

What is institutional recidivism? What kind of strategies could be used for the re-integration of the criminals in Pakistan? modern used for the re-criminals in

# Introduction:-

Recidivism refers to the propensity of convicted criminals to reoffend and return to criminal behavior after release from prison, completion of their sentence, or other completion of their sanction. Also a high rate of recidivism is widely believed to exist in Pakistan which indicates that current methods are ineffective in preventing individuals from engaging in criminal activities again. So, the country needs to adopt institutional modern strategies like educational and vocational training, counselling and mental health services, and employment assistance programs,

etc, These measures can be employed for the reintegration of criminals in Pakistan.

## 2) Recidivism ~ An Overview

W:- Recidivism is the act of a person repeating an undesirable behavior after he has experienced negative consequences of that behavior. In the Criminal Justice System, concept of recidivism is essential because it helps policymakers, law enforcement agencies, and rehabilitation programs to evaluate the efficacy of various interventions, sentencing practices, and rehabilitation efforts. There are several causes which give rise to recidivism like socio-economic factors, absence of community support to criminals, false convictions due to lack of access to legal proceedings, to mention the few. That is why there is

a dire need to adopt a multi-faceted approach in order to reduce recidivism from Pakistan countries across and as well.

## 3) Institutional Modern Strategies for Reintegration of Criminals in Pakistan:-

According to a survey published by World Population Dashboard - Pakistan in 2020, Pakistan ranked fifth on the list of nations with the highest recidivism rates. This rank shows that Pakistan needs to adopt some institutional and modern strategies for the reintegration of criminals. In this way, the country can reduce criminal activities thereby can move toward prosperity and are discussed below:

## Institutional Modern Strategies for Reintegration of Criminals in Pakistan

i) Educational and Vocational Training

ii) Counselling and Mental Health Services

iii) Employment Assistance Programs

iv) Community based Rehabilitation Programs

v) Restorative Justice Programs

vi) Social Reintegration Support

vii) Public Awareness and Sensitization

viii) Technology - based Monitoring and Support

## is Educational and Vocational Training:-

Pakistan should offer educational and vocational training programs within correctional facilities to enhance inmates' skills and employability. Moreover, the country should also facilitate partnerships with businesses and industries to provide job opportunities for ex-offenders. They should get training through which they could earn money instead of having to commit crimes like thefts, etc. For this reason, Central Prison Peshawar opened a mobile phone repair workshop to help inmates restart their lives and turn away from crime after their release. Such practices are highly valuable in the country like Pakistan where recidi-

vism is so high. In addition, Pakistan should focus on more programs for the reintegration of criminals in the country.

## ii) Counselling and Mental Health Services:-

Pakistan should provide access to mental health services and counselling to ex-offenders. In this way, the government of Pakistan can address the underlying issues of criminals such as trauma, substance abuse, and mental health disorders. The government can also develop support systems for individuals with mental health challenges upon their release. Moreover, Pakistan need to continue efforts to produce appropriate legislation of **Mental Health**

Ordinance-2001. Once this ordinance is implemented by legislation, the government can play a crucial role in counselling and mental health services of criminals. Hence, reintegration of criminals is also possible in this way.

### iii) Employment Assistance Programs:-

The government of Pakistan should collaborate with employers to create job opportunities for individuals with criminal records. Moreover, the government should offer incentives for businesses to hire and support the reintegration of former offenders into the workforce. In this way, criminals will stay away from the crimes.

they committed previously mainly due to socio-economic factors like robbery, thefts, etc. Thus, these programs can be used for the reintegration of criminals in Pakistan.

## ii) Community based Rehabilitation Programs:-

Pakistan should develop and support community-based rehabilitation programs that assist ex-offenders in transitioning back into society. The local communities should be engaged in the reintegration processes to reduce the stigma and promote social inclusion.

For this purpose, Pakistan has established Probation and Parole System in Criminal Justice System. The offenders are released on probation and parole. But unfortunately, the system is facing



various problems in legal, financial, professional, and technical matters. Above all, probation and parole officers lack professional orientation, innovative correctional skills and training. If the system including officers are not neglected by Criminal Justice System, then it can play vital role in the reintegration of criminals in Pakistan as well.

## vs Restorative Justice Programs:-

Pakistan need to implement restorative justice programs that focus on repairing harm caused by the offender, involving victims and the community in the rehabilitation process. Moreover, Pakistan also have to embrace justice

through social institutions and by involving society in such rehabilitative programs. This step can play role in reintegration of criminals in Pakistan.

## vi) Social Reintegration Support:-

Pakistani Government should collaborate with non-governmental organizations (NGOs) and community based organizations to provide social support and assistance in areas such as housing, healthcare, and family reunification. Such initiative will prevent offender to indulge in criminal activities again. In this way, can help in the reintegration of criminals in the country.

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## Conclusion:-

Recidivism, being a process of unfavorable acts, is very high in Pakistani society. So addressing recidivism in Pakistan necessitates a comprehensive and multifaceted approach that combines punitive measures with rehabilitative and reintegration strategies. By implementing educational and vocational programs, mental health services, and community-based initiatives, etc, can work towards breaking the cycle of reoffending.

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