

POLICE CIRCULAR ORDER NO. 253/83

SUBJECT : Deployment of of police dogs for detective work.

The police dog squads are operating in different parts of the State. Although rules for deployment of police dogs for detective work have been framed, the same are not being followed strictly as a result the health and efficiency of police dogs are affected. Besides reports of the police dogs being indiscriminately put to severe strain by frequent deployment have been received. Due to over exertion and heat a police dog has recently expired. It is needless to stress the point that the police dogs are not meant to replace a police detective but to help and assist him in his task of investigation of cases. Instructions in the booklet "RULES FOR DEPLOYMENT OF POLICE DOGS FOR DETECTION WORK" are not being followed. The following guide lines regarding development of the police dogs are therefore reiterated for strict compliance :—

I. Requisition for dogs :

- (a) The controlling officer alone is authorised to order for deputation of a police dog.
- (b) Requisition must be restricted to only grave and important cases.
- (c) No dog should be requisitioned after or during heavy rainfall and violent wind.
- (d) No requisition should be sent for deployment of the dog in cases where key-scent is not available at the spot.
- (e) If there is no possibility of the dog reaching the scene of crime within 48 hours of the occurrence which is a very liberal limit, no requisition for the dogs normally should be placed.

II. Deployment of police dogs :

- (a) The health and condition of the dog must be taken into consideration before deployment.
- (b) Discretion about the actual deployment of police dogs in cases should rest with the O.I.C. of the Dog Squad concerned. He should not be needlessly pressurised to take out the dogs. In case, there is any controversy, the matter shall be decided jointly by S.P., C.I.D., C.B. and S.P. of the district.
- (c) A jeep/Dog Van should at all times be detailed for carrying police dog from the squad to the place of occurrence. Under no circumstances heavy vehicle like 3 tonnar, pickup etc. should be utilised for carrying dogs.
- (d) As soon as the police dog arrives at the P.-S., the dog should be given adequate rest before proceeding to the spot. The period of rest will be decided by the handler of the dog.
- (e) The dog on no account should be used during hot summer, strong winds, night time and heavy rainfall.
- (f) The dog should not be deployed after 3 A.M. and before 4.30 P.M. of the day, specially during summer.
- (g) When the dog is deputed through cold or wet weather, canine globes and canine shoes should be utilised.
- (h) Where more than one dog is available, the dogs should be sent to attend cases by rotation.
- (i) The dog with the party must return to the headquarters of the squad immediately after the operation is over. It should not be reutilised in any other cases that may have been reported in the meanwhile, to avoid strain on the dog.
- (j) On return to the Squad, the S.I. Dog squad should make entries about the health of the dog as well as result achieved by the dog in the concerned register maintained at the Squad.

III. Inspection and Supervision :

- (1) District S.P. shall inspect the dog squad at least once a year to ensure proper care, feeding and training of the dogs. Besides, the R.I./Inspector at Headquarters/Subdivisional Headquarters/D.S.P./A.S.P. I./c. of the subdivisional Headquarters will supervise the diet of the dogs by supervise visits at least twice a month in order to ensure supply of proper food to the dogs. They will also look into the proper care and maintenance of dogs.
- (2) S.P., C.I.D., C.B. will visit the dog squads once every year specially to ensure that the dogs are trained properly and kept in good health. In addition, the Range D.I.G. as well as D.I.G, C.I.D. may visit the dog squads at intervals and satisfy themselves that upkeep, feeding and training of the dogs are not neglected.

(DDS.C-4/1983)

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Director General of Police.