



## Statistics on Routine Visits of Police and Other Detention Centers

The Human Rights Commission of Sri Lanka (HRCSL), established by the Human Rights Commission of Sri Lanka Act No 21 of 1996 (HRCSL Act) is mandated to promote and protect the human rights of the persons whose personal liberty is restricted. Accordingly, as per Section 11(d) of the HRCSL Act, the Commission is authorized to “monitor the welfare of persons detained either by judicial order or otherwise, by regular inspection of their places of detention, and to make such recommendations as may be necessary for improving their conditions of detention”.

Pursuant to the above, the HRCSL Officers of the Head Office and Regional Offices conducts routine visits to places which limits personal liberty, i.e Police Stations and Prisons. During these visits welfare of the detainees including any cases of torture, cruel, inhumane and degrading treatment and punishment of detainees are monitored. In the event any Human Rights violations are observed during the visit the Commission initiates and investigations forthwith to identify and hold the perpetrators accountable for the human rights violations.

During the year 2024 (January to June), the HRCSL conducted a total of 992 Police Station visits and 36 Prison visits. A detailed breakdown based on the geographical area is as follows.

	Head Office (Colombo)	Ampara	Anuradhapura	Batticola	Badulla	Jaffna and Killinochchi	Kandy	Kalmunai	Matara	Trincomalee	Vavuniya & Mannar	Puttalm	Total
<b>No of Police Stations</b>	344	07	97	70	22	64	29	28	158	70	30	73	<b>992</b>
<b>No of detainees met in Police Stations</b>	1180	14	39	186	13	121	46	13	331	125	24	201	<b>2293</b>
<b>No of Prisons</b>	2	-	5	5	3	2	2	4	5	5	3	-	<b>36</b>

In addition to the above, the Commission operates a 24 hour hotline making it possible for any person to report any human rights violation including torture, illegal arrests and detention. On receipt of such complaints and assessing the urgency and the gravity of the complaint, the Commission through its Rapid Response Unit immediately visits the place of reported violation and take follow up action as deemed suitable.

Sumanlal Weerasinghe  
 Director (Inquiries & Investigation)  
 Human Rights Commission of Sri Lanka