

STANDING ORDER NO. 14

Police & Jails.

ESCORTS.

In order to provide maximum security for the prisoners on move from one place to another the following instructions are laid down for the guidance of the Police and Jail authorities :-

All escorting guards should be properly armed.

The following scale of police escort for prisoners is fixed :-

When the journey is by rail :-

For 1 prisoner ..... 1 constable  
 For 2 to 4 prisoners ..... 2 constables.  
 For 5 to 9 prisoners ..... 1 head constable, 3 constables.  
 For 10 to 12 prisoners ..... 1 head constable, 4 constables.

When the Journey is by road, according to the following scale :-

	Prisoners.	STRENGTH OF GUARDS.		
		Sub Insps.	Head Constables.	Foot Constables.
Roads on which the Police stations are not more than 15 miles apart.	{ 1	-	-	1
	{ 2 to 4	-	-	2
	{ 5 to 9	-	1	3
	{ 10 to 12	-	1	5
	{ 13 to 15	-	1	6
	{ 16 to 20	-	1	9
	{ 21 to 25	-	2	10
Roads on which the stations are more than 15 miles and all roads trans-Indus.	{ 26 to 30	-	2	12
	{ 31 to 50	1	2	16
	{ 1	-	-	1
	{ 2 to 3	-	-	2
	{ 4 to 6	-	1	3
	{ 7 to 8	1	1	4
	{ 9 to 12	-	1	7
	{ 13 to 15	-	1	8
	{ 16 to 20	-	2	10
	{ 21 to 25	-	2	12
	{ 26 to 30	-	2	16
	{ 31 to 50	1	2	20

Provided that, if the prisoner or prisoners to be removed is or are desperate or dangerous characters, the Superintendent of Police furnishing the escort may increase the strength at his discretion.

In cases where prisoners or arrested persons are likely to be escorted through some deserted places or thick jungles or the like or dangerous places, special note should be taken of this fact by the officer detailing the escort giving necessary instructions to the I/C escorting parties and taking all such precautionary security measures as deemed necessary for the occasion and the places. Motor Prison vans are to be used specially for escorting desperate prisoners or highly dangerous from one place to another whenever it is deemed necessary and practicable.

The following rules regulate the movement of prisoners by rail.

(a) Reserved accommodation shall be provided when the number of prisoners and their escorts exceeds five, or when insane, violent, or dangerous prisoners or prisoners in military uniform are transferred or when the district magistrate requests that any particular prisoner or prisoners be provided with reserved accommodation.

(b) When reserved accommodation is required the Superintendent shall send to the station master a requisition for transport. Forty-eight hours' notice must be given to the station master to secure such accommodation.

(c) Prison fittings shall be attached in the reserved compartments when dangerous prisoners including dacoits, are travelling or the number of prisoners is twenty-five or more. When prison fittings are required, the fact should be noted on the requisition form.

(d) When reserved accommodation tickets are issued and when the party is booked through, the Superintendent should request the station master of the despatching station to inform by wire all foreign line junctions of such booking, and at the same time, to arrange at all junctions where transshipment is necessary, for reserved accommodation and prison fittings similar to those provided at the station from which the prisoners are despatched.

(e) Prisoners shall not be sent by mail trains, except for special reasons. No dangerous or notable prisoners shall be sent by mail trains unless there are exceptional and special reasons, which must be fully stated in writing. Convicts travelling by mail trains must travel in reserved compartments with prison fittings.

5. Requisition by jail authorities for supply of police escort shall give one day clear notice (excluding Sundays and holidays) to the S.P. concerned if required for duty within the District and 4 days' clear notice if required to proceed beyond the district. This is to enable the S.P. to make necessary arrangements for supplying the Guard except in urgent cases.

6. It will be the duty of the Officers incharge Jails and Lockups to satisfy themselves before sending any prisoner outside the jail or lockup whether the prisoner is dangerous or otherwise.

7. When requisitioning the escort it will be the duty of the Officer Incharge Jail or Lockup to inform the Police authority in writing as to whether a prisoner is dangerous or otherwise and how much security he needs (Maximum security, Medium security or Minimum security). When this fact is known to the Police authorities they can take suitable security measures. This, of course, does not remove the responsibility of Police escort Commander to ascertain before taking over charge of the prisoners as to whether they are dangerous or not.

8. (a) All prisoners under Section 224 I.P.C. and all who are known to have escaped or attempted to escape at any time should have a remark to that effect entered against the names, when such prisoners are among a party of prisoners due for transfer.

(b) Prisoners forming members of a gang and transferred as a gang should be specially notified.

(c) All prisoners with sentences of five years and upwards should be notified.

9. The escort commander of prisoners must see —

(a) that the hand-cuffs, irons etc. of the prisoners are well secured and fit properly. The handcuffs are to be provided by the Police escort.

(b) keeps his prisoners together in one compact body.

(c) place his police in order at a distance of at least five paces from the prisoners or arrested persons on each flank and in the rear being himself with half his force in the rear.

(d) examine, before starting the bundles and persons of the men of the guard as well as of the prisoners or arrested persons.

(e) that the prisoners together with their clothings and beddings are carefully searched by the Escort Commander in the presence of the Jail authorities.

10. As far as possible movement of prisoners during night should be avoided.

11. Imposition of fetters by way of security measures may also be resorted to in case of dangerous prisoners. A prisoner who is arrested in a murder or dacoity case should be considered a dangerous prisoner. Also a prisoner whose antecedents or facts of the case reveal that he deserves full security measures or because of his bad jail conduct be considered a dangerous prisoner.

12. Gazetted Officers will select all escorts over special classes of prisoners or arrested persons themselves from among men of their reliance. Officers in charge of escorts will be particularly instructed not to allow any contact between prisoners or outsiders and no relative of the prisoner should be ever allowed to interview while on transit in any circumstances. Whenever it is necessary to remove the prisoners, or arrested persons at a station, while escorted by Rail, where the change of trains is to be made, or between stations in case of transshipment or accident, a portion of the escort shall alight first and the prisoners, as they alight shall be marshalled in file. Prisoners shall, as far as possible, be kept apart from other passengers, and no access to or intercourse with them by a person other than a magistrate or Police Officer superior to in rank to the officer commanding the escort shall be allowed. When waiting for a train the escort shall form cordon round the prisoners or the arrested persons. Only such number of the members of the escort shall be allowed to leave their posts, simply in extreme emergency or in case of serious illness, as will not reduce the guard over the prisoners or arrested persons to such an extent as to facilitate escape, and the deficiency be made up from the local police if available. When the change of trains necessitate a delay of over an hour at any junction, all prisoners or arrested persons shall be taken by their escorts to the Railway Police or local District Station and kept there in the lockup during the period of waiting. The following information must always be furnished before hand to the Superintendent Police regarding any specially dangerous or long term prisoners who are including in the party by the jail authorities.

13. It should be the duty of Police Inspector to submit antecedents of prisoners to Magistrates who in their turn shall classify them suitable on the basis of record received from police and such other circumstances that might come or be brought to their notice to ensure proper security measures. In case of prisoners of exceptionally dangerous character the S.P. in consultation with the District Magistrate shall decide as to what special security measures should be taken for such prisoners both when they are in jail. The District Magistrates may be requested in suitable cases for withdrawal of further prosecutions against prisoners convicted to sufficient term of imprisonment in fit cases.

and when they are sent out including the one that the man be tried in Jail.

A copy of circular issued by I.G. Prisons regarding custody of prisoner in Hospitals under treatment is enclosed for compliance :

(i) Cases of default should be dealt with promptly and severely.

(ii) Cases have come to notice where persons interested in the prisoners got scent of their movement and got them released by force by over-powering the escort. To avoid against such contingencies it is suggested that not only the prisoners should be properly escorted by suitable armed guards and moved during day but also that all such programmes of movements must be kept secret so that the chances of planned over powering be done away with.

14. At the time of the challan it shall also be the duty of all the S.Os. in case of all dangerous arrested persons to inform the jail authorities and the Magistrate with such detailed facts of their past history and of their dangerous associates had rendered them dangerous so that necessary precautions may be taken regarding their escorts.

Sd/- K.D. Billimoria, I.P.  
Inspector General of Police,  
Rajasthan, Jaipur.

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Copy forwarded to All Dy. Inspectors General of Police/Supdts. of Police/Comdts. of R.A.C. for information and guidance.

for Inspector General of Police, Rajasthan, Jaipur.