

CIRCULAR No. 29/2010

Sub: Squads in Circle and Sub Divisional Police Offices -Instructions - reg.

1. Instructions have been repeatedly given against the practice of Sub Divisional Police Officers and Circle Inspectors taking personnel on other duty to their offices to form Special Squads.
2. All items of work which are to be done by SDPO/CI are those which they should attend to in person, i.e. they are not to delegate any work to any person attached to their offices. In a personal enquiry, they are supposed to conduct the enquiry themselves, questioning witnesses, examining documents and dictating reports. While investigating a case, they are to personally take the responsibility for the correctness of investigation. Perusal of case diaries submitted by subordinates is to be personally done by SDPO/CI. Checking licenses for explosives and arms or conducting night patrol checks or visiting Police Stations or inspecting Police Station records etc also are to be done by the SDPO/CI personally. The only assistance they can take is physical assistance and clerical assistance by others directly under their immediate supervision.
3. SDPOs/CIs cannot delegate enquiries, investigation, perusal of Case Diaries, checking of license etc. to their office staff. If their staff are allowed to perform such duties, it would lead to wanton abuse of authority, because powers of superiors would actually be wielded by subordinates much lower in rank. Their authority to control their subordinates will also be seriously affected because the officer cannot, on record, make a distinction between what was done by unauthorised assistants and what was done by the officer himself.
4. The assistants employed by SDPOs/CIs call themselves as Crime Squad, C.D. Party, Circle Squad etc. They are not accountable to any Police Station nor are their movements subjected to any General Diary. They have no investigative work or responsibility. Often the SDPOs/CIs who keep them are too busy to continuously monitor the details of Squad work. Members of such squads would, in course of time, indulge in various self-discovered and self-assigned activities invoking the authority of the SDPO/CI. Subordinates in Police Stations usually do not cross check

or verify the claims made by the members of squads for fear of displeasing the Superior Officer.

5. Hence it is once again clarified that neither any SDPO nor any Inspector will keep any special squad for any purpose. They can have a Writer for maintenance of records and crime ledgers, and two persons at most to physically assist them directly in their enquiries and investigations. Under no circumstances, they will keep any more persons attached to their offices.

6. If for an important case any special squad is to be formed, that will be done by the Unit Head and will be disbanded as soon as the investigation of the case is over. During the pendency of the investigation, the personnel of the squad, if they are not attached everyday to their mother Police Station, will be attached to the Sub Divisional/Circle Headquarter Police Station wherein as per the GD, their presence, daily movements and activities will have to be accounted for.

7. No squad will be formed merely to locate unspecified suspicious characters to discover unreported property crimes. Such activities, if necessary, can be done by the SI, CI or DySP himself or by personnel of the concerned PS during their intelligence gathering efforts. In fact, the personnel of the Police stations should be tasked and supervised with regard to proper criminal intelligence work in the Police station. Collection of criminal intelligence by squads formed by supervisory officers is not an answer to the failure of PSs to collect good quality criminal intelligence. Actually superior officers must ensure that Police Station staff themselves do the tasks which SDPOs and Circle Inspectors seek to get performed through special squads directly under them.

Director General of Police

To

All Officers in list 'B'

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