

IN THE HIGH COURT OF JUDICATURE AT PATNA
Civil Writ Jurisdiction Case No.7622 of 2022

Based on Hon'ble Court's Order dt. 06.04.2022 passed in Cr. Misc. No. 25431/2021

... .. Petitioner/s

Versus

The State of Bihar & Ors.

... .. Respondent/s

Appearance :

For the Petitioner/s	:	Mrs. Soni Srivastava, <i>Amicus Curiae</i>
For the State	:	Mr. P.K.Shahi, A.G. Mr. Vikas Kumar, AC to A.G. Mr. Sanjiv Kumar, (Research Counsel)
For the BPBCC	:	Mr. Prasoon Sinha, Advocate

CORAM: HONOURABLE THE ACTING CHIEF JUSTICE
and
HONOURABLE MR. JUSTICE MADHURESH PRASAD
ORAL ORDER

(Per: HONOURABLE THE ACTING CHIEF JUSTICE)

12 15-03-2023 The report submitted by Dr. Kamal Kishore Singh, Additional Director General of Police (Modernisation), appointed as an officer of this Court in the present writ proceedings in the nature of Public Interest Litigation, is available on record. The said report was submitted on 01.03.2023. Dr. Singh is present in Court today.

The Bihar Police Building Construction Corporation (hereinafter referred to as the 'BPBCC') is assigned with the work of construction of buildings of Police Stations/Police Out-Posts in the State of Bihar. Dr. Singh has produced before us a tabular chart disclosing work status in respect of construction of



Police Stations/Police Out- Posts by the BPBCC, which is as under:-

“

Bihar Police Building Construction Corporation (BPBCC) - Work Status as on 14.03.23

Year	Total Work Sanctioned	Financial sanction (in Cr) Approx	Work Completed		Percentage Completed (Approx)		Work in Progress
			Physical	Financial (in Cr)	Physical	Financial	
2017-18	51	446.35	22	40.63	43.14	9	29
2018-19	39	398.77	9	15.03	23.08	3.7	30
2019-20	23	107.34	3	0.21	13.04	0.18	20
2020-21	17	633.10	1	0.05	5.88	32.8	16
2021-22	156	1242.69	0	0.10	0	0.16	156
2022-23	152	808.76	0	0	0	0.01	0
Total	438	3637.01	35	56.02	7.99	1.54	251

”

The facts emerging from the figures as disclosed in the said report as regards work status as on 14.02.2023 are glaring.

It transpires from the said figures that out of total 438 works sanctioned from the financial year 2017-18 to 2022-23, 35 works have been completed. Percentage of work completed out of total work sanctioned is minuscule to the extent of 15.19 per cent approximately.

For the financial year 2021-22, 156 works were sanctioned. It can be easily discern from the chart that no work has begun at the ground level in respect of said 156 works. Similarly, in 2022-23, 152 total works were sanctioned. The progress in work is zero, which means that even the tender



process has not begun.

It has been pointed out to us that because of lack of its own infrastructure in terms of man power and other issues, BPBCC is not in a position to effectively execute the work of construction of Police Stations/ Police Out- Posts in the State of Bihar. Based on his discussions with the officials of the BPBCC in connection with the present case, Dr. Singh has informed that the post of Chief Engineer in the BPBCC is lying vacant since long. In addition, 27 posts of Assistant Engineer (Civil) and 7 posts of Assistant Engineer (Electrical) are also vacant.

In our considered view, the construction of buildings for Police Stations/ Police Out- Posts is of immense significance and cannot be allowed by the State respondents to be overlooked, in the manner the same has been overlooked so far.

We, accordingly, direct the State of Bihar to ensure that an officer of the rank of Chief Engineer is deputed in BPBCC forthwith, and in no case, beyond one week from today.

Considering the glaring lack of infrastructure available with the BPBCC, which has largely hampered construction of buildings of Police Stations/ Police Out- Posts in the State of Bihar, we direct the Secretary, Building Construction Department, Government of Bihar to proactively



co-ordinate with the BPBCC to ensure that the work of construction of buildings of Police Stations/ Police Out-Posts in the State is expedited.

We express our concern over the fact that in such matters which would have been normally taken care of by the Executive, this Court has been compelled to take *suo motu* notice of lack of Police Station buildings in the State of Bihar, which has resulted into registration of present writ petition in the nature of Public Interest Litigation.

Dr. Singh, in view of the observation made by this Court, in his report, has suggested Standards for Modern Police Station Buildings, which are, at page 28 to 54, as under:-

“Standards for
Modern Police Station Buildings

1. Introduction

The police station buildings are public places, where people visit in distress, expecting the police to help them. They find the police station buildings' ambience wise pathetic, space wise inadequate and cleanliness wise extremely poor. While there is a requirement to refurbish and to augment the existing police stations, it is also important that all the new police station buildings which are being constructed should be so designed that people feel at ease and comfortable in terms of space, cleanliness, functionality and privacy and the Police personnel can perform their duties smoothly.

1.1 The Police Station is a key functional unit from where the police discharge its tasks of maintenance of law & order, investigation of cases etc. The Police Station is also the primary point of interaction between the citizens and the police. During the 49 DsG/IsG Annual Conference on 29/11/2014 Hon'ble Prime Minister introduced the concepts of SMART Police. The first step towards Smart Policing is to design & construct Smart Police Stations which can become the foundation towards Smart Policing. A Smart Police Station should be citizen friendly & clean. It should also meet the operational &



welfare needs of the police personnel posted there.

1.2 Now-a-days increasingly more functions are being entrusted to the police stations by states. Police stations are under the constant watch of media, mostly the electronic media, besides Police station always remains a legal entity. Considering all these aspects and the most important fact that the police stations create an image of the police, it is desirable and expedient that the new police stations should be planned, constructed and furnished appropriately as per the need of time.

1.3 In the recent times, some police stations in several parts of the country have been constructed with a lot of imagination and they have come up well with encouraging response from within police and visitors.

1.4 Needless to say, there should be some standard norms for construction of police station buildings. However, these norms will require to be upgraded as per their Area Specific Characteristics, availability of land and the funds.

1.5 The norms proposed here are the basic requirements for police stations and may be taken as Guidelines only.

2. GUIDELINES/NORMS FOR MODERN POLICE STATIONS BUILDINGS

2.1 There could be Three Categories of Police Stations. The Plinth Area Norms as per BPR&D:-

2.2. Plinth Area Norms

Modern Police Station	PLINTH AREA (SQM)	NO. POLICE PERS.	CAPACITY OF REST ROOMS+ BARRACKS (Female & Male Staff)
City	2800	Up to 200	11+(7+106)= 124
Semi Urban	2075	Up to 150	10+(7+76) = 93
Rural	1300	Up to 100	8+(Nil + 28)= 36

Note:- (1) The Cost of Construction of the Police Station Building (Civil & Electrical) shall be as per the latest Plinth Area Rates of PWD. The cost of furniture & equipment shall be separate, based on



the requirement of specific Police Station.

(2) The Plinth Area includes of an additional third floor for (additional barracks) in police stations of City and Additional second floor in Police Station of Semi-Urban Area. This additional Plinth Area/Floor shall be provided as per the requirement of the barracks in the particular Police Station Building.

2.3 PLINTH AREA/MAN POWER/OFFICE SPACE/REST ROOM/BARRACK DETAILS OF POLICE STATION BUILDINGS

		CITY			SEMI-URBAN			RURAL		
Revised Plinth Area		2800 SQM			2075 SQM			1300 SQM		
No. of Floor		(G+3)			(G+2)			(G+1)		
S. No		Man power	Office Space provided for	Rest Room/ Barrack & living capacity (F+M)	Man power	Office Space provided for	Rest Room/ Barrack & living capacity (F+M)	Man power	Office Space provided for	Rest Room/ Barrack & living capacity
1	SHO	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
2	Inspector	2	2	2	1	1	1	1	1	1
3	Sub-Inspector	8	8	8	8	8	8	6	6	6
4	ASI	4	19	30	2	15	30	2	10	10
5	Head-Constable	55			45			30		
6	Constable	130	Large size room	7+76	93	Large size room	7+46	60	Large size room	18 (M)
	Total	200		124 (60-65%)	150		93 (60-65%)	100		36 (36%)

3. Common Facilities in Modern Police Station Buildings.

3.1 Considering the present day functional domain of the police stations and the number of functions entrusted, the following common facilities have been provided in all the categories of the revised drawings of the Modern Police Station Buildings:-

a) Disable Friendly Entry: A low gradient ramp with railing at the entrance of Police Station Building for convenience of movement of disabled personnel.

b) Reception area with a reception counter: having facilities for visitors to wait, for photographing the visitors. (Computer/Camera for recording the details of the visitor). Issuance of visitor cards, directions to the visitors to meet the concerned according to the requirement. This counter should be manned all the time by policemen and policewomen together except between 10 pm to 6 am when the women can be removed and male staff can man the counter. There should be enclosed waiting area near reception in each police



station where the visitors can sit comfortably and wait.

c) Visitor & Disable Friendly Toilet. A separate toilet for male, female & disable visitors near the Reception.

d) Women Help Desk: A room at the entrance near the reception as women help desk to help & listen to the complaints of the female visitors.

e) SHO Room: A large SHO Room near the Reception on Ground Floor for overall command & control of the Police Station Building. The SHO room to accommodate 20-25 persons in City, 15-20 persons in Semi Urban Area & 10-15 persons in Rural Area.

f) Rest Room & Toilet: An attached individual rest room with SHO office and Inspectors office, due to long duty hours. A common rest room for 2 Nos. Sub-Inspectors. Each rest room with an attached toilet, with bathing facility.

g) Room for officers in a Police Station: Each Inspector is provided an individual room. One room shall accommodate 2 Nos of sub-inspectors and one room shall accommodate 4 Nos. Assistant Sub-Inspectors/Head Constables. Each ASI/Head Constable has work space and space to accommodate 2 No. visitors. A large room is provided for Constables also.

h) Ladies Room-A Separate office room for lady police official on duty with an attached toilet.

i) Community Policing Room: A large room for community policing where persons from the local community can come and resolve their matters with the help of the police personnel.

j) Malkhana- A Malkhana for case property and a Malkhana for Government property with modern storage system developed by good companies (as implemented in CBI, NIA and Police Stations of some State Police). A workstation for Malkhana officer adjacent to the Malkhana. The seized explosives shall not be kept in Malkhana. They shall be kept in magazines, away from the police station.

k) Armory/Kote (Bell of Arms): Armory for safe upkeep of the arms & ammunition issued to the police. It shall be specially constructed giving greater strength to the walls. A small extension to Armory shall be there, where cleaning of arms can take place.

l) Suspect/Witness Examination Room: A room is provided for



witness examination, where the witnesses coming to the police stations can be examined. This can also be used for talking to the complainant. For women witnesses a separate enclosure should be provided, which can also be used for examination of sexual assault victims.

m) Conference/Briefing Room: Each Police Station Building shall have conference/Briefing room where important meetings/operations can be discussed. It shall have a latest facility such as TVs, maps/digital maps, projection system and video conferencing.

n) Lockup: Each Police Station shall have lockups as per the NHRC guidelines for men and women separately. The lockups shall be provided an internal toilet with low walls. The edges of the wall shall be rounded and there shall be no sharp element in the lockups with which the person in the lockup can harm himself. All the Lockups should be monitored through CCTV cameras which should be operational 24x7.

o) Wireless and Communication Room: A separate room is provided for wireless & communication equipment. This room shall be air-conditioned for the safety of the telecommunication equipment (as per the climatic requirements).

p) Room for CCTNS terminals: A separate air-conditioned room for CCTNS terminals.

q) Record Room: A large Record Room with adequate shelving to keep the old records safely & properly.

r) Store Room: A Store Room with adequate shelving for storing stationary etc.

s) Barracks: Separate Barracks have been provided for ASI/Head Constable & Constables on upper floor of the Police Station Building where the officials can rest after the working hours. These barracks have adequate number of toilets with WC, urinals & bath areas.

t) Barracks for Lady Official: A separate barrack for lady police personnel which is located at a suitable place away from the male barracks.

u) Recreational Room & Gym: Large room with Gym equipment for the fitness of the police personnel have been provided. A separate Recreation/TV room also have been provided for recreational



activities of the police personnel staying in the barracks.

v) Sankraman Room/Interrogation Room: A separate Interrogation Room is provided near the SHO room.

w) Chitha Munshi Room: A separate room for Chitha Munshi for smooth functioning for the allotment of duties at a Police Station Building has been provided.

x) Reader Room: A room is provided for the Reader/PA with the SHO room for functional convenience.

y) Counseling Room: A Counseling room has been provided where the police official can counsel the complainant/visitor on small matters.

z) Duty Officer: A room for Duty Officer is provided with attached toilet for officer on duty round the clock.

aa) Canteen + Kitchen: A Kitchen with modern equipment and cafeteria with modern furniture has been provided for the police personnel staying in the barracks and for the police personnel on duty.

4. The Guidelines on Planning & Technical Aspects elaborate major issues related to the planning of various spaces of Modern Police Station and its construction. It extends flexibility to incorporate required changes in planning the Modern Police Station as per site conditions, availability of land & local practices.

4.1 Planning Aspects

Citizen Centric & Public Friendly

a) The Police Station Building shall be Barrier free (in peace area) & Disable friendly.

b) The Public shall enter through a Reception to the Police Station.

c) The Women Help Desk, reporting room and SI room shall be accessible from Reception for the public.

d) Other spaces of Police Station shall be inaccessible/restricted for public movement.

e) A visitor toilet for male, female & physically challenged persons to be provided.

f) A suitable room/hall to be provided for Community Policing activities on Ground Floor. This room shall have an entry from outside the police Station Building for visitors and an internal connection for police personnel.



g) A Counseling room to be provided on the ground floor.

Internal Space Planning

h) SHO, Reader, Duty Officer, CIPA/CCTNS, Malkhana (case property), Record Room, I.O. Common Assembly Room and Ladies Room for ladies on duty to be planned on Ground Floor.

i) Reader room, Duty Officer Room & Deployment Officer room (Chitha Munshi) to be on ground floor near to the SHO room.

j) A separate office room and a separate rest room with toilet & bathing facility to be provided with SHO's office and the Inspector's office.

k) Each Sub-Insp. to have a separate office room and 2 Sub-Insp. to have a common Rest room with attached toilet & bathing facility.

l) Division wise sitting arrangements to be provided i.e. 1 large office room to accommodate 2 Sub Insp/ASI & 2 Head Constables.

m) Two rooms to be provided with each Division to accommodate 4 Constables in each room.

n) A dedicated Control Room to be provided in the Police Station.

o) No. of lock-ups for male and female to be as per requirement.

p)The Duty Officer shall be able to monitor the lock-ups and they shall be inaccessible to unauthorized personnel/public.

q) The fans in the lock-ups to be located outside the cell and shall be properly secured with grill.

r) The Conference Room shall be either on Ground Floor or on First Floor.

s) Malkhana for Govt. property to be located at a secured place on ground/upper floor, inside the building.

Parking

t) A Portico to be provided to the Police Station Building to accommodate minimum one vehicle.

u) Adequate vehicle parking (covered/open) for 4 wheelers and 2 wheelers to be provided inside the Police Station Campus.



v) The visitors parking to be away from the Police station for security reasons.

w) Basement parking to be provided where the open space is limited.

Security

x) Every police station shall have a compound wall for distinct identity and security.

y) Adequate Security arrangements such as provision of emergency bell, Alarm system, Watch towers, and Sentry Post to be provided in the Police Station Buildings as per Security Risk.

z) The Boundary wall along with barbed wire on Y angle/concertina wire to be provided as per prevailing security requirement of the State. A Basement may be constructed for small arms baffle range in the Police Station Building, if required.

Barracks

aa) Number & size of barracks to be calculated on the basis of one barrack to accommodate 4 ASI/Head-Constables and one barrack for 6-8 Constables.

bb) Almirah/Cupboard to be provided for each occupant in the barrack. The locker/cupboard to have a space for placing a trunk at the bottom.

cc) Adequate built/loose furniture to be planned as per requirement of each Modern Police Station Building.

Welfare

dd) There shall be adequate open ground available for parade & playgrounds (volley ball, badminton & basketball) in the campus.

ee) A large room shall be provided for constables on Ground Floor.

ff) A canteen and kitchen with latest equipment's to be provided for the Police barracks.

gg) A creche to be provided in case large number lady police officials are posted, having small children below 5 yrs of age.

hh) If land is available, residential quarters for up to 70% staff shall



be constructed in the same campus.

Latest Technology

ii) Latest electronic gadgets like CCTV, CCTNS, audio-video recorder/players and cyber-crime detection equipment's etc. to be installed to ensure the implementation of the concept of SMART Policing.

jj) The cost of all-encompassing 'e-enabling' aspects in the building and all furniture/accessories to be calculated while arriving at the final cost for construction of new building. This to include cost of CCTV, LAN enabling, Wi-Fi connectivity, GIS, GPS tracking Computers, other hardware and software etc.

kk) All available modern communication facilities/infrastructure like Fax, E-mail wireless communication, CCTV monitoring facility to be catered in terms of laying of electrical wiring at construction stage.

Uniformity in Design & Modern Outlook

ll) Modern Police Station Buildings shall have an impressive and dominating external elevation.

mm) All Police Stations in a State shall have similar external outlook and color scheme.

nn) The materials used for the Police Station building shall require minimum periodical maintenance.

oo) External finish of stone cladding or grit shall be considered at construction stage.

pp) Adequate provision of plantation shall be made in and around Police Station Building.

4.2 Technical Aspects

a) The Police Station Building shall be designed as Earthquake Resistant Structure fix seismic zone applicable to the area, where the building is constructed.

b) Active and Passive features of Green Building Norms (GRIGA RATING) to be adopted to construct an eco-friendly building as far as possible.

c) Arrangement of Rain Water Harvesting concept to be adopted at planning stage only.



- d) Latest IS Codes to be adopted for construction techniques and use of material in the project.
- e) Firefighting arrangement i.e. provision of smoke detectors, fire alarms etc. to be provided as per the norms.
- f) All rooms to have proper natural day light and ventilation.
- g) Proper sewage/waste water disposal scheme to be adopted as per latest techniques.
- h) Advance planning to be done for layout of cables during construction stage for Internet, CCTV, Lan enabling Wi-fi connectivity, computers and public address system etc.
- i) The details and building materials used in construction to be fire proof, water proof and termite proof.
- j) Solar lights/solar power production units/solar water heaters, LED lights to be used as far as possible to save power.
- k) Alternate power backup arrangements to be made including power requirement for its security arrangement.

5. Police Station in Insurgency/Terrorist Affected Area

5. 1 In insurgency prone areas police stations should have attached barracks where armed police force can come and stay comfortably. Fortification of such police stations will also be according to the requirement to be decided by the competent authority depending upon 'Threat Perception' to a particular Police Station. However following Safety and Security measures may essentially be required to include while fortifying the particular Police station against the security threat from Insurgents in affected areas:-

- a) At least eight feet high parameter wall around police station.**
- b) Barbed/Concertina wire fencing over boundary wall.**
- c) Watch Towers at Dominating Height.**
- d) Sentry manned gate entry.**
- e) Road Blocks on approach roads to police station.**
- f) Communication Trenches as per requirements of situation.**
- g) CCTV scanning at vital points at police station and essentially area around police station.**
- h) Fool Proof alternate communication system between police station and police headquarters/ nearby police stations/other force units.**
- i) Emergency Alarm System.**



j) Stationery/ Movable bullet proof Sentry morchas.

k) Any other fortification arrangements as per need.

6. Conclusion

The Architectural drawings as per latest BPR&D norms have been prepared to create uniformity in Police Station Buildings as well as distinctive identity to police stations in the State. Adopting a uniform color code on external surface of police stations buildings throughout a state shall make it easier for a common man to easily recognize Police Station among other buildings. The Modern Police Stations build as per these revised norms, will be supportive and in consonance to SMART Policing Concept, recently adopted by Ministry of Home Affairs, Government of India. Efforts have been made to make these Police Stations Gender Sensitive, Modern, Smart and Techno-Savvy.

The above Revised Norms are Basic Guidelines for planning and constructing a new Police Station Building. These norms shall help so plan an efficient Police Station Building confirming to basic amenities for visitors, provision of adequate spaces for various activities in a Police Station Building to improve the working condition and use of latest technology.

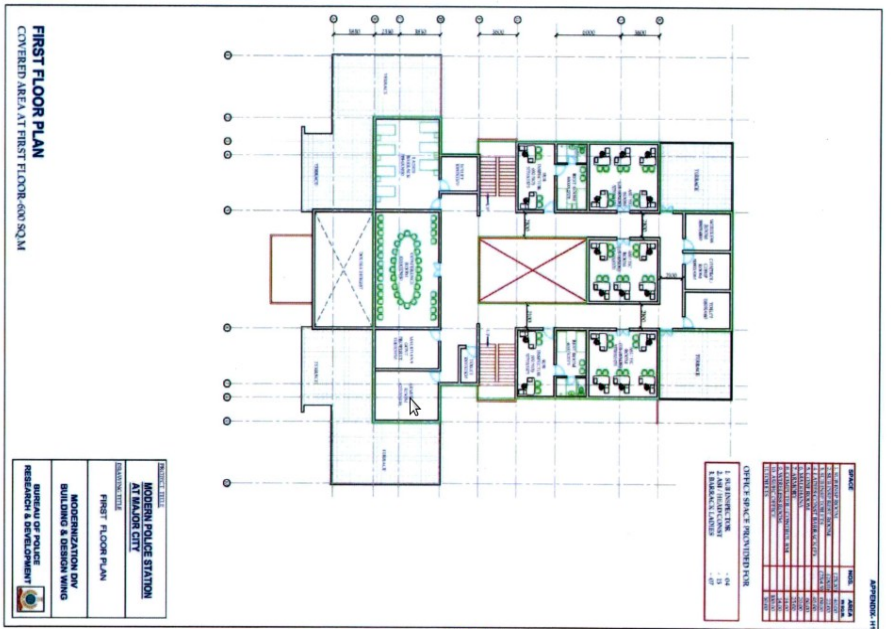
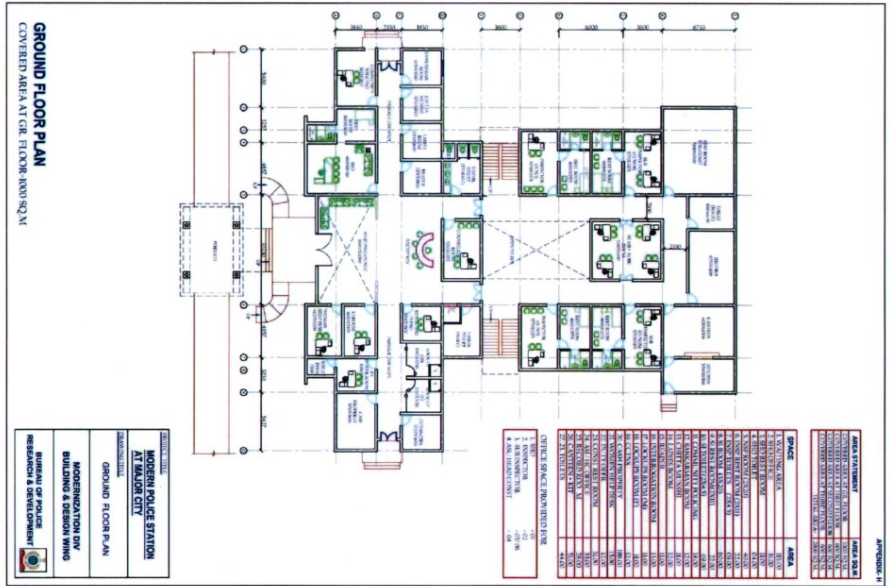
The Category/ Size, number of floors & building dimensions of the Modern Police Station in terms of Plinth Area shall be as per the individual requirement of the PS, availability of land, prevailing building bye-laws and available Funds/Resources.

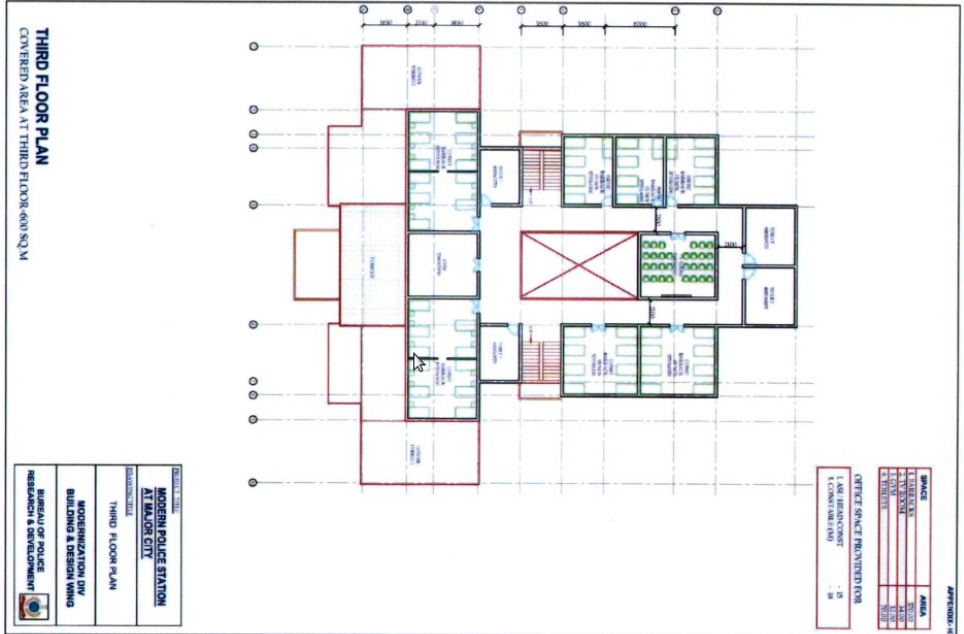
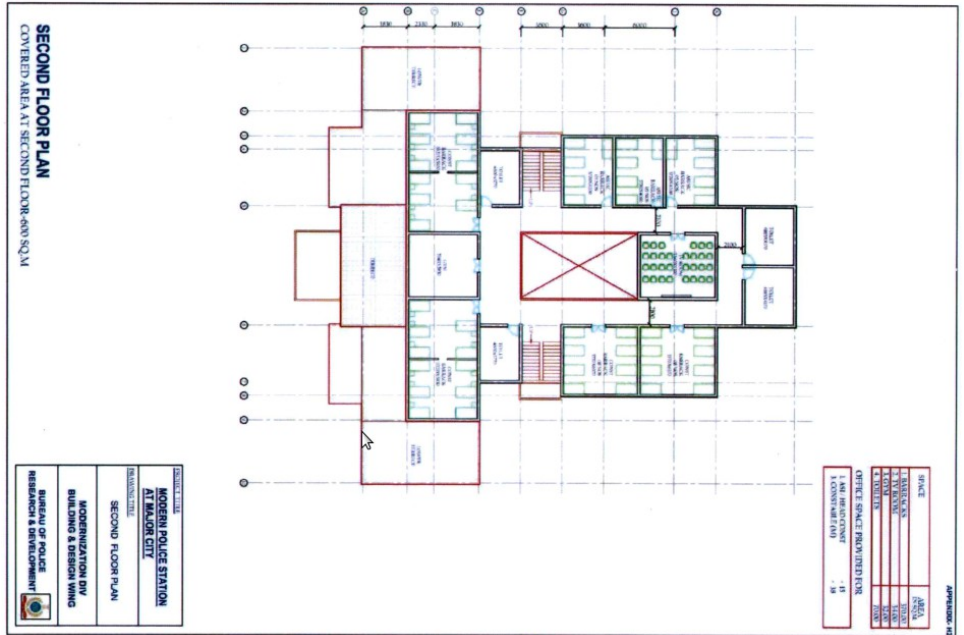
These revised norms shall serve good for next ten to fifteen years and may then be modified as per the needs at that time.

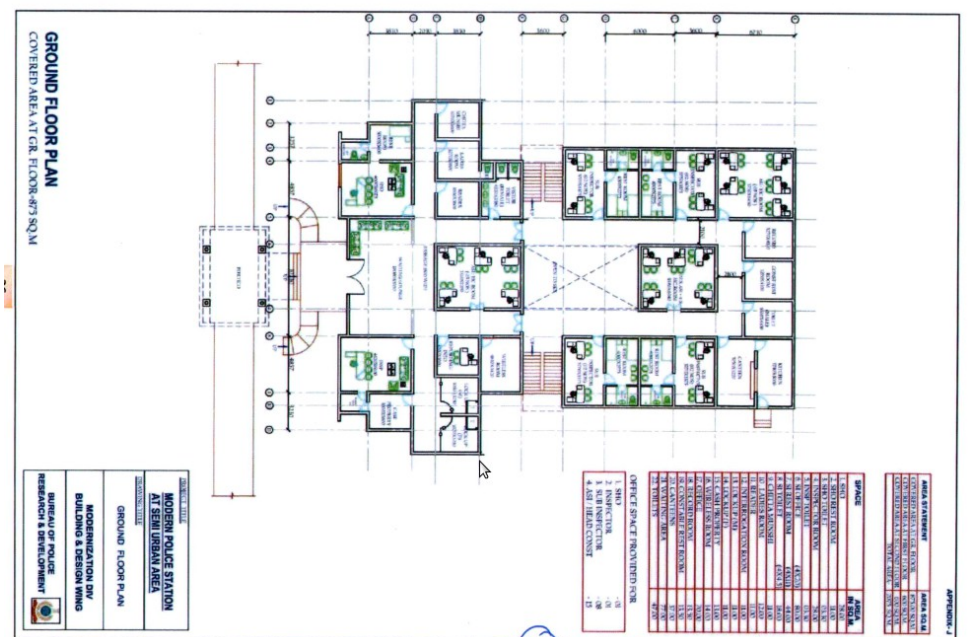
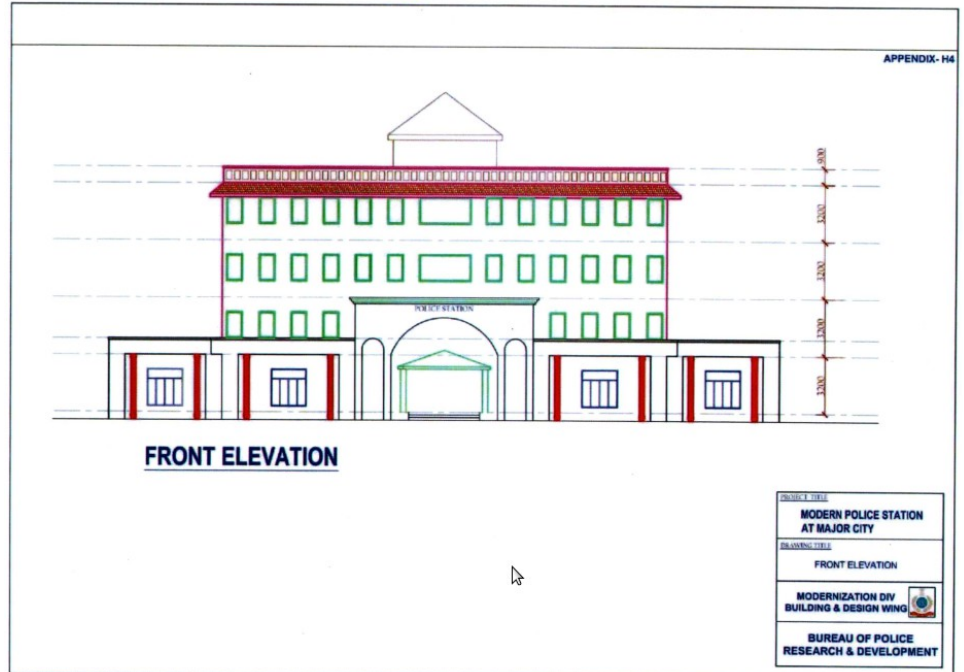
6.1 Building plans are attached as appendix. Drawings & Component wise Space of Modern Police Station Buildings of the three categories have been attached. (from BPR& D)

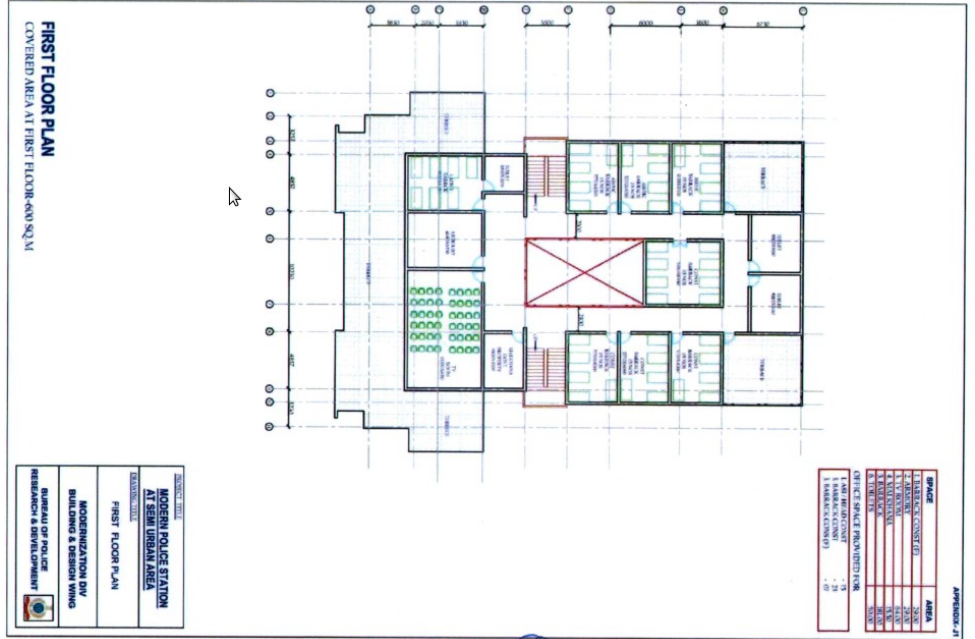
Sl. No.	Subject	Appendix No.	Page No.
1	Modern Police Station at Major City	H, H-1, H-2, H-3, H-4 & H-5	30-35
2	Modern Police Station at Semi-Urban Area	J, J-1, J-2, J-3 & J-4	36-40
3	Modern Police Station at Rural Area	K, K-1, K-2 & K-3	41-44

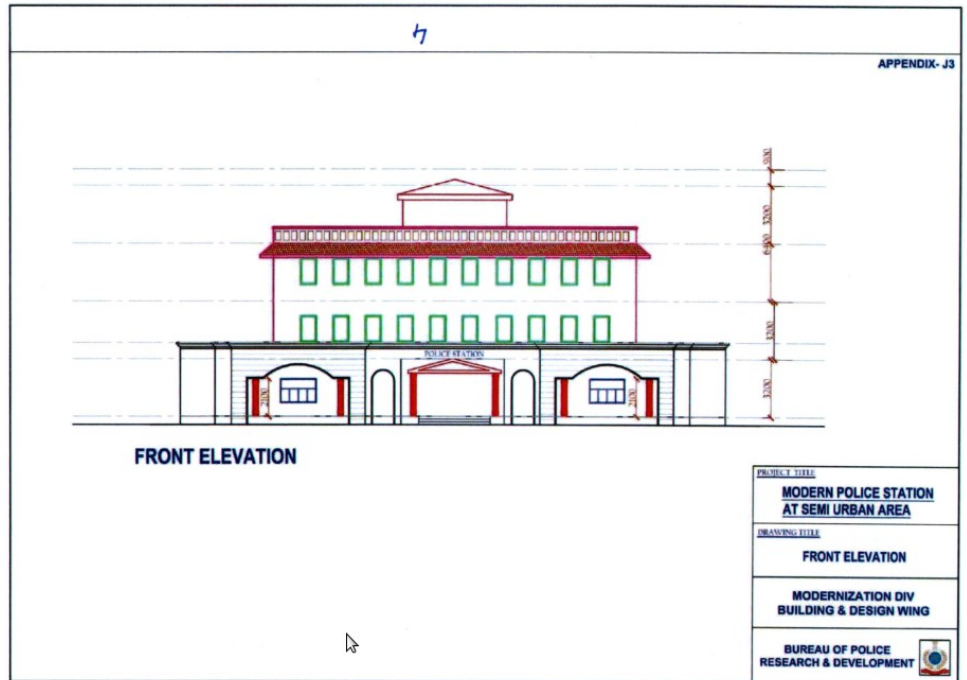








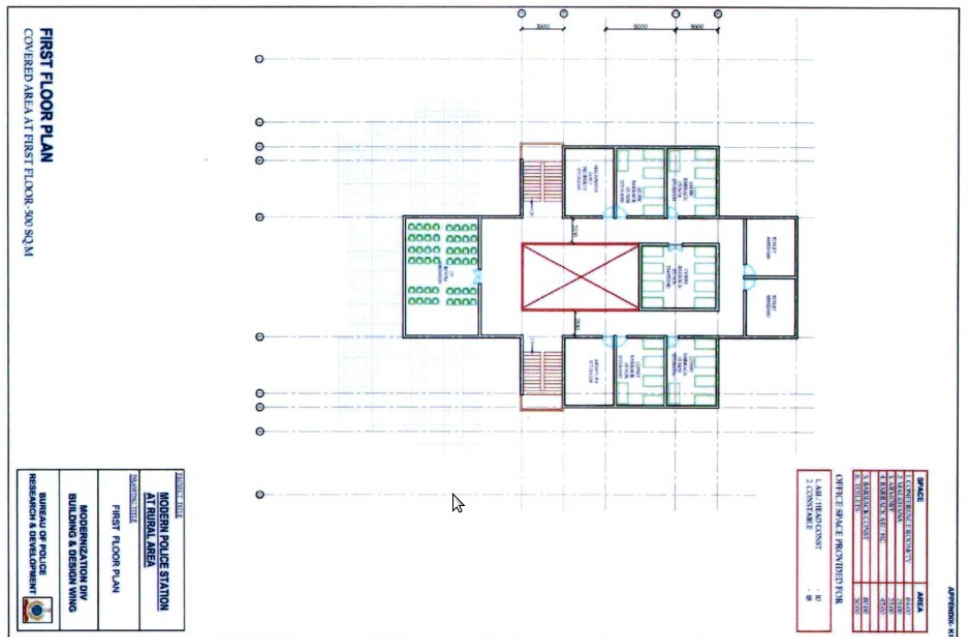
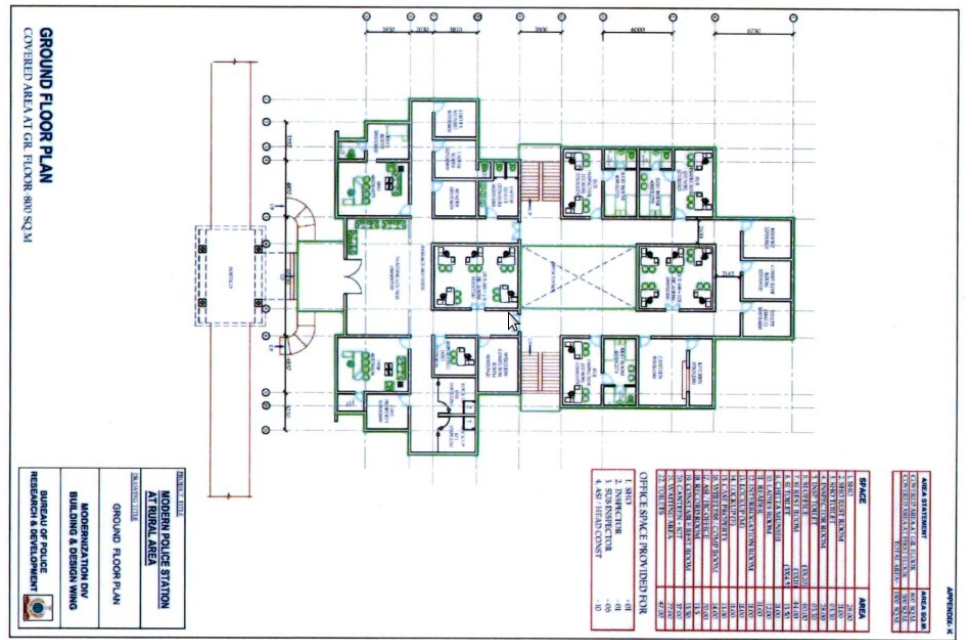


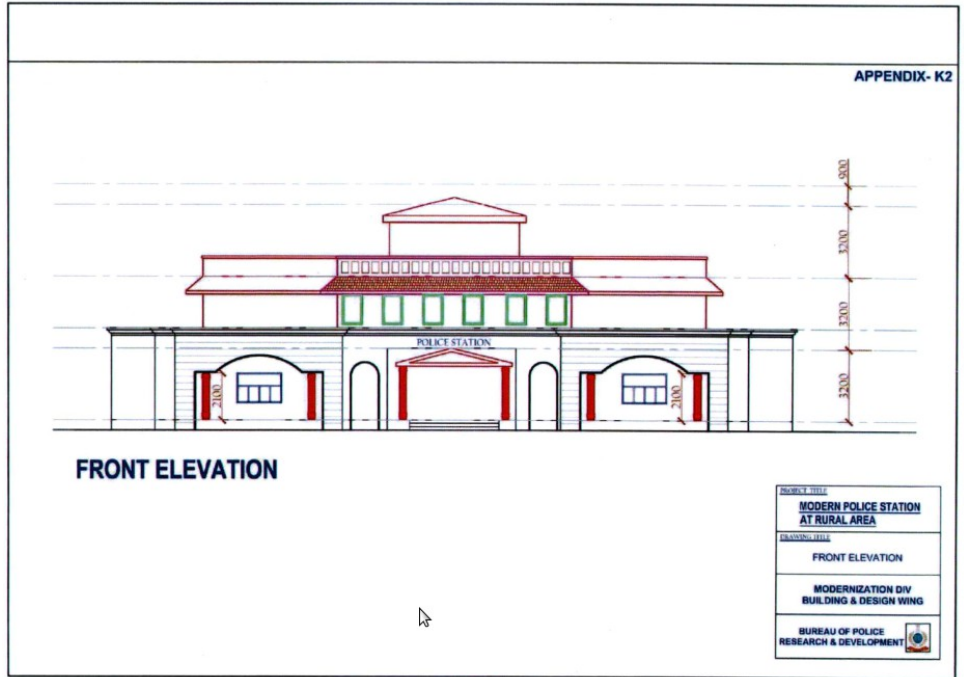


APPENDIX-J4

Sl. NO.	SPACE/ROOM	AREA (SQ M)	OCCUPANCY
	Ground Floor		Official
2	SHO Rest Room	11	-
3	SHO Toilet	03	-
5	Inspector Toilet	03	-
6	SI Office	(4x20) 80	8
7	SI Rest Room	(4x11) 44	-
8	SI Toilet	(4x4.5) 18	-
9	Chitla Munshi	11	1
10	Ladies Room	12	3
13	Lockup (M)	11	1
	Case Property	13	1
16	Wireless Room	14	1
17	ASI/HC Office	70	1
18	Record Room	13.5	1
19	Const. Rest Room	13.50	-
20	Canteen + Kitchen	37	1
21	Waiting Area	77	-
22	Toilets	47	-
	First Floor		
1	Barrack Const. (F)	89	7
2	Armory	29	-
	TV Room	64	-
4	Malkhana	15.50	1
5	Barrack	181	ASI/HC-15
	Toilets	50	-







APPENDIX-K3

SL. NO.	SPACE/ROOMS	AREA (SQ M)	OCCUPANCY
Ground Floor			
1	SHO Office	28	Official
2	SHO Rest Room	11	1
3	SHO Toilet	03	-
4	Inspector Room	28	1
5	Inspector Toilet	03	-
8	SI Rest Room	(3x11) 44	-
8	SI Toilet	(3x4.5) 13.5	-
10	Ladies Room	12	3
11	Reader	11	1
12	Interrogation Room	11	1
13	Lockup (M)	11	-
16	Case Property Wireless Room/Computer Room	13 14	1 1
17	ASI/HC Office	70	10
19	Record Room	13.5	1
19	Const. Rest Room	13.50	-
21	Waiting Area	77	-
22	Toilets	47	-
First Floor			
1	Conference Room/TV	64	-
2	Malikhana	25	1
4	Barrack ASI/HC	45	10
4	Barrack ASI/HC	50	-

He has also submitted in his report that in the light of



this Court's observation, he had visited a couple of Police Stations recently completed, namely, Rajiv Nagar Police Station in Patna District and Telmar Police Station in Nalanda District. It has been pointed out that though the building infrastructure is complete but the campus work for orderly and neat arrangement of amenities is lacking.

At this juncture, we observe, by leaving it to the discretion of the competent authorities, to consider the suggestions made in the report submitted by Dr. Singh regarding Standard for Modern Police Station Buildings as quoted above and examine the feasibility of making appropriate arrangements in at least two buildings i.e. Rajiv Nagar Police Station in Patna District and Telmar Police Station in Nalanda District, keeping in mind the suggestions made by Dr. Singh.

As has been suggested by Mr. P.K.Shahi, learned Advocate General, Bihar, in order to expedite construction of buildings for the Police Stations, we consider it desirable to constitute a Committee in order to ensure that the buildings for the Police Stations and Out Posts are constructed with desired pace. The said Committee shall be obliged to consider the suggestions made by Dr. Kamal Kishore Singh as regards Standard for Modern Model Police Station Buildings, which



have been quoted in the present order. The constitution of Committee shall be as under:-

(i) The Development Commissioner, Bihar;

(ii) The Additional Chief Secretary, Home Department, Government of Bihar;

(iii) The Chairman-cum-Managing Director, BPBCC;

and

(iv) The Secretary, Building Construction Department, Government of Bihar.

Dr. Kamal Kishore Singh shall be present in all such meetings to be held by the aforesaid Committee, duly invited by the Committee as an officer of the Court so that he may extend assistance to this Court for passing appropriate orders as and when required. The Committee shall hold its first meeting on 20.03.2023 at time and venue to be fixed by the Development Commissioner, Bihar.

So as to implement the requirement under Rule 74 of the Bihar Police Manual, in the light of this Court's observations dated 16.02.2023, an office order dated 27.02.2023 is said to have been issued by the Additional Director General of Police (Provisioning), Bihar. Rule 74 of the Police Manual reads thus:-

“74. Police-station to be kept neat and clean.- A police-station should be a pattern of order and



cleanliness both inside and out. The officer-in-charge will be held responsible that every thing is in its place. The bedding in the constables' barracks should be neatly rolled up when not in use.”

In the light of clear language used in Rule 74 of the Bihar Police Manual, it can be easily seen that it is the primary duty of the Officer-in-Charge of the Police Station to ensure that everything in the Police Station is in its place. The said office order dated 27.02.2023 primarily relates to making available funds for maintaining cleanliness etc. at the Police Stations. Responsibility of proper maintenance of records and other things, in terms of Rule 74 of the Bihar Police Manual lies with the Officer-in-Charge of the Police Station. The Director General of Police must ensure, through whatever mechanism is available, that the Officers-in-charge of the Police Stations in the State of Bihar duly discharge their responsibilities under Rule 74 of the Bihar Police Manual.

As regards providing funds for maintaining cleanliness at the Police Stations, we direct the Director General of Police, Bihar to take up the matter with the Finance Department, Government of Bihar and after sanction of funds, prepare standard operating procedure for expenditure in order to fulfill the requirement under Rule 74 of the Bihar Police



Manual.

List this case on 29.03.2023.

(Chakradhari Sharan Singh, ACJ)

(Madhuresh Prasad, J)

Sujit/Sunil

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