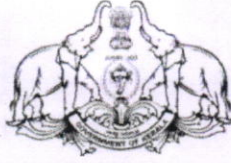


POLICE



DEPARTMENT

KERALA

No.S1-86898/2020/PHQ

Police Headquarters, Kerala
Thiruvananthapuram – 695010

Office: 0471 - 2721547

Email: phq.pol@kerala.gov.in

Dated: 10/08/2020

Circular No. 27/2020

**Sub: Kerala Police – ‘Child Friendly Spaces in Police Stations’
– Instructions issued – Reg.**

Ref: (1) PHQ Circular No.07/2020 dated 26/01/2020.

(2) PHQ Order No. H4-237196/2016/PHQ (B) dated 03/01/2017.

Children are the most valuable but vulnerable sections of any society.

This is particularly important in the case of Kerala, which is undergoing rapid social and economic transformations. Declared as a pandemic of unprecedented proportions, COVID-19 has resulted in the development of extraordinary mental health issues among children. They suffer from behavioural, emotional, learning and social issues. Such children often fall prey to various anti-social activities. Crime against children is also on rise.

02. Police is the first contact point for children in most vulnerable situations. Hence, the role of Police Officers in securing childhood & child protection is crucial. Police has been mandated under various legislations to play an important role in the case of both children in conflict with law and in need of care and protection. If Police executes their duty, equipped with knowledge and sensitivity, child rights will be protected and abuse and violence against children will be prevented.

03. Children and Police (CAP) is an unique platform of Kerala Police, for initiating and co-ordinating various child centred projects to ensure care, protection and development of children. The ‘**CAP HOUSE**’ was inaugurated by Hon’ble Chief Minister, Govt. of Kerala, on 26th January 2020. CAP House is envisioned as a State Level Resource Centre of Kerala Police, to further its commitment towards ensuring a conducive and nurturing environment for the Children of Kerala by ensuring strengthened implementation of its Child related initiatives.

04. 'Child Friendly Police Stations having Child Friendly Spaces' is one of the several initiatives of CAP which envisage the transformation of Police Stations as abodes of justice to provide effective, timely, and friendly services to children and their guardians. The mission of 'Child Friendly Police Station' is to create an invisible wall of protection around every child through the active partnership of parents, teachers, relevant stake holders and society at large.

05. Initially, the concept of Child Friendly Police Stations was experimented in selected six Police Stations of Kerala. As part of this, Capacity Development Programmes were organized in collaboration with the UNICEF and Women & Child Development Department of the State Government and 5000 Police personnel were trained in Child Friendly Police attitude and skills.

06. Following the success and learning of/from the first phase, the initiative was extended to 87 more Police Stations of the state.

07. The Aims & Objectives of 'Child Friendly Police Stations':

Child Friendly Police Stations is a CAP initiative to ensure that:

- Our children grow up in an atmosphere of affection, protection and care.
- Any abuse or atrocity against a child is investigated promptly and meticulously, and the offenders are brought before law.
- Children at risk are identified at an early age and are nurtured to become capable and responsible citizens of the nation.
- Parents, teachers and society at large are aware about the rights of the children.
- Our children are aware of their rights as well as their duties as responsible citizens of our country.
- Our children travel in safety and comfort.
- No child is engaged in child labour or child beggary.
- Our Police Stations become abodes of justice so that any child, parents or anyone with an issue related to children can confidently approach these stations for support.
- Every Child Friendly Police Station will operate on an affection driven - partnership model by strengthening co-ordination between Government/Non-Government agencies responsible for the care and protection of children and civil society.
- Ultimately an invisible wall of protection is created around every child through the active partnership of parents, teachers and society at large.

08. The Structure of Child Friendly Police Stations:

The Child Friendly Police Station will have:

- A designated Police Officer as 'Child Welfare Officer'.
- A separate space/room with proper ambience to talk to children.
- Facility for sitting, toilet and safe drinking water for children.
- Child Welfare Officer/other trained Police Officer available in the separate room or space designated in the Police Station for addressing children's issue.
- Child related informative posters related to Acts or other provisions are displayed. A Board in Malayalam on 21 indicators is also displayed in the Police Station.
- Name of 'Child Welfare Officer' prominently displayed.

09. Procedures to be followed in the 'Child Friendly Police Stations':

- Separate register is maintained in the Police Station to:
 - (a) record cases related to Children;
 - (b) Complaints registered on crime against Children; and
 - (c) action taken.
- FIR is registered for missing children.
- A copy of FIR of the Crime case against children including missing children is given to parents/legal guardians/complainant free of cost promptly.
- Officers in Police Stations are aware about the right procedure to be followed in case of Child in need of care & protection and child in conflict with law.
- 'Child Welfare Officer' in the Police Station has right knowledge about the provisions under Special Acts for Protection of Children and he/she uses it in best interest of the child (A Lady Police Officer is better suited Child Welfare Officer).
- In the case of a crime against children, case is registered without fail and is investigated by the designated officer.
- All evidences are adduced in a timely manner.
- Arrangements to record statement u/s. 164 CrPC, without any lapse of time.
- Speedy arrest of the accused, to get him/her remanded to the judicial Custody.
- Charge sheeting of the cases within the stipulated time.
- Day-to-day supervision of the progress of the investigation by the immediate superior officer.

- Mandatory review and discussion of the cases in crime conferences IoPs and Sub Divisional Officers (SDPOs), to assess the progress of the investigations and to chalk out action plans for further investigations, ensuring compliance of actions.
- Immediate presentation of the child (in conflict with law) before the CWC.
- Strict adherence to the following procedures while dealing atrocities against children.
- Assigning a registration number for each complaint and recording the same in writing.
- Reading over the details to the informant.
- Maintenance of a Special Register for entry of required details.
- Immediate registration of Statutory FIR.
- Assurance of care & protection to the victim and arrangements within 24 hours.
- Immediate reporting to CWC and the special court/Court of Sessions.
- Strict measures to book anti-social elements working to recruit children for destructive activities, both physically and through online platforms.
- Creative measures to prevent children from getting into the influence of anti-social elements by forming an invisible wall of protection around children.
- Stringent adherence to the stipulated procedures under Protection of Children from Sexual Offences (POCSO) act in the cases of sexual offences against children.

10. In every 'Child Friendly Space' in Police Stations, a WCPO will be posted as '**Care Taker**'. A 'CCTV camera' connected to a Computer may be installed in the 'Child Friendly Space' having power backer through inverter/UPS.

11. 'CAP House' being the State Resource Centre will prepare an Activity Calendar for every month and send to the DPCs concerned. CAP House will organize basic and periodic training for the Police personnel of Child Friendly Police Stations. Accordingly, the DPCs will also prepare an Activity Calendar adding any additional requirement/programmes and send to the concerned Police Stations. CAP House will co-ordinate the activities. The DPCs are free to organize any additional activities which further the objectives of Child Friendly Police Stations in co-operation with the IMA or any other meaningful NGOs. They will submit the monthly report to the State Police Chief through Inspector General of Police (HQ)/CAP House Nodal Officer.

12. Cleaning and Disinfection

Soap, Towel, Sanitizer, Tissue paper etc must be kept in the 'Child Friendly Space' during epidemic/pandemic

10/8/2020
Loknath Behera IPS
DGP/State Police Chief, Kerala

Distribution: **All Officers in List D.**

Copy for n/a:

All Unit Heads

All Officers in List 'B' (including Spl. Units)

All Officers in PHQ

SFO / Manager / AO / JS / SS / Sections in PHQ.

State Police Media Centre, PHQ

CA to SPC / Police Website / Circular Book / 'D' Space

27/2020

S1-86898/2020/PHQ

Sir,

As per the orders and as discussed with the IGP (HQ), **draft 'Circular' issuing instructions for the functioning of the 'Child Friendly Spaces in Police Stations' in the State, P/U may be approved.**

JS_S (181449), Suresh G Krishnan, Junior Superintendent
Sat, 25/07/2020 03:46:04 PM

I have corrected
a draft & given
to IG HQ. Put up
the file

IG HQ

hw
28/7

done
28/7

96)

Sir,

Please see pre para NF.

As per the orders, **corrected draft 'Circular' issuing instructions for the functioning of the 'Child Friendly Spaces in Police Stations' in the State, P/U may be approved.**

JS_S (181449), Suresh G Krishnan, Junior Superintendent
Wed, 29/07/2020 10:18:09 AM

Give Proper Number to the
Circular.

It has to be issued in
proper format.

IG HQ

hw
31/7

POLICE



DEPARTMENT

No.S1-86898/2020/PHQ

Police Headquarters,

Thiruvananthapuram

✉phq.pol@kerala.gov.in

☎04712721547

Dated. _____

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hw 31.7.2020
Loknath Behera

To : All Officers in List D.

Copy : 1. CAs to DGP & SPC/All Staff Officers/DD SPMC/SFO/Manager/AO, All
 To JS/SS/Sections in PHQ.
 2. D Space.