



# From the Commissioner's Desk

*Traditionally, crimogenic factors in a city are known to significantly mould its crime pattern and incidence. If, however, there is a metropolis wherein such factors have a typically ponderous impact on the crime situation, that would be the National Capital. Delhi's migrant population – adding to the large sections already inhabiting underprivileged clusters, the socio-economic disparities between the rich and the poor, proximate location of colonies of the affluent and the less endowed, the relentless churning of youth ambitions and frustrations, and porous borders making way for day-to-day influx – all these curiously intermix in the city's demographic cauldron to breed crime and delinquency, and render the crime-combating charter of Delhi Police that much more challenging.*

*Over the years, easy availability of illicit arms across the borders has remained a cause of concern, and since these arms and ammunition are supplied from outside, interstate coordination to intensify action against the criminals involved, has become critical. From its side, the Delhi Police made sustained efforts last year to target the dynamics of the organized criminal industry of firearm manufacturers, peddlers and delivery nodes, and busted several gun-running syndicates with huge recoveries of illegal firearms and ammunition. During the year, 1905 illicit firearms and 6314 ammunition were recovered by Delhi Police, an increase by 111.2% as compared to 2016 and 37.94% more than 2017. Sustained action against illicit firearms has correspondingly resulted in decline of cases where firearms have been used: 17.54% less as compared to 2016, and 11.32% less than 2017. A massive crackdown on drug abuse and drug peddlers also led to huge detections of narcotics. Registration of cases under the NDPS Act went up considerably from 362 to 493 this year and 662 drug peddlers were arrested as compared to 491 of the previous year.*

*Our sustained anti-terror strategisation, both on the preventive and detective fronts, kept the city free from any terrorist designs. Owing to our counter-terror efforts, eight terrorists were arrested in 2018 including Abdul Subhan Qureshi @ Wasim*

*@ Zakir @ Taukir, the ghost terror mentor and mastermind, and his associate Ariz Khan @ Junaid @ Salim, both of whom were wanted in the 2008 serial blast cases of Delhi. Militants belonging to ISIS, LeT, KLF and KCP, an active insurgent group of Manipur were also accounted for. For preventive deterrence, six Parakram Vans were added this year raising the total to 30 such Vans to give anti-terror cover at vulnerable locations. A path-breaking initiative was to induct an "All-women Special Weapons and Tactics (SWAT) team" into Delhi Police. This is the only such all-women SWAT team in India, equipped with AK-47 rifles, MP5 machine guns, Glock 17 or 26 pistols and corner shot devices with enhanced night vision, and rigorously trained for tackling terrorists and hardened criminals.*

*As in the previous year, we continued with women's safety as a priority focus-area and under the banner of Sashakti, extensive self-defence training was imparted by our trainers. Around 2.7 lakh girls were covered in 2018 enabling Delhi Police to enter the Limca Book of Records. Our initiatives like high police visibility in vulnerable areas, introduction of women patrols, Shishtachar and Nirbheek were pursued with sustained rigour. Cyber awareness and gender sensitization campaigns in schools, apart from generating public goodwill, also yielded encouraging dividends. The Himmat App. was revamped as Himmat Plus making it bilingual and more user-friendly, and integrated with the QR Code of cab drivers.*

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Community participation in policing, as the sine qua non of effective policing, was given prior emphasis and a number of Community Policing Schemes were launched. Associating security guards/chowkidars as a force-multiplier in policing functions under the Prahari Scheme was a unique scheme introduced by the Delhi Police, and nearly 20,000 security guards were enrolled and trained for prevention and detection of crime. 'Police Uncle' was another special outreach programme targeting school children and helped us showcase the friendly face of police among the upcoming generation. The scheme is used also as a platform to educate children about the police, its functions and duties, and the various safety do's and don'ts. The 'YUVA' initiative of Delhi Police to engage and steer street children and youth towards the mainstream of society, was taken to newer heights during the year by creating facilities in 20 police stations. The target-group of school dropouts, juvenile offenders, victims of crime, and selected dependents of incarcerated offenders benefitted immensely and around 5,000 such youth were trained in skill development.

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Delhi, being the National Capital, witnesses demonstrations and dharnas on issues concerning any part of the country or the world on a daily basis. Meticulous planning, comprehensive rehearsals, effective coordination with other agencies and flawless execution on the ground ensured that all such demonstrations passed off, not only without any incident, but also with least inconvenience to public at large. Besides agitations, the most challenging events where foolproof security arrangements were required to be made included the Republic Day Parade, 2018, wherein the heads of 10 nations participated, security during 4<sup>th</sup> ASEAN India Ministers Meeting on Agriculture and Forestry, ASEAN India Business and Investment Meet and Expo-2018, and the 16<sup>th</sup> International Energy Forum Meeting. The most sensitive security arrangement handled during the year was the

homage function of Late Shri A.B.Vajpayee, the former PM of India, at the BJP Headquarters and the funeral procession of eminent dignitaries thereafter to the Rashtriya Smriti near Vijay Ghat.

Last year, as a step towards smoothening the grievance redressal at Police Stations, we had inducted Public Facilitation Officers in 70 police stations. In view of its success as a more responsive, empathetic and effective contact point, this year, it was upscaled to cover all the territorial police stations. In addition, as a trail-blazing digital initiative, Facilitation Kiosks were placed at strategic locations for providing to the public the various on-line services of Delhi Police and other forms of assistance at one point, obviating the necessity of a visit to the police station.

As a major step forward enhancing the quality of investigation, setting up of separate investigation wings was launched as a pilot project in 30 police stations. In 2019, the staff for investigation will be completely bifurcated in all Police Stations for which 4227 personnel for 1409 teams each consisting of One SI, One HC and One Constable have already been sanctioned. This step will ensure specialization and professionalism in investigation, and also help in meeting the expectations of victims and families affected by crime. As police work mostly involves attending to distress calls and responding to emergencies, we decided to give an incisive edge to the whole concept of speedy response. Emergency Response Vehicles (ERVs) attached to all Police Stations to reach trouble spots faster were further galvanized. This

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year, 300 “Raftaar” Motorcycle Patrols fitted with required gadgets have been added to ensure better visibility of the police combined with area dominance, as also for quicker response to distress calls, particularly those relating to women’s safety in vulnerable and congested localities. Emergency Response Support System (ERSS)-112, a national project to integrate various Emergency Numbers and Help-lines, has also been given a significant boost to augment the capacity of handling distressed calls, and the number of call takers will now be increased to 120 from the existing 60.

The Traffic Police, in pursuit of its basic thrust on education, improvement in road engineering, focused on adopting new technologies. Several modernisation projects were taken up including Red Light Violation Detection Cameras, Gantry-mounted Over-speed Detection Systems, and portable Tripod-mounted Radar Speed guns. Work on the new E-challan system has been initiated in collaboration with NIC, and the long-pending Intelligent Traffic Management System has been given a time-bound impetus. On the anti-pollution front, the Delhi Traffic Police took stringent action, and prosecuted over 1.5 lakh vehicles. School children and Traffic Sentinels participated in a big way in traffic enforcement, and during the year, the Delhi Traffic Police launched a major Road Safety Education drive, covering 2236 schools and more than 17 lakh students across the city.

Several digital and technological initiatives for SMART policing were taken during the year. As a path-breaking step in “Swachhta Hi Sewa”, the e-Malkhana project to modernize and digitize Malkhanas in police stations was taken up in right earnest, and all the districts have completed this process making Delhi the first city to have “Digital Malkhanas”. “NIPUN”, an e-Learning portal, was launched for giving online training to Police Officers. The flexibility of taking courses anytime and anywhere now makes it possible for police personnel to upgrade their professional skills, smoothly balancing training hours with work time.

Welfare measures for police personnel and their families touched newer heights. The Police Families Welfare Society (PFWS) organised health checks, counseling and motivation sessions, skill development training and a variety of entertainment

programmes in various colonies round the year. A ‘Mega Job Fair’ was held for the benefit of policemen’s wards in association with AXIS Bank. This year, we took special care to commemorate our police martyrs, and “Ek Shaam Police Shaheedon Ke Naam”, a musical evening, was organised at the Lotus Temple Auditorium on the eve of Commemoration Day – 2018 in which family members of police personnel, who sacrificed their lives last year, were felicitated.

Discipline and staff morale remained areas of high priority for the senior hierarchy of Delhi Police. On the anti-corruption front, we maintained ‘zero tolerance’, and strict administrative action, including dismissal in selected cases, was taken to curb acts of misdemeanor, impropriety or corruption. By exemplary punishment, a stern no-nonsense message was disseminated to the rank and file through the supervisory formations.

It is a matter of great pride and satisfaction for us that during 2018 all ranks of Delhi Police rose to the occasion, despite severe manpower constraints. No law and order situation was allowed to escalate and all important heinous cases were solved. For better crime control and service delivery to Delhi citizenry, one more new district was made functional. In 2019, our endeavour will be to consolidate on the good work of 2018, with particular focus on combating crime and terror, technological upgradation, improving our community outreach, and sharpening our response to distress calls. The induction, for regular duties, of the 7,500 recruits presently under training, will significantly boost our visibility, response and service-delivery to the citizens of Delhi.

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