

STANDING ORDER NO. 04 / 2004

CODE OF CONDUCT FOR POLICE OFFICERS

Introduction

In exercise of the powers vested under article 10 (3) and article 114 of the Police Order 2002, a Code of Conduct for regulating the Conduct and behaviour in the discharge of the duties and obligation by the Police Officer is issued for the fulfillment of the redefined roles, responsibilities and duties, under the Police Order 2002.

Aim

In order to make the Police under obligation and duty to work according to democratic aspirations of the public and to regulate their conduct and behaviour in respect of the following functions:-

- i. Exercise statutory powers to stop and search.
- ii. Searching premises and seizure of property on person and premises.
- iii. Detention and questioning of persons.
- iv. Making the functioning of Police as service oriented.

Applicability

The Standing Order shall apply to the Police Officers of all ranks and shall come into force at once.

Code

To achieve the above object, the Police Officers shall abide by the following Code of Conduct:-

- i. Behave with members of public with decorum and courtesy.
- ii. Promote amity.
- iii. Guide and assist members of the public particularly poor, disabled or physically weak and children who are either lost or find themselves helpless on the streets or other public places.
- iv. Ensure that the rights and privileges, under the law, of a person taken in custody are protected.
- v. Obey and promptly execute all lawful orders.
- vi. Exercise all statutory powers of stop and search in accordance with law with due decency and respect.
- vii. The premises and persons be searched after observing all legal formalities and maintaining respect for "Chaddar and Chardiwari".
- viii. Persons in detention shall be allowed to avail their legal rights and be interrogated within legal limits.
- ix. The Police must fulfill the duty imposed upon them by law in protecting all persons against illegal acts by manifesting high degree of responsibility required by their profession.

- x. The Police shall in the performance of their duty, protect human dignity, maintain and uphold rights of all persons.
- xi. The police may use force only when strictly necessary and to the extent required by the performance of their duties.
- xii. Police shall not disclose any matters of confidential nature, which are by law in their possession unless the performance of duty or their need of justice strictly requires otherwise.
- xiii. No Police Officer may inflict, instigate or tolerate any act of torture or other cruel, in-human, or degrading treatment or punishment nor any Police Officer may invoke order of superior, state of war, a threat to national security, internal political instability or any other public emergency as a justification of torture or other cruel, in-human or degrading treatment or punishment.
- xiv. Police Officials shall reasonably ensure protection of the health of persons in their custody and in particular shall take immediate action to secure medical attention.
- xv. Police Officials shall not commit any act of corruption.. They shall also rigorously oppose all such acts.
- xvi. Police Officers shall inform a person nominated by arrested person about his arrest by the quickest sources available to him. Entry of conveying of such information shall be entered in the Daily Diary of the Police Station.

The Police Officers shall respect the Law and the Code of Conduct.

They shall also to be best of their ability, make efforts to prevent and oppose any violation of the Code.

Responsibility

Any Police Officer who contravenes the Code of Conduct may be dealt with departmentally and awarded one or more of the punishments prescribed under the law beside a penal action provided under Police Order 2002.