

**SOP
FOR POLICE
EMERGENCY THREAT
LEVELS AND COLOR
CODES FOR
OPERATIONAL
READINESS**



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**Subject: STANDING OPERATING PROCEDURES FOR POLICE EMERGENCY
THREAT LEVELS AND COLOR CODES FOR OPERATIONAL READINESS**

PRELUDE

Law enforcement agencies use different color codes to identify security levels for police operations and readiness worldwide. Being a civilian law enforcement agency, Sindh police serve as a backbone in maintaining law and order. A variety of threats in the backdrop of evolving terrorism have reshaped the strategies of police and LEAs nationally and internationally. Attack on public places and general masses require declaration of security levels and a coordinate mechanism among different agencies to respond to the situation in professional method.

Operations Branch has proposed a security level identification and emergency color codes scheme for the operational alertness of Sindh Police.

INTRODUCTION

Threat level is a term used by government agencies to indicate the state of preparedness required by LEAs with regard to emergency situations and urgency of required response. Three levels are designed to give a broad indication of the likelihood of a terrorist activity/untoward situation, the likelihood of an attack in real time scenario. Thus, it serves as a tool for security practitioners working across different sectors to be ready to respond. In order to identify the nature of threats and devising different strategies and preparedness, a color code scheme has been introduced to facilitate the officers/officials in Sindh Police for better communication and making viable and organized operational procedures to cope up with any sort of threat.

BACKGROUND

- Provision of a broad indication of the protective security measures that should be applied at any particular moment.
- Sharing threat levels with other LEAs to ensure a co-ordinated response mechanism.
- Sharing threat levels with general public keeps everyone informed and explains the context for the various security measures (For example: airport security, traffic stoppage, bag searches etc)
- It provides alternates for public and differentiates routine protective security and vulnerabilities.
- Maximize protective security measures to minimize vulnerability and risks.

METHODOLOGY

- The first step is the assessment process to identify threat levels according to risk assessment.
- Collecting information
- Determining the threat rating
- Asset value assessment
- Vulnerability assessment
- Risk assessments
- Mitigation options

We can take appropriate measure decisions by keeping these factors as priority. Together with detailed assessment, the analysis informs us regarding potential threats. Threat assessments are also considered as important factor for individuals and events. Modus Operandi of 'Response' by the Police against any identified threat alert has been tabled in the enclosed table with the role of each Supervisory Officer.

ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

- KW&SB
- All Ambulance Services
- Aman Foundation
- Traffic Police
- BDU (Bomb Disposal Unit)

coordinated response mechanism of different departments linked together. Following departments are available as potential resources for effective response to threat levels:

- Fire Brigade
- K-Electric
- PTCL
- Sindh Rangers
- Emergency 15
- KMC

OPERATIONAL READINESS

Sindh Police has always responded in accordance with prescribed standards during emergency situations and threat alerts despite having very limited resources. The SOPs concisely express the security levels and color codes for police operations and readiness. A well organized mechanism in response to a variety of law and order situations and other emergency situations in the city in particular and province in general is need of an hour to utilize the available resources in coordination for maximum outcome in emergency situations.

IMPLEMENTATION

The SOP is implemented with immediate effect. All Ranges/Zonal DIGs may activate regional operations rooms following these guidelines for operational readiness of police units to cope up with emergency situations/ threat alerts and respond accordingly.

Enclosed (Threat levels chart with color codes)


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- 1) All Addl IsG, Sindh.
- 2) All DIsG Sindh.
- 3) All SSsP Sindh.

with request for onward circulation among their sub-ordinate offices.

(For Police Operations and Readiness)

Security Level	Recommended Management Actions	Authority
Minimal (Code White)	<p>A. <u>SITUATION</u> Situation is normal and no information about any threat related to law and order or Terrorism.</p> <p>B. <u>REPORT</u> Reports are generated once a day.</p> <p>C. <u>RESPONSE</u> Routine patrolling to continue with available force. Routine tasks to be carried out.</p>	<p>D. <u>SUPERVISORY</u> <u>ROLE</u> Routine Supervisory DSI and SHO.</p>
Low (Code Green)	<p>A. <u>SITUATION</u></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Situation is normal but some information received about a threat related to law and order or an act of terrorism in general area. Political or Sectarian activity/event or VIP movement/important event in specific area. Extreme Traffic Jam <p>E. <u>REPORT</u></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Reports are generated after every 06 hours. <p>B. <u>RESPONSE</u></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Patrolling and Snap checking to be carried out at and around all likely targets. Preventive and protective measures to be taken to deter potential threats. Proper deployment of force as per event 	<p>C. <u>SUPERVISORY</u> <u>ROLE</u> Level of : Supervisory role SP / SP HQ.</p>
Moderate (Code Blue)	<p>A. <u>SITUATION</u></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Situation is not normal, credible information has received about law and order situation or an act of Terrorism in a specific area. Threats to Armed forces/Rangers/Police establishments. Threats to any government office or educational institution. Any specific threat to any famous/renowned scholar/media person. General information about Bomb/ I.E.D/Suicide Bomber in a large area. <p>F. <u>REPORT</u> Reports are generated after every 04 hours.</p> <p>B. <u>RESPONSE</u></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Intensive Patrolling at specified areas where threats are expected. Strong picketing and thorough checking be started around area of threats. Ensure special protective measures. Resources to be made standby/ready position to be deployed in minimum possible time and response time be minimized in case of any eventuality. 	<p>C. <u>SUPERVISOR</u> <u>ROLE</u> Level of Supervisory role SSP/DIG</p>

(For Police Operations and Readiness)

Security Level	Recommended Management Actions	Authority
Minimal (Code White)	<p>A. <u>SITUATION</u> Situation is normal and no information about any threat related to law and order or Terrorism.</p> <p>B. <u>REPORT</u> Reports are generated once a day.</p> <p>C. <u>RESPONSE</u> Routine patrolling to continue with available force. Routine tasks to be carried out.</p>	<p>D. <u>SUPERVISORY</u> <u>ROLE</u> Routine Supervisory DSP and SHO.</p>
Low (Code Green)	<p>A. <u>SITUATION</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> I. Situation is normal but some information received about a threat related to law and order or an act of terrorism in general area. II. Political or Sectarian activity/event or VIP movement/important event in specific area. III. Extreme Traffic Jam <p>E. <u>REPORT</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> I. Reports are generated after every II. 06 hours. <p>B. <u>RESPONSE</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> I. Patrolling and Snap checking to be carried out at and around all likely targets. Preventive and protective measures to be taken to deter potential threats. II. Proper deployment of force as per event 	<p>C. <u>SUPERVISORY</u> <u>ROLE</u> Level of Supervisory role SP / SP HQ.</p>
Moderate (Code Blue)	<p>A. <u>SITUATION</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> I. Situation is not normal, credible information has received about law and order situation or an act of Terrorism in a specific area. II. Threats to Armed forces/Rangers/Police establishments. III. Threats to any government office or educational institution. IV. Any specific threat to any famous/renowned scholar/media person. V. General information about Bomb/ I.E.D/Suicide Bomber in a large area. <p>F. <u>REPORT</u> Reports are generated after every 04 hours.</p> <p>B. <u>RESPONSE</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> I. Intensive Patrolling at specified areas where threats are expected. II. Strong picketing and thorough checking be started around area of threats. III. Ensure special protective measures. IV. Resources to be made standby/ready position to be deployed in minimum possible time and response time be minimized in case of any eventuality. 	<p>C. <u>SUPERVISORY</u> <u>ROLE</u> Level of Supervisory role SSP/DIG</p>

4.

High
(Code Red)

- activity is highly imminent.
- II. Mega/International event.
- III. Sectarian/Political Riots.
- IV. Target killing of any sectarian person or any LEAs official.
- V. Large-scale arson/looting public property and forced shutter down in large/major areas of city.
- VI. Specific threat to any media house.
- VII. Larger Scale protestors or protests in Red Zone area
- VIII. Specific information about Bomb/ I.E.D/Suicide Bomber at specific place.

G. REPORT

Reports are generated on 02 hourly basis.

B. RESPONSE

- I. Emergency imposed.
- II. Coordinate with other LEAs including Rangers, HQ 5 Corps and their field units.
- III. Complete force including maximum available reserves from other units be immediately move to specific areas.
- IV. All entry/exit points around threatened area are properly sealed.
- V. Proper Media Management through Director Public Relation/PRO of CPO.
- VI. Immediate Cordon Off expected site in coordination with Rangers/others LEAs.
- VII. Complete Sindh Police on Red Alert/Standby and proactive measures to be taken by all concerned.
- VIII. Mega/International Event properly secured, rehearsal carried out for any emergency response before time, reserves already in place.
- IX. Ensure special protective and preventive measures.

Level of Supervision
be raised to
DIG/AdLIG

5.

**Extreme
(Code Black)**

- II. Target killing of LEAs high ranking officer.
- III. Target killing of VVIP/Sectarian/Political prominent leader.
- IV. Situation is deteriorated, law and order situation has worsen up-to level of not being controlled
- V. Bomb Blast or I.E.D or suicide Bomber attack in a specific area.
- VI. Attack on LEAs establishment, Educational / Govt. Institute Red Zone area, Consulates in specific area.
- VII. Threat on media house.

H. REPORT

Reports are generated on hourly basis.

B. RESPONSE

- I. Emergency imposed.
- II. Coordinate with other LEAs including Rangers, HQ 5 Corps and their field units.
- III. Complete force including maximum available reserves from other units be immediately move to specifies areas.
- IV. All entry/exit points around incident sites are properly sealed.
- V. Proper Media Management through Director Public Relation/PRO of CPO.
- VI. Coordination with district administration for evacuation and containing further loss to life and property.
- VII. Apprehending culprits from spot or through IBOs.
- VIII. Properly following ROEs (Rules Of Engagements).
- IX. Immediate Cordon Off incident site.
- X. Ensure extra ordinary protective measures.
- XI. Apprehending likely criminals involved in incident on Information Based Operation (TBO).
- XII. Complete Sindh Police on Red Alert/Standby and proactive measures to be taken by all concerned.