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POLICE CIRCULAR ORDER NO. 336/2013

**WOMAN AND CHILD CELLS, HELPLINE AND PROTECTION PCR VANS**

To facilitate an integrated and an improved response of the police to crimes against women and children, it has been decided to set up the following in each police district of the State. The details have been finalised in a meeting with the Commissioner-cum-Secretary to the Government of Orissa, W&CD Department and the Hon'ble Chairperson of the Orissa State Mahila Commission.

**WOMAN AND CHILD CELL:**

1. Each Police district in the State will have a Women and Child Cell which will supervise the response of all the Police Stations of that district to all kinds of crime/complaints relating to women and children. This will function under the overall control of the district SP assisted by the DSP HRPC (who has also been recently designated as Chairman of the Special Juvenile Police Unit). The SP may entrust enquiry/investigation of important matters/cases to this cell. This Cell will comprise:
  - i) An Inspector of Police (preferably a lady)
  - ii) A SI/ ASI of police (preferably a lady) and
  - iii) 4 Constables of whom at least two will be lady Constables.

The Government is being requested to sanction extra posts for these. However, pending such sanction, the posts will be manned by redistribution. Orders for this are being issued separately.

2. The District Protection Officer, appointed by the Government under the Domestic Violence Act, 2005, will be a member of the aforesaid District Women and Child Cell. This will help in developing a better interface between the police and the District Protection Officer and also help in implementation of the Domestic Violence Act, 2005.
3. A Standard Operating Procedure for the aforesaid Women and Child Cells will be prepared and circulated soon by the State Police Headquarters.
4. The AIHTU, wherever it is in existence, will be tagged to the said District Women and Child Cell for more effective co-ordination.
5. The District HRPC will therefore now have two cells i.e. the Women and Child Cell under the Women Inspector of Police and the SC&ST Cell under another officer. Both the Cells will function under the DSP HRPC (who has been recently designated as head of the Special Juvenile Police Unit) under the overall Command and Control of the district SP. They will supervise the work of the Mahila and Sishu Desks at the police stations and the Mahila Police Stations (wherever they exist).

**WOMAN HELPLINE:**

6. There will be a dedicated "Women Helpline" with toll free telephone number "181". All calls made by the public to "181" will land at the District Women & Child Cell of the respective district where at least one Constable will be present round the Clock. In due course, call logging systems "Dial 181" will be provided to these cells. Adequate publicity will be given to this facility.
7. The BSNL authorities as well as other operators have to be contacted in this regard. Necessary liaison with them for this is being taken up by the State Police Headquarters and the HRPC.
8. The Inspector of the Women and Child Cell will be fully responsible for ensuring that all calls received to this number are properly answered and responded to. A log of all action taken will be maintained and weekly reports in a prescribed format will be put up to the SP on each Monday.

**WOMAN AND CHILD PROTECTION PCR VANS:**

9. This Cell will be provided with a vehicle and necessary staff by the District Police for functioning of a Women and Child Protection PCR Van which will attend to all urgent calls received from women in distress. A component of lady staff in this PCR van is mandatory. This will be in addition to the normal response of the Police Stations to such calls. Wherever AIHTU vehicles are available, they will be used till alternate arrangements are made. The words "Women and Child Protection PCR Van" will be painted on this vehicle. In the meantime this requirement of vehicle and this staff will be projected to the Government also.
10. This will initially be made functional in UPD Bhubaneswar, UPD Cuttack and the police districts of Rourkela, Sambalpur, Puri, Berhampur, Raygada, Balasore and Angul.

All these have to be implemented at the earliest and in the right earnest.



DG and IG of Police, Orissa,  
Cuttack