

**No. D1-92569/09**

Police Headquarters, Kerala

Thiruvananthapuram 695010

Date: 07/11/2009

**Circular No. 47/09**

Sub: **Registration' of property cases based on confessions of accused persons - Reg.**

When property cases are detected, we arrest professional criminals and gangs. During their interrogation they confess to a number of hitherto unreported instances of property crimes. In such cases it is noticed that a new case is registered for each such instance without verification. Often, on such occasions, the statement of the accused is the only information about the crime. They are mostly vague statements about property crimes committed in a particular locality, containing only non-specific details about the locations and properties involved. The FIRs registered based on such information often turn out to be false on verification. The criminal may do this out of fear, or to confuse his interrogators or for other personal motives. Such cases add to the burden of work and also negatively affect true crime detection and prevention.

In these circumstances it is to be remembered that a confession becomes admissible evidence only if a part of it leads to the discovery of a material "fact". Therefore the course of action on such occasions should be that when instances of commission of other property offences other than the detected or registered ones are revealed by apprehended criminals to have taken place in the limit of other Police Stations, such information should be properly verified. Only where such confession leads to discovery of a definite culpable fact in the form of recovery of property, or other material circumstance having evidentiary value, should a case be registered. Otherwise, the part of the confession along with the full confession statement may be sent to the S.L of the concerned Police Station as a report to take further lawful action.

Unit heads are instructed to ensure this through proper supervision.

  
**DIRECTOR GENERAL OF POLICE  
KERALA**  
7/11/09