The Deputy Accountant-General, Orissa, Ranchi has brought to my notice that there have been cases of fraudulent use of Railway Warrants in some States due to failure on the part of controlling officers to have an effective check over the matter. A reference is invited in this connection to the instructions contained in P. M. Appendix 31. Strict observance of these instructions by all concerned will certainly obviate any misuse of Railway Warrants. Amongst other things, the following points should be borne in mind to ensure proper issue and use of the Warrants:—

(i) Before distribution of Railway Warrant books to various posts, the Head Clerks of Police Offices shall count the number of pages in cash book and certify on the inner side of the cover the actual number of pages found.

(ii) The books of Warrants shall be kept under lock and key by every officer entrusted with them.

(iii) Warrants should be used by the Police Officers and men and for the purpose mention in rule 2(a) of P. M. Appendix 31 only.

(iv) Purpose of the journey shall be clearly noted both in the bound foil and other two foils of the Railway Warrant when issued to any officer or man. The number and date of the Warrant shall invariably be noted both in the original and carbon copies of the Command Certificates. The number and date of the Command Certificate should similarly be recorded in the counterfoil of the Railway Warrant.

(v) Gazetteed Officers while inspecting a post or office shall examine the Warrant books to see that the counterfoils and unused forms in the book are in order. They shall also check at random a certain number of counterfoils against the relevant records and satisfy themselves that the Warrants have been issued to the authorised persons and for the authorised journeys.

2. It may be borne in mind that the issuing offices shall be primarily responsible for any misuse of the Warrants. Besides departmental action, they shall be liable to pay the cost of the ticket on any Warrant fraudulently used by any unauthorised person.

Manual reference Appendix 31

(Previous Police Order Reference No. 8 of 1956)