**Shloka - 7**

**न राज्यं न च राजा असित न दण्डयो न च दण्डिक: I**

**धर्मैणैव प्रजा: सर्वा रक्षन्ति स्म परस्परम् II**

न – No, राज्यं = Kingdom, राजा = King, दण्डयो = criminal or the culprit, दण्डिक: = Judge, धर्मैणैव = धर्मेण ऐव = only with religion, duty, प्रजा: = public, community, सर्वा = total, रक्षन्ति = protect, स्म परस्परम् = each other

This is with reference to the crimes and punishment and how it can be reduced.

Normally, as understood, when a crime is committed by a person, the logical result is the punishment by the Judges, or the king, in the olden days.

And it is believed that, during the period of punishment in the jail, the convict will repent and change through self realisation.

Here in the Subhashita, it is intended to be conveyed that, it is the good virtues, the upbringing of the people, the teaching of the duties, and the values of life that stop the person from committing a crime and becoming a criminal. And this behaviour can and will protect all.

If all follow it, have introspection, self restraint, help and support each other, then, there will be no crimes, since it is stopped at the root itself. The standard of people, the understanding of human values will be so high, which will improve the thinking process of the people.

If that be the case, the judge, or the person to decide the convict, and the punishment is not required (or the number of cases will be less and the requirement will reduce).

This is so true in the context of today, when we have lakhs of cases, and the cases keep on increasing. The number of judges is insufficient to take care of the cases. On the top of it, the number of cases keeps on increasing.

Under such a situation, the cases have to be reduced at the source itself, and that can be improved only by improving the value system and imparting the habit of responsible behaviour.