



**CIRCULAR MEMORANDUM**

Sub: Police – Custodial deaths – Outbreak of Coronavirus (COVID-19) – Sub-divisional Detention-cum-Production Centre to handle accused persons – Regarding..

\*\*\*\*

It is reported that two persons, father and son who were arrested in Thoothukudi District on 19.06.2020 and remanded to judicial custody died in hospital on 22.06.2020 and 23.06.2020, allegedly due to police excesses. Similarly, few persons, who were recently arrested by the Police and remanded to judicial custody at several places were tested to be positive to Coronavirus. Consequently, all the police officials, who dealt with such accused persons, had to be quarantined. Repeat of such situations in other police stations would create very difficult situation for the police department, as there would be inadequate staff to run the police stations.

2. In this connection, the following instructions are issued:-

- i. The COPs/SPs and ACPs/DSPs shall find out a suitable building having proper facilities in each police sub-division to be used as Sub-Divisional Detention-cum-Production Centre. If no building is available, the ACPs/DSPs office can be used and the ACP/DSP can work from home / nearby police station temporarily. The accused persons who are arrested in non-bailable offences and are to be produced in the Court shall be brought to this Detention – cum – Production Centre rather than brought to the Police Stations for production before the Courts of Law.

Scanned with CamScanner

- ii. A GD will be maintained in these Centres and one Inspector level officer shall be posted there by the ACP/DSP concerned.
- iii. The police party (numbers to be kept minimum) have to bring the accused to this place after conducting the post arrest medical examination along with the screening for Coronavirus.
- iv. Formalities of documentation will be done in this Detention Centre. The Honourable High Court of Madras has issued directions to the Police Department and also has informed all the Sub-ordinate Courts in the State that the Police Department may resort to the electronic video linkage for the production of accused before the Courts even for the first time after the arrest. In this direction, the COPs/SPs and ACPs/DSPs will make necessary arrangements and keep the Magistrates/Judges informed about the matter.
- v. If the accused person is remanded to the judicial custody by the

- v. If the accused person is remanded to the judicial custody by the concerned Magistrate Court, the accused person shall be taken to the earmarked prison and it will be incumbent on the Police Department to conduct the COVID test before taking him over to the designated prison.
- vi. If the person is found positive, the SI in-charge of the Detention-cum-Production Centre and all the Police officials who are involved physically in arresting the person only will be quarantined, which will be minimum in number and once such quarantine takes place, the COP/SP will post another Inspector in this Centre to be the in-charge of that Centre.

Scanned with CamScanner

- vii. All hygiene protocols shall be followed in such Detention-cum-Production Centre. Disinfection to be done.

3. We have issued SOP for arrest through email as how to effect the arrest. First of all, in bailable cases, when arrest is done, the persons should be immediately released on bail and minimum physical contact should be made by Police Officers. In non-bailable cases, if the arrest is being planned, involve minimum number of persons to be involved in arrest and all precautions like wearing of PPE must be ensured by the Senior Police Officers. As far as possible, physical contact shall be avoided with the accused.

4. The Commissioners of Police and the Superintendents of Police in Districts are directed to follow the above instructions scrupulously without any deviation and ensure strict compliance.

Director General of Police  
HoPF, Tamil Nadu

To

All the Commissioners of Police  
All the Superintendents of Police in Districts

Copy to all the Inspectors General of Police in Zones  
Copy to all the Deputy Inspectors General of Police in Ranges