

Police Order

No. 05

Dated 14.07.2014

1. In partial modification of Police Order Nos.6/05, 10/05, 09/10, 7/11 & 9/11, it is ordered that there will be a Protection of Women and Children Cell (POWC) in the Headquarter of every district/Commissionerate of West Bengal Police. It will be headed by 1 Inspector with at least 2 Sub Inspectors (of which at least one will be a lady), 2 ASIs and 2 Constables. The SP/Commissioner of Police of the district/Commissionerate may entrust the investigation of all important cases of atrocities against women to this Cell.
2. The POWC Cell will act as Nodal Agency for crime against women and children in the district/Commissionerate and will coordinate with West Bengal Women Commission, all State and National Commissions and all other concerned agencies of the State and Central Government under the direct supervision of District Superintendent of Police /Commissioner of Police.
3. This cell will also implement the directions given earlier vide Police Order No.6/05 (subject – dealing with juveniles in conflict with law and children in need of care and protection and role of Police under Juvenile Justice (Care & Protection of Children) Act, 2000 & Juvenile Justice Rules 2007), in addition to looking after crimes against women. This Cell will also work as Special Juvenile Police Unit(SJPU) under the Act.
4. POWC Cell will also act as the district Anti human Trafficking Unit(AHTU). It will perform all functions of the district AHTU as described in MHA advisory (F No 15011/06/2009-ATC dated 09/09/2009 & 10/09/2010 on Preventing and Combating Human Trafficking in India). The AHTU will mandatorily take over the investigation of cases of children who are missing for more than 4 months (as per order of Hon'ble Supreme Court in Bachpan Bachao Andolan -Vs- Union of India in WP(C) No. 75/2012) and will also take up all other important cases of trafficking of women and children in the district which may be endorsed by district SPs.
5. The Inspector Missing Persons Bureau (MPB) of the district will be the ex officio Inspector SJPU and Inspector AHTU and will head the POWC as mentioned in Para (1).

6. Dy. SP DEB of the district will be the Nodal Officer to supervise all these sections and will be responsible for implementation of all Special Acts, MHA guidelines and orders of Ld Courts relating to Women & Children in the district. He will be assisted by his own ministerial setup of the Enforcement Branch of the district in his function as the nodal officer.

Wherever sanction for the post of Dy.SP, DEB does not exist, SP/CP will nominate a suitable Dy.SP / ACP as the nodal officer to supervise the functioning of all these cells.

7. The Dy. SP DEB and ex-officio nodal officer of AHTU, SJPU and MPB will also be the supervisory Dy. SP of all the Women Police Stations, Women Help Desks, Women Helpline or any such other unit / entity present in the district police organization for addressing grievances of distressed women and children under Additional SP Headquarter of the district.
8. He will be responsible for organizing fortnightly training and sensitization of Child Welfare officers and all other officers of the district on guidelines, statutes and Court orders regarding issues of women and children.
9. SPs/CPs will review all cases investigated by this unit (POWC-AHTU-SJPU-MPB) in their crime conference every month.
10. SPs/CPs will ensure that at any point of time, at least 90% of the district officers and 100% of the Child Welfare Officers have attended at least one such training module at the district Headquarter apart from such trainings at other training institutes of the State or Central Government.
11. SPs/CPs will also take steps to declare every PS as child-friendly by ensuring that the OCs implement JJ Act and JJ Rules and concerned guidelines in letter and spirit.

Sd/- 11.07.14

(G. M. P. Reddy)

Director General & Inspector General of Police
West Bengal