

POLICE CIRCULAR ORDER NO.301/2000

Sub : **Assault on field officials of the Government.**

Many instances of assault, intimidation and harassment to the field officials of Panchayati Raj Department have, of late, come to the notice of the Government. The Govt. view such incidents with great repugnance. You are aware that Block Development Officers and other Block level officials who are at the cutting edge of the administration are entrusted with implementing policies and programmes of the State. Government policies and programmes can, quite easily, either be sabotaged or derailed if the executing officials are forced to live under constant shadow of threats and physical assaults. Such is, more or less, believed to be the emerging scenario, as far as other departments also are concerned. Therefore, it behoves all the district Supdts. of Police to deal with such cases with utmost promptitude and professionalism. Minor technical issues should never be allowed to be a reason either to hold up their investigation or delay remedial action. In a way, physical assault on a government official, committed to principles and devoted to duty, and letting loose a reign of terror are calculated acts of terrorism in as much as, by assaulting a government official, a message is sought to be conveyed by the miscreants to others placed in similar situations, thus leading to apprehension, despair and demoralisation among the field officers. It may as well be that some of the incidents may have been due to unprofessionalism and corrupt practices on the part of some government officials. While Government are determined to take action against such officials either on their own or by utilising the Vigilance machinery, it is, by no means, legal or justified for any individuals, however aggrieved, to take law into their own hands by intimidation, harassment or physical assault. The police have, undoubtedly, a critical role to play in this context.

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Hence, I order that especially in cases of assault, intimidation and harassment to the government officials, the Supdts. of Police shall take personal interest and supervise the cases themselves to ensure prompt arrest of the culprits, as per law, irrespective of their social status, political linkage or affiliation. I also direct that, henceforth, the Supdts. of Police must treat all these cases as **Special Report** cases to be closely monitored by the **Crime Branch**. Such cases must be reported in the daily sitrep for information of Police Headquarters with appropriate details indicating action taken for my perusal.

Sd/-
D.G. & I.G. of Police,
Orissa, Cuttack.

Memo No. 3182 /Con.

Dated. 5.6.2000

Copy to all the district Supdts. of Police including S.R.P., Rourkela and Cuttack for information and necessary action.

Copy to all Range D.Is.G. of Police and I.G.P., Rlys. for information and necessary action.

Copy to all other Police Estts. for information.

Copy to the Commissioner-cum-Secretary to Government, Home Department, Orissa, Bhubaneswar for favour of information.

AV-Ram
6.5.2000
D.I.G. of Police (Admn.)
Orissa, Cuttack.

O.D. No. 3183/Con. dt. 5.6.2000

Copy to S.O., Supply Section for information and necessary action.

(ii) Copy to IIC, Control Room, State Police Hdqrs., Cuttack for information and necessary action.

(iii) Copy to Sr. Asst. Sri S.K. Palo, Con. Section for information and necessary action.