

“SKILL DEVELOPMENT AND COMMUNITY POLICING IN INDIA”

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Abstract :Community policing concept has been in practice since long and lost its historical justification. The idea has now gained Philip and different countries have been encouraged from the success nations of different community policing scheme. The essence of community policing is to minimise the gap between policemen and citizen to such an extent that the policemen become an integral part of community they serve. This requires skill development training in police personnel.

Keywords: Skill Development, Community Policing, training.

INTRODUCTION

Community policing concept has been in practice since long and lost its historical justification. The idea has now gained Philip and different countries have been encouraged from the success nations of different community policing scheme. The essence of community policing is to minimise the gap between policemen and citizen to such an extent that the policemen become an integral part of community they serve. In other words, the individual policeman should know each member of the community and he should, in turn, be known by them. One key to the success of community policing project is ability of its sponsors to sell the project to its beneficiaries. This requires urgent need of skill development among police people.

OBJECTIVES OF THE STUDY

1. To identify the areas of community policing.
2. To identify the skills required by policemen for community policing.
3. To review the states who have effectively initiated the process of community policing.

RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

The researcher has used secondary data from books, journals and websites.

STATEMENT OF PROBLEM

For a long time police, the police were used as an effective tool to strengthen the hands of rulers and to quell various rebellions. It was only after independence, that the serious thought was given to police as a service and not a tool to exploit the citizens. Even today the service element is absent. Community policing is a new philosophy that envisages police community interaction in such a way that creative solution for various problems of community can be found out and implemented with closer interaction with the community. It is a philosophy that believes that only by working together will people and police be able to improve the quality of life in community. It tries to involve, arrange citizen in the process of policing themselves of police service. It can be called policing of the people, by the people and for the people. It is

observed that experimenting on community policing and outreach programmes in India are mostly spirited initiatives by individual police personnel in the different parts of country.

Skills required by policemen for effective implementation of community policing

As per the research done on skill development and training to the police personnel in different states, it was found that following skills should be imparted. They are

1. Personality development skills
2. Soft skills
3. Information technology skills

Research by Abhijit Banerjee in Rajasthan state has shown that training police officers in personality development skills and scientific techniques of investigation can improve victim satisfaction and quality of investigation. Police often lack adequate resources, skills and aptitude of modern policing. Police personnel of all ranks in police stations should be trained in soft skills such as communication, mediation, leadership, stress management, attitude change and other personality development skills that facilitate community interaction. Soft skill training of police is now being recognised as an important instrument for improving police engagement with citizens and for promoting community oriented policing.

Jammu and Kashmir police in collaboration with University of Delhi had conducted workshops for life skills development for all police employees.

Ministry of Home Affairs, Government of India, had conducted a project on Soft skill training for police with an objective to improve the attitude and behaviour of police personnel to make the citizen friendly, service oriented police and develop a positive and helping attitude in them.

Kolkata police has entrusted ITI to conduct training in basic IT skills to all the police officers. Technology has raised many challenges before the law enforcement personnel of India. These include dealing with cybercrimes and issues arising due to the use of cyber forensics. Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel, National Police Academy, Hyderabad is also encouraging training methodology to impart above skills.

REVIEW OF COMMUNITY POLICING PROGRAMMES IN DIFFERENT STATES IN INDIA

Mumbai

Crimes in India have shown steady increase over last couple of years and police have to find ways of building better communication between the people and police in order to tackle the situation. One of the community policing initiatives is the Public Concern for Governance Trust (PCGT). It is an experiment which has capability to mobilise public opinion and increase public participation and act vision towards creating more transparent and efficient governance. It has initiated a Participative Policy Project. Mohalla Committee Movement Trust, Mumbai is also active. It is implemented at three levels. a) **Building public awareness**-That is educating the public on the role of police force and its limitations and constraints. It also includes publishing guidelines to facilitate understanding of rights and responsibilities of citizens and police. b) **Professional back up**- It refers to developing training courses on conflict resolution and meditation to constables and social workers. c) **Synergy**-Police and public have to work together for discussing the issues taking sample surveys and research and suggesting remedial measures.

Tamil Nadu

“The Friends of Police” is a holistic and pro-active concept that lends a psychological approach to policing. It is a true example of police- public partnership. It provides opportunity to ordinary citizens to effectively contribute to the prevention and detection of crime. Their activities include beats and night patrols, assistance in traffic, crime prevention, Information collection and assistance in law and order.

Coimbatore

SamarthaYojna Commuting policing is one which has the objective to perceive and resolve communal problems and also to win the confidence and trust of people. Under this programme, committees are formed. They are trained in community policing. They also conduct workshops and seminars to bring an attitudinal change in the police personnel.

The other programmes are problem solving with government agencies, Municipality etc. City vigilance committee is formed to provide information on terrorists, black money, drugs, Interface with pressure groups like industry, lawyers, professors, doctor, students-police interface where students are deputed in case of shortage of police staff and Slum adoption scheme to reduce anti- social activities.

TRICHY

The programmes under community policing include beat officers systems, complaint/suggestion box system, Wide Area Network (WAN), Help line for Women in Distress and Slum Adoption Scheme.

ASSAM

The community policing programme called “PRAHARI” was introduced in 1996. The objective was to tackle social problems and bring the police and community closer. The police have taken an initiative and formed Community Management Groups (CMG). These groups are formed at state, district and PS level where eminent and non-political persons from society come together and meet the police on regular basis. Another initiative by Assam police is AASWAS for children who have undergone trauma of facing violence.

HIMACHAL PRADESH

Community policing scheme was introduced in 2000. Vishwas Yojana was introduced which includes programmes like regular visit of school children to police stations to remove the fear of police, production of educative and documentary films, Village touring, Police Assistance Centres Suvidha Yojna (Training to girl students), Sanrakohan, (Yojna for senior citizens), Women's cell.

PUNJAB

The community policing programme is known as Community Policing Resource Centres.

KOLKATA

Community policing programme include Drug Awareness Programme, Nabadisha for street children, Probaha- Weekly blood donation programme at police station, Bravery and honesty award, Counselling Centres for women, juveniles, elders, drug and alcohol addicts and Poor box.

ANDHRA PRADESH

The community policing programme in AP is called as Maithre. It includes programmes like Consultation with community on regular basis, Adaptation- devising new policing methods, Mobilisation of resources and Problem solving.

MADHYA PRADESH CHHATTISGARH

The initiatives include Grama Raksha Samiti, Nagar Raksha Samiti, Balmitra Thana, Child line, Medical relief to injured; Police help for visually challenging etc.

CONCLUSION

With the change in technology and increasing crimes in society, shortage of police force in big cities, community policing can prove an effective way of preventing crimes and improving better understanding between police and public. It will also help in better mutual understanding of problems of police force by the public as well as problems of public by the police. Active involvement of public also ensures reduction in crime rate. Effective implementation of community policing programme will benefit both the society and police force in general. The community policing in the Indian scenario as well as internationally involves cultural change as in most of the countries, semi-military and highly hierarchical model of policing is prevalent. It involves intense training and sensitisation of policemen to accept equal role of citizens. After gang rape incident in New Delhi and spate of other crimes in the city, senior police officials

have been forced to rethink their strategies and community policing has emerged as a clear winner. Skill development in police personnel of all ranks will ensure success of community policing in India.

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