

Sub: Creation of Special Task Force (STF) at the Zonal level.

Over a period of time the workload of the police has increased tremendously and due to overwhelming preoccupation with pressures of routine, daily work, some important cases, which deserve focused investigation and close, frequent monitoring by superior officers, do not get the adequate attention they deserve. This draws adverse comments from citizens who want speedy disposal of their grievances.

2. Even directions from Police Head Quarters do not always provoke the enthusiastic response from the investigating officers to complete the investigation at a speed which people come to expect after they approach senior levels in the Police hierarchy for quick justice.

3. It is, therefore, felt desirable that a pool of officers should exist at the Zonal level in the form of a Special Task Force (STF), which, under the orders of the Zonal IGP or DGP, could take up the cases of the following nature:

- Criminal cases having ramifications in more than one district,
- Sensational cases which affect public order
- Cases affecting Internal Security/National Security
- Grave offences of atrocities against women/children
- Grave offences involving Government servants
- Criminal cases referred to this cell by the DGP/Zonal IGP

4. A Special Task Force is, henceforth, ordered to be constituted at each Zone, under the Zonal Inspector General of Police. The Zonal Inspector-General of Police (IGP) will select three Officers of the rank of Assistant Sub-Inspector, Sub-Inspector and Inspector from each district in his Zone for the STF. It will be the personal responsibility of Zonal IGP to select professionally sound and competent officers while constituting STFs. The Zonal IGP will get these cases supervised by any gazetted officer of the rank of DySP or above posted in his jurisdiction. The STF will function under the control of the superintendent of police in the concerned district.

5. The Zonal IGP will separately notify the name of the Investigating officer of the concerned STF Unit and the name of the Supervising officer selected by him, in each case. This along with the copy of FIR will form Report 1 of the Specially Reported STF investigated case. The Zonal IGP will issue Report I, II, III etc, from his office to the office of DGP directly. DIG (Admin) in the office of DGP will keep all relevant SRs received from the offices of Zonal IGP in this regard, zone wise. A copy of all reports of STF investigated SR cases will also be sent to the office of concerned DIG/SP for necessary action at their end; they will pursue the matter at their level and it will be their responsibility to expedite investigation, enquiries and special task assigned to them.

6. The Zonal IG will closely monitor the progress of investigation of these cases every fortnight, ensure dispatch of SRs, and record the progress of the investigation in a separate STF SR register. Zonal IG will take due assistance from the SP/DIG as and when necessary. Changes in the composition of the STF team will have to be notified every time changes take place.

7. All necessary infra-structural facilities needed for the effective functioning of this STF shall be made available by the Zonal IGP. Members of the team shall make liberal use of facilities available in the State Forensic Science Laboratory (FSL)/Zonal FSL. It will be the responsibility of the Zonal IG to ensure that investigation is pursued on right lines expeditiously and final form is submitted in the court without delay. At any stage of the investigation he may get legal advice from any competent government lawyer available in his jurisdiction.

8. After submission of final form the Zonal IGP will ensure trial of the cases on a priority basis and monitor its progress in the court till its disposal. He will keep the office of the DGP informed of all the important developments during trial through SRs.

9. This order comes into force with effect from Jan 1, 2000.

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