

2. *Human Rights Charter for Pre-trial Detainees* - The lack of a written Charter for the process of dealing with the human rights of pre-trial detainees by the agencies involved in the process.
3. *Overcrowding* - The actions taken to deal with overcrowding in the facility include:
 - mats are used when there are no beds available;
 - 300 beds were purchased with 290 beds installed;
 - the installation of a laundry with 2 washers and 4 dryers;
 - 23 stainless steel toilets; and
 - transfer of persons from the Remand Yard to the Maximum Security Prison at Golden Grove to maintain the population of 1,000 persons on remand.
4. *Other Mechanisms to Reduce Overcrowding* – Construction of a Remand Facility at an approved site, upgrading the bail system and utilizing an electronic monitoring system which requires a device to be fastened to the released accused pending his/her trial. It is expected that the latter will be implemented by the end of fiscal 2016/2017.
5. *Pails* – A proposal was submitted to Cabinet to reduce the use of pails at the Remand Prison. It suggests placing a toilet facility after every three (3) cells in the facility.
6. *Renewal of Documents* - There is an established process for pre-trial detainees requiring the renewal of the national documents such as identification cards.
7. *Visitation Rights* – It was stated that the visitation rights of the pre-trial detainees are two (2) visits per week for fifteen (15) minute durations. All persons, including children of the detainees are screened by welfare workers before being allowed to visit.
8. *New Remand Centre* – There is a proposal for a new remand facility. The land for the project has already been identified and UDeCOTT is engaged to finalise the contract.
9. *Programmes available* - The programmes that are available to the pre-trial detainees include:
 - Counselling by Social Welfare Officers;
 - Sports (i.e. basketball, cricket, table tennis, football);
 - Life Skills;
 - Educational, e.g. CSEC and ALTA;
 - Vocational Training through YTEPP; and
 - Religious instruction and counselling (Raja Yoga, Jehovah Witness, Seventh Day Adventist, Shouter Baptist, etc.).
10. *Mentoring for First-time Pre-trial Detainees* - There is mentoring of first-time pre-trial detainees by other detainees who have been on remand for a significant amount of time and who have been screened as suitable.

11. *Complaints System* - The complaints system includes visits by the detainee's Attorney-at-law, reports to the Supervising Officer and the submission of sealed confidential letters to the Ombudsman.
12. *Access to Medication/Special Diets* – The TTPrS supplies medication and appropriate diets to all pre-trial detainees who may be ill or suffer from a chronic disease.
13. *Public Awareness* – Detainees do not have access to television but newspapers are made available. This is to ensure that they do not feel 'cut off' from the outside world and are aware of current events.
14. *Effect of Extended Remand Periods* - The effect of an extended remand period on a pre-trial detainee is the same as a convicted prisoner serving a long sentence, that is, anxiety, depression and anger.
15. *Pre-trial Release Programme* - The need for a pre-trial pre-release programme for the detainees to re-civilize them to become functional, independent members of society and to respect and adhere to the rules of society.
16. *Cell Phones* - Access to cell phones while in Remand Yard is strictly prohibited. The system was installed to jam cellphone signals and pre-trial detainees are now allowed to make calls through a landline. Credit for the latter is paid by the family of the detainee.
17. *Prison Officer/Detainee Ratio* - The ratio of Prison Officers to pre-trial detainees at the facility currently exceeds the recommended 1:6 ratio.
18. *Strategic Plan* – A Strategic Plan has been developed and is currently being considered by the Permanent Secretary, Ministry of National Security.
19. *Separating violent/non-violent detainees* - The challenges faced in separating violent pre-trial detainees from non-violent detainees include the lack of information on the pre-trial detainees to determine the risk and the lack of physical capacity to deal with the separation.

View the Hearing:

The hearing can be viewed on our YouTube page via the following link:

<https://youtu.be/wKficMEVGNY>

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Committees Unit

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