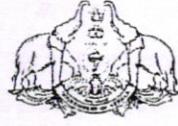


POLICE



DEPARTMENT

KERALA

No. H6-43849/2020/PHQ

Police Headquarters, Kerala
Thiruvananthapuram-695010

Phone: 0471-2721547

Email: phq.pol@kerala.gov.in

Date: 31/05/2020

Circular No. 21/2020

Sub: Kerala Police - Maintenance of Cameras installed at various places in National Highways - Instructions issuing of - Reg.

Ref: 1) PHQ Circular No. 17/2016 dtd 21/09/2016.
2) Letter No. H6-124148/2019/PHQ dtd 27/09/2019 addressed to all DPCs.

It has been noticed that the CCTV Cameras installed by Police Department at various vantage points on the National Highway are non functional, due to the activities related to the widening/maintenance of the roads or metro rail work/fly-over work/drainage work done by various agencies etc. The maintenance/repairs/re-installation are now being carried out by the Police Department, which is proving to be a huge burden on the department, due to the non availability of funds for the said purpose. The Police Department has no provision to provide the same from its budgetary allotment.

02. Traffic/Security Cameras are placed at various important places such as Highways, Railway Stations, Bus Stands, important traffic junctions etc and these cameras are linked to the Control Room, mostly through optical fibers laid exclusively for Policing Applications. The Department had invested a huge amount for installing the cameras. As such, these places/junctions can be monitored 24 Hours by the Police Control Rooms. When this facility becomes non-operational, the Control Room will be unable to get the 24 x 7 details about any traffic accident or congestion or Law & Order situation or crimes and the immediate response by Police, in the minimum possible time, will not be possible. The inactive system will then affect the day-to-day traffic regulations and also in providing security alerts for threats in a particular locality under surveillance. Therefore, proper and timely maintenance/ re-installation of CCTV System are highly essential. In fact CCTVs are inevitable and their non-functioning even for a minute cannot be tolerated in the public interest.

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03. In order to keep the CCTV Cameras operational, inside the cities or towns or on the road sides, as the case may be, the DPCs concerned must hold discussions with the concerned authorities undertaking the road widening or metro rail or the works as mentioned above. It will be "their" responsibility to make temporary arrangements, if the CCTV Cameras are disturbed; they have to bear the cost of making temporary arrangements. They also have to bear the charges for making the cameras operational, after the works like road widening, metro rail etc. are over. It will not be the responsibility of the Police Department to re-fix or re-install the cameras at the cost of the Police Department. DPCs must ensure time bound re-fixing/re-installing/repairs during the discussion & subsequent follow-up.

04. Needless to mention, removal or shifting or any disturbance to the surveillance and traffic cameras in the cities and towns will affect the fundamental/basic police functioning. The DPCs, therefore, have to be in touch with those authorities who are to **disturb or remove or shift** the cameras for any work. The cost relating to the removal or any shifting or any disturbance and subsequent re-fixing/re-installation/repair etc. will have to be borne by that organization or agency or department and not the Police department.

05. Due to the carelessness of some of the DPCs, we had major problems in Kochi city when the Metro Railways started construction and for years the cameras did not function here. Similarly, in Kozhikode City, during the road widening, cameras were removed and some of them are thrown out. Unfortunately, I saw a proposal from a DPC asking for huge amount of money for the re-installation of the old cameras.

06. As mentioned above, it is the responsibility of the organization or agency or department which removed or shifted or disturbed the cameras to bear the cost.

07. The instructions incorporated in this circular should be scrupulously followed in letter & spirit.

Wm. 30/5
Loknath Behera IPS
DGP & State Police Chief

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