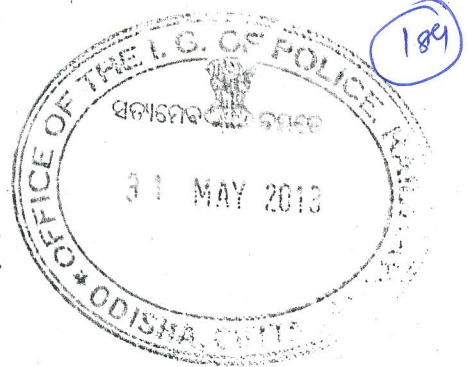


EAST COAST RAILWAY

Joint Procedure Order No.1/2013

No.ECoR/Optg/SC/66/JPO/Safeguard of Children

Date 28.05.2013



Sub: Joint Procedure Order on safeguarding the right of children arriving at & living at Railway Stations.

Ref: (1) CRB letter No.2012/Sec(Crime)/45/87 Dt.02.4.2013.
(2) WP(Civil) No.5365/2012 before Honourable High Court of Delhi.

As per direction of Honourable High Court of Delhi communicated through Chairman Railway Board to all Zonal Railways, this JPO is issued containing the following guidelines in respect of safeguarding the right of children arriving at & living at the Railway stations.

Apprehending & preliminary enquiry

1. Under the provision of the direction, the children those who are arriving at & living at the railway stations only are covered. Responsibility of railway official starts from the time of detection of such child at railway station till he/she handed over to the District Child Welfare Committee. List of all such District Child Welfare Committee falling under the jurisdiction of East Coast Railway is enclosed as Annexure-I. The details shall be updated from time to time by RPF Department.
2. As soon as a child is found alone at a railway station, RPF/GRP/Station Master shall try to obtain name, address, contact number of his /her, parents/guardian/relatives from the child & report the same to SM on duty immediately. SM on duty will announce the particulars of the child on the Public Address System to locate the parent/guardian/relatives at that particular point of time.
3. If the residential particulars of the child is available then it is the responsibility of the OIC, RPF/GRP to intimate in writing the particulars to the local police station of the station concerned as well as with copy sent to the police station in jurisdiction of which the parents/guardians/relative of the child comes under, with a request to locate the parents/guardians/relatives of the child & inform them about the child having been found at the railway station and his/her availability particulars.

4. Station Superintendent/station Master(I/C) of every station should maintain a register in which he shall record the particulars including the name of the child age, parents' name, address & communication number if any of the child, who arrives & stays at his station.
5. If the parent/guardian/relative are traced, then the child should be handed over to them ensuring necessary proof and taking acknowledgement in the register maintained at the station.
6. If the parent/guardian/relative could not be traced, then particulars of the child will be maintained in the register by the SS/SM & he shall also get the child photographed & place his/her photograph in the aforesaid register against his/her name, so that his/her parents are able to identify & locate him/her without any difficulty. The expenditure will be made from station imprest.

Production before the Child welfare committee

7. It is the responsibility of the railway administration to hand over the child before the concerned child welfare committee at the earliest possible i.e maximum within 24 hours of detection. RPF/GRP personnel will accompany the child to handover him/her to the child welfare committee. The expenditure will be incurred from the concerned station earnings. At road side stations where RPF/GRP post is not available, Station master shall intimate the RPF/GRP personnel under whose jurisdiction the station comes for handing over the child to district welfare committee. Details of RPF/GRP jurisdiction for stations is enclosed as Annexure-II.
8. At road side stations where RPF/GRP post is not available the responsibility of keeping the girl child and providing meals will devolve upon the Station Master. The expenditure incurred on this account should be made from station imprest.
9. The designation, address and telephone numbers of the Members of District Child Welfare Committee under which the station comes shall be prominently displayed on the railway station so as to enable the parents/guardians/relatives of the child to approach the committee along with information that the children who arrive & stay at the station are produced before the committee and subsequently handed over to them.

10. If the child welfare committee is not sitting then the child shall be produced before the single member of the committee in terms of rule 27(4) of the Juvenile Justice (care & protection of children) Rules, 2007. In case the single member is also not accessible or the child is found at odd hours, he/she shall be dealt with in terms of Rule 27 of the aforesaid Rules till the time of production before the committee.

Ensuring safety


11. If the child arriving & staying at a railway station is a girl, till the time she is produced before the committee, she shall be kept in the safe custody of a responsible female member of RPF/GRP. Adequate care & attention including meals will be provided by RPF/ GRP & expenditure should be borne from imprest under RPF/GRP.
12. In case of a male child, who arrives & stays at the railway stations shall remain in safe custody of the SS/SM and shall be given adequate care & attention including meals for which expenditure will be made from station imprest.
13. Appropriate specific & separate space for male & female children should be identified at stations to accommodate the child till such time they are produced before the committee.
14. If any articles are found with the child then joint inventory should be made by SS/SM & RPF/GRP and the articles are kept in the safe custody of the SS/SM. A copy of the inventory jointly signed shall be pasted in the register against the name of the child. The articles with inventory list shall be forwarded to the committee with the child.


Efforts for restoration

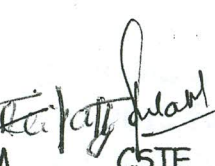
15. The whole of the information in respect of such children, including their photographs, to the extent publication of such particulars and/or photographs is not prohibited under the provisions of the Juvenile Justice (Care and Protection of Children) Act, 2000 or any other law for the time being in force, along with information relating to his/her being produced before the Child Welfare Committee, shall be made available on the website of East Coast Railway, in a searchable format, so that the parents/guardian of such children are able to identify them and seek their custody.

16. Further, RPF department will give the details of the website with respect to the availability of the information particulars to the CPRO for ensuring wide publicity in leading English & vernaculars newspapers. Further, the children who do not know or cannot give their residential particulars, the available particulars with photo should be uploaded on the site, as well as publicity will be given in newspaper through CPRO. The expenditure will be borne by CPRO.

The above guidelines should be followed with immediate effect.


COM


CCM


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IG&CSC


IG(GRP)


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