

POLICE CIRCULAR ORDER NO. 240/81

SUBJECT :—Use of Police Wireless Grid

The police wireless Network has been functioning for sometime past under heavy pressure. This is largely due to (a) indiscriminate use of the channels and (b) sheer disregard of licensing conditions as well as instructions regarding the use of the Police Wireless Network issued from time to time by Government. There is a growing tendency to send detailed reports over a marathon text and inflate the priority order, not commensurate with the situations. The commulative effect is the clogging of the channels resulting in unnecessary delay to the transmission of important short messages bearing correct priority and needing immediate executive action.

2. As the police radio Wireless Network has been licensed primarily for the transmission of operationally important messages pertaining to law and order, the licensing and monitoring authorities are often objecting with veiled threats to cancel the operating licences, should we continue to misuse the channel. It is thus imperative that restrictions are imposed for eliminating the superfluous load.

3. By virtue of the powers conferred on me as a licensee, to establish and maintain police wireless Network under Telegraph Act, 1885, as amended to operate on behalf of the Governor of Orissa and in conformity with the principles laid down in the radio procedure for Police Services, 1971, I hereby, spell the following forms.

(1) PRIORITY :

(a) *CRASH* : The use of this priority is restricted for extreme emergencies and therefore be resorted to in very exceptional circumstances addressee has to take immediate executive action to save human life or to prevent damage to valuable property.

(b) *MOST IMMEDIATE* : This priority is restricted to message conveying information or instructions relating to natural calamities, disturbances (anti-social and political), strikes, riot, murder, security and movement of Police Force.

(c) *IMMEDIATE* : This priority is restricted to messages conveying information relating to law and order situations like strikes, disturbances upheaval, crime and criminals, movement of higher Government officials and VIPs.

(d) *ORDINARY (ROUTINE)* : Messages connected with Law and Order which are urgent enough to justify the use of wireless.

2. AUTHORISED ORIGINATORS :

MOST IMMEDIATE : Chief Secretary, Inspector-General of Police, Commissioner of Division, Home Secretary, DI-G of Police, District Magistrate, Superintendent of Police.

IMMEDIATE : Deputies and one rank below the above named officials. An Officer entitles to affix higher order of priority should not use the same order of priority in every message. In all cases the priorities should be hand written by the originator and signed and under no circumstances this responsibility should be delegated to others.

3. *TEXT* : The text should be very brief, written in telegraphic language and should not exceed more than 50 words for priority MESSAGE. Act places having T.P. Services, in operative condition, the text could extend to 100 words only and not more.

4. The practice of sending bundles of Wireless messages to the Police Wireless Stations at the end of the day must be avoided as such messages may have to wait to be cleared.

5. Wireless messages should not be issued for furnishing routine information other than those connected with Parliament/Assembly Questions, or dealing with urgent movement of food materials, life saving drugs and immediate relief measures.

6. So long as there is no break-down in the P.& T. Commercial system to non-departmental and non-law and order message be accepted for transmission. A certificate to the effect of failure of P. & T. Channel should be furnished by the non-departmental originators.

7. The O.I.C. of the Police Wireless Station and S.P./D.S.P./C.I. in their District, Subdivision and Circle respectively are authorised to withhold or down grade the priority according to their discretion, any non-departmental message which does not adhere to the above instructions. The message received at Headquarters will similarly be checked by the S.P., Signals or in his absence by any officer duly authorised by him. Messages not satisfying the prescribed licensing conditions and parameters detailed above, should be returned to the originators with appropriate remarks and observations, immediately through the same messenger.

8. The O.I.C. of the Police Wireless Station should issue delay memo when it is anticipated that the priority messages are likely to be delayed beyond thirty minutes for crash, one hour for Most Immediate, two hours for Immediate and twelve hours for ordinary or routine messages, before those are initiated for transmission.

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