PHYSICAL CONDITIONS OF PRISON FACILITIES IN SOUTHWEST, NIGERIA: PRISON STAFF PERSPECTIVE

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ABSTRACT

Prison facilities are correctional facilities that are intended to provide a secure and healthy atmosphere for its users as well as to create an environment that supports the goals of the Prison Correctional Service. It is a concern that these facilities remain in decent condition to perform its functions continually. The situation encircling facilities in prison are not palatable varying from facility decay, outstretching of facility capacity, denying prisoners' minimum space requirement as well as poor maintenance culture. It is on this remark that this study set out to assesses the prison facilities to ascertain the actual condition of each of the facilities in all the prisons located in the South-West of Nigeria. The study adopted a survey research design. Census sampling and quota sampling techniques were adopted to determine the appropriate sample of the study. Data were collected using two sets of self-administered questionnaires on a census sample of 36 prison maintenance staff and a quota sample of 1094 prison non-maintenance staff. Twenty (56%) copies of the structured questionnaires out of thirty-six (36) administered on prison maintenance staff were completed and returned while three hundred and eighty (35%) copies of structured questionnaires out of one thousand and ninety-four (1,094) administered on prison non-maintenance staff were completed and returned. The collected data were analysed using descriptive and inferential statistical tools, including percentages, charts, mean scores, and the Mann-Whitney U test. Results showed that prison maintenance staff perceived the conditions of prison facilities to be good while prison non-maintenance staff perceived the condition as average. The results of the study also indicated that there was no significant difference between the perception of prison maintenance staff and prison non-maintenance staff on the physical condition of prison facilities in South-West, Nigeria. In conclusion, the condition of prison facilities indicated that facilities are yet to be at their optimum state. For a better-performing prison facility to emerge; research advocates that the Prisons Correctional Service should give in more interest in technical attempts directed at restoring the declined state of prison facilities.

Keywords: Correctional facilities, Physical condition; Prison maintenance staff, Prison non-maintenance staff.

Background of the Study

Investigations have revealed that the Nigerian correctional system is overly punitive, degrading and dehumanising (Prison Rehabilitation and Welfare Action [PRAWA], 2000). Noticeably, facilities of the prison constitute part of this prison system. The function of prison facilities includes providing a secure and decent atmosphere for the prison employees to discharge their duties, for inmates to live in and get rehabilitated to live a purposeful life while in prison and upon release, and all others who relate with the prison location (Her Majesty Prison Service, 2005; UNOPS, 2016). Beyond these tasks, these prison facilities are designed to produce an atmosphere that promotes a safe environment that encourages the rehabilitation of prisoners, provides them with access to work, education, and programs to help them address their offending behaviour. It is evidenced that the appalling state of the Nigerian prison facilities could have prevented them from providing a decent environment capable of supporting reformatory and corrective activities. More disturbing than the mere headcount of prisoners is the rate of growth of prison populations, insufficient prison infrastructure, excessive pre-trial detention relative to prison capacity, which has resulted in prison congestion and facility decay.

By the end of 1980, it was reported that Prison Service had housed close to 58,000 prisoners in facilities that were designed and constructed to accommodate 28,000 prisoners (Library of Congress Country Studies; CIA World Factbook, 2005). Outstretching the facilities capacity, denying prisoners minimum space requirements in line with human rights standards, increasing incidence of disease as well as the difficulty of ensuring the safe and effective management of prisons (UNOPS, 2016) have been some of the problems related to prison facilities. Zubairu (1999), argues that problems associated with the maintenance of public facilities are aggravated by the insensible approach of users of public facilities who think that the upkeep of such facilities is the obligation of the government. Indeed, this uncaring attitude of users coupled with poor maintenance culture harms the building elements and environment.

According to Agomoh and Oghozor's (2006) evaluation, the prison system in Nigeria has failed in terms of safety, reform, rehabilitation, reintegration and income revenue. These failures could be linked to the poor conditions, availability, and accessibility of prison buildings and facilities to execute the prison's function for which they are intended, used for or needed to be used for. In 2008, the Nigerian Minister of Internal Affairs unveiled the intention of the Federal Government to commence a huge remodel of the prison system, intending to address the decadence observed and improving prison infrastructure across the country during the inauguration of Suleja Prison. The results of those efforts were barely evidenced. Such decay in prison facility affects prisoners who are subjected to sick building syndrome (stuffy nose, skin irritation, headaches, etc.) due to poor ventilation, no cleanliness and overall cell block repair (Health and Safety Executive [HSE], 2000).

Another significant concern with prison facilities is the situation of the toilet and sanitary facilities that hinders the healthiness of prisoners (PRAWA, 2000). In most prisons, there is an absence of clinic facilities, good cooking facilities, secured offices, and staff facilities(UNODC UNOPS, 2007). The poor condition of prison facilities, structural failure of building components, ineffective safety, and security most likely result in prison brakes in Nigeria. Several instances of prison breaks have been recorded ranging from 2009 to 2014. Over 2000 prisoners across the Nigerian prisons have been reported to have escaped ("Nigeria prison break", n.d.). Unfortunately, facilities available for Nigerian Correctional Service are delineated to be in a state of dilapidation and most times not suitable for human habitation (PRAWA, 2000). Often, the poor state of the prison facilities is linked to the maintenance of buildings, services, and the environment. These include the absence of portable drinking water, insufficient toilet facilities, no enough bed space, terrible sanitation, and an absence of plant /equipment to carry out repairs and maintenance works (Ajayi, Faremi and Adenuga, 2017). Lack of proper operation and maintenance, insufficient budget and OandM personnel, together with a lack of quality control exacerbates problems and leads to the breakdown of installed items facilities (IWA, 2017). The system's downtime or facility failure must be kept to an absolute minimum (Quan, Greenwood, Liu and Hu, 2007). This would also apply to prison facilities as continuous use of facilities for 24 hours per day over decades is likely to amount to deterioration and decay of facilities. It is not enough to clamour for new facilities but improving the condition and the standard of the existing facilities (Durango-Cohen andMadanat, 2008). As such, there could be a need for appropriate maintenance of prison facilities to ensure a functional facility, fit for the purpose that meets up with the stipulated minimum standard specified for prison estate (UNODC, 2014).

The condition of facilities is undoubtedly a typical way of measuring and predicting the performance of facilities (Wahida, Milton, Hamadan, Lah, and Mohammed, 2012). The

performance of the prison facilities could be relative to the adequacy of social amenities within prison estate and the safety of inmates (William, 1994; Consoli, 2005). The correctness of the prison facility layout and conduciveness of prison environments such as the presence of natural lighting, fresh air, and comfort(Lopez, 2014).The condition of prison facilities could assist in predicting the amount of maintenance required to ensure the adequate functioning of prison facilities throughout the facility's lifespan.

Past studies carried out on the state of public buildings were studies on public hospitals, banking facilities, institutional housing, and prisons. Adenuga's (2008) study dwells on the maintenance management of public hospitals.The study assesses the physical state of hospital buildings as one of the major objectives of the study. Oladapo's (2006) study focuses on the defect of building elements in housing quarters. Faremi and Adenuga (2012) assess the operational state of selected banking buildings. Other studies conducted on the condition of public institution buildings were studies that assess the condition of prison buildings (Farinloye, Adenuga,and Iyagba, 2010; Farinloye, Ogunsanmi and Adenuga, 2011). The study carried out by Farinloye, Adenuga and Iyagba (2010) compares the condition of prison buildings between Lagos and Ogun State. Farinloye, Ogunsanmi and Adenuga (2011) furthered their study into assessing the perception of users and maintenance staff on the operational and functional state of the prison facilities. In this view, the current study seeks the perception of the prison staff on all prison facilities located in the South-West; the studyassesses the prison facilities to ascertain the actual condition of each of the facilities. The viewpoints of users of the facility can be accepted as reliable information regarding the performance of such a facility (Adewunmi, Omirin, Famuyiwa and Farinloye, 2011; Ajayi, Koleoso, Ajayi and Faremi, 2019). Considering the focus of the study, past studies related to the maintenance of prison facilities were reviewed, since an optimal condition and safety of facilities are achievable mainly through maintenance. The study classified the facilities into four major categories namely: fabrics, aesthetics, services and environment. The study further stipulates a hypothesis to determine if there are significant differences between the perception of prison maintenance staff and prison non-maintenance staff on the condition of prison facilities.

Literature Review

Nigerian Prisons Service

There are twenty Nigerian prisons located across South-West, Nigeria. Five in Lagos State, five in Ogun State, two in Oyo State, two in Osun State, five in Ondo State and one prison in Ekiti State. The prison system is a structured environment in which persons who commit crimes that are hostile to the communities are put away to be rehabilitated before they are permitted to go back to their different locations. (PRAWA, 1999).

The physical features of most Nigerian prisons as described by PRAWA (2000) is appalling as most prisons do not have modern toilet facilities in their overcrowded cells. This unsanitary condition results in ailments such as malaria and cholera, thus devastating the health of the prisoners. Most of the prison environments are also characterised by stagnant water, mountains of refuse and overgrown grass. Also, most of the prisons are reported not to have potable water for human consumption, no toilets, and medical services equally being severely limited. Food is inadequate while disease and malnutrition are rampant (Library of Congress Studies; CIA World Factbook, 2005).

Facilities in Prison

Prison facilities are traditionally government-owned and government-operated in Nigeria or as government using the private sector as a mechanism for procuring prison facilities in advanced

countries like Australia, the USA, and the UK, etc. (Love, Wood, PickenandConfoy, 2000). Over the last three decades, the practice of contracting out custodial functions to the private sector has grown steadily in many high- and middle-income countries (Allen and English, 2013). Surprisingly, in developed countries like United States, United Kingdom, Mexico, Italy, and Russia governments still depend on most of the physically decaying facilities of the 19th-century prisons that virtually need constant upkeep while their recent and modern facilities remain in next to poor condition due to lack of maintenance (Human Right Watch [HRW], 2001). In the USA, the surging prison population, unsafe facility and dirty environment, reluctance to fund new prison infrastructure, and the tight budget of correction agencies prompted the involvement of private correction companies to provide standard facilities (HRW, n.d.). This trend is also evidenced in other developed countries such as Australia, England, New Zealand, Scotland and, Wales where private prison companies manage and operate prison facilities (Mason, 2013).

Prison facilities are designed to function as a resource to rehabilitate prisoners. The layout of the correction facility ought to be of the right size following security risks and needs. Sufficient to satisfy various grades of custody as determined by the classification criteria (Lopez, 2014). The design and construction of prison facilities are unique, usually surrounded by walls fencing or other barriers, highly secured and defensible main gates, lock and key system, armed guard towers, motion sensors, security lighting, dogs, CCTV systems and roving patrol depending on the level of security aspired ("Prison", n.d.). Prison facilities should comprise of accommodation that allows access to a person with a disability and should have flexible accommodation layout that allows for fluctuations in the numbers of prisoners as well as their classification and status. There must also be facilities for visitors and children in custody, library, and educational facilities, kitchen facilities, mailrooms, telephone rooms, prison store, furniture, the supply of potable water, secured physical perimeter space, contraband facilities, and security post, as well as a layout design that allows for observation of staff activities (Consoli, 2005). Also, important is a treatment-oriented atmosphere with access to natural light and fresh air, nature-related connectivity, thermal and acoustic comfort, and a variety of outdoor spaces and views of changing seasons which could decrease the frequency and severity of anti-social behaviours and aggression, and reduces stress and anxiety (Lopez, 2014). These physical features of prison facilities are expected to be fit throughout their lifespan. The facilities are to be functional, fit for purpose and meet up with the stipulated minimum standard specified for prison estates (UNODC, 2014). Often, achieving these conditions for facilities becomes possible by having adequate and appropriate maintenance structure in place.

Maintenance of Prison Facilities

Several authors, similarly, describe the maintenance of facilities. According to the British Standards Institution and the HMSO Committee, maintenance is work done to maintain, restore or enhance the facility and its surroundings to an effectively acceptable standard and to maintain the utility and value of the facility (BSI, 1984; HMSO, 1972; Horner, El-Haram and Munns, 1997; Chew, Tan and Kang, 2004; Buys and Nkado, 2006). Maintenance of prison facilities become an important worry as continuous use of facilities for 24 hours per day over decades is likely to amount to deterioration and decay of facilities. The goal of keeping the facilities in a safe and optimum condition would necessitate the use of maintenance resources as well as maintenance personnel to prevent disruptive actions that can impair facilities and to avoid unnecessary repair costs (Sodangi, Khamdi, Idrus, Hammad and Umar, 2014; Pun, Chin, Chow and Lau, 2002). An excellent maintenance management scheme extends the lifespan of an asset or facility (including prison facilities) with fewer breakdowns, resulting in reduced

operating costs and greater quality facilities (Technical Information Document, 2000). Prison facilities can, in principle, improve the safety and health of their occupants once a structure exists that enables efficient maintenance matched with skilled maintenance personnel. The effective use and actual condition of any facilities, its components, and their services at any point in time would mainly depend on continuing and scheduled periodic maintenance. This poses a responsibility to the Prison Controller, Works and Logistic department, and Maintenance managers. The prison system has to make available provision for maintenance resources, repair works, and quality assurance of work. Employing or hiring skilled traders to handle, coordinate and supervise maintenance works as well as setting up accurate scheduling based on a well-structured maintenance programme.

Maintenance activities in any organization, including the Nigeria Correctional Service, would be considered to be good enough if they are initiated on time and capable of returning facilities to their initial state or acceptable standard at a required time within the budgeted cost (Pun et al., 2002). The condition of facilities depicts the performance of facilities (Wahida et al., 2012) as well as the amount of maintenance required in keeping the facilities fit and functioning (Ajayi et al., 2017). Invariably, an existing facility would continue to perform in terms of satisfying its users only when the condition of the facility is continually enhanced with maintenance throughout the lifespan. No maintenance strategy surpasses the other, each strategy is best when carried out appropriately in the right situation. Though, choice of any strategy often depends on weakness and strength of maintenance crew, the attitude of the facility users, age of the facility, and the management of the concerned organisation (Ajayi, 2016) as well as the significance of facilities as its effect the health, and safety of users of the facilities. Rani, Baharum, Akbar and Nawawi (2015) mention the maintenance strategies (breakdown, pro-active, preventive, predictive and corrective) that could be implemented in maintaining facilities. Largely, maintenance tasks for prisons include daily cleaning of accommodation areas, kitchens and food preparation areas, toilets, offices, courtyards and drains, daily inspection to identify broken facilities and equipment, regular inspection of septic tanks and soak pits, roofs and gutters, and electrical circuitry. It also includes cleaning and disinfection of water storage infrastructure; repair of water, sanitation, electrical, plumbing, and other facilities, as required (ICRC, 2012).

Research Method

A survey research design was used for this study. The research was conducted in South-West, Nigeria. There are 155 prisons across Nigeria, while there are 20 in the southwest, making up 12.9% of the Nigerian prisons (Ajayi, Faremi and Adenuga, 2017). The research area of the Southwest comprises of the State of Lagos with five (5) prisons, the State of Ogun with five (5) prisons, the State of Oyo with two (2) prisons, the State of Osun with two (2) prisons, the State of Ondo with five (5) prisons, and Ekiti State with just one (1) prison (PRAWA, 1999; Nigerian Prison Services n.d.; Ajayi, Faremi and Adenuga, 2017). The choice of South-West as the study area was because all the states studied have similar language and cultures and the studied prison belongs to the same geopolitical zone. The study adopted a multi-sampling method. Census sampling and quota sampling techniques were adopted to gather information from the respective respondents. Census sampling techniques were adopted for prison maintenance staff (Institute of Food and Agricultural Sciences [IFAS], 2013; Statistic Canada, 2013; Research Observatory, 2007). This technique allows the population of all prison maintenance staff in the maintenance unit, to be used as the sample frame and as the sample size (IFAS, 2013). Also, a quota sampling technique was used for prison non-maintenance staff (Columbia Centre for New Media and Teaching [CNMTL], 2012) to have a sample that is proportionately representative of

the whole population of prison staff of other departments. The population of the study was made up of prison staff comprising of prison maintenance staff and non-maintenance staff of all the 20 prisons (www.gov.ng/prison; Ajayi, Faremi and Adenuga, 2017). The population of prison staff in each prison location across South-West, Nigeria was investigated. The population size consists of Lagos prison non-maintenance staff (624), Ogun prison non-maintenance staff (331), Oyo prison non-maintenance staff (338), Osun prison non-maintenance staff (307), Ondo prison non-maintenance staff (453) and Ekiti prison non-maintenance staff (134). The first sample size by the census consists of 36 prison maintenance staff in prisons located across Southwest. The second sample size was determined using a simplified formula for proportions Yamane (1967: 886) at 95% confidence level, sample proportion at 50% and 5% precision levels (Israel, 2013; Ali, 2014). The possibility of not being able to collect data from everyone in the group being researched, allowed the researcher to get evidence from a portion of the whole. The second appropriate sample size is the proportional representation of the population size derived from the simplified formula. Hence, the minimum sample size needed for Lagos, Ogun, Oyo, Osun, Ondo, and Ekiti prison non-maintenance staff the study was 244, 181, 183, 174, 212 and 100 respectively. This made up a total of one thousand and ninety-four (1094) prison non-maintenance staff across the twenty prisons. A set of copies of the structured questionnaire instruments were developed and administered on the two categories of respondents to collect primary data for the study. The variables for the instrument were derived via literature reviews and were validated. Copies of the questionnaire comprised of sections A and B. Section A was on demographic information of respondents and section B was 30 itemized components of prison facilities. The itemized prison facilities were categorised into four subheadings in terms of fabric and structure denoted with (F), services denoted with (S), aesthetics denoted with (A) and environment denoted with (E) in line with Adenuga (2008) study. These variables were measured on a Likert scale type and a graduated scale of 1-5 was used to quantify the physical condition (actual state) of the facilities and the mean score was calculated. The mean values were viewed and interpreted using the following scale: $1.00 \leq MS < 1.49$ implies very bad, $1.50 \leq MS < 2.49$ implies bad, $2.50 \leq MS < 3.49$ implies average, $3.50 \leq MS < 4.49$ implies good and $4.50 \leq MS \leq 5.00$ implies very good physical condition. Twenty (56%) copies of the structured questionnaires out of thirty-six (36) administered on prison maintenance staff were completed and returned whilethree hundred and eighty (35%) copies of structured questionnaires out of one thousand and ninety-four (1,094) administered on prison non-maintenance staff were completed and returned. The responses were coded and analysed using the Statistical Package for Social Sciences (Version 23). Frequency, percentage, and charts were used as tools of analysis for the descriptive statistic. While the Mann Whitney U test was used as a tool of analysis for the inferential statistic (Leard Statistics, 2018).

Results and Discussion of Findings

Figure 1 shows the response rate of the two categories of respondents. The result showed that twenty out of thirty-six (56%) copies of the questionnaire administered on prison maintenance staff were completed and returned while three hundred and eighty out one thousand and ninety-four (35%) copies of the questionnaire administered on prison non-maintenance staff was also completed and returned. Figure 1 also shows the educational background of the respondents. The result indicated that twelve (60%) of prison maintenance staff were graduates while two hundred and one (54%) prison non-maintenance staff were graduates. The result implies that the respondents have acquired a significant level of formal education and as such, they were capable of providing an appropriate response to the various questions contained in the copies of the questionnaire. The result further showed the length of service for the respondents. The result

showed that 8 (40%) of prison maintenance staff had less than 10 years of work experience while twelve (60%) of them had work experience ranging from ten years to thirty years and above. For prison non-maintenance staff, the result indicated that two hundred and eight (55%) of them had less than 10 years of work experience, one hundred and fifty-six had between ten years and twenty-nine years work experience while 8 (2%) had a work experience of thirty years and above. This implies that there is a reasonable number of respondents that are familiar with the prison facilities from whom data can be retrieved concerning the survey.

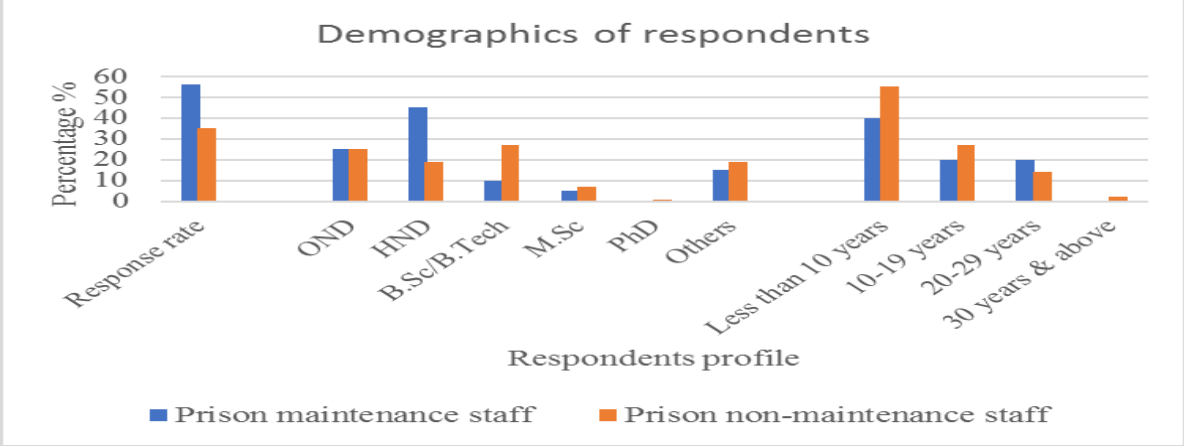

Figure 1 Respondents' Demographic Data

The objective of the study is to assess the physical condition of prison facilities in South-West. In achieving the objective, 30 itemized prison facilities components were presented to the survey participants through a structured questionnaire developed for the study. The respondents were asked to rate the condition of each of the thirty components of prison facilities that were listed in the instrument. A 5-point rating scale ranging from 1 representing very bad to 5 representing very good was used by the respondents to rate each of the components.

Table 1 displays the responses from prison maintenance and non-maintenance staff on the condition of prison facilities. Result revealed the ranking of facilities by prison maintenance staff.Walling with a mean score (4.44) was ranked first, roof structures, doors, and windows with a mean score (4.42) were ranked second, roof coverings (4.25) ranked fifth, beam and column (4.18), roof finishes (4.11), floor finishes (4.11), the security of environment (4.10), floor slabs (4.06), air circulation (3.95), level of cleanliness (3.80), water supply (3.80), lighting supply (3.54) ranked fourteenth and electrical appliances (3.58) ranked fifteenth were in good physical condition.

Sanitary fittings (3.47) ranked sixteenth, external painting (3.30) ranked seventeenth, solid waste disposal (3.26), internal painting (3.20), staircase (3.20), wastewater disposal (2.95), refuse disposal (2.95), firefighting equipment (2.95), alarms and detectors (2.88), air conditioners or fan (2.84), furniture (2.84), noise protection (2.83), internet facilities (2.80) ranked twenty-eighth, and netting (2.79) ranked twenty-ninth were rated average while telephone lines (2.45) ranked thirtieth were in bad condition.

Prison non-maintenance staff also indicated that security of environment with a mean score (4.08) ranked first, level of cleanliness (3.81) ranked second, air circulation (3.72) ranked third, doors (3.63), roof structures (3.62), walling (3.61), roof finishes (3.60), beams and column

(3.59), floor slab (3.55), roof coverings (3.52) ranked tenth and windows (3.50) ranked eleventh were in good physical condition.

Table 1: Perception of Physical Conditions of Prison Facilities

Prison facilities	Prison maintenance staff		Prison non-maintenance Staff	
	Mean score	Rank	Mean Score	Rank
Security of environment (E)	4.10	9	4.08	1
Level of cleanliness (E)	3.80	12	3.82	2
Air circulation (E)	3.95	11	3.72	3
Doors (F)	4.42	2	3.63	4
Roof structures (F)	4.42	2	3.62	5
Walling (F)	4.44	1	3.61	6
Roofing finishes (F)	4.11	7	3.60	7
Beams and columns (F)	4.18	6	3.59	8
Floor slab (F)	4.06	10	3.55	9
Roof coverings (F)	4.25	5	3.52	10
Windows (F)	4.42	2	3.50	11
Floor finishes (F)	4.11	7	3.48	12
Water supply (S)	3.80	12	3.47	13
Noise protection (E)	2.83	27	3.44	14
Stairs case (F)	3.20	19	3.44	14
Sanitary fittings (S)	3.47	16	3.30	16
Wastewater disposal (S)	2.95	21	3.22	17
External painting (A)	3.30	17	3.20	18
Electricity supply(lighting) (S)	3.58	14	3.17	19
Refuse disposal (E)	2.95	21	3.16	20
Internal painting (A)	3.20	19	3.11	21
Solid waste disposal (S)	3.26	18	3.09	22
Electrical appliances (S)	3.50	15	3.08	23
Furniture (A)	2.84	25	2.95	24
Netting (F)	2.79	29	2.89	25
Air conditioner or fan (S)	2.84	25	2.62	26
Firefighting equipment (S)	2.95	21	2.60	27
Alarms and detector (S)	2.88	24	2.52	28
Telephone lines (S)	2.45	30	2.47	29
Internet facilities (S)	2.80	28	2.42	30
Grand	**3.52**		**3.26**	

**F=fabric and structure, S=services, A= aesthetic, E= environment*

Facilities like floor finishes (3.48) ranked twelfth, water supply (3.47) ranked thirteenth, noise protection (3.44), staircase (3.44), sanitary fittings (3.30), wastewater disposal (3.22), external painting (3.20), lighting supply (3.17), refuse disposal (3.16), internal painting (3.11), solid waste disposal (3.09), electrical appliances (3.08), furniture (2.95), netting (2.89), air condition or fan (2.62), firefighting equipment (2.60), and alarms and detectors (2.52) ranked twenty-eightieth were rated average while telephone lines (2.47) ranked twenty-ninth and internet facilities (2.42) ranked thirtieth were in bad condition.

The results revealed that both categories of respondents confirmed that only a few numbers of facilities were in good condition. It was observed that the condition of facilities especially services such as alarms, detectors, firefighting equipment, air conditioners, fans were rated

average while telephone lines and internet facilities were in a bad condition. This implies that most of the services are not functioning at their best; consequently, it is paramount to ensure the upgrading of these facilities for a holistic overhaul of the prisons. Generally, none of the prison facilities was found to be in a "very good" condition ($4.50 \leq MS \leq 5.00$) according to the author's mean value interpretation. This suggests that the conditions of prison facilities in South-west, Nigeria are likely perceived not to meet the minimum standards stipulated for prison facilities. Also, suggests that more investment ought to be made for the maintenance of prison facilities, as well as investing in maintenance personnel via training.

Hypothesis

Null Hypothesis (H_0): There is no significant difference between the perception of prison maintenance and non-maintenance staff on the physical conditions of prison facilities

Alternative Hypothesis (H_1): There is a significant difference between the perception of prison maintenance and non-maintenance staff on the physical conditions of prison facilities

The hypothesis for the significant difference between the perception of prison maintenance and non-maintenance staff on the physical conditions of prison facilities was tested using the Mann Whitney U test. Prison facilities are grouped into four subheadings: fabrics, services, aesthetics, and the environment.

Table 2: Mann-Whitney U test Results for Comparing Perception of Prison Maintenance and non-maintenance Staff on the Physical Conditions of Prison Facilities

Prison Facilities	Maintenance Staff		Non-Maintenance Prison Staff		U	p-value	Decision
	N	Mean rank	N	Mean rank			
Fabrics	13	199.27	272	140.31	1036.500	0.012	Reject H_o
Services	12	184.83	295	152.75	1400.000	0.219	Accept H_o
Aesthetics	19	185.21	350	184.99	3321.000	0.993	Accept H_o
Environment	17	177.00	358	188.52	2856.000	0.667	Accept H_o
Overall	9	147.50	215	111.03	652.500	0.98	Accept H_o

Table 2 displays that the difference between the perception of prison maintenance staff (mean rank= 199.27) and prison non-maintenance staff (mean rank= 140.31) on fabrics was significant with a p-value of 0.012. The difference between the perception of prison maintenance staff (mean rank= 184.83) and prison non-maintenance staff (Mean rank= 152.75) on services was not significant at a p-value of 0.219. The difference between the perception of prison maintenance staff (mean rank= 185.21) and prison non-maintenance staff (mean rank= 184.99) on aesthetics was not significant with a p-value of 0.993. The difference between the perception of prison maintenance staff (mean rank= 177.00) and prison non-maintenance staff (mean rank= 188.52) on the environment was not significant with a p-value of 0.667. Overall, the difference between the perception of prison maintenance staff (mean rank= 147.50) and prison non-maintenance staff (mean rank= 111.03) on condition of prison facilities was not significant with a p-value of 0.98. This implies that both categories of respondents perceived the condition of prison facilities similarly. It suggests that there are likely obstacles preventing maintenance units from discharging their duties effectively towards enhancing the performance of prison facilities. This result differs from Adenuga's (2008) study where a significant difference was found between the maintenance staff and users on the rating of the operational state of building elements and services of public hospital buildings in the southwest, Nigeria.

Recommendations and Conclusion

The study confirms the actual conditions of prison facilities in Southwest, Nigeria. The study also reveals that the rating for conditions of telephone lines and internet facilities ranged from

2.47 to 2.42. Also, the study affirms that these communicating gadgets,categorised as services, were in bad condition. Thus, concluding that there wasa low performance of communicating gadgets in prisons. On the other hand, facilities such as windows, roof covering, floor slab, beam and column, walling, roof structures, and doors,categorised as fabrics, with ratings ranging from 4.42 to 3.50, wereaffirmed to be in good physical condition.

Most of the facilities categorised as services except for internet and telephone lines had ratings ranging from 3.47 to 2.88, and their conditions were rated average. The study further concludes the ratings of the condition of facilities categorised as the environment; security of the environment, level of cleanliness as good physical condition while noise protection and refuse disposal as average. The study emphasizes that the conditions of most of the facilities investigated in the prison are far from meeting the stipulated minimum standard specified for prison facilities. As such, these facilities within the South-Western states are not performing at their best. This implies that much maintenance resources input is needed to upgrade and improve the standard of the existing prison facilities.

To have functioning facilities that would continually meet the prison facilities users' requirements and supports the objectives of the prison system. The study advocates for adequate maintenance of the facilities which would enhance the conditions of the prison facilities. Prisons Correctional Service should give in more interest in technical attempts directed at restoring the declined state of prison facilities. More maintenance attention should be given to facilities categorised as services like the air conditioner or fan, firefighting equipment, alarms, and detector, especially the communicating gadgets that is internet facilities and telephone lines used in the prisons.

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