

STANDING ORDER NO. 05 / 2002

Subject: **HUMAN RIGHTS AND GENDER SENSITIZATION POLICY FOR THE POLICE.**

While conducting investigation of a case, the Police Officer cannot act whimsically and arbitrarily. He is as much bound by as any other person. He exercises his powers under the Cr.PC, the Police Act, and the rules made there under. It is, as much to protect innocent as to bring the guilty to justice and never to let the guilty escape. The investigation officers are primarily the guardians the liberty of innocent persons and a heavy responsibility devolves them of seeing that innocent persons are not entangled. The power referred on the police must be used with caution keeping in mind the Human Rights and dignity of every individual. The code of criminal procedure (Cr.PC) does not grant to an investigation officer a general erriding power to act in curtailment of the rights and liberties of the subjects or violate human rights for the purposes of investigation. The regard to women, as envisaged by the Rules, all arrests should be carried out by the Police officer not below the rank of Assistant Sub Inspector of police or when no such officer is available, by a Head Constable in the presence of responsible person or relatives and the reason shall be clearly explained in this regard. Where bail is admissible the arrested women, shall be released on bail immediately. No women in police custody shall be detained even for a night in the police station. Where remand to police custody has been obtained, the Gazetted Police officer shall be responsible for the taking of necessary measures for the safe and decent custody of the accused women.

All concerned Police Officers are therefore directed to ensure that the above policy is scrupulously adhered to in letter and spirit.