

POLICE CIRCULAR ORDER No. 130

Surveillance
Drive

At present surveillance over criminals is found to be superficial almost everywhere, though this forms an important part of Police work for the prevention and detection of Crime. The Thana Officers do not appear to be strictly complying with the instructions contained in P. M. Rules 67 to 380 and those issued separately from time to time. At places the number of surveillees is too large for the thana staff to carry out surveillance duties properly. With a view to eliminating harmless surveillees from the list and arranging proper watch over the active criminals, a surveillance drive should be arranged on the lines indicated below.

To drive should be taken up simultaneously in all Police-stations of a district from a date to be fixed by the S.P. and should continue for a month. It should be conducted by the Officer-in-charge himself and his junior S. I. where sanctioned, or A.S.-I and in no case should this be entrusted to a Constable.

(a) A detailed enquiry on all the points envisaged in the P. M. Rules are to be made about each surveillee from various sources, and the result thereof noted in full. This will enable the officers to bring the History sheet up-to-date.

(b) All convictions/complicity in cases should be recorded in the appropriate columns of the History sheet and the entries required to be made under different headings of the History-sheets should be recorded in the respective columns.

(c) The Officer-in-Charge should scrutinise the entries and take a decision as to the continuance of the man under surveillance or his removal there from, and after completing his scrutiny/examination he should prepare and send a consolidated report to the Superintendent of Police through his Inspector indicating as to who are to be removed from surveillance, who of them are to be changed from monthly to quarterly to half yearly etc., who of them are to be brought over from inactive/harmless lists to active surveillance.

(d) On receipt of the consolidated report from the Officer-in-Charge, the Inspector will forward it with his recommendations to the Superintendent of Police for necessary orders.

(e) During this drive enquiries should be made about ex-convicts, absconders and persons against whom warrants are pending unexecuted, and the result noted in appropriate registers.

(f) A look-out should be maintained for bad characters from other jurisdictions, stranger, or suspicious person temporarily residing in the area and he should be thoroughly interrogated and legal action taken against him when warranted. Possible places of rendezvous of criminals should also be checked in course of this drive. Reliable persons should be taken into confidence and advised to relay information about arrival/departure of suspicious persons.

(g) The subordinate staff and the rural Police should be put through a course of memorising the surveillees, absconders and warrantees of the area. Where there is a village Defence Party or Resistance Group, its members should be acquainted with the particulars of such persons so that they could maintain an unobtrusive watch and send information of value to the Police, when necessary.

(h) A consolidated report about the result of the drive should be sent by the Circle Inspector with regard to all the police-stations in his charge along with each Quarterly Crime Review. The Superintendents of Police will please make a note about the result of the drive in their Quarterly Crime Reviews.

(Previous Police Circular Order No. 3 of 1960)