

POLICE CIRCULAR ORDER NO. 271 OF 1990

SUBJECT :—Police Computerisation Programme—Usage of the System and Training of personnel.

1. Information technology has undergone revolutionary changes during the last decade. Labourious manual sifting of documentation for information is rapidly becoming absolute and computerised data processing has taken a firm footing in its place. A milestone in the Police Computerisation Programme is the installation of a Computer at Bhubaneswar, providing access through on line and off line communication facilities from every nook and corner of the Districts. Herculean efforts have gone into create the data base for the crime-criminal-finger print system. If fruits are to be derived the retrieval systems designed in the Computer should be relied upon by the investigating officers as a means of modern scientific tool in endeavours towards crime prevention and detection.

2. The Computer is no wizard. It can not foretell a crime far less pronounce divinely which criminal is involved in a crime. It has but unparalleled capacity for storage of vast crime data transgressing the P.-S., District and State limits, and exceptionally fast data processing capabilities to give valuable clues relating to crime, criminals, in a matter of seconds. A spin off is statistical data in whichever form they are needed to base decisions. Most of you should be familiar with the fundamental requirement of ensuring competitive and accurate input data relying on which the Computer furnishes retrievals. If no care is taken on this critical step, GIGO factor (Garbage In Garbage Out) takes over making the whole exercise infructuous.

3. As it is commonly said that the proof of the pudding lies in creating, the system is helpful only if adequate retrieval queries are made. A review of retrieval performance was made in the S.C.R.B. About a third (33.3%) of the total crime reported each year in the State, approximately 15,000 are property offence crimes in which the retrieval system can be made adequate use of. Correspondingly, however, on an average each year only about 1200 queries were found raised. This works out to an average of 4 queries per day and a performance level of about 8%. The existing infrastructural facilities makes the services within the reach of every P.S. This alone could not be the reason for such low retrieval position. A careful examination of queries reflected that the I.Os. are not familiar with the retrieval parameters on which queries are to be based. Therefore, there are reasons to hold that the IOs are shy of originating queries and are distancing themselves from the service. The solution lies in renewed training of the end users namely I.Os. to make them rely on the system to a greater degree. In our growing emphasise to depend on scientific aids to the Investigation as a measure of attitudinal change the retrieval system holds a prominent position.

4. The S.C.R.B. conducts 3 days courses at each district as per advanced programme already communicated. It was notice that the attendance of the I.Os. in such courses are proportionately very low. It is imperative that for some time to come only IOs are mobilised for undergoing the course. It is for their convenience that the courses are conducted at District Headquarters so as not to cause any dislocation to their current responsibilities.

5. It is required of the District Ss.P. that the following measures are implemented with no let up.

- (a) Retrieval queries should be organised mandatorily in all dacoity, robbery, important burglary and important theft cases (including motor vehicle, fire arm cultural property thefts). The instructions given in the hand book for retrieval system should be relied to base the queries.
- (b) Finger Prints of all the convicts have also been computerised in a 40 digit classification. Criminals arrested in specific property offence crimes should be treated as unidentified and references should be made to the Computer Centre/Finger Print Bureau with search slips for establishing correct identities as well as previous convictions, if any.
- (c) The system is required to be updated constantly so that when retrievals are made it takes into search, particulars of recent crimes also. The District Ss. P. may ensure that there is a steady data flow without undue time lag. The I.Os. should also directly involve themselves in the process of preparing input forms so that the data furnished are qualitative and accurate.
- (d) In future, all I.Os. should be mobilised in turns to attend the training courses organised in your Districts keeping in view the guidelines furnished by the S.C.R.B.

6. With the creation of the N.C.R.B. at National level, a S.C.R.B. at the State level and D.C.R.Bx. at each district level, a new strategy is planned to achieve standardisation and uniformity in practices not only in the State but all over the country. A newly designed set of Integrated Police Forms are proposed to be introduced at the P.-S. level to reduce additional scriptory work and to capture qualitative data without delay. The S.C.R.B. will be introducing details in this regard shortly. Integrated with this concept is the perspective plan to provide Independent Terminals (P.C.) at each D.C.R.Bx level linked through a network to the Computer at the S.C.R.B. level and through the same to the Computer at the N.C.R.B. level for information sharing .

7. The S.C.R.B. will be monitoring the progress in this regard and will be bringing details to my notice periodically.

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