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**NATIONAL SURVEY OF INMATES: AN IMPORTANT TOOL FOR  
THE ACTION PROGRAM ON JUDICIAL REFORM**

by  
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# **National Survey of Inmates: An Important Tool for the Action Program on Judicial Reform**

by  
**JOSIE B. PEREZ<sup>1</sup>**

## **ABSTRACT**

The Medium-Term Philippine Development Plan for 2001-2004 identifies poverty, social exclusion and marginalization as the root causes of the country's peace and order problems. To enhance peace and order and to provide speedy impartial and accessible system of justice to all, the MTPDP's major strategy is to reform the five pillars of the criminal justice system: courts, prosecution, law enforcement, corrections and the community.

In support of this strategy, the SUPREME COURT together with other key stakeholders in the Correction Pillar implemented the Action Program on Judicial Reform (APJR) for 2001-2006. Under this APJR, the National Survey of Inmates and Institutional Assessment Project (NSI-IA) was envisioned. This project was funded under the GOP-UNDP Portfolio on Enabling Environment: Poverty Reduction through Good Governance. The UNDP engaged the services of the Center for Public Resource Management (CPRM) Consultants, Inc. to undertake the Project.

Through the NSI-IA, the National Survey of Inmates (NSI) was developed and conducted to support the envisioned outcome of enhancing access to justice, especially by the disadvantaged groups. Specifically, it aimed to generate baseline information on the access to justice of inmates prior to and during their detention and confinement in national penitentiaries, provincial jails, and district/city/municipal jails.

The NSI was a national study covering representative samples from persons in detention and confinement in prisons and jails to obtain the needed baseline data in selected jails in selected regions/provinces including the National Capital Region (NCR). The baseline data contained socio-demographic and economic profile of inmates and their level of knowledge, attitudes and perceptions on the Philippine Justice System.

The NSI covered the provinces of Nueva Ecija, Laguna, Iloilo, Cebu, Misamis Oriental, and Davao del Sur and selected cities/municipalities in NCR. It selected 1,714 sample inmates, of which 1,629 (95%) inmates responded.

This paper does not intend to disseminate the results of NSI but to present the different methodologies and processes in undertaking such activity. This paper would like also to show that such activity is a very important tool that provides a wealth of information for the APJR of the Supreme Court and other key stakeholders in the Correction Pillar.

## **Basic Information Regarding the Action Program on Judicial Reform (APJR)**

The Medium-Term Philippine Development Plan for 2001-2004 identifies poverty, social exclusion and marginalization as the root causes of the country's peace and order problems. To enhance peace and order and to provide speedy impartial and accessible system of justice to all, the MTPDP's major strategy is to

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reform the five pillars of the criminal justice system: courts, prosecution, law enforcement, corrections and the community.

In support of this strategy, the SUPREME COURT through the vision and mission espoused by Chief Justice Hilario G. Davide establishes the Action Program on Judicial Reform (APJR) for 2001-2006. The APJR is guided by the following principles [taken from the published Action Program for Judicial Reform 2001-2006 (with Supplement)]:

1. impartiality, access to and speed of judicial systems;
2. judicial autonomy and self-governance;
3. streamlined institutional structure and operations;
4. decentralization;
5. information systems-based operations, planning, performance management and decision-making;
6. competitive and equitable remuneration;
7. continuing capability improvement;
8. transparency and accountability in appointments to the Bench; and
9. consensus-building and collaboration with civil society.

Based on these principles, a four-pronged sectoral program of reforms on judicial systems and procedures, institutions development, human resource development, and reform support systems is developed. The APJR is further translated into tangible projects primarily addressing seven critical issues:

1. case congestion and delay;
2. budget deficiencies;
3. politicized system for judicial appointments;
4. lack of judicial autonomy;
5. need for re-engineering the human resource development system;
6. dysfunctional administrative structure and operating systems accompanied by deficient court technologies and facilities; and,
7. need to improve public information and collaboration with civil society.

The APJR for the period 2001-2006 requires an estimated investment of PhP 4.3 billion. Of these investments, three-fourths goes to the institutions development sector, 18.3% to the human resources development projects, 5.8% to the reforms in judicial systems and procedures and the rest to the reform support systems sector.

The institutions development sector is concerned with strengthening institutional capacity through the reengineering of high level and downstream formal structures, clarifying functions and relationships, improving performance and administrative management systems as well as mission-critical systems and procedures, and the provision of necessary physical and technological infrastructure and facilities support judicial operations. The human resources development reform sector is concerned with internal and external human resources, which directly contribute to a properly functioning judicial system. It involves the internal manpower of the judicial organization, the legal professionals, and the general public which all lend to the efficient delivery of judicial services. Reforms in judicial systems and procedures covers the

substantive and procedural sectors of law as they affect the operating efficiency of the judicial systems, particularly fairness, access, speed and the convenience with which judicial services are availed and rendered. The reform support systems sector includes key efforts that sustain the smooth, timely and effective implementation of the entire reform program.

Among the components of the APJR, the very significant to the disadvantaged sectors' access to justice is impartiality, access to and speed of judicial systems. Access to justice refers to the ability of persons from disadvantaged groups to seek and obtain a legal remedy in conformity with the relevant international human rights standards. However, there is a need to determine the issue and current situation of the disadvantaged in relation to their access or non-access to justice. This can be done through a baseline study generating data on the current situation of the disadvantaged groups' access to justice and identify the other sectors or components under the judicial system that need to be improved or strengthened in order to facilitate access to justice by these sectors.

Under the APJR, the National Survey of Inmates and Institutional Assessment Project (NSI-IA) was envisioned. This project was funded under the GOP-UNDP Portfolio on Enabling Environment: Poverty Reduction through Good Governance. There were two components of the project: data collection using persons in detention or inmates from selected jails/prisons and assessment of institutions such as the Bureau of Jail Management and Penology (BJMP) of the Department of the Interior and Local Government (DILG), and the Parole and Probation Administration (PPA) under the Department of Justice (DOJ).

The UNDP engaged the services of the Institute for Strategic and Development Studies, Inc. (ISDS) that prepared the research design and survey instruments. Later the NSI-IA was transferred to the Center for Public Resource Management (CPRM) Consultants, Inc. when the ISDS pre-terminated the said project. The CPRM conducted the field operation using the research design and instruments prepared by the ISDS. It also processed and analyzed the results and produced the final report for the NSI-IA.

This paper will focus only on the National Survey of Inmates, which is a very important tool providing wealth of information for the APJR of the Supreme Court and other key stakeholders in the Correction Pillar.

### **Basic Information Regarding the National Survey of Inmates (NSI)**

The NSI aimed to generate baseline information on the access to justice of inmates prior to and during their detention and confinement in national penitentiaries and provincial, district, city and municipal jails. Specifically, it aimed to generate an initial database on the socio-demographic and economic characteristics of inmates and their level of knowledge, attitudes, and perceptions concerning the justice system in the country.

## Coverage

The survey covered seven regions, namely, National Capital Region, Central Luzon, Southern Tagalog, Western Visayas, Central Visayas, Northern Mindanao and Southern Mindanao. These regions were chosen at random and purposively based on the proportion of inmates in the region and accessibility of jails. Safety and security concerns were also considered in the process of selection specifically those in Mindanao as in the case of Northern Mindanao that replaced Central Mindanao, which was undergoing peace and order problem during the enumeration of NSI. The table below shows the distribution of the samples by region and by type of jails/prisons.

There were three types of jails/prisons chosen for the study: city/district/municipal jails under the Bureau of Jail Management and Penology (BJMP), provincial jails, and correction/penitentiary jails. The city jails/district/municipal were further classified into two types: those located in the National Capital Region (NCR) and those situated outside NCR.

Region	BJMP	Prov'l. Jail	Corrections/ Penitentiary	Total
Central Luzon Region	90	40		130
Southern Tagalog Region	180	40		220
Western Visayas Region	75	55		130
Central Visayas Region	150	50		200
Northern Mindanao Region	54	56		110
Southern Mindanao Region	45	49	50	144
National Capital Region	351	0	429	780
Total	945	290	479	1,714

## Scope

The NSI gathered information on the following:

1. Socio-Demographic and Economic Profile – age, sex, marital status, highest grade completed, religion, birthplace, dialect/language spoken at home and main economic activity.
2. Case Profile during:
  1. Arrest
  2. Incarceration
  3. Arraignment and Litigation
3. Inmate's Level of Knowledge of the following:
  1. Justice system
  2. Legal remedies and options
4. Inmate's Attitudes and Perceptions about the Justice System:
  1. Towards the judicial system in general
  2. Adequate information about the justice system
  3. Adequacy of legal defense
  4. Unlawful or unreasonable delays
  5. Effective remedy for disadvantaged inmates
  6. Adequacy of protection for juvenile offenders
5. Inmate's Suggestions and Recommendations to Improve the Access to Justice System

### *Sample Selection*

The jails were chosen in the seven regions using the following criteria:

1. accessibility of jails;
2. proportionality of number of inmates;
3. conformity to target sample size per region within the target number of days to conduct the survey; and,
4. available budget.

Among the regions outside NCR, only Southern Mindanao Region covered three types of jails since this is the only region that has all these facilities. Approximately 50% of the total sample BJMP inmates were from NCR while the other half were distributed proportionately from other BJMP jails in the other selected regions. Around 17% of the total sample inmates were taken from the provincial jails of the regions excluding NCR. The remaining sample inmates were concentrated in the correction/penitentiary jails in NCR under the Bureau of Corrections.

The NSI attempted to interview a total of 1,714 inmates from the selected seven regions. In selecting the sample inmates simple random sampling was done, taking into consideration also the need for minimizing “contamination” of target samples in the process of conducting the survey. “Contamination” may occur when inmates who are yet to be interviewed get some ideas (primarily from other inmates who have been interviewed earlier) about the type of questions in the survey. To avoid this, several strategies were implemented such as team approach in order to finish the interview in one jail in one day or visiting the jails once or twice a week to interview the selected inmates or interviewing the target inmates per pavilion/”selda” at the same day and transferred to another pavilion as in the case of the national penitentiaries.

Of the 1,714 inmates, 1,630 or 95% were successfully interviewed.

### *Survey Instruments*

The survey used a nine-page questionnaire designed by the ISDS research team in English with a Tagalog translation enclosed in parenthesis. The questionnaire was subjected to a two-day pretest in one of the jails in NCR in order to finalize the data items and questions included.

### *Limitations of the Survey*

Like any other surveys, the NSI had some limitations. It did not include youth offenders, parolees, pardonees and probationers who were already outside the prisons and jails. There was no raising factor or estimation procedures applied to estimate the total jail population and characteristics. In the analysis portion, inmates were grouped into four types of jails/prisons to safeguard the identity of the inmates. Lastly, it did not include the features of the jails/prisons.

### *Average Time of Interview*

The time of interview varied in every type of jail. On the average, an inmate was interviewed for 32 minutes. The average time of interview per type of jail is shown below:

1. City jails within NCR - 33 minutes
2. City/Mun jails outside NCR - 30 min
3. Provincial jails - 31 minutes
4. National Prisons - 34 minutes

### **Characteristics of the Sample Inmates**

There were more male inmates (82.2%) interviewed than their female counterpart (17.8%). The bigger percentage of female inmates interviewed came from selected city/municipal jails outside the National Capital Region (NCR) and from the National Penitentiaries. Table A below shows the breakdown of the percentage of sample inmates by sex and type of jail.

**Table A. Percentage of Sample Inmates, by Sex and Type of Jail: April 2003**

Type of Jail	Male	Female
Total Sample Inmates	82.2%	17.8%
City Jails in NCR	82.7%	17.3%
City/Municipal Jails Outside NCR	80.5%	19.5%
Provincial Jails	87.8%	12.2%
National Penitentiaries	80.2%	19.8%

The highest percentage of sample inmates in city jails in NCR belonged to age group 25-29 years old (20.4%) followed by age group 20-24 years old (19.5%). In selected city/municipal jails outside NCR, the modal age group of the sample inmates at the time of interview was between 20-24 years old. On the other hand, almost equal percentage of the sample inmates in selected provincial jails belonged to the modal age group 30-34 years old (19.4%) and 40-49 years old (19.8%). The sample inmates in the National Penitentiaries were quite older than their counterparts in other types of jail. Of which, 29% were in the modal age ranging from 40-49 years old.

The inmates' average age per type of jail at the time of enumeration are shown in Table B below. The table shows that the sample male inmates were quite younger than their female counterparts.

**Table B. Mean Age of Sample Inmates Interviewed, by Sex and Type of Jail: April 2003**

Type of Jail	Both Sexes	Male	Female
City Jails in NCR	30.4	29.6	34.7
City/Municipal Jails outside NCR	29.9	29.0	34.5
Provincial Jails	33.4	33.4	32.9
National Penitentiaries	38.1	36.3	43.8

Source: National Survey of Inmates, 2003

There were more single male than married male sample inmates in the city jails located in NCR (45.5% single inmates compared to 37.3% married inmates) and in the city/municipal jails outside NCR (45.8% single against 38.5% married). In contrast, more married male than single male inmates could be found in selected provincial jails (44.7% married inmates versus 39.1% single inmates) and in the national penitentiaries (46.2% married and only 29.8% single). In the case of female inmates, higher percentage of the married than the single ones in all types of jail was observed.

**Table C. Percentage of Sample Inmates Interviewed, by Sex, Marital Status and Type of Jail: April 2003**

Types of Jail	Both Sexes	Male	Female
<b>City Jails in NCR</b>			
Both Sexes	100.0	100.0	100.0
Single	42.5	45.5	27.9
Married	37.4	37.3	37.7
Other Marital Status	20.1	17.1	34.4
<b>City/Municipal Jails Outside NCR</b>			
Both Sexes	100.0	100.0	100.0
Single	42.0	45.8	26.1
Married	37.7	38.5	34.5
Other Marital Status	20.3	15.7	39.5
<b>Provincial Jails</b>			
Both Sexes	100.0	100.0	100.0
Single	36.1	39.1	14.3
Married	47.6	44.7	68.6
Other Marital Status	16.3	16.2	17.1
<b>National Penitentiaries</b>			
Both Sexes	100.0	100.0	100.0
Single	29.8	34.2	12.0
Married	46.2	45.7	48.0
Other Marital Status	24.0	20.1	40.0

Source: Survey of Inmates, 2003

Seven out of ten sample inmates from NCR city jails and more than half of the interviewed inmates (55.9%) from the national penitentiaries were born in Luzon. There was also quite significant percentage of inmates in the latter prisons who were born in Visayas (22.7%) and in Mindanao (20.6%). The sample inmates in the city/municipal jails outside NCR were quite evenly distributed in Luzon (40.2%) and Visayas (35.9%) in terms of their birthplace. While those who were imprisoned and interviewed in selected provincial jails were born in Visayas (38.2%) and in Mindanao (35.8%).

Higher percentage of tagalog-speaking sample inmates could be found in NCR city jails (80.2%), in national penitentiaries (50.7%) and in city/municipal jails outside NCR (43.0%). Significant proportions of sample inmates from selected provincial jails (51.0%), city/municipal jails outside NCR (37.9%) and national penitentiaries (21.6%) are using Cebuano as their dialect spoken at home/prison.

**Table D. Percentage of Sample Inmates Interviewed, by Sex and by Place of Birth: April 2003**

<b>Place of Birth</b>	<b>Both Sexes</b>	<b>Male</b>	<b>Female</b>
<b>City Jails in NCR</b>	100.0	82.7	17.3
Luzon	70.8	59.8	11.0
Visayas	17.3	13.6	3.7
Mindanao	11.0	8.8	2.3
No Response	0.8	0.6	0.3
<b>City/Municipal Jails Outside NCR</b>	100.0	80.5	19.5
Luzon	40.2	34.4	5.7
Visayas	35.9	27.5	8.4
Mindanao	23.0	17.5	5.4
No Response	1.0	1.0	
<b>Provincial Jails</b>	100.0	87.8	12.2
Luzon	25.0	22.6	2.4
Visayas	38.2	30.9	7.3
Mindanao	35.8	33.3	2.4
No Response	1.0	1.0	
<b>National Penitentiaries</b>	100.0	80.2	19.8
Luzon	55.9	43.0	12.9
Visayas	22.7	18.5	4.2
Mindanao	20.6	17.9	2.6
No Response	0.8	0.8	-

Source: National Survey of Inmates, 2003

Majority (ranging from 70% to 84%) of the sample inmates in any type of jail are Roman Catholics. A few are Protestants, members of the Iglesia ni Cristo and other religions.

More than half of the total sample inmates in any type of jail had reached either elementary or high school. About one-third of the sample inmates in national penitentiaries and in city jails whether in NCR or outside NCR and one-half of those in provincial jails had reached or graduated elementary. Another one-third or more had entered or finished high school. One in every four sample inmates from the national penitentiaries was able to go in college or finished a degree.

**Table E. Percentage of Sample Inmates Interviewed, by Sex and by Dialect Spoken: April 2003**

Dialect Spoken	Both Sexes	Male	Female
<b>City Jails in NCR</b>	100.0	82.7	17.3
Tagalog	80.2	66.0	14.2
Cebuano	8.5	7.6	0.8
Ilonggo	2.3	2.0	0.3
Other Dialects	9.1	7.1	2.0
<b>City/Municipal Jails Outside NCR</b>	100.0	80.5	19.5
Tagalog	43.0	37.9	5.1
Cebuano	37.9	25.6	12.3
Ilonggo	12.3	12.1	0.2
Other Dialects	6.9	4.9	2.0
<b>Provincial Jails</b>	100.0	87.8	12.2
Tagalog	23.6	21.2	2.4
Cebuano	51.0	44.8	6.3
Ilonggo	13.5	10.4	3.1
Other Dialects	11.8	11.5	0.3
<b>National Penitentiaries</b>	100.0	80.2	19.8
Tagalog	50.7	38.5	12.1
Cebuano	21.6	19.8	1.8
Ilonggo	7.1	5.5	1.6
Other Dialects	20.6	16.4	4.2

Source: National Survey of Inmates, 2003

In every ten sample inmates, seven inmates from the city/municipal jails outside NCR or eight sample inmates from other types of prison were employed before they were accused of a crime and jailed. A handful tried to search or seek

**Table F. Percentage of Sample Inmates Interviewed, by Sex and by Religion: April 2003**

Religion	Both Sexes	Male	Female
<b>City Jails in NCR</b>	100.0	82.7	17.3
Catholic	84.1	70.0	14.2
Protestant	3.4	3.1	0.3
Iglesia ni Cristo	7.1	5.9	1.1
Other Religion	5.1	3.4	1.7
None	0.3	0.3	
<b>City/Municipal Jails Outside NCR</b>	100.0	80.5	19.5
Catholic	83.3	66.6	16.7
Protestant	5.9	4.9	1.0
Iglesia ni Cristo	4.1	3.8	0.3
Other Religion	6.4	4.9	1.5
None	0.3	0.3	
<b>Provincial Jails</b>	100.0	87.8	12.2
Catholic	76.0	66.0	10.1
Protestant	9.4	8.7	0.7
Iglesia ni Cristo	6.6	6.3	0.3
Other Religion	7.6	6.6	1.0
None	0.3	0.3	
<b>National Penitentiaries</b>	100.0	80.2	19.8
Catholic	71.5	58.8	12.7
Protestant	8.2	5.8	2.4
Iglesia ni Cristo	6.1	4.7	1.3
Other Religion	13.5	10.3	3.2
None	0.8	0.5	0.3

Source: National Survey of Inmates, 2003

**Table G. Percentage of Sample Inmates Interviewed, by Sex and by Highest Grade Completed: April 2003**

Highest Grade Completed	Both Sexes	Male	Female
<b>City Jails in NCR</b>	100.0	82.7	17.3
No Grade Completed	0.6	0.6	
Elementary	38.2	32.0	6.2
High School	47.3	39.4	7.9
College	12.2	9.1	3.1
Vocational	1.7	1.7	
<b>City/Municipal Jails Outside NCR</b>	100.0	80.5	19.5
No Grade Completed	0.5	0.3	0.2
Elementary	35.1	28.9	6.2
High School	45.7	37.5	8.2
College	17.7	12.8	4.9
Vocational	1.0	1.0	
<b>Provincial Jails</b>	100.0	87.8	12.2
No Grade Completed	1.4	1.4	
Elementary	53.1	47.6	5.6
High School	34.4	29.9	4.5
College	9.7	8.0	1.7
Vocational	1.4	1.0	0.3
<b>National Penitentiaries</b>	100.0	80.2	19.8
No Grade Completed	1.3	1.3	
Elementary	36.4	32.7	3.7
High School	32.7	27.4	5.3
College	26.4	15.6	10.8
Vocational	3.2	3.2	

Source: National Survey of Inmates, 2003

employment while one-tenth were not in the labor force or had never sought any means to find work.

### Crimes Committed

Table I shows the different common crimes committed by the sample inmates in different types of jail. Percentage of sample inmates committing crimes on drugs, shabu, etc. was higher in city jails in NCR and even outside NCR. Those sample inmates, specifically male inmates, in the provincial jails and penitentiaries were commonly imprisoned because of crimes committed against person such as murder, homicide, parricide, etc. Female inmates were accused and jailed because of drugs.

**Table H. Percentage of Sample Inmates Interviewed, by Sex and by Employment Status: April 2003**

Employment Status	Both Sexes	Male	Female
<b>City Jails in NCR</b>	100.0	82.7	17.3
Employed	84.1	73.4	10.8
Unemployed	3.1	2.0	1.1
Not in the Labor Force	12.7	7.4	5.4
<b>City/Municipal Jails Outside NCR</b>	100.0	80.5	19.5
Employed	73.0	62.8	10.2
Unemployed	13.3	8.5	4.8
Not in the Labor Force	13.8	9.2	4.6
<b>Provincial Jails</b>	100.0	87.8	12.2
Employed	81.6	76.0	5.6
Unemployed	6.9	3.5	3.5
Not in the Labor Force	11.5	8.3	3.1
<b>National Penitentiaries</b>	100.0	80.2	19.8
Employed	89.4	74.4	15.0
Unemployed	0.5	0.3	0.3
Not in the Labor Force	10.0	5.5	4.5

Source: National Survey of Inmates, 2003

**Table I. Percentage of Sample Inmates Interviewed, by Sex and by Crime Committed: April 2003**

<b>Crime Committed</b>	<b>Both Sexes</b>	<b>Male</b>	<b>Female</b>
<b>City Jails in NCR</b>	100.0	82.7	17.3
drugs/shabu user/pusher, etc.	28.6	19.8	8.8
carnapping	1.7	1.7	
attempted homicide/murder/ parricide	3.7	3.7	
murder and homicide including massacre	8.5	7.9	0.6
theft, snatching	15.0	12.2	2.8
robbery, holdap	14.4	13.0	1.4
illegal possession of firearms and deadly weapons	1.7	1.7	
rape	4.2	4.2	
other crimes	22.1	18.4	3.7
<b>City/Municipal Jails Outside NCR</b>	100.0	80.5	19.5
drugs/shabu user/pusher, etc.	38.7	25.6	13.1
carnapping	2.5	2.3	0.2
attempted homicide/murder/ parricide	4.8	4.4	0.3
murder and homicide including massacre	10.3	9.5	0.8
theft, snatching	12.8	11.0	1.8
robbery, holdap	6.6	6.4	0.2
illegal possession of firearms and deadly weapons	2.8	2.8	
rape	5.6	5.6	
other crimes	16.1	13.0	3.1
<b>Provincial Jails</b>	100.0	87.8	12.2
drugs/shabu user/pusher, etc.	14.2	9.4	4.9
carnapping	2.1	1.7	0.3
attempted homicide/murder/ parricide	5.2	5.2	
murder and homicide including massacre	33.7	31.6	2.1
theft, snatching	3.5	2.8	0.7
robbery, holdap	8.0	6.9	1.0
illegal possession of firearms and deadly weapons	3.1	2.8	0.3
rape	16.0	15.6	0.3
other crimes	14.2	11.8	2.4
<b>National Penitentiaries</b>	100.0	80.2	19.8
drugs/shabu user/pusher, etc.	13.2	8.4	4.7
carnapping	2.6	2.4	0.3
attempted homicide/murder/ parricide	4.2	4.2	
murder and homicide including massacre	29.0	27.7	1.3
theft, snatching	4.0	3.2	0.8
robbery, holdap	9.5	9.0	0.5
illegal possession of firearms and deadly weapons	1.3	1.3	
rape	14.0	14.0	
other crimes	22.2	10.0	12.1

Source: National Survey of Inmates, 2003

### **NSI Results as a tool to the APJR**

The NSI results are very useful inputs to the APJR components specifically on the impartiality, access to and speed of judicial systems. In assessing the impartiality experienced by each sample inmate, the NSI provides information on his/her arrest, incarceration period and arraignment and litigation.

The data provided by the sample inmate during the arrest period were on the following: when, where and who arrested him/her; what reason he/she was arrested; whether he/she knew his/her rights specifically the right to be represented by a lawyer; and whether he/she was tortured just to confess to a crime.

In the incarceration stage, the sample inmate provided information on: whether this was his/her first time to be incarcerated; when was he/she incarcerated for the present/current offense; how old was he/she during the incarceration of the present/current offense. Information exclusive for juvenile offender only was also included – whether he/she was incarcerated separately from the adult detainees; for how long; whether he/she was informed of the laws protecting juveniles when incarcerated.

The data on the arraignment and litigation period were focused on the number of times of appearance in the court for arraignment; number of years/months/days from the time of incarceration to the time of first arraignment; date of the last court hearing; status of case if not sentenced; for sentenced inmates – whether he/she appealed his/her sentence; and whether he/she knew that there were other remedies available after his/her sentence.

In determining the speed of the case of the sample inmates, whether already finished or delayed, the number of days/months/years could be computed from the time of the arrest to the time of incarceration to the time of arraignment and litigation.

The Inmate's level of knowledge on the justice system and legal remedies and options was also assessed by NSI. This portion determined the knowledge of the sample inmate on the office/agency that helps the poor when they have cases in the court but could not afford to pay lawyers and the office/agency that accepts complaints against delays in the prosecution of cases in the court. The sample inmate was also asked regarding his/her sources of information about these agencies. In terms of legal remedies and options, the sample inmate was asked on the following: existence of the Public Attorney's Office; right to bail; warrant of arrest; right against involuntary admission of guilt; right to legal counsel; laws and rules on protection of juvenile offenders; knowledge of legal procedures after arrest.

Another important part of the survey was the Inmate's Attitudes and Perceptions about the Justice System. The Likert Scale was used to measure their attitudes and perceptions. This portion contained the following:

1. Towards the judicial system in general – whether the inmates has full trust; whether the judges in court are honest, just and fair, and fully knowledgeable of legal procedures; whether the justice system treats both the rich and poor equally.
2. Adequate information about the justice system – adequate access to information on justice system; concerning one's rights; concerning available legal remedies or options to the poor; concerning where to file complaints about delays in cases.
3. Adequacy of legal defense – legal counsel is concerned about protecting rights; legal counsel has adequate knowledge and expertise in law; legal counsel explains the progress of the case.
4. Unlawful or unreasonable delays – accused is forced to confess to a crime in order to expedite the litigation of the case; accused is tortured in order to confess to a crime; case is proceeding at reasonable pace; causes of delay in the case of the accused.
5. Effective remedy for disadvantaged inmates – accused could have avoided incarceration if only he/she has enough money to post bail, if bail is allowed; the poor are more likely to be detained pending trial; the poor have free access to free and effective service of a lawyer; the poor are more likely to be tortured to confess to a crime.
6. Adequacy of protection for juvenile offenders – they must be separated from adult offenders; there is adequate protection for juvenile offenders

under the country's laws; there is adequate protection for women inmates under the country's laws

Due to the sensitivity and confidentiality of the information mentioned previously, the detailed NSI results are not included in this paper. The NSI is only one of the important projects undertaken for the APJR, taking the point of view of the prisoners. There are other projects conducted covering the entire judicial systems and procedures in order to support the targets for all the components of the APJR. All of these undertakings, if properly utilized, will lead to the reform of the five pillars of the criminal justice system: courts, prosecution, law enforcement, corrections and the community in order. Thus the country will experience enhanced peace and order, impartial and accessible system of justice.