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No.D5/31536/2011
Police Headquarters,
Kerala, Thiruvananthapuram,
Dated: 2.04.2014

Circular No.07/2014

Sub:- Ammonium Nitrate Rules 2012 – Handling of Ammonium Nitrate – instructions issued.

- Read:-
1. Sections 5 and 7 of the Explosives Act, 1884.
 2. PHQ Circular No.26/2011 dtd 11.9.2011.
 3. Ammonium Nitrate Rules 2012 of the Central Government.

Ammonium Nitrate is a fertilizer commonly used for all type of agriculture. If Ammonium Nitrate is mixed with diesel and if the mixture is completely dried, it is converted into a highly Explosive substance. It can be exploded with the help of a detonator. So, trans-border smuggling and diversion of Ammonium Nitrate for non agriculture purpose is a national concern which needs to be effectively curbed.

Hence, for regulating the manufacturing, conversion, import, export, stevedoring, bagging, transport and possession for sale or use of the Ammonium Nitrate, the Government of India have issued Ammonium Nitrate Rules 2012, which came in to force on 11.7.2012.

Some important provisions contained in the Rules requiring the attention of all Police Officers are mentioned below.

Rule 2(h)(i) defines District Authority in towns having a Commissioner of Police, the Commissioner or Deputy Commissioner of Police, and in other places the District Magistrate or ADM.

Rule 3 (3) provides that the possession and use of Ammonium Nitrate of quantity not exceeding five kilograms by the established laboratories, educational institutions, medical institutions, hospitals and health clinics for scientific and educational purpose, if it is informed to the local police.

Rule 5 provides that the Ammonium Nitrate shall not be transported with any other explosives, inflammable substances, oil, gases, carbonaceous matter etc and shall not be transported in any carriage vessel plying for or carrying passengers on hire.

Rule (6) (7) provides that no person shall handle or cause to be handled any Ammonium Nitrate between the hours of sunset and sunrise unless proper illumination is provided in the area and the place is guarded.

Rule (6) (8) states about Restriction on employment of children, intoxicated persons and certain other persons, who is below the age of eighteen years; or who is in a state of intoxication; or who is mentally or physically challenged.

Rule 20 laid down the procedure to be followed for the transportation of Ammonium Nitrate. As per Rule 20 (3) an intimation in Form R – 11 (a) of part 3 of schedule II shall be sent by the consignor at least twenty four hours in advance to the District Superintendent of Police of place of dispatch as well as to the District Superintendent of Police of place of receipt. As per Rule 20 (4) a copy of every pass issued under sub – rule (1) shall forthwith be sent by the consignor to – the Licensing Authority who issued the license of the consignor; the District Authority having jurisdiction the place of dispatch; the District Superintendent of Police in whose jurisdiction the place from which the consignment is sent is situated; and the District Superintendent of Police in whose jurisdiction the place to which the consignment is sent is situated.

Rule 21 stipulates general requirements and documents to be available during transport of Ammonium Nitrate.

Rule 22 states about Loading, unloading, maintenance and operation of vehicle engaged in transport of Ammonium Nitrate. As per Rule 22(1) The vehicles engaged in transport of the Ammonium Nitrate, shall be attended by only such drivers or cleaners; whose antecedents are verified by the local police and a list of such drivers or cleaners along with all personal particulars should be made available to the local police in advance to carry out the verification and the re - verification of such drivers or cleaners should be carried out at regular intervals, once in five years. As per rule 22 (4) a vehicle, while transporting Ammonium Nitrate shall be adequately secured at the expenses of the license holder and if the consignment of Ammonium Nitrate is likely to pass through sensitive areas notified by the Ministry of Home Affairs, it should be escorted by armed police escort or guard, provided by the District Police Administration. As per Rule 22(7) the transport of Ammonium Nitrate in sensitive areas notified by Ministry of

Home Affairs shall not be allowed during the period from sunset to sunrise. The movement of Ammonium Nitrate and the particulars of the origin and destination of the consignment shall be informed to the concerned police authorities in writing.

Rule 23 deals with the procedure on accidents. It states whenever a vehicle transporting Ammonium Nitrate is involved in an accident, the driver or authorized person shall inform the nearest police station and district authorities concerned.

Rule 25 deals with the possession of Ammonium Nitrate in licensed premises and Rule 25(6) states that "the name, address and passport size photograph of the authorized agent with whom the keys will be kept shall be furnished to the licensing authority and the District authority having jurisdiction".

Rule 34 deals with procedure to be observed for issue of No Objection Certificate and grand of license by the District Authority.

Rule 50 deals with the powers of search and seizure in which it is stated that all Commissioners of Police or police officers of rank not below that of a Sub Inspector of Police are also having the authority to search and seizure for Ammonium Nitrate in their respective jurisdiction.

Rule 52, deals with the issuance of notice of any loss or theft involving the Ammonium Nitrate to the licensing authority and concerned District Authority and to the nearest local police station.

Rule 53 deals with the issuance of notice of accident involving Ammonium Nitrate, to the concerned authorities including the officer in charge of the nearest police station.


State Police Chief 2/16/14
2/14/14

To

Copy to:- All Officers in list 'B'
CAs to all officers in PHQ.
Records/ RAC/Proceedings file

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