

**GOVERNMENT OF PUDUCHERRY  
POLICE DEPARTMENT**

No.508/FR/DIGP/2018

Dated: 08.09.2018

**C I R C U L A R**

**Sub: Guidelines on Measures to be taken to curb mob violence and lynching.**

**Ref: Judgment on W.P. (Civil) No. 754 of 2016 of Hon'ble Supreme Court of India.**

Hon'ble Supreme Court of India had pronounced a judgment dated 02<sup>nd</sup> August, 2018 on the above referred Writ Petition filed by the petitioner Tehseen S. Poonawalla Vs. Union of India and Others for immediate and necessary action against the Cow Protection Groups indulging in violence and uploading / hosting violent contents in social media.

Accordingly, the following instructions are circulated for strict compliance by the concerned Police Officers, to curb lynching and mob violence.

**A. Preventive Measures**

(i) The Senior Superintendent of Police (Law and Order), Puducherry and Karaikal will be the Nodal Officers for Puducherry and Karaikal districts respectively, assisted by the jurisdictional Superintendents of Police for taking measures to prevent incidents of mob violence and lynching. They shall constitute a Special Task Force so as to procure intelligence reports about the people, who are likely to commit such crimes.

(ii) Concerned Station House Officers shall identify areas under their jurisdiction, where such instances of lynching or mob violence likely to occur and take necessary precautionary measures and to be extra cautious to avert such incidents.

(iii) The Nodal Officer, shall hold regular meetings, with the local intelligence units along with all SHOs of the district so as to identify the existence of tendencies of vigilantism, mob violence or lynching and take steps to prohibit instances of dissemination of offensive material through different social media platforms.

(iv) The Nodal Officers shall bring to the notice of DGP, any inter-district co-ordination issues for devising a strategy to tackle lynching and mob violence related issues at the State level.

(v) It shall be the duty of every Police officer to cause a mob to disperse, by exercising his power under Section 129 of CrPC which, in his opinion, has a tendency to cause violence or wreak the havoc of lynching in the disguise of vigilantism or otherwise.

(vi) The Station House Officers should ensure regular patrolling in the sensitive areas by the beat officers to collect intelligence and act accordingly to discourage the anti-social elements involve in such crimes and they remain within the boundaries of law thus fearing to even think of taking the law into their own hands.

(vii) All the Police Officers, shall take maximum efforts to broadcast through radio, television and other social-media platforms including the official websites

that lynching and mob violence of any kind shall invite serious consequence under the law.

(viii) The Police shall cause to register FIR under Section 153A of IPC and /or other relevant provisions of law against persons, who disseminate irresponsible and explosive messages and videos having content, which is likely to incite mob violence and lynching of any kind.

### **B. Remedial Measures**

(i) Despite the preventive measures taken by the Police, if it comes to the notice of the Police that an incident of lynching or mob violence has taken place, the jurisdictional Police Station shall immediately cause to lodge an FIR, without any undue delay, under the relevant provisions of IPC and/or other provisions of law.

(ii) It shall be the duty of the SHO, in whose Police Station such FIR is registered, to forthwith intimate the Nodal Officer, who shall, in turn, ensure that there is no further harassment of the family members of the victim(s).

(iii) Investigation in such offences shall be personally monitored by the Nodal Officer to ensure that the investigation is carried out effectively and the charge-sheet in such cases is filed within the statutory period.

### **C. Punitive Measures**

(i) If it is found that any of Police officer has failed to comply with the aforesaid directions in order to prevent and/or investigate of any crime of mob violence and lynching, the same shall be considered as an act of deliberate negligence and/or misconduct for which, appropriate action will be taken against him/her.

(ii) Necessary disciplinary action shall also be taken against the concerned officials if it is found that (i) such official(s) did not prevent the incident, despite having prior knowledge of it, or (ii) where the incident has already occurred, such official(s) did not promptly apprehend and institute criminal proceedings against the culprits.

The Nodal Officers shall submit a compliance/status report to the Director General of Police, Puducherry, once in a quarter.



**(Dr. V.J. Chandran, IPS)**  
Dy. Inspector General of Police  
Puducherry

To

All concerned.

### **Copy submitted for kind information to:**

The Director General of Police, Puducherry  
The Inspector General of Police, Puducherry.