoners who had completed the handicrafts training were presented with certificates.