

**POLICE CIRCULAR ORDER NO. 263/86**

SUBJECT :—Instructions regarding escort of Prisoners.

Instances have come to notice in which prisoners have escaped from jails as well as from Police custody, due to carelessness and negligence of the escort party or by winning over, them by adopting deceitful means.

The mode of supply of guards ad escort has been spelt out in Chapter XVIII of the Police Manual Vol. I. Besides, instructions have also been issued from time to time emphasising the importance of the duties of the escort, but such rules and instructions, it appears, are not being strictly and objectively followed and this is giving scope to the criminals to take advantage of the negligence and deficiencies of the escort party and escape. The instructions issued in P.C.O. No. 12 are also relevant in this context.

In the recent past Charles Sobhraj, one of the dangerous international criminals escaped from Tihar Jail, Delhi by adopting deceitful means and luring the guards with all kinds of temptations.

In this state also one Chimpti Lal, a veteran robber and dacoit could manage to escape from the Police Custody, while being escorted to the Sessions Court at Rourkela by adopting deceitful tactics and taking advantage of the unalertness of the escort party. He offered some cold drinks mixed with stupifying drug to the escort party who after consuming the same became delivious and senseless and he escaped from their custody taking advantage of the situation.

These incidents should be treated as eye openers for the Police and it is high time that they try to be more careful and alert while escorting prisoners from one place to another or keeping them in custody.

It is, therefore, ordered that the members of escort parties shall strictly followed the Rules and instructions relating to escort duty and they will be alert at all times. They will not take any food, drinks or cigarettes, pan etc. from the prisoners, nor act in any manner so as to fall prey to their evil designs. Any deviation from these instructions or negligence in escort duty should be severely dealt with.

**B. K. PANIGRAHI**  
Director-General of Police, Orissa