

The Mumbai

Vol 2 Issue 6 January-February 2012 Rs 75/-

NEW MEDIA connecting global wealth creators

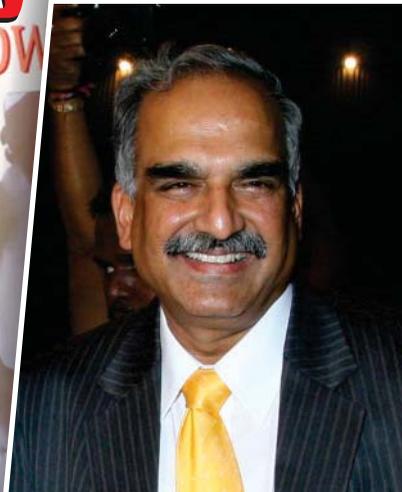


PROTECTOR

Connecting Cops with Community

PROMOTING PEACE

www.theprotector.in



**Cop-Community
Connect Vital
for A Safer
Tomorrow**



Content

Cover Story

'Cop-Community Connect
need of the hour to herald
a safer tomorrow'



10

Interview

'Plan execution before
executing plans to
achieve goals and not
just physical targets'



26

Interview

'A systemic change is
called for in perception by
bringing about stronger
cop- community bond.'



30

Honours

Guts & Glory



38

Report

Increasing Role of
Forensic Science in
Crime Detection



48

Photo Feature

Bonding with
Bollywood



66

Founder Chairman
Late Shri R.K. Prasad

Distributed by:

New Media Communication Pvt. Ltd.
in association with **Maharashtra Police**

Managing Editor: Satya Swaroop

Directors: B.K. Sinha

Cdr. P.S. Amar

Group Editor: Dev Varam

Executive Editor: Uday Tarra Nayar, Suresh Vasudevan,
Jyoti Pathak & Atula Amchen

Consulting Editors: Prabhoo Sinha, Salman S,
Tripat Oberoi & Sanjana S.

Deputy Editor: Tripti Chakravorty

Editorial Assistant: Shraddha Varadkar

Head-Business Development: Veerendra Bhargava

Strategic Advisor: Vinaya Shetty

Head - Admin & Finance: Sunil Kumar

Liaison Officer: Vrunda Gurav

Special Projects: Manjeet Bhawar

Support & Executive Database:

Madhavi Singh & Arvinder Kaur Sethi

Circulation: Jawaharlal, Santosh Gangurde,

Vijay Wangade & Suraj

Art Director: Santosh Nawar & Jitendra Takekar

Associate Art Director: Sagar Banawalikar

Visualizer: Maya Vichare

Photo Editor: Ashish Bist

Photographers: Kishen Singh & Ramesh Singh

BRANCHES:

Kolkata:

Anurag Sinha, Regional Head,

Mob: 09830043339 / 09051112019

Tel: 033-24537708. Fax: 033-24380719

Email: anurag@newmediacomm.biz

Subhajit Bhattacharya, Special Correspondent

Mob: 098313 39429

Pune:

Jagdish Khaladkar, Regional Director,

Mobile: 098230 38315

Email: pune@newmediacomm.biz

j.khaladkar@gmail.com

Patna:

Rajesh Naraen, Vimmi Prasad

173 - B, 2nd Floor, S.K. Puri, Patna 800001. Bihar

Email: rajeshnaraen@newmediacomm.com

Mob: 09334390988

Australia Office:

Bandhana Kumari Prasad, 129 Camboon Road,

Noranda, Perth, W.A. 6062 Tel: 0061 892757447

Email: bandhana@newmediacomm.biz

New Media Communication Pvt. Ltd.,

New Media House, 1 Akbar Villa,

Near Old State Bank, Marol-Maroshi Road,

Andheri (E), Mumbai - 400 059

Tel: +91-22-2925 0690. Telefax: +91-22-2925 5279

E-mail: enquiry@newmediacomm.biz

www.newmediacomm.com

DGP Maharashtra

Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj Marg, Apollo Bandar,

Mumbai. Email: dgpsms.mumbai@mahapolice.gov.in

Printed & Published by

Satya Swaroop and printed at: M/s Young Printers A-2/237,
Shah & Nahar Industrial Estate, Lower Parel, Mumbai 400013
and published from New Media House, 1 Akbar Villa, Marol-
Maroshi Road, Andheri (East), Mumbai 400 059. India

Editor: B.K. Sinha

The news items and information published herein have been
collected from various sources, which are considered to be
reliable. Readers are however requested to verify the facts
before making business decisions using the same.

Marketed by:

Maverick Marcomm: 1 Akbar Villa, Marol Maroshi Road,
Andheri (E), Mumbai - 400 059.



Dear Reader,

Greetings. A constant theme that needs consistent reiteration is the significance of Cop-Community Connect. It cannot be cultivated overnight. It can only be inculcated over a period of time in the minds of both the public and the police. Once the bond is forged, it helps establish the much-needed trust between the two sides. Precisely for this reason, New Media, publishers of **The PROTECTOR** magazine, has undertaken a nationwide launch of seminars, dedicated to the theme – Cop-Community Connect for a Safer Tomorrow as part of its corporate social responsibility. The first of the proposed events was

held in Mumbai recently. The cover story of the current issue of **The PROTECTOR** highlights the speeches delivered by eminent personalities, which included former super cop J.F. Ribeiro, former DGP Maharashtra D. Sivanandhan, Additional Chief Secretary (Home) U.C. Sarangi, DGP Housing Pravin Dixit, noted Forensic Scientist Rukmani Krishnamurthy and CMD Micro Technologies P. Sekhar. ACS Sarangi, who is relinquishing office after a glorious tenure of more than three decades, fondly recalls in an interview to this magazine, his years of dedication and the contentment he derived from performing his duties honestly in various assignments as an IAS officer. In another interview, Thane Police Commissioner K.P. Raghuvamshi, a former head of Anti-Terrorist Squad (ATS) talks about his experiences. Every year, Republic Day brings to light the winners of President's Medal for gallantry and distinguished service. The magazine publishes the list of winners this year, a number of whom belong to the Maharashtra Police, in the article titled Guts and Glory. In this context, we also carry an interview with Ravindra Sengaonkar, DCP - Navi Mumbai one of the winners of this year's honours. The issue carries a study on the increasing role of forensic science in crime detection, by Dr. D. Sengupta, a former Director of FSL, West Bengal. There are many shades to Mumbai Police – the Good, the Bad and the Indifferent. The magazine introduces an interesting miscellany in this regard. The treasure trove discovered at the famous Padmanabha Temple in the southern state of Kerala has highlighted the need to preserve and protect the temple treasures spread across the country. We carry a well-researched article by Dr. P. Sekhar, Chairman, MicroTech Global Foundation. Every year, the Mumbai Police has an 'encounter' of a different kind with Bollywood, known as **Umang**. We carry a photo feature. The magazine carries two articles, one on fire safety recommendations for mercantile buildings and another, listing safety tips for women. The police love the thrill of adventure travel as much as the public. Pallab Ghosh, IPS, of Kolkata Police packs all the thrills of a heavenly trek in the Himalayas in an article. Besides all these, there are photo features on the Cop-Community Connect seminar mentioned above, the Republic Day celebrations in Maharashtra and the Mumbai Marathon.

The magazine wishes you a happy and prosperous new year.

Wish you happy reading.

Satya Swaroop

Managing Editor

satya@newmediacomm.biz



From the Desk of
Umesh Chandra Sarangi
 ACS Home

On the eve of my retirement, I feel happy and content. As I look back, as a student, I wanted to be a genetic engineer but destiny saw me end up as an administrator. From salubrious environment of research lab, I shifted to administration as a member of the Indian Administrative Service. I was lucky to meet a number of great civil servants in early years of my career. Their guidance was a great help to me in building my foundation as an administrator.



Having lived first 25 years of my life in a rural environment, I was well aware of the problems of rural people, particularly the poor, the underprivileged, illiterate and socially backward. Now I was in a position from where I could make difference to their lives. This became the prime motivation to take the given job seriously. A research bent of mind, enabled me to look in to problems in their entirety and search for holistic solution. We all get busy with execution of plans, very few of us plan execution and that is why many a times we achieve physical targets but not the goals.

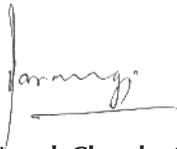
During this long career, I had to confront many challenging tasks. Doing them successfully was a great satisfaction. Managing an unprecedented drought in Latur, extending a helping hand to earth quake affected farmers in Latur, helping the super cyclone victims in Orissa to restart life, rescue relief and rehabilitation of earthquake victims in Bhuj, tackling the never seen before situation caused by unprecedented floods in Mumbai, co-ordinating flood management in 31 districts at the same time, ensuring smooth and incident free conduct of Kumbha Mela in Nashik, were big challenges that I was asked to handle during the course of my eventful career. Guidance and support from seniors and willing help from colleagues and juniors enabled me handle these difficult situations. I strongly believe that to deliver effectively one needs to have a strong team to work. I am fortunate to have worked with people who were endowed with best of capabilities and zeal to work and with their unfailing support we were able to deliver. I am thankful to all my colleagues who worked with me as a team throughout my career. I wish all of them well.

I was lucky to be allotted to a state like Maharashtra, which is socio-culturally progressive, politically prudent and economically advanced. Decentralised governance and strong cooperation movement has really transferred power to the people. So the sociopolitical awareness among masses is impressive. This keeps administration on its toe. It has to remain ever vigilant to people's problems and take definite steps to solve them. The political authorities both in and outside the Govt. make consistent effort to live up to the expectation of people. I was lucky to have their consistent support and guidance, while working in different positions. I am indebted to all of them.

Maharashtra undoubtedly was the most developed state and continues to be so. Economic liberalization has thrown open opportunities, and almost all states are surging forward from behind. Maharashtra has to strive relentlessly to maintain its number one position. At the same time it has to take fresh initiative to reduce disparity in development among regions. The administration has a great task in its hand and I have no doubt that they will prove equal to the task. I wish them well, in their efforts to transform Maharashtra to a well developed state. Our task remains incomplete till we ensure that nobody is hungry, everyone has a roof over their head, and have access to good education, clean drinking water and affordable health care.

Maharashtra and Mumbai Police have the distinction of being second to none. Due to changes in external and internal environment they are likely to face lot more challenges particularly from terrorism and left wing extremism. Security of our cities, vital installations and safety & security of people is going to be a major responsibility for police in coming times. They have to prepare themselves to meet the challenges through training, skill enhancement and getting equipped with latest technology and arms. I have no doubt that the police force in the State will be able to meet the expectations.

Protector as a magazine has worked as a good support system for Police in Mumbai & Maharashtra by bringing cops and community closer and highlighting the unsung achievements of the Police force. I wish and hope it will continue to do the good work.



(Umesh Chandra Sarangi)

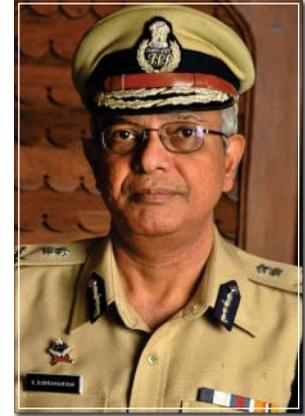


From the Desk of

K. Subramanyam

Director General of Police - Maharashtra

New Year Greetings to the readers of the Protector. Wish you all a peaceful, productive and secure year. As the New Year approaches we start making resolutions. Resolutions of all kinds, personal, professional and what not. Fulfilling those resolves is often not an easy task. In my opinion, as responsible citizens of the country and state we must resolve through the year to work towards making our society a better and more secure place to live in. I sincerely hope and wish that Maharashtra Police will be able to deliver to the society and achieve its goal of a safer and more secure society and come up to the expectation of the people.



Protector magazine has been consistently working towards improving Police - Community relationship by highlighting the initiatives of Maharashtra Police towards a safe and secure society. This issue of Protector reinforces this concept of community policing which has the potential to change the traditional policing and Law Enforcement process. I hope to see more and more community policing initiatives this year working towards this end. As a part of its Nationwide initiative, on 2nd anniversary of Protector, the Mumbai seminar "Towards a better Cop – Community Connect for a safer tomorrow" was very well received by all stakeholders, corporate and communities.

Regular interaction of police with the public on issues like women's safety, traffic management, and care for the elderly, uplift of underprivileged children goes a long way in cementing and strengthening the bond between the police and the public. The overwhelming gap in numbers of security personnel and the sizeable population that needs to be catered to leaves a lot to be desired in terms of quality of service that the Police can provide to its citizens though it works relentlessly towards this goal. Closely working with communities helps not just in crime detection and prevention but focusing on other community initiatives too.

While traditional policing largely reacts to situations, community policing is proactive. Building mutual trust and confidence between the police and public is very crucial as the dynamics of crimes is changing. So to control the entire law and order situation and to address the grievances of the public, the police have to reach out to public and work with them.

In my opinion, Community Policing is not just a methodology, it is a philosophy which is the order of the day and is here to stay as intrinsic and inseparable part of policing.

(K. Subramanyam)

'Cop-Community Connect'

Need of the Hour to Herald

'A Safer Tomorrow'



Eminent speakers at a landmark seminar on security held recently in Mumbai stressed the need for a stronger "Cop-Community Connect," which was the theme of the event, to curb crime and fight against terrorism.

The seminar, **Cop-Community Connect for a Safer Tomorrow**, was organized by **New Media Communications**, publishers of **The PROTECTOR** magazine, as the first of a series of such events

to mark the second anniversary of the publication, dedicated to the police fraternity and the safety and security of the society at large.

The seminar speakers included super cop Julio Rebeiro, Additional Chief Secretary (Home) U.C. Sarangi, Pravin Dixit, DGP & MD, Maharashtra Police Housing Corporation, Dr. Rukmani Krishnamurthy, noted forensic scientist, and Dr. P. Sekhar, CMD, Micro Technologies (India) Ltd.

Participants at the well attended seminar included Chief Fire Officer H. N. Mujawar, former Mumbai Police Commissioner Ronnie Mendonca and ADG (Retd) Subhash Avate, apart from a large number of security analysts and experts.

Sarangi described community policing as the very core of all law enforcement efforts and said that the concept might sound new to Indians but many countries had formulated important strategies in policing based on it. "In Chicago, it has been in practice for many

years and it has helped in containing and curtailing crime and thereby helping maintain Law and Order effectively," he said.

Saranghi observed that the connect between the community and police should be complementary to each other and mutually beneficial and if it was so then police could serve the community better. "I feel the police-community relationship needs to be stronger," he added.

Explaining how the system in India is at work today, Saranghi said, "We have a concept of beat constable, who ought to know every person in the locality and will be a great source of information and intelligence for higher authorities to ensure timely action, if necessary. We have to strengthen Mohalla Committees and the Beat System to ensure that their relationship becomes strong enough for both the sides so that they could act decisively together."

Pravin Dixit said police officers

and men could play an important role in bringing the society and communities together. "Because, when people come together, they have more faith and trust in each other," he said.

Talking about how security and safety benefited people economically, Dixit said the market value of any property in a locality, apart from other factors, was directly linked to the safety and security that it enjoyed. "We all should work together towards a close bond between the community and police and try to bridge the existing communication gaps," he said.

Citing the success he had achieved in Nagpur as the city's Commissioner of Police by providing to the public easy access to reach him, Dixit said, "Making ourselves accessible to the people goes a long way in establishing and reinforcing their faith in Police."

Former super cop Julio Ribeiro said that people's initiatives lasted longer and helped more in

maintaining peace and harmony in the society. "I have always maintained that any initiative that comes from the people has every chance to succeed and survive longer. The reason for this being the fact that initiatives started by any Police Officer last only as long as he is in service or as long as his posting tenure lasts," he said

Ribeiro, referring to the Mohalla Committee Movement in Mumbai as a people's initiative, Ribeiro said, "It was not a police initiative as is commonly believed. It was started as a public initiative by the riot affected people of Mumbai after the communal riots of 1993 following the serial bomb blasts in the city," he said.

Ribeiro said the peace committees known as Mohalla committees were formed under the leadership of Fakhruddin Khorakiwala who was the Sheriff of Bombay in 1992. "Khorakiwala set up 72 such committees to bring peace and



communal harmony back to Mumbai. People say wrongly that it was Ribeiro who set up the committees. No, the initiative came from the community and from Khorakiwala who was respected by the community," he said.

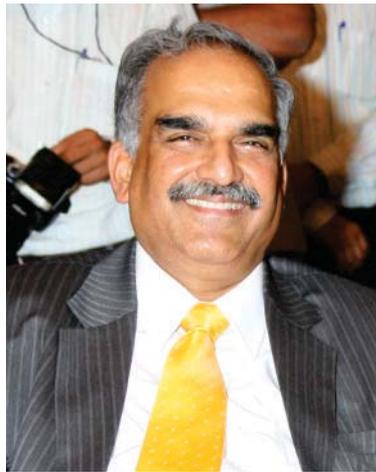
Ribeiro said that the Mohalla Committees were a purposeful police-community partnership and it was continuing even today with success not only in maintaining peace and harmony but also in detection of crime and criminals, anti-social activities that put the safety of the city in jeopardy.

Talking about his Punjab experience, Ribeiro said the success he had achieved there could be attributed to the community initiative to curb insurgency. "Every body claims credit for the squashing of the Punjab insurgency which has a long history. The truth is that it was the community which did the creditable work. I visited 200 villages during my tenure in Punjab. I travelled ceaselessly accompanied by a fine officer called Chaman Lal. We travelled to remote villages and met people who desired to end the terror being spread by the insurgency. Our conversations with them revealed that they were ready to isolate those amongst them who did not want peace and harmony," he said.

Emphasizing his point, Ribeiro said, "If a community chooses to isolate those who are anti-social and supportive of wrong causes then they cannot do anything. They won't have oxygen to do the work they are doing. This applies in the case of petty crimes also.

The success achieved in Punjab was completely due to community support. No one can take credit for it as individuals."

Former Director General of Maharashtra Police D. Sivanandhan stressed on the aspect of self discipline by the community that ensured peace and cited the example of trouble-free celebrations on the new



year's eve in Mumbai. "On such occasions it is the communities more than the police that ensure the safety of the thousands of otherwise home bound folks who spend the night out merrily to usher in a new dawn," he said.

Sivanandhan referred to trust as another key factor in the police-community relationship. "For communities to bond with the law enforcing authorities happily there has to be a good measure of trust. Citizens have to feel secure in the very thought that the police is there 24/7 in their neighbourhoods, mohallas, bastis to take care of them. And it is entirely up to the Force to earn that trust and confidence," he said.

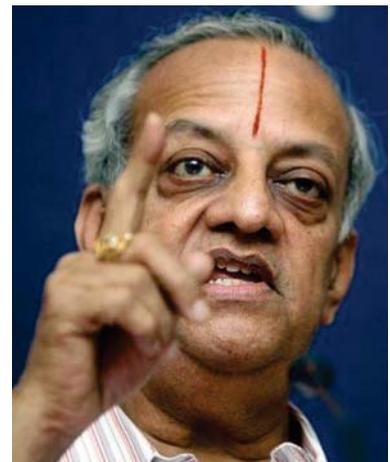
Sivanandhan said that police stations were the places where police officers and policemen got

a chance to forge the bond of trust with the citizens.

"The service has to be that of a friend and not of an intimidating law enforcer. If the citizens are convinced by the concern and friendliness of the police officers to help in their crisis in some way or the other the citizens will want to stand by the police officers and policemen in their trying moments and do their bit to bring difficult situations under control speedily and peacefully," he said.

Former Chief Election Commissioner N. Gopalaswamy, whose speech to the seminar was read out in his absence, called for a well-crafted "Security Sensitization and Standardization Program," to make people more aware of the problems which the new security challenges posed. "Any attack on our population or financial nerve centres has the potential to put the development and progress in jeopardy. Having achieved a high growth rate, we have to sustain it for the benefits to reach the huge population of our country that still lives in comparative deprivation.," he said.

Gopalaswamy said India was specially vulnerable as the threat to its security had many



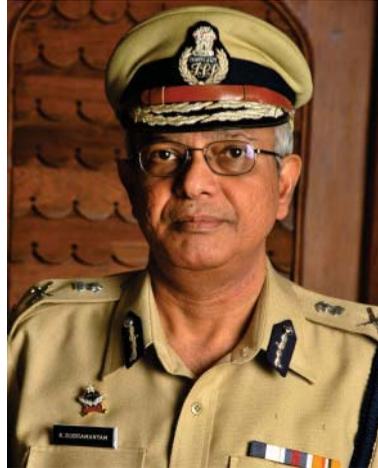
dimensions. "As any threat to or exploitation of our socio-economic infrastructures and key resources would have a devastating impact on our national security, economic stability and the lives of the public at large, the need for a well-crafted "Security Sensitization and Standardization Program" cannot be gainsaid," he added.

In her detailed presentation, Dr. (Mrs) Krishnamurthy touched on the significant strides made by forensic science in the field of criminal investigation in recent years. Talking about the latest developments in this field, she said, "Forensic science, in addition to its application for



nailing the culprits, has of late been transformed into technology-driven application in the form of social and preventive forensic for serving the society for a safer tomorrow."

In his message, Maharashtra DGP K. Subramanyam, who could not attend the seminar described the **The PROTECTOR** as a significant initiative. "It is an excellent instrument to build communication platforms with



communities."

The seminar also provided an occasion for the launch of the book titled 'Security Requirements of Mumbai - A National Perspective', by Dr. P.



Sekhar, a technocrat and founder-chairman of MicroTech Global Foundation (MTGF) and CMD of Micro Technologies (India) Ltd, a pioneer in the manufacture of security related products.

Launching the book, Ribeiro commended its timeliness in the light of the security requirements that are essential for keeping the city of Mumbai safe.

Speaking on the occasion, Dr. Sekhar said, "The objectives of this book are to create security awareness among the citizens of Mumbai and equip this dynamic metropolis to meet the security challenges ahead. I do hope that the book addresses the security needs of all segments of Mumbai."

In his message to the seminar, Sujit Nair, Executive Director, Lowe Lintas, referred to various advertizing campaigns to promote public awareness about the issues of safety and terrorist threats and said, "People living in Mumbai had always been aware that there could be a terrorist attack any time. But today, with the help of the campaigns such as 'the Alert Mumbaikar' they are not only aware of impending





threats to their safety but alert to their surroundings to prevent them," said Nair.

A large number of senior police and fire brigade officers, security experts and analysts, members of the public and the media attended the seminar, held at the Indian Merchants Chamber.

Earlier, in a message to **The PROTECTOR** on the occasion of its second anniversary,



Maharashtra Chief Minister Prithviraj Chavan said: "Besides highlighting the good work done by the police, the magazine has also helped in creating awareness amongst the public about the many positive aspects of the police force. In short, **The PROTECTOR** has successfully connected cops with communities."

Since its launch on 2 October 2009 on the eve of Gandhi



Jayanti, **The PROTECTOR** (www.theprotector.in) has strived to promote 'the Cop-Community Connect' to ensure the safety and security of the society and the country's fight against terrorism. The magazine has also taken a bold initiative in bringing out a compendium of speeches by eminent personalities, top Police officials, security experts and analysts, delivered during a series of seminars organized by

Media, as part of its commitment to social responsibility, should initiate the launching of the '**Cop-Community Connect**' seminars nationwide to mark the second anniversary of **The PROTECTOR**," he said.

New Media will announce in due course through **The PROTECTOR** magazine the schedule of the seminars to be held in other major cities across the country, he added.



Mumbai Police in 2010, in the form of a book, titled, '**Fight Against Terrorism.**'

Talking about the seminar, New Media Managing Editor Satya Swaroop said, "The prime objective of the initiative is to create awareness among the people across the country on the importance of Police-Public Partnerships in curbing crime and in fighting terrorism."

"It is only appropriate that New

The seminars are supported by the following partners - Micro Technologies (India) Ltd, Fire and Security Association of India, GFDR, Noble Event, MediaValueWorks India. ■







Public Surely Applauds Good Policing

- Umesh Chandra Sarangi

Community Policing has to be the core of all the Law Enforcement efforts. It may sound new to us but many countries have formulated important strategies in Policing based on Community Policing. In Chicago, it has been in practice since many years and has helped in containing and curtailing crime and thereby maintaining Law and Order.

The connect between the

community and police should be complementary to each other and mutually beneficial. If it is so then the police is able to serve the community better. In India, for some reasons we have not been able to establish that kind of relationship between police and public. Police is generally criticized by society and citizens at large for its attitude and functioning.

While the police personnel function relentlessly for the benefit and safety of the citizens, their efforts are not given due recognition and they are not appreciated. There is a feeling of persecution. Both sides need to inch forward to ensure closer ties between society and police. The Bureau of Police Research and Development (BPR & D) had submitted a report in 2003 saying "Community Policing consists of normal policing of the society through consultation, co-operation and partnership. This will come when both society and police both take forward and positive initiatives. Everything good done by police is immediately responded and recognized by citizens.

I remember when the World Cup was over in Mumbai people complimented the good policing either on phone or in writing. The police was strict and polite at the same time. It gave me a lot of satisfaction that my people did their job well and were nice and polite to the citizens at the same time. It was praiseworthy more so because of the positive feedback from the citizens themselves.

Citizens, inspite of being subjected to the rigmarole of long queues submitted themselves to strict checking though they were in a hurry to get to their seats. They bore no grudges against the police realizing that the arduous task was only for the larger interest which was safety and security of one and all. Very recently, the year end and New



Year celebrations in the city were incident free though a large number of people were on the street. The vigilant Mumbai Police ensured that there were no accidents and no incidents. Whenever we do things that make people safe and pursue their lawful objectives, citizens feel happy and their confidence in Police and the system improves. The effort has to be continuous so that over a period of time the misgivings and misinformation about police get wiped out and it paves the way to better police- community relations.

I remember long back we used to have DG Nissar who had taken recourse to the use of preventive sections in Law to curtail crime very effectively especially in dowry harassment cases. He would ensure that some surety is taken by women's organizations so that a woman was not troubled by her husband and parents-in-law after she had made a complaint. So law enforcement becomes that much more simpler with the support and vigilance of the community even though we may be living in an environment that is endangered by threats of terrorism or by naxalism.

Every citizen has a right to resist which is fundamental and above all rights. Many a times aware and vigilant citizens who resist unjust acts that endangers the society are attacked because they are regarded as informers. So, police and community interaction leads to a sense of hope, co- operation and partnership among police and community ensuring improved Law and Order.

In Maharashtra, we have made

several efforts to improve and ensure that community and police work together. Mohalla Committees is one such initiative where people meet from time to time to discuss with police and help in ensuring that people work peacefully.

Peace committees all over the state are another initiative that works toward this end. They meet from time to time in all emergencies to ensure that people are able to celebrate festivals peacefully and there is no untoward incident.

Mahila Committees in Pune meet police from time to time and discuss strategies to ensure that women are not harassed and atrocities against them do not happen. Another community initiative that has worked well is Gram Suraksha Dal. The strategy is to deploy some young men for night patrolling as an alternative to police patrolling so that villagers feel secure and can sleep peacefully. This helps in safeguarding villages against dacoity and theft which is the most common crime in villages.

In Pune, police is trying to create a forum of youth and involve them in various kinds of police work like teaching them how to ensure safety during functions, control of cyber crimes and manage citizenship so that they become responsible. Some people take keen interest in social work and are watchful of crimes and inform the police about the party that has been wronged while they themselves remain incognito. For example, a gentleman kept an eye on a traffic cop who was in the habit of troubling women scooter riders at a particular

square. This gentleman installed a video camera opposite the location and informed the police Commissioner showing him the proceedings and the traffic cop was taken to task. So there are sections of people who take upon themselves to work for the welfare of the society thereby supporting the police in the process.

Notwithstanding all this and considering the naxal extremism and terrorism and similar such issues, I feel the Police – Community relationship needs to be stronger.

We had a concept of beat constable wherein the constable ought to know every person in the locality and would be a great source of information intelligence to higher authorities ensuring timely action. We have to strengthen Mohalla Committees, Beat system and Mahila Committees all over and ensure that relationship becomes stronger enough on both the sides so that they act decisively. I am sure that the deliberation in today's seminar would be able to throw light on what we have been able to do. In the process strengthening the bond between the Police and the Communities.

Easy Access Brings Police-Public Together

- Pravin Dixit



At the outset, I would like to thank and congratulate Protector for consistently giving importance to and touching issues that are very crucial to common man. All the previous issues of Protector last year highlighted important issues like terrorism, community policing, women in police and police reforms. My congratulations to the entire team of Protector that works towards the success of the magazine not only in Mumbai but Kolkata and Hyderabad too. As far as subject of today's discussion is concerned we are really privileged to hear a panel of distinguished speakers like Mr. Umesh Sarangi, ACS- Home; J.F Ribeiro former DGP (Punjab & Gujarat), Dr. Rukmini Krishnamurthy, Forensic Scientist; and Dr P. Shekhar, CMD, Microtechnologies

India Ltd.

I would like to put forward certain facts for your consideration and reflection. Crime scenario worldwide today is on two extremes. On the one end is a country like Brazil where the crime is on the rise by an average of 500 crimes per year as per Interpol data. On the other extreme we have a country like Japan where the crime is on decline. One would ask why do these places need a mention? The facts do not substantiate that Japan is a better organized country and Brazil is less organized. Then why such diverse situations? Well the answer is that crime takes roots in the mind. The crimes that we see are only symbolic expression of our minds. In spite of a population of 120 crore and rapidly growing, crime in India is under control.

This is because of social regulation. Police may catch a few criminals, they may be prosecuted and convicted by our judicial system but ultimately the rate of crimes depends on how the society is woven and how it progresses. At present India is witnessing a crisis of identity. While rural India has closed community living and there is too much of interaction among people almost like transgressing on each others privacy, urban citizens live a life of isolation and are totally indifferent to even immediate next door neighbours. We do not know about their background and do not care to find out if he is a person of who respects social values and conforms to societal norms or if he is a criminal.

In Japan, the sense of social and moral values is very strong. As a result of which people are less inclined to commit crimes. I recall reading an incident in a book on Japan by an American author where a person left his wallet in the washroom by mistake containing a huge sum of money. After an hour or so he discovered that his wallet was not with him. When he went back to the washroom the wallet was still lying there untouched though many people had walked in and out of the place. We must realize that we need more and more involved societies across the urban areas too. If we make efforts towards healthy interaction with the neighborhoods' they would reciprocate too. The police officers can play an important role in bringing society together.

Years ago in Mumbai we had a Bhedi chawl as we call them which was rife with communal

riots and no police efforts were able to suppress them. I remember, Mr. Jog an able officer posted as officer – Special branch in Maharashtra who took the initiative to organize cricket tournaments, football matches for the residents of the chawl and that helped in bringing people together and brought down the incidents remarkably. Because when people came together they had more faith and trust in each other.

In advanced countries there is close interaction between police and public. In any county in the UK police officers with the society and ask them about their requirements. In the development process today there is PRA to DCP and Police Commissioners which is people's representation. Similarly, in the security scenario some autonomy needs to be provided so that police can familiarize themselves with the issues of people. Every locality has its distinct problem. For example a locality could be facing eve-teasing problem, some other could be accidents or communal violence at other places, and the solutions therefore have to be need-based.

Market Value of any locality apart from other factors is directly linked to a the safety factor it provides. Safer localities are more sought after and there is value addition to safe haven. In any country, we have organized and unorganized sectors. Organized sectors like institutions, traders, services etc. should list what preventive measures they can take to ensure their safety. In western countries any person intending to buy or rent any property is interviewed by the

society, nobody can gain entry otherwise.

The least we can do today to help ourselves and the police in such crucial times is install security gadgets like CCTV, Security Alarm systems which are quite cheaply available systems. But due to lack of awareness, alertness and indifference Housing Societies do not install security gadgets. All organized sectors and individuals should come forward to ensure that they follow minimum precautions and ensure maximum safety and security for themselves. One may question that if each one of us has to take care of ourselves for our safety then why do we need police. Fact is we can't expect police to take care of each of us, realistically, we can't have such numbers. So, there are some safety measures that one can take at our level. For example, to ensure the safety of our vehicles we must install security alarm systems which costs only few thousands compared to the cost of vehicle instead of lamenting when the vehicle is lost and blaming police for their inefficiency.

Another way we can secure ourselves is through Police verification of domestic help which has been repeatedly endorsed but is often not given due attention. Since, domestic helps resist verification we succumb and let go of the process since we can't do without their help. So, at our own individual level we can take some measures to safeguard ourselves.

During festivals communities volunteer in large numbers and support the police, especially

during festivals like Ganeshotsav and they do a good job of it. Police Mitr or friends of police as they are called too help the police in detection of crimes. These vigilant friends provide leads about crimes, at times they know all about the crime, including the culprit and inform the police.

We all should work together towards establishing a close bond between the community and police and try to bridge communication gaps if any. As an experiment, I had provided my number to the citizens as Commissioner of Police, Nagpur and it worked very successfully. Unlike, the notion that I would be inundated with calls I found that citizens behaved very responsibly and called only when absolutely necessary. No one misused this access to the police and there was no absurd call. So, making ourselves accessible to people goes a long way in establishing and reinforcing the faith.

Like in US, where people devote weekends to community help, in India too, we should commit to two hours of community help at least, every weekend. Volunteers can register at the police stations and work selflessly for the welfare of the society. As Commissioner of Police, Nagpur city I tried this with citizens and it worked well. We had volunteers from all walks of life ready to aid the police.

We must remember Police officers will keep changing, but our safety and security shall always be an issue and should be our topmost concern.

Yet another year has begun for all of us, full of hope and aspirations, dreams and wishes as always.

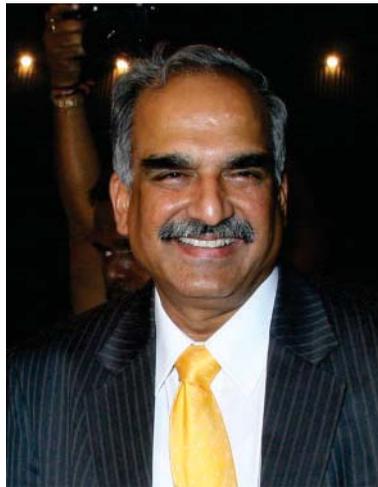
Trust Binds Cops with Communities

- D Sivanandhan

Mumbai's cosmopolitan character was seen conspicuously at all the yearend celebrations most of them lasting all night and winding up in the early hours of the morning after. On such occasions it is the communities more than the police that ensure the safety of the thousands of otherwise home bound folks who spend the night out merrily to usher in a new dawn.

Self discipline, of course, is one thing but, more than that, it is the willing submission to strict policing on such occasions that marks the trust the communities have in the police. The key factor is trust. For communities to bond with the law enforcing authorities happily there has to be a good measure of trust. Citizens have to feel secure in the very thought that the police is there 24/7 in their neighbourhoods, mohallas, bastis to take care of them. And it is entirely up to the Force to earn that trust and confidence.

I have consistently advocated to my men that they have to build bridges with communities by extending their hands for that trusting handshake. It is easier said than done, I know. Most often, once the uniform is worn, the power of authority it gives to the individual overwhelms most emotions. Understood. The question is: what use is your authority if it does not help you to serve the people as a public servant? It is important for a police



officer and a policeman to understand his role in ensuring the safety of the society at large. The service has to be that of a friend and not of an intimidating law enforcer. The Police Stations are where the common man comes to find redress for his worries, fears and problems. It is here that the Police officers and policemen get the chance to forge the bond of trust with the citizens. If the citizens are convinced by the concern and friendliness of the police officers to help in their crisis in some way or the other the citizens will want to stand by the police officers and policemen in their trying moments and do their bit to bring difficult situations under control speedily and peacefully.

In the best of societies all over the world the positive interaction between citizens and cops has yielded amazing results in traumatic situations. The 9/11 twin tower blast and the aftermath when responsible citizens and all communities joined hands to help the officers to normalise life for the shattered citizens has been an example. In India, the 26/11

terror attack in Mumbai could have had a worse impact on the people of this bustling city if they had not collaborated with the police in their tenacious bid to stand up to the challenge of getting life back to normalcy and the world wouldn't have admired the resilience and courage of Indians and the country as a whole.

During my tenure as the Commissioner of Police, Mumbai, we took an initiative to ensure senior citizens' safety by starting the hamarisuraksha.com providing an easy and instant access for them to seek police assistance. I had also organized a series of four very successful anti-terrorism seminars creating awareness among the public about the perennial threat of terrorism and their role in helping the police in meeting it. In fact, New Media, organizers of this seminar, has brought out the compendium of these seminar speeches delivered by eminent public personalities, top police officials, security analysts and experts in the form of a book, titled Fight Against Terrorism. It may not be out of place to mention here that Mumbai Police also conducted a cyber safety week, again to create awareness among the people, about the growing incidence of cyber crime in this age of the Internet.

Nothing happens without effort and dedication. During my tenure as CP, Mumbai and DGP, Maharashtra, I made it a point to devote considerable time to interact with people, especially students and teachers, community leaders, local representatives of citizens' and residents' associations. I felt it was

important for them to know from me what the State and the Home Department intended to do for intensifying the security measures and in what ways they as collaborators in the effort could do to make the efforts successful.

Communication today has become easy and quick. The Cop Connect, the online interactive helpline, which we launched for citizens of Mumbai to reach out to the police, has been a big success. It has helped in crime detection

and rendering mutual support on different occasions. If we have not had another dreadful terror strike it is because we are now well connected as cops and communities. ■

It's People's Initiatives that Last Longer & Help Maintain Peace

- Julio Ribeiro



I have always maintained that any initiative that comes from the people has every chance to succeed and survive longer. The reason for this being the fact that initiatives started by any Police Officer last only as long as he is in service or as long as his posting tenure lasts. The day he moves out and another officer comes in, the initiative is squashed. The Mohalla Committee movement

was not a Police initiative as is commonly believed. It was started as a public initiative by the riot affected people of Bombay after the communal riots of 1993 following the serial bomb blasts in the city. It was the first large scale terror attack that took the fearless city by surprise. Under the leadership of Fakhruddin T Khorakiwala who was the Sheriff of Bombay in 1992 the Peace

Committees called Mohalla Committees were envisioned and born.

He set up 72 such committees to bring peace and communal harmony back to Bombay. People say wrongly that it was Ribeiro who set up the committees. No, the initiative came from the community and from Mr Khorakiwala who was respected by the community as a businessman and the chancellor of Jamia Milia Islamia. He passed away last year at the ripe age of 93. If I had set up the committees there was no guarantee it would continue because my successor would have thought it was not good to have them. It was a purposeful police-community partnership and it is continuing even today with success not only in maintaining peace and harmony but also in detection of crime and criminal, anti social activities that put the safety of the city in jeopardy. Officers Rony Mendonca and Satish Sahni are actively involved in the work that Mohalla Committees do in different pockets of Mumbai.

In Punjab I experienced the same success with the community initiative to curb insurgency. Every body claims credit for the squashing of the Punjab insurgency which has a long history. The truth is that it was the community which did the

creditable work. I visited 200 villages during my tenure as the DGP. I travelled ceaselessly with the fine officer, Mr Chaman Lal. Mr Lal was working with the National Human Rights Commission for a nominal salary of Re 1 and his work was mostly to help people in Mental Institutions. We travelled to remote villages and met people who desired to end the terror being spread by the insurgency and we had conversations with them which revealed that they were ready to isolate those amongst them who did not want peace and harmony. I can tell you one thing categorically. If a community chooses to isolate those who are anti social and supportive of wrong causes then they cannot do anything. They won't have oxygen to do the work they are doing. This applies in the case of petty crimes also. The success achieved in Punjab was completely due to community support. No one can take credit for it as individuals.

When I joined the IPS, the British had just left India. Wherever I went in the villages especially people would come to me and ask: "Saab, aap angrez hai?" I would ask them why are you asking me this, is it because of the colour of my skin? They would say, "nahin saab, aap nyay dete hain, isiliye"

I would tell them it is my job to give you justice. The important point is that people expect justice from a police officer. Only when they want justice and redress will people come to Police Officer or a Police Station. At that time their hopes are all pinned on your power to give them justice. When I used to go to the Academy in Mussoorie to deliver lectures to

aspiring officers I used to tell them to bear in mind one cardinal fact. The fact that cannot be forgotten is that we are not Masters, we are servants. The IPS, IAS, IFS etc are Services. I did not aspire to join the IPS. I wanted to join the Postal Service where my father served for many years. But when I joined the IPS and I wore the uniform for the first time I felt, like everybody else, a sense of power. But I also felt the responsibility that came with it and the rare opportunity it gave me to serve and protect the people who looked up to me.

In England I have a friend who is now a Lord. He began his career as a constable and rose from the ranks. In the U.K and many other countries they are not recruited as officers as in India. We have a different system which should be changed. We must recruit graduates as constables and give them the challenge of growing in the Force. They will then work with commitment to prove their worth for the promotions. Unfortunately there is a lot of political interference in our country. As a result, the law of the land cannot be maintained and the worst interference is in the Police service. If we are freed of this bane we will have a service that has officers of merit, worth, courage, honesty and commitment.

We won't require the Lok Pal Bill if the law of the land is implemented impartially without political interference. Political interference is a form of corruption and it deprives the common man of his rights. In the course of our work we often get calls from politicians to make allowances and let go of someone who has broken a law consciously. When a helpless

officer succumbs to the politician's pressure and obliges he is aware that he is sending the wrong signal to the society. But that's how the system works in our country.

Maharashtra is lucky to have a bureaucrat like Mr Umesh Sarangi as the Additional Chief Secretary (Home) who is honest and upright. In fact the State has had some brilliant Chief Secretaries in the past, too, like Mr B.G. Deshmukh, for example. I heard that Mr Sarangi will move on in the next few months. We must not let him go. We have to request for an extension of at least two years for him so that some good work he has initiated is completed.

I must say that the majority of our citizens are law-abiding. The need of the hour is alert citizenry, who will tell us about suspicious movements in a locality or the sudden appearance of a stranger in a locality. An alert, socially responsible citizen will do that. In Colaba, during my tenure in Mumbai there was a doctor who gathered people to work with him to report crimes to the Colaba Police Station. If I remember right he was Dr Pravin Kumar. He did such wonderful work that Colaba Police Station became a Station where no police man wanted to be posted because it was not "lucrative" anymore. Even the politicians hesitated to interfere because Dr. Kumar assembled a strong citizens' group. So, that's the power of the citizen. If we have the will to harness that power, we as a Force, can use our "force" positively and for the good of the society. ■

Protecting Economic Assets from Terrorists Vital

- N. Gopalswamy



The world in 21st Century looks to be a place of extra-ordinary challenges especially in the area of security what with many nations under threat of terrorist action whether home-grown or otherwise. We in India are specially vulnerable as the threat to our security has many dimensions. For country wedded to secularism and striving to progress economically so as to better the future for the millions of countrymen and women, any attack on our population or financial nerve centres has the potential to put the development and progress in jeopardy. Having achieved a high growth rate, we have to sustain it for the benefits to reach the huge population of our country that still lives in comparative deprivation and so any threats to our security can have grave repercussions to our progress if not met effectively.

More than three years after the terrorist attack in Mumbai, we have to acknowledge that we still have to contend with adversaries who are committed to destroying our people, our freedom, our

economy and our way of life. In addition, our Nation also has endured many worst natural disasters in the recent past. We thus face the dual challenges of strengthening our Nation's preparedness to meet both natural and man-made disasters, as our most solemn duty is to protect our people.

As any threat to or exploitation of our Socio-Economic Infrastructures and Key Resources would have a devastating impact on our national security, economic stability and the lives of the public at large, the need for a well-crafted "Security Sensitization and Standardization Program" cannot be gainsaid. There is need to make people more aware of the problems which the new security issues have created, so that their responses in a given situation would "automatically" take these factors into account. To accomplish this, civil society must take proactive initiatives to sensitize population to the emerging security issues and establish the standard for

practizing various security measures in day-to-day life. To be successful the country's approach to national security has to be built on a strong cooperative, coordinated and consultative relationship between the Government, the security agencies, the public and the Corporates.

A good and competent Security Plan requires a thorough background study and the drawing upon of the experience within the security environment which can be accomplished only through a deep involvement with the subject and an extraordinary commitment to it. The human element of security requires to be addressed by involving the Public at large and imparting training to them and through sensitization programs that will continually update them in the inevitably dynamic process of balancing security, governance and development in view of the ever changing security scenario.

It is in this context that New Media's organizing a seminar of this nature is timely. I congratulate them for it and thank them for giving me the opportunity to place my views before you. I would also like to express my deep appreciation of Dr. P Sekhar's efforts in bringing out these amazing 'Security - Centric Books' and I applaud him for this commendable job born out of his deep commitment to security issues. ■

“Plan Execution Before Executing Plans to Achieve Goals and not Just Physical Targets”

Umesh Chandra Sarangi, A.C.S (Home)- Maharashtra



After three and half decades in public service with a commendable track record U. C. Sarangi, Additional Chief Secretary (Home) lays down office on superannuation by end of February. His path breaking contribution in agriculture and allied sectors in the state saw him join as Chairman of National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD). While reporting back to the state after completion of a highly successful tenure in NABARD, every one expected

him to be posted in agriculture or finance areas where he had proved himself par excellence. But Govt. decided to put him in charge of Home department as its Additional Chief Secretary may be because Home always deals with emergency situations and Sarangi is second to none in the state, perhaps in the country in terms of handling extraordinary emergency. Colleagues fondly call him “Disaster Management Guru” he, having handled several disaster situations single

handedly with extraordinary competence.

After 26/11, state had initiated a series of measures to fight terrorism and left wing extremism and wanted them to be taken to their logical conclusion. In Sarangi Govt. found the right person to take up the task.

On the eve of his retirement Sarangi, shares the status of the goals and priorities that he set up for the department and tasks accomplished with Bhupendra Pathak. Excerpts:

You have completed a long innings in public service. How do you feel now on the eve of retirement.

I am quite happy. These three and half decades in public service have gone very well. I am happy I could put my best in service of people of Maharashtra. I got challenging assignments to work with and could prove equal to all of them. My thinking had a pro poor tilt. I believed the rich can get ahead on his own, the poor requires tacit backing of Govt. Being son of a farmer and having done farming I always wanted to do something for the farmers and luckily I got plenty of opportunity to deliver. My tenure in agriculture, and in NABARD were extremely satisfying.

You took over as Additional Chief Secretary in charge of Home department at a crucial time when state was required to strengthen security arrangements to fight terror. While talking to "Protector" you had indicated certain priorities that you would pursue. Now that you are laying down office, would you tell us how far you were successful in chasing the priorities you had set before yourself?

I am happy I had chosen correct priorities and all of them have made very good progress. Putting a Close Circuit TV surveillance net work in Mumbai city was my top most priority. We had appointed Price Waterhouse Cooper as our consultant. The project report prepared by them was deliberated at various levels. Govt. sent a delegation to London to see how the C.C.T.V system is functioning there and how it is useful to authorities in maintaining law and order, investigating crimes and in

combating terror. The objective of the team was to apprise itself about the technology used by Scotland Yard, and gain some insights for our project etc. The visit was extremely useful. To ensure that we go for best technology available a technical committee of competent technical experts was appointed to decide technical specifications, standards, design, technology, quality parameters etc. The cabinet has sanctioned 5000 cameras, connectivity control room with an estimated cost of 600 crores. Now the RFP (Request for Proposal) has been called for and the bid would close in the first week of March. We should be able to issue work order by end of March and the installation proper would start in April to be completed in a year. There would be five regional control rooms and one control room for traffic. Besides, this there will be an incident command and control center in the new building under construction for CP Mumbai. All the 99 police stations will receive the input from cameras in their operational jurisdiction.

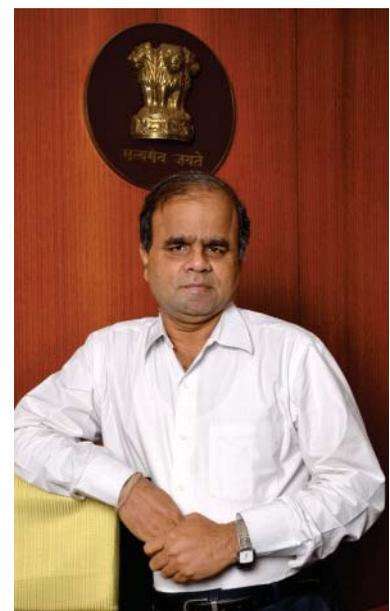
Bringing all the 1039 police stations in the state on line through crime and criminal tracking network system was one of your priorities. How far have you been able to move in this project?

This project is being implemented with the support of National Crime Record Bureau. They would provide the software for a nationwide system. Our job was to train 60000 policemen and ministerial staff in police station who would work on the system when commissioned, which is now completed. The work of establishing Maharashtra

State Wide Area Net work with connectivity reach up to Taluka level has been completed. The police stations located outside the Taluka Headquarter are being connected by VSNL. WIPRO has been appointed as system integrator and very soon they will install the hardware and other logistics. A pilot soft ware is presently under test; as soon as its soft ware is approved we would roll it out within the next three months.

Strengthening coastal security was one of your priority area. Has it been possible to make some headway?

Yes, we have made reasonably good progress. All the boats for which order had been placed have arrived. The recruitment rules for marine police personnels have been approved and the recruitment is under progress. However, patrolling of shallow waters has started by putting staff on contract till regular staff becomes available since 1st October. A pilot project is being implemented with support from Govt. of India to transponders on the vessels that



go to the sea from Mumbai. Based on the experience it will be upscaled to the entire coastal area. The population, about one lakh eighty thousand in all coastal villages have been surveyed and are in the process of being issued with biometric identity cards. This would be completed by the end of March. Coast guard is in the process of installing 5 radar stations along the coast. An exercise called 'Sagar Kavach' involving all stakeholder agencies was held twice to acquaint them on care to be taken to make security arrangement fool proof. Land is being allotted to establish a Marine Police Training Center near Alibagh in Raigad district. 9 of the 12 police stations have gone fully functional. Land has been acquired for 7 new police stations to be established in the second phase.

The construction will start very soon. All the fishing vessels have been licensed. Maharashtra Maritime Board has registered all vessels. Gram Suraksha Dals are being established in coastal villages. We have to appoint special police officers in every village to keep watch over movement into and from the sea, establish a coastal police control room in Mumbai to coordinate with Navy, Coast Guard, BPT, JNPT, and other stakeholder agencies.

You had mentioned video conferencing facility would be provided in jails and court. What is the progress in this initiative?

We had a conference with District Judges and the issue was discussed in thread bare detail. We decided in the first phase we would use video conferencing for under trial prisoners and then extend it for recording evidence



during trials. In the first phase, we propose to cover all heavy duty court locations like Mumbai, Pune, Thane, Aurangabad, Nashik, all central jails and district jails. About 82 locations will be covered during current year. In the second phase we propose to cover Sub-divisional and Taluka level courts and jails.

You had ventured upon an ambitious plan for Police Housing Corporation. Has it been realized?

I am very happy on that front. Government had more than doubled the budget for Police Housing Corporation. I had given them a clear directive to concentrate on projects which are in advanced stage so that they are completed and brought to use. In fact to ensure this we had

identified projects in advanced stage and provided project wise allocation.

Police Housing Corporation has been able to complete many projects of office building and housing. Close to 400 crores would be utilized this year. We have completed the Alpha Hawk Training Institute in Suraburdi Nagpur, CP Solapur building, SP Parbhani office, SP Nandurwar office, Police Training School Turchi, India Reserve Batallion at Aurangabad and many housing projects. We are planning an equally ambitious plan for the next year.

The Trafficop Project taken on a pilot basis was very successful in Pune. You had said it is worth replicating everywhere. What is the progress?

The trafficop project was a joint collaboration of Software Technology Park, Pune and Pune Police. The software was given by STP. Constables were given Blackberry phones and a device for giving print out receipt. Every person who violates traffic signal or rule is fined, his details are taken in to Blackberry and from there to server. A database gets built up over a period of time and repeat offenders are easily detected. It helps in detecting stolen vehicles and acts as a deterrent on traffic violation. This project got an award from Govt. of India We have prepared a proposal to replicate this project all over the state.

Were you satisfied with the general law and order situation in the state?

By and large yes. The law and order situation in the state remained peaceful except the unfortunate incident of firing in Pune, Jalna and Nagpur district. Judicial enquiry of all the three incidents is under progress. There were no serious communal incidents. The 13th July, terror attack was shocking. Four of the accused have been arrested. We hope to arrest others. We have to improve our efforts at crime investigation, detection and charge sheet and pursue these cases well so that we can have better conviction rate. The conviction rate in Maharashtra is low and it is a matter of serious concern. We had appointed a committee under Joint Secretary (Law), Home Department to suggest means of improving conviction rate. We will deliberate on the recommendations and prepare an action plan to improve conviction rate.

Procurement has always been a problem in Police. Has it improved now?

Yes, it has improved. We have cleared a lot of work that was in arrears and are trying to be up-to-date in the current year's procurement. To sustain police mobility a vehicle replacement plan has been prepared. The Forensic Science Laboratory has prepared a perspective plan for five years. Police modernization plans are going in time. There is still scope for improvement and that would be our endeavor.

Are we strengthening our intelligence set up?

Post 26th November, we have taken a few steps to strengthen intelligence collection, sharing and action there on. In future security arrangements have to be driven by intelligence. Security has become third important work for police apart from Law & Order and Crime. Whereas functional units would have to take action on intelligence inputs, getting right input at right time is the job of intelligence wing.

Available intelligence has to be shared. Officers working in intelligence have to be trained. I am happy to say we have established a state-of-art Intelligence Training Institution called "Maharashtra Intelligence Academy" at Pune. We have started direct recruitment of Asst. Intelligence Officers and Senior Intelligence Officers and they have been trained in the new academy. A second batch is being recruited now.

Govt. created Force-One in the lines of NSG. Are they fully equipped?

The outfit is presently located at a temporary set up in Kalina and are being constantly trained by relevant experts. The permanent infrastructure for Force-One is under construction at Aarey Milk Colony. We hope to complete it by next year. Then the Force-One

will move to this location.

How about upgrading Mumbai CP control room?

Yes, there is a dire need to upgrade the control room. The Hon. Chief Minister and Home Minister had visited the control room and given necessary green signal for upgradation. We had prepared a plan. Due to space constraint the entire plan cannot be executed. Also, we require additional space to accommodate the central control room for CCTV. So, we have taken on priority the construction of the new building for Mumbai CP. The new building will have a holistic control room, meeting our entire requirement in full. Till then, we have embarked upon limited upgradation of present control room within the available space.

Left Wing Extremism has been on increase in Gadchiroli and Gondia districts. What is your view and what strategies do you propose to deal with the situation?

The activities of left wing extremists in Gadchiroli and Gondia calls for stringent measures. No civilized society can be in agreement to killing of innocent civilians just to create fear and push one's ideology. We are a democracy. People should agree and opt for democratic means provided by constitution to get to power and implement their ideology not by killing illiterate poor tribals or taking advantage of the remoteness of their habitation. During last year, we were able to arrest some of the leaders, some got killed in encounter. We captured a lot of arms, ammunitions and explosives. We have changed our strategies. I hope it will yield good result. ■

“A systemic change is called for in perception by bringing about stronger cop- community bond.”

- K.P. Raghuvanshi, Commissioner of Police, Thane



Anti-Terrorism Squad in Maharashtra was set up in 2004, to counter the menace of the terrorism that was looming large on the state. With innumerable cases of terrorism happening, a need was felt to form an agency that would track and neutralize the activities of terror outfits, mafia and other organized crime syndicates. The organization was formed and has assumed its present shape under the expertise of K.P.Raghuvanshi, at present Commissioner of Police - Thane, who played a very

significant role in setting up of this organization and headed it since its inception. The 1980 batch IPS officer, who hails from Muzzafarnagar in UP started his career as a lecturer in Meerut University. Initially, he trained as Indian Forest Service Officer but gave it up soon for IPS. Totally content with all the assignments that the services had to offer, he wishes to be in Police services if he were to be reborn.

Raghuvanshi handled and controlled communal riots in

Sholapur successfully, Government on his promotion posted him as DCP - Thane city in July 2004. Thane city had witnessed serial communal riots in May 2004, commonly referred as Bhiwandi riots. His meritorious services in the naxalite affected districts of Ghadchiroli were appreciated by the Government and he was awarded DG's insignia in 1992 and Police medal in 1995. Following, the Shrikrishna Commission report he was requisitioned by Government of Maharashtra to head "Special Task Force."

He was the first IG to head the newly constituted Anti Terrorism Squad set up in 2004. Again, he was decorated with Internal Security Medal and President's Police Medal for distinguished services in 2005 & 2006 respectively. He relinquished charge to IG Hemant Karkare in 2008 who unfortunately lost his life in 26/11 terrorists attack. At this crucial juncture, he was reinstated to the post which

was upgraded from Spl.IG ATS to Addl. DGP. Raghuvanshi took over the reigns as Thane Police Commissioner since Feb 2011.

In an Interview with Jyoti Pathak, Raghuvanshi shares thoughts on some of his experiences. Excerpts:

Please describe the topography of Thane Commissionerate and areas that fall under your jurisdiction. How do you keep the check and balances?

Thane is not a new area for me. I was DCP in this area for 4 years between 1984- 1988. In '84 soon after Bhiwandi riots I was promoted and transferred to Thane. Topographically, then Navi Mumbai was also part of Thane Commissionerate, Badlapur was an addition later and Vashi & Navi Mumbai went on to be new Commissionerates.

As of now, this is probably the only Commissionerate in Maharashtra which is rural. It starts with a bit of agriculture and open area leading to Bhiwandi, followed by Kalyan, Dombivili, Ulhasnagar, Badlapur and Ambernath. All these are the major townships. The special feature of this Commissionerate is that it does not have any continuity and each of the cities is unique with its own problems and culture. For example, Thane and Mumbra are vastly different. While Bhiwandi is a powerloom city and people from all over the country work and live in these powerlooms, Kalyan is known for historical reasons. Ulhasnagar, is largely inhabited by Sindhis and is therefore also called Sindhustan. Dombivili is

predominantly, populated with working middle class with about 50-60 percent of the population travelling to Mumbai and other places to work.

Ambernath and Badlapur, apart from Industrial and Law & Order problems have many other problems. Around 1984, Thane – Belapur belt which was the biggest industrial belt then, had frequent Law & Order problems.

With receding industrialization it is the most sought after residential area and more and more people from Mumbai are migrating towards Thane, Kalyan & Badlapur. The escalating and formidable prices coupled with space crunch in other parts of the city make it more attractive to the middle class and migrated population. Government of Maharashtra too has cleared development plan for Kalyan and developers are investing in a big way. The ever increasing population therefore makes security a major concern.

The commissionerate comprises of 33 police stations, one JCP and 4 additional CPs, about 11 DCPs and good number of officers and men, which makes the total strength to 9000+. The

commissionerate has 5 zones – Thane (Zone 1&5), Zone 3 – Kalyan, Zone2 - Bhiwandi, Zone4- Ulhasnagar. Officially, the population of the area is 70lakhs, unofficially it could be more. Two major issues dominate the commissionerate namely slum and communal problems. Bhiwandi, Mumbra and Kalwe are known for it but as of now the situation is very peaceful.

The hugely spread commissionerate is well connected due to efficient and swift communication systems. We connect on videoconference with DCP Kalyan, Bhiwandi & Ulhasnagar while other DCPs are located in Thane itself. We have a Joint Commissioner of Police and the system functions pretty smoothly. As per 2011 census this is the area which has largest migration and has registered highest growth percentage. It is also one of the most densely populated areas.

How do you compare your current posting as Thane Police Commissioner vis- a-vis your earlier posting as ATS chief?

Between these two postings I was also ADG (Law & Order) for about a year. I feel very closely





associated with ATS since I was instrumental in its formation and making it functional with an initial staff strength which was as low as 16. I feel content since ATS is the pride of Maharashtra. Both the postings are distinct, challenging and satisfying in their own way.

ATS was set up in 2004 and you were instrumental in its formation. How has it progressed and shaped up in the last few years?

ATS unit was set up by the Government of Maharashtra in July 2004. I was IG (Konkan) range then and was assigned the crucial task. Since, 1992 Maharashtra and particularly Mumbai had been facing the onslaught of terrorists attack. After the Ghatkopar and Mulund blasts in 2003, Government of Maharashtra in 2004 decided to

take a final call to take on this menace and set up the ATS unit for the state with initial strength of just 16 men.

The strength was inadequate even for Mumbai. I proposed to the government that we raise the strength and expand the outfit. We decided to have 4 units in Mumbai and some more units in other cities. Cases like that of Abu Salem, arrest of Kashmiri terrorists in Jan 2006, Train blasts in 2006 and Malegaon blast only reinforced the need to spread our operations. ATS units were set up in Pune, Nasik, Nagpur, Aurangabad and Nanded thus covering the entire state of Maharashtra. We chose to be in these cities because of the continuous intelligence input and feedback from all sources. Ultimately, we were proved right after the Arm Haul case of

Aurangabad and the German Bakery case in Pune. Setting up ATS units was a challenge because we all know Mumbai functions almost independently as one unit and rest of Maharashtra as another. So, it was then decided to have one DIG for Mumbai and the other for the rest of Maharashtra and the system works almost the same way till date.

Considering the topography and challenges at Thane Commissionerate what are the fresh initiatives that have been taken since you took over the charge?

This is a commissionerate that does not have continuity which means that unlike cities like Pune and Nagpur which are coherent cities there are about 100 villages in this commissionerate with the result that every city has its own

culture. This calls for varied strategies based on the mindset and psychology of the people of the city. It is a challenge because it is almost like working as a Commissioner for 5 culturally and radically different cities. Other cities are relatively compact whereas here even traffic management for example becomes a challenge.

You have a long career spanning over 32 years, which tenure of your career has been the most satisfying and challenging?

I have been lucky as far as exposure in police and policing is concerned. My posting as SP Ghadchiroli in 1990 was very satisfying. I had the opportunity to experience ground reality and satisfaction of creating a unit called C60 or Crack 60. C60 is a fighting force against naxalites and is called so since initially only 60 men were appointed who were available at all times to counter any eventuality. The force was raised with available resources and the strength today stands at around 700 but the name C60 still remains because it has delivered.

I feel very content that I was instrumental in its formation and it continues to be a force that works against Naxalites with all might and success. The other assignment that has given me immense satisfaction is my role in setting up of ATS. My role as DIG, CBI was also very satisfying because it gave me a good exposure and an opportunity to learn how to investigate complicated cases and read very thin line between criminality and administrative lapses.

Conviction rate in India is at an all time low, what would you

attribute to such low conviction rate? Do you think officers handling the cases are legally competent to handle and how do we ensure corruption free handling of cases?

Yes, it is a matter of great concern to us and we did deliberate upon it at the recent senior officer's conference called by DGP. There are some reasons which are in our ambit and some beyond. Some years ago, we had good 50to60 per cent of conviction rate which has hit an all time low of around 6%. Though, I may not be the right person to comment on it still I would say there are some very obvious reasons for such low rates.

One important reason is that while we tend to be very keen to detect cases tracking their status at a later stage in the court becomes difficult. As regards corruption, it is an exception than a rule. Maharashtra Police is one of the oldest and one of the most respected Police organizations, so obviously officers are competent enough to handle cases. However, due to increased responsibilities investigation does not get its due attention. The "pairavi" of the case by the police and "pairavi" of the case by the public prosecutors both are suffering, after the chargesheet.

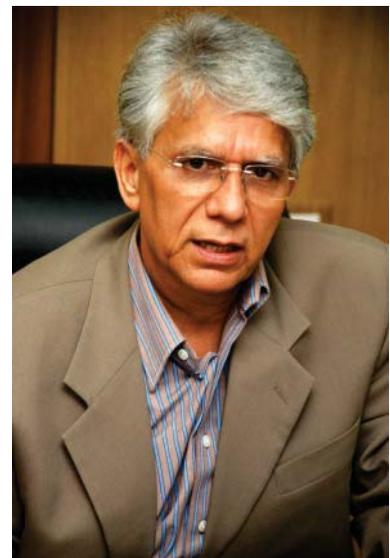
Earlier, police and prosecutor had close interactions and we met regularly to discuss the progress report of the cases. Today, prosecutors are not in the purview of the police officers, so we do not meet at Police conferences with the result that SP/Commissioners are not able to track the cases. Especially, since the cases come up for hearing after so many years, it is but

natural that people tend to forget the nitty – gritty of the cases. Police Reforms, are therefore necessary and we have to empower the Police since challenges are more. There was respect for law and fear of law earlier, unfortunately the same is not true today.

How do you foresee police reforms? What are the changes in Police department that has happened over the years? Are we aiming at any model police station?

The present police system was created 150 years ago by Britishers to serve their needs. Sixty two years since independence, there is a need to change. We expect good service delivery system from the police which is possible only through the police reforms. I am positive, it will enable better output.

Any complainant that approaches the police station desires to be heard at the police station. We expect better treatment from policemen at the police stations but that does not happen because policemen are overloaded with responsibilities. For better service



delivery system we need to ensure better working & living conditions for them and their families so that they are able to concentrate on their work. The problem is when a person approaches the police station and if his problem is not heard or case is not registered it results into discontent with the system. So, if we have a content workforce we can expect good results.

In India, if a case is registered it has to be investigated unlike in some other advanced countries where petty cases are not investigated and public is informed accordingly. Indian legal system endorses the concept of "panch" or "witness" which means every case has to be proved in court by witness. In reality, however no-one wants to be "panch" or "witness" hence such declining conviction rates.

We can't therefore expect good conviction and better delivery systems if people do not want to associate with cases. Only reforms can do it. All police stations should be in general model police stations. We should aim at improving the general policing conditions. It is wrong to think that other police stations would follow the model it does not work that way.

People are generally intimidated at approaching police stations because of corruption that comes into play. In your opinion what are the measures that can improve the confidence of people?

A position of power tends to bring with it opportunities for corruption. A person can be called honest only if he has the opportunity to make money and he still refrains from doing so. We

have to evaluate the reasons that lead to corruption and it is not very difficult to comprehend. If people are living at a cutting edge level and if their satisfaction level is improved then chances are the situation would be better.

The presumption and general perception that police personnel are dishonest and untrustworthy has to change. A systemic change is called for in perception by bringing about stronger cop-community bond.

Community can help police in many ways, has been accepted and there is always talk of better cop- community relations. How can we better public- police interactions and thereby improve our safety and security.

Improving cop –community relationship is a continuous process. It is a bond that people of an area develop towards the police be it constable or police officer. Regular interactions of police and public instill faith among the people and they are motivated to work with the police and support the police in its initiatives and thereby multiply the force.

As we very well know a size of 9000 + policemen against a population of 70Lakhs is a mismatch. A feeling of safety and security is what we look for. This is the only way that the police can reach out to public. Crime will continue but it is the faith between the community and the police that can help in day-to-day policing.

Was police services always a career you aspired for? Are you today content with the choice you made then and what aspect of Police services in your opinion

can inspire more and more educated youth into joining the services at all services from IPS down to the level of a constable?

I hail from a village and the value and importance of "Daroga" visit to my village was deep set in my mind. To be able to serve the society and provide succour to the distressed was an inspiration that lived on for years in my memory. We, as policemen must remember that a person approaches police station only in extreme distress and his problems are mitigated if he is heard at the police station.

The role of policeman is akin to that of a doctor. Just as a doctor diagnoses a problem and prescribes treatment based on the ailment likewise policeman too has to diagnose a problem by hearing out the person in distress and take necessary action. Though, I cannot claim to have the best of career in police, yet I am very content. I would go to the extent of saying that I would like to be in Police Services if I were reborn. I feel, if good talented boys join police organization at every rank we can deliver and serve the society better. ■

KNOW YOUR CP

K.P. Raghuvanshi, Commissioner of Police, Thane



Motto:-

“A moderate combination of Honest intentions & Emotional intelligence combined with common sense can provide solutions to any problems”.

Birth Date:-

March 01, 1955

Early Life Education:-

- Schooling in Muzaffarnagar, UP.
- M.Sc & M. Phil from University of Meerut.

Career:-

- Started career as Lecturer (Botany) at a PG College, University of Meerut.
- In 1980, joined Indian Forest Service then Indian Police Service. After training at NPA joined Maharashtra Cadre.
- First Posting as ASP at Haveli Division, Pune & then Sholapur City.
- Joined as DCP Thane, on promotion in 1984. At Thane, worked in various capacities as DCP Zone -I (Thane), Crime, Special Branch & Zone III (Kalyan).
- In Mumbai as DCP-AP & DCP Zone – VII (June 1988 to May 1990)
- Was SP Gadchiroli (1990 to 1992).
- 1993 – SP, Ahmednagar.
- Subsequently AIG (Establishment) M.S Mumbai on transfer.
- Joined CBI and worked as SP - CBI & DIG - CBI (1994-2000).
- After repatriation in Maharashtra, headed STF (Special

Task Force), a newly created unit to implement the recommendations of Shri Krishna Commission.

- IG-Konkan Range (March 2002 till 2004)
- Joined as JT. CP ATS again a newly created unit and served there till July 2007.
- Served as Addl.DG (ATS) & Addl. DG Railways.
- In Feb 2008, handed over the charge of ATS only to take over additional charge in Nov – 2008. Was reposted to ATS as Addl. Director General of Police in June 2009
- ADGP (L & O) from March 2010 to Feb 2011.
- Thane CP since Feb 2011.

People who inspire:-

Teachers from primary & high school and my late parents.

Passions:-

Being abreast with latest gadgets & technology.

Favorite: Books / Movies / Food:-

Munshi Premchand Ki Kahaniyan/ old Hindi movies of 1960's & 1970's / Khichadi (Moong) & French toast (prepared by me)

Fitness Regime:-

Daily walk about 5 to 6 kms and Gym three or four times a week.

Message to the readers of Protectors:-

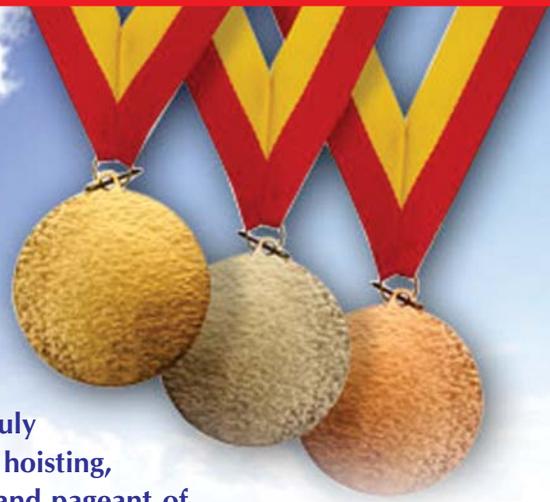
“Policeman is also a human being in uniform and prone to commit mistakes. Such mistakes should not be perceived as the general character of Police. Never go by perception unless you yourself experience any bad behavior of Police. Police is there to serve people & like any profession faith is the biggest bond between police and common man. Your clear perception will help police in securing you and your property, Therefore “Help police to help you”.

as told to Jyoti Pathak



Guts & Glory

- Jyoti Pathak



26th January in India is celebrated as the Republic day, when the constitution of India came into force and it became a truly sovereign and republican country. The ceremonial flag hoisting, customary Presidential address, parade of defence personnels and pageant of spectacular displays from the different states of the country exhibiting diversity of the country forms an important part of celebrations. This day also marks the announcement of President's award for meritorious services. This year about 630 deserving police personnel were recipients of Police Medal for Meritorious Services (PMMS) of which 40 police personnel were from Maharashtra. Police Medal for Distinguished Services (PMDS) was awarded to 93 police personnel across India of which 3 persons were from Maharashtra. Apart from this President's Medal for Gallantry (PPMG) for 07 personnel and Police medal for Gallantry (PMG) for 87 police personnel were announced. This article discusses about the President's medals for Meritorious and Distinguished services, a list of awardees of Maharashtra Police and comprehensive chart of awardees across the country. We salute the heroes and follow their stories of achievements.

About the Awards :

President's Police Medal for Meritorious Service – Central Awards.



This Medal is awarded every year on the occasion of Independence and Republic Day in recognition of the meritorious record in Police service or in the Central Police/ Security Organization. All Police personnel in the country with at least 15 years of service are eligible for this award. The number of Medals to be awarded in a year is fixed at 740. The recipients of the award are presented Medals in Ceremonies arranged by the State Government/ Central Police Organization concerned.

President's Police Medal for Distinguished Service- State Awards

Every year about 125 Medals are



awarded on the occasion of Independence and Republic Day in recognition of a special distinguished record in Police service or in the Central Police/ Security Organization. All police personnel in the country with at least 21 years of service are eligible for this award.

President's Police Medal For Distinguished Service Republic Day-2012- Maharashtra

1. **Shri Kaushal Kumar Pathak**, Additional Director General Of Police(admn),ms Mumbai, Maharashtra

2. **Shri Ashok Dhiware**, Additional Director General of Police, CID, M.S. Pune, Maharashtra

3. **Smt. Harvinderkaur Varaich**, Deputy Commissioner of Police, Kalina Police Training Centre, Mumbai City, Maharashtra

Police Medal For Meritorious Service Republic Day-2012- Maharashtra

1. **Shri. Sunil Ramanand**, Dy. Inspector General of Police, Gadchiroli Range, Gadchiroli, Maharashtra.

2. **Shri. Amitesh Kumar**, Commissioner of Police, Amaravati, Maharashtra.

3. **Shri. Naval Bajaj**, Additional Commissioner of Police, South Region, Mumbai, Maharashtra.

4. **Shri. Niket Kaushik**, Deputy Inspector General of Police, ACB Mumbai, Maharashtra.

5. **Dr. Nikhil Jayprakash**

Gupta, Deputy Director, MPA Nashik, Maharashtra.

6. **Shri. Chiranjeev R Prasad**, Deputy Inspector General of Police, CRPF, Jagdalpur, Chhattisgarh, Maharashtra.

7. **Shri. Nilkanth Prataprao Mhaske**, Superintendent of Police, MPA Nasik, Maharashtra

8. **Shri. Ravindra Prabhakar Rao Sengonkar**, Deputy Commissioner of Police, HQ Navi Mumbai, Maharashtra.

9. **Shri. Rajbhau L Pawar**, Superintendent of Police, SC/ST Commission, Worli, Mumbai, Maharashtra.

10. **Shri. Bharat Papanna Nimbalkar**, Police Inspector, Crime Branch Kalyan Unit, Maharashtra.

11. **Shri. Manohar Shankar Joshi**, Police Inspector, Deccan Police Station Pune City, Maharashtra.

12. **Shri. Ganpat Vithoba Nikam**, Police Inspector, Special Branch, Pune City, Maharashtra.

13. **Shri Nandkumar Shankarrao Kale**, Police Inspector, Washim, Maharashtra

14. **Shri. Dattatraya Dnyanoba Pawar**, Police Inspector (wireless), Office Superintendent of Police, Wireless, West Zone, Pune., Maharashtra.

15. **Shri. Sallauddin Janmohammad Pathan**, Police Inspector, Traffic Branch, Navpada Thane City, Maharashtra.

16. **Shri. Nilesh Ramrao Raut**, Assistant Police Inspector, Thane Nagar PS Thane City, Maharashtra.

17. **Shri. Kailash Dattatraya**

Ghodke, Police Inspector, Bhadrakali Police Station Nashik City, Maharashtra.

18. **Shri. Dinesh Balachandra Joshi**, Police Inspector, Special Branch-ii, Airport Branch, CSI Airport, Mumbai., Maharashtra.

19. **Shri. Deepak Bhikoba Humbare**, Police Inspector, CID Pune, Maharashtra.

20. **Shri. Milind Kalidasrao Patil**, Police Inspector, Woman Training School, Solapur, Maharashtra.

21. **Shri. Shashank Prabhakar Sandbhor**, Police Inspector, DCB, CID, Mumbai, Maharashtra.

22. **Shri. Balraj Shivraj Lanjile**, Police Inspector, EOW Pune Rural, Maharashtra.

23. **Smt. Namrata Nitin Alaknure**, Police Inspector, Sid Mumbai, Maharashtra

24. **Shri. Ashok Tukaramaji Deotale**, Assistant Police Inspector, Dhantoli Police Station Nagpur City., Maharashtra.

25. **Shri. Ramesh Vitthalrao Bhosale**, Police Sub Inspector, C.P. Office, Pune.

26. **Shri Mohan Rajaram Kadam**, Armed Assistant Police Sub Inspector, SRPF Gr.vii, Daund, District Pune, Maharashtra.

27. **Shri. Hamidkha Subhankha Pathan**, Armed Assistant Police Sub Inspector, SRPF Gr.ix, Amravati, Maharashtra.

28. **Shri. Sitaram Baban Narke**, Armed Assistant Police Sub Inspector, SRPF Gr.ii, Pune, and Maharashtra.

29. **Shri. Subash Yeshwant Bendugade**, Armed Assistant

Police Sub Inspector, SRPF Gr.viii, Mumbai, Maharashtra.

30. **Shri. Ravindra Pralhad Saraf**, Assistant Police Sub Inspector, Railway Nagpur, Maharashtra.

31. **Shri. Prakash Ramachandra Ghosalkar**, Assistant Police Sub Inspector, Traffic HQ Worli, Mumbai, Maharashtra.

32. **Shri. Nanda Soma Khobarekar**, Assistant Police Sub Inspector, SDPO Office, Kankavali, Sindhurg., Maharashtra.

33. **Shri. Ashok Abasaheb Waghmare**, Assistant Police Sub Inspector, Borivali Railway Police Station, Mumbai, Maharashtra.

34. **Shri. Satish Sukhlal Joshi**, Assistant Police Sub Inspector, City Traffic, Jalgaon, Maharashtra.

35. **Shri. Ekanath Ganpati Desai**, Head Constable, Chandgad Police Station, Kolhapur, Maharashtra.

36. **Shri. Shahaji Mahadevrao Dudhbhate**, Head Constable, Kalyan Railway Police Station Mumbai, Maharashtra.

37. **Shri. Maruti Balu Pujari**, Head Constable, DCB Mumbai, Maharashtra.

38. **Shri. Anil Mahadeo Sawant**, Head Constable, DCB, CID, Mumbai, Maharashtra.

39. **Shri. Arvind Ramchandra Patil**, Head Constable, Lib Kolhapur, Maharashtra.

40. **Shri. Umakant Rajaram Palav**, Head Constable, Sindhurg HQ, Sindhurg, Maharashtra.

Force Wise/State Wise list of medal awardees to the Police Personnel on the occasion of Republic Day 2012

Sr. No	Name of States/ Organization	President's Police Medal For Gallantry (PPMG)	Police Medal For Gallantry (PMG) Services	President's Police Medal For Distinguished (PPDS)	Police Medal For Meritorious Services (PMMS)
1	Andhra Pradesh	03	02	04	25
2	Arunachal Pradesh	-	-	-	02
3	Assam	-	02	02	03
4	Bihar	-	-	02	12
5	Chhattisgarh	-	04	02	07
6	Delhi	-	-	03	17
7	Goa	-	-	-	01
8	Gujarat	-	-	02	11
9	Haryana	-	02	01	07
10	Himachal Pradesh	-	-	01	04
11	Jammu & Kashmir	-	22	02	16
12	Jharkhand	-	02	-	08
13	Karnataka	-	02	04	19
14	Kerala	-	-	03	08
15	Madhya Pradesh	-	07	04	17
16	Maharashtra	-	-	03	40
17	Manipur	-	02	01	07
18	Meghalaya	-	-	-	01
19	Mizoram	-	-	01	03
20	Nagaland	-	-	-	05
21	Orissa	-	-	03	11
22	Punjab	-	-	02	15
23	Rajasthan	-	-	02	16
24	Sikkim	-	-	01	01
25	Tamil Nadu	-	-	03	21
26	Tripura	-	-	01	06
27	Uttar Pradesh	-	18	04	73
28	Uttarakhand	-	-	01	05
29	West Bengal	-	-	02	20
30	UTs				
a	A & N Island	-	-	01	-
b	Chandigarh	-	-	-	-
c	Daman & Diu	-	-	01	-
d	Lakshadweep	-	-	-	-
e	Pondicherry	-	-	01	02
31	CPOs/Other organizations				
a	Assam Rifles	-	06	-	13
b	BSF	-	01	06	46
c	CBI				
d	CISF	-	-	02	24
e	CRPF	04	14	06	57

Sr. No	Name of States/ Organization	President's Police Medal For Gallantry (PPMG)	Police Medal For Gallantry (PMG) Services	President's Police Medal For Distinguished Services (PPDS)	Police Medal For Meritorious Services (PMMS)
f	MHA	-	-	08	23
g	ITBP	-	01	01	12
h	NSG	-	-	-	04
l	SSB	-	-	01	11
j	SPG	-	-	02	03
k	BPR&D	-	-	01	04
l	DFSS	-	-	-	-
m	DCPW	-	-	-	-
n	NCB	-	-	-	01
o	NCRB	-	-	01	01
p	NEC	-	-	-	-
q	NEPA	-	-	-	01
r	NHRC	-	-	-	01
s	NICFS	-	-	-	01
t	SVPNPA	-	-	-	02
u	M/O Civil aviation	-	-	-	01
v	NIA	-	-	-	02
w	NDRF	-	-	-	04
x	MHA Sectt.	-	-	-	02
y	M/O Parliamentary affairs	-	-	-	01
32	Ministry of Railways	-	02	02	15
	TOTAL	07	87	93	630

President's Police Medal for Gallantry



Indian Police Medal for Gallantry



PM's Police Medal for Life Saving



PPM for Distinguished Service



IPM for Meritorious Service



Anthrik Suraksha Medal



A Career Dotted with Challenges & Achievements

Ravindra Sengaonkar, IPS, DCP HQ, Navi Mumbai.

Being the son of an Army officer and maternal grandson to a Captain and Doctor of the British Army, Ravindra Sengaonkar, DCP, Navi Mumbai, grew up with a natural affinity, uniform job and aspiration to don the uniform was deep set. He spent most part of his childhood with his maternal grandfather and attributes the etiquette and manners he imbibed to him. The disciplined life since early years, he says, paved the way to the many successes that he enjoys in his career today. He has earned several milestones and awards in his career spanning 23 years, the latest being President's award for meritorious service on Republic day this year.

In a brief chat with Jyoti Pathak, Sengaonkar shares the journey of his career.

Background

Sengaonkar belongs to a very small town called Hingoli, earlier a Taluka which is now a district and having a population of a lakh. He lived there until he completed his post graduation in commerce. Always an outstanding performer, he was a Gold Medalist in B.com from Marathwada University, which is now known as Dr. Babasaheb Ambedkar University.

He joined Bank of Maharashtra at a young age of around 19 1/2 years and served there for 6 1/2 years. He attempted for the competitive examinations and was selected for some positions but he preferred to join as DSP in Maharashtra Police cadre.

His maternal grandfather, a Doctor and Captain in the British Army played a crucial role in moulding his personality. I imbibed my etiquettes and mannerisms from my maternal grandfather, a strict disciplinarian and gem of a person, says Sengaonkar. His father too was an Army officer in Signals but retired in 1972 when Sengaonkar was only 10 years old. His mother was a school Principal at Hingoli.

Career

Right guidance helps you make proper career moves, says Sengaonkar and in his case, he was fortunate to have the mentors of the likes Mr. Sanjiv Dayal, DG (ACB) and Mr.K.L.Prasad, ADG (SID). He has very high regard for Mr. K.L. Prasad, for the appropriate guidance in his career before he joined service. After his physical training in Nasik, he was attached to Chandrapur district, where again Mr. Prasad was the SP of the District. I really gained a lot of knowledge under his guidance, says Sengaonkar. Physical training was rigorous and they had to run from Chandrapur to Ballarsha which was at a distance



of 18 kms with all the commandoes.

His first charge was Yeotmal and then at Morshi Dist Amravati where Mr. Sanjiv Dayal was his SP and he learnt a lot from Mr. Dayal.

He also worked at Ghadchiroli as Sub Divisional Police officer. He considers it an excellent period of his life. Work experience at Ghadchiroli was a breakthrough in his life.

"It was a challenging but exciting too" says Sengaonkar. We had live encounters with naxalites and did a lot of work for the good of adivasis. I could confiscate about Rs. 45 lakh in cash, arms and ammunition along with an excellent team

comprising Mr. Subodh Kumar Jaiswal & Ravindra Kadam.

He enjoyed his posting at Aurangabad and deputation to United Nations in a peace keeping mission in Bosnia and Herzegovina. It was an Indian contingent of three police officers from Maharashtra, and rest were from the other states, CRPF, and BSF. That was a lovely period in my life says Sengaonkar.

He has a strong desire and spirit to help people who approach police. Outspoken and helpful, he is very intolerant towards people who lie. This is the best department to work for says Sengaonkar and as Superintendent of Beed district he was known as SP of people and was directly accountable to public which he really enjoyed.

Motto

Helping people always, has been the motto of my life. Since people approach police stations only in extreme distress and we are paid for it and it is our duty says Sengaonkar. According to Sengaonkar, we should avoid corruption of any kind. It's high time that we work towards the interest of the nation and as a nation.

Ravindra Sengaonkar, Dy. Commissioner of Police, Navi Mumbai recipient of President's Medal for Meritorious Services on Jan 26, 2012.

Career Profile and Milestones

- Was appointed Dy. Suptd of Police through MPSC in 1988 and did his district training in Chandrapur,

a naxal infested area.

- Sengaonkar has put in 23 years of dedicated service in the Police department and has earned more than 27 letters of appreciation from his seniors and nearly 250 from public. He has maintained a consistently upward career graph.

- During his first tenure as SDPO Yeotmal (Sept 1990 to Oct 1992) he distinguished himself by decisive handling of challenging and complex situations where naxalites had unleashed terror and panic among people. He developed an effective patrolling and intelligence gathering system and with remarkable planning, execution and leadership, put a check on the naxalite gangs in Yeotmal and earned the respect of people. His personal initiative and investigation in a gang rape case led to life sentences for all the three accused.

- He adroitly quelled riots on March 31, 1991, between engineering students and citizens of the Pusad city and demonstrated extraordinary skills

in handling communally sensitive situations. For example, Durga immersion procession at Ner Parsopant in 1990 and again in 1992 at Ner Pinglai (Dist Amravati) after the murder of Shivsena autorickshaw driver by anti social elements.

- At Morshi, (Oct 1992 to June 1993), where he was posted as SDPO, the anti dacoity measures initiated by him brought down the crime rate. His proactive policing was evident in Morshi division after the demolition of Babri mosque. He quickly rushed to Karajgaon village (out of his jurisdiction) where 4 Muslims had been massacred by Hindus and restored normalcy immediately.

- He unearthed cash dumps of Rs 45 lakhs and arms & ammunitions in large quantities from the dense forest as SDPO of Gadchiroli, a naxal infested area (June 1993 – Nov.1995). He also affected the surrender of three hardcore naxalites and supervised several naxal operations. The state assembly elections during this





period recorded landmark 96 % polling despite the people's War Group's call to boycott these elections.

- He was awarded Special Service Medal in 1997 and a cash award of Rs 16000/- by the Govt. of Maharashtra and the 'Internal Security Service Medal' by the Govt. of India.

- His career graph acquired new dimensions while working for UN in Bosnia and Herzegovina (1997- 98). He received a peace keeping medal and certificate from United States Department of Justice (ICITAP).

- With public help he rescued many lives during floods in Palghar and checked property offences by nabbing an intercity gang as SDPO, Vasai in Thane district.

- He started a novel "company" system as DCP HQ, Pune paying special attention to man & resources management.

- Prepaid autorickshaw system' and fully computerized city traffic police was started by him for the first time in Maharashtra when he was DCP, Traffic.

- A gigantic project of computerization of personal details of 45000 police personnel, required for quick retrieval of data & effective man management was undertaken by him as DCP, HQII, Mumbai city.

- He was posted as DCP, Bhiwandi and Thane when the city was in the grip of serious riots. Police had to resort to firing in which two civilians were killed. Subsequently violent mobs killed two police constables who were on duty. By adopting a new

patrolling system and motivating the police force he effectively checked communal tension.

- He completed a massive recruitment drive of 22000 candidates in just 20 days. He initiated constructive interaction with the public through Vasundhara Utsav which consisted of plantation drive and environmental awareness.

- As DCP Special Branch, Pune, he modernized the special branch converting it into a paperless office. He created a precedent by bringing down the time limit for passport verification to just 7 days.

- On July 19, 2009, he saved the life of a traffic ASI abducted by a motorist, booked for traffic violation taking him on the bonnet of his car. The motorist also injured 3 other pedestrians. He chased the car, fired at the car tyre, rescued the cop and caught the driver.

- As SP in Beed district, a politically and criminally sensitive district he maintained a commendable law and order after he joined, introduced new ideas in administration and due to personal involvement, solved almost all serious crimes.

- He is known for presence of mind, a quick grasp of situations, tensile strength, professionalism, efficiency, leadership skills and bravery in the execution of tasks assigned to him. ■

Republic Day Celebrations at NMSA Grounds - Vashi

The 63rd Republic day on Jan26, 2012 was celebrated with a lot of enthusiasm and spirit of patriotism at the Navi Mumbai Sports Association grounds. In a well organized function, the tricolour was hoisted by Mr. Jayant Patil, Cabinet Minister for Rural Development, Maharashtra. The celebrations consisted of cultural functions involving school and colleges of Navi Mumbai. The well attended function was organized in the presence of senior police officials like Mr. Ahmed Javed, Commissioner of Police, Navi Mumbai and Mr. Parambir Singh, IG Konkan Range and other senior officers of the Navi Mumbai Police Commissionerate.





Increasing Role of Forensic Science in Crime Detection



Dr. D. Sengupta

Former Director, FSL, West Bengal

Forensic methods and practices are explored in the scientific detection of crime by analysis of samples collected at the scene of crime as well as morgues (in medico-legal cases). In doing so, applications of knowledge in different branches of natural and applied sciences are utilized in an optimum manner depending upon the nature of cases and other parameters. The role of medical sciences is worth mentioning specially in medico-legal issues.

The quality of work or their up-gradation is the primary objective among forensic scientists. On the other hand, the merit of forensic examination is dependent on the purity of the sample with minimum contamination, their preservation and forwarding to F.S.L. keeping the chain of custody.

The quality of sample is looked after by the investigating officers (IOs) on behalf of Law Enforcement. Thereafter, the examination of samples

forwarded by the IO is undertaken by a Forensic Science Laboratory (FSL) These two agencies i.e. Law Enforcement and FSL and the Judiciary function under the Criminal Justice System wherein judiciary is at the apex to control and administer the meaningful functioning of the system.

The functioning of FSL is multidimensional including the primary role to examine the clue materials at the scene of crime (SOC). At the same time, the biological samples from the victim as well as the suspects are also collected during post mortem or medical examination by the medical officers. These biological samples are also forwarded to FSL either directly by the medical officer or through the Judiciary. On occasions, samples are also collected during hospitalization for treatment in non-fatal poisoning cases. The requisite samples, i.e. stomach wash, blood or urine or saliva are collected for detection of poison, if any.

The samples forwarded through the Judiciary or medical officer are properly received at FSL after through checking of the sealed label etc. These received exhibits are thereafter examined in different sections of FSL which require elaboration. The examinations at the FSL may broadly be classified under three heads i.e. biological, chemical and physical examinations. The biological examinations are undertaken on the samples of body, fluids, hair, semen, saliva, urine, vomit or their stains for identification purposes. After identification of the samples, further serological examinations are required to be done for detection of groups of the

individual. These groups examined in Serology Section of the Laboratory. On occasions, when the normal identification procedures fail in case of burnt and charred body or nothing is left other than stains of blood or bones or hair etc., DNA examination is also undertaken for the identification purposes in DNA Section at FSL. This identification method of present generation has become a potential one in mass disaster or accident or paternity or sex related crimes. Another technique viz. super-imposition is worth mentioning which is often explored for identification purposes when skeleton or skull is obtained as the only sample for examination. The chemical examinations include identification of poison in Toxicology Section of FSL. The other chemical examinations at the FSL include examination of purity of samples or detection of adulteration in essential commodities viz. petroleum products (petrol, diesel, kerosene), spices, cement, fertilizer; examination of trap cases (bribe taking matter), detection of accelerant in bride-death cases by burning and fire and arson; and acid throwing cases for detection of corrosives. These examinations are done in Chemistry Section of the Laboratory. The remnants of explosives are examined in Explosive Section. These explosives include low and high explosives. The narcotics and psychotropic substances in drug abuse or drug trafficking cases are undertaken by Drug Section FSL.

The physical examinations are undertaken in different Sections at FSL, West Bengal, viz. Physical

Section, Questioned Document Section, Ballistics Section and Foot Print and Computer Section. The Physics Section undertakes examination of samples related to road and railway accident, restoration of engine and chassis number in stolen car cases, the bursting of stove, oven, LPG cylinder and other household and mechanical devices; examination of fire due to electrical short circuit or faults; and fall from a height cases. Any matter or dispute related to signature, addition and alteration in document, erasing and authentication of signature is undertaken by Questioned Document Section. This Section also takes care of samples under trade mark and copy right act.

The Ballistic Section takes care of examination of firearm cases concerning regular and improvised firearms and also ammunitions thereof. The examinations also include comparison of marks and impressions on cartridge cases, bullets, etc. The workability of a firearm is also checked by this Section. At present, the examination on gun-shot residues is also taken up by this Section particularly in close range fire where the bullet hole and their peripheries become very much important to detect the GSR and co-relate it to the case of proper re-construction.

The Foot Print Section examines both visible and latent foot prints on diverse materials by comparison with the suspects in homicide, theft and burglary related cases. The Computer Section has become very much important at present to cope up with the incidences of crime involving computer i.e. computer forensics.

On occasions, the samples are not visible at all i.e. these are latent. These latent samples are called trace evidences which include all types of stains, marks, impressions and prints. These are to be located either by oblique light or by special application of different light sources called alteration light sources or by using chemical reagents for their detection at the spot.

When the samples cannot be recovered by picking or by removing by the IO i.e. the sample to be examined is fixed upon another material i.e. blood on soil, blood on cement, blood on wall or ceiling or floor. In that case, the control sample shall have to be collected invariably i.e. soil or scrapings from floor or wall etc. This is to avoid any false positive finding. There are two other examples of control samples. The second type of control sample shall have to be considered when the IO himself or herself pick up or collects the sample by using blotting paper or tissue paper or cloth etc. Each of these materials shall have to be sent as the control sample for the same reason i.e. to avoid any false positive finding. The third case of control sample may arise when a sample shall have to be fixed as per manufacturing brand say a sample of a particular brand of soap has been adulterated on mass scale. The comparison with the pure sample collected from the factory is required for comparison of parameters to resolve the matter.

There are different methods and practices for collection and preservation of samples at the place of occurrence. The IO shall have to be conversant with the do's and don'ts in this regard specially in case of biological

samples. The biological samples shall have to be tried and packed in breathable container.

The three types of examinations have already been mentioned in the preceding paragraph. The physical examination includes determination of different physical parameters or examination by microscope of diverse magnification low to very high. The chemical examination include different chemical tests and use of diverse sophisticated instrumental techniques both chromatographic (TLC, HPLC, GC, IC) and Spectroscopic methods (UV, IR, MS etc.) At present hyphenated techniques are the method of choice especially in the analysis of drugs and explosives (GC-MS, LC-MS, MS-MS etc.) depending upon the availability of facilities. The greater the sophistication, greater is the scope of analysis more precisely within a tightly-bound time schedule if the samples are not complex and facilities thereof for such analysis are available to FSL.

It is the practice that IOs should collect the samples at the place of occurrence after protecting the scene, photographing and re-constructing the case. However, the experts of FSL are often called for examination of the scene in complex cases viz. fire and arson, accident and disaster, fall from a height, explosions and locations of skeleton and body parts after a long time, etc. The forensic experts examine the scene on scientific basis and evaluate the manifestations of crime and guide the IO for collecting exhibits of scientific value.

The trends in crime shall have to be elaborated as there has

been a transformation in phases. In the pre-independence period, the medico-legal cases hanging, burning, acid throwing, gun-shot, drowning, strangulation, accidents were important. In the post independence period new cases have been added to the list viz. questioned document cases of complex types, explosions, fire and arson, poisoning by complex chemicals such as pesticides, insecticides and drugs, disasters, gun-shot by advanced weapons, N.D.P.S. Act related cases, cases involving trademark etc. There has been a change in the methods and practices due to advent of science and technologies. These methods had to be employed to detect complex cases include fall from a height, complex homicide cases, simulated homicide cases, forgeries, adulteration complex type, wild life Act related cases.

The scientists at FSL also strive to innovate and develop new methods and practices to combat the changing trends in crime. In doing so, research activities are undertaken to achieve the same. The experts also take care of the requirements of the Judiciary during handling, receiving, packing and examination of cases to keep the chain of custody.

The problems occur on occasion while a new method in the analysis of crime samples as this require by the Judiciary. While introducing DNA methods and practices, it is well known that there was a debate regarding acceptability of the method. The principal behind it requires much more interactions among the agencies in the Criminal Justice System to facilitate precise and speedy disposal of cases. The sooner the better. ●

Many Shades of Mumbai Police

THE GOOD, THE BAD & THE UGLY



Image Courtesy: Times of India

Some of his decisions might have rubbed his men the wrong side, but Mumbai's Commissioner of Police Arup Patnaik certainly has a genial and thoughtful side to him. He initiated an exhibition of paintings done by police constables at the Deutsche Bank Courtyard in South Mumbai recently. The paintings in water colors and oil were much appreciated and are likely to be displayed along with the works of esteemed artists Rashid Rana and Jitesh Kallat.



Image Courtesy: Mumbai Mirror



Vikas Lavande, Head Constable, Special Protection Unit

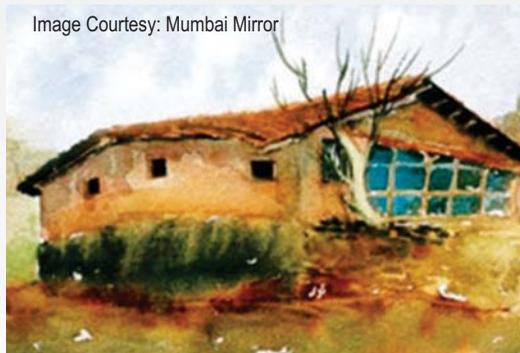


Image Courtesy: Mumbai Mirror



Sanjay Sawant, Police Constable, Local Arms Division

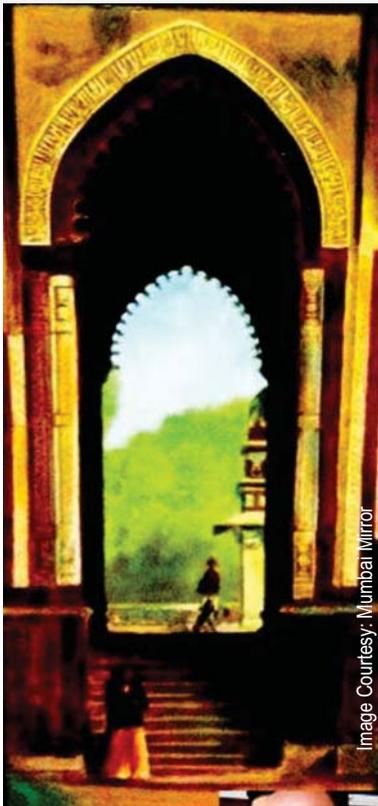


Image Courtesy: Mumbai Mirror

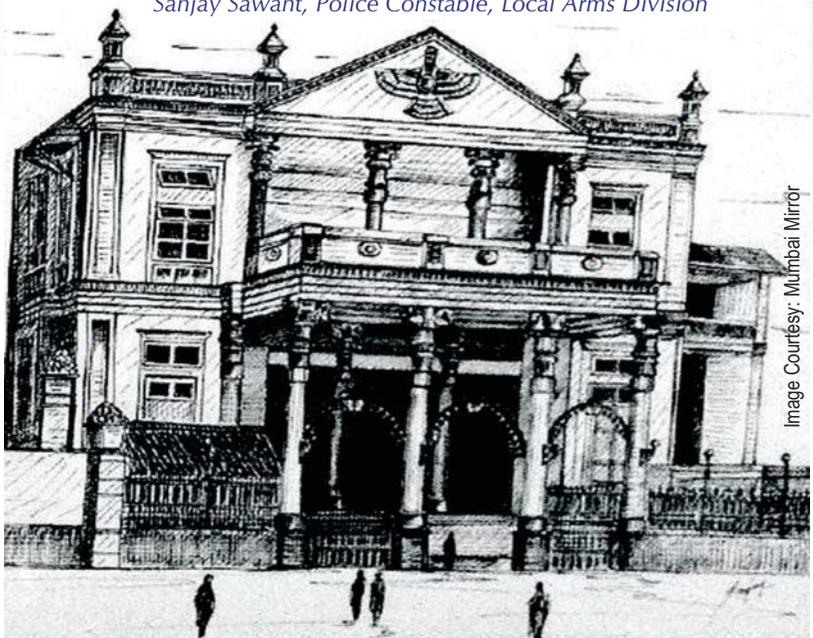


Image Courtesy: Mumbai Mirror

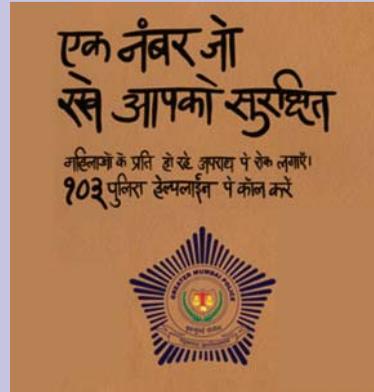
A sketch by Constable Sanjay Sawant

While the above gracious gesture has won the CP Patnaik the admiration of the humble constables in the Force, he recently had assistant commissioners of the city gritting their teeth at a communication they received from him saying they were not acting against prostitution rackets in the city probably because... The newspaper which reported this rap by the CP reproduced a part of the letter saying it was not possible for such activities to continue in the city's dance bars and gambling dens without the blessings of the ACPs. In the letter



Patnaik singled out Vasant Doble, head of the social service branch for praise, though. Doble received compliments from Patnaik for trying his best to stop prostitution and gambling in the city.

The same daily has reported an incident when one of its correspondents called the police helpline 103 to help an old woman who was shivering in the cold outside Dadar Railway Station. A cop arrived within 10 minutes to reach the lady who was allegedly beaten and thrown



out of her home. That certainly deserves a cheer from all those who think the police helplines are a hoax.

Inspector General of Police (Prisons) Surinder Kumar is all smiles these days for a very good reason. Over 600 prisoners have been moved from Arthur Road jail to Taloja Jail in Navi Mumbai. The State has heeded the request to ease the space crunch at Arthur Road jail and recruited 250 staffers to manage the increased numbers at Taloja Prison. The prisoners at the Arthur Road jail will have more space in their cells.

Early in January a report in a leading daily lamented the apathy at the Centre in disbursing the cash rewards for acts of exceptional commitment and courage shown by cops. The cash reward of Rs 5 lakhs announced by the CBI for the arrest of 1993 serial blasts accused Karimullah Khan who was believed to have fled the country but was residing at Nalla Sopara under a fictitious name. An 11-member team of the Crime Branch which nabbed the accused in 2008 on a tip off by an alert citizen is yet to receive the prize money. One of the

members, a constable, is due for retirement. The State Government had also announced a cash reward of Rs 2 lakhs enthusiastically for the operation which lasted 15 days round the clock. Cases of unbecoming forgetfulness! Tsk tsk tsk.

If you have been getting text messages and e-mails informing you of big lottery wins and you know that it is all a trap and you have been wondering what the Crime Branch is doing about it. You will be happy to know that the Crime Branch has indeed acted and busted one gang at least. A gang of six Nigerians was arrested recently. Three cheers to Crime Branch inspectors Venkat Patil and Vinayak Vast!

Mumbai city got its first women fire fighters early this year. Five brave ladies were inducted into the brigade at Wadala fire station on the first working day of this year. Chief Fire Officer H Mujawar hopes to add another 30 women soon. To do away with any kind of gender complex it has been decided that they will be



known as firemen and they have been trained on par with the firemen.

The Police Commissioner's office

near Crawford Market is a familiar structure to Mumbaikars who pass by it without giving it a second look. The reason is that the old, unchanged buildings in the complex which houses the more important offices of the City Police look drab and dull. The good news is that the complex will go for a modern look in the next couple of years when reputed architect Hafeez Contractor gives it a new look. Most of the buildings will be razed but the famous Dagdi Chawl, as the Crime Branch offices in the complex are facetiously referred to, will not be razed, according to reports.

It could have been a scene in a television soap. Cop Shashikant Sagre of Bandra Police Station chased two chain snatchers on his bike and retrieved the mangalsutra snatched by them from a lady walking on the pavement of Turner Road. When the lady shouted for help the patrolling constables Shashikant Sagre and Suresh Salvi heard her



cries for help and they chased the thieves. As they neared the fleeing thieves Sagre jumped from his bike on to the speeding bike driven by the thief and caught him. Phew! And thanks to the courage and guts of such constables chain snatching which used to be Mumbai's common crime has reduced by 18 percent.

According to Joint Commissioner Himanshu Roy chain snatching occurred when people went for walks. The crime branch not only used the time-clock theory to detect the crime but also had its eyes on jewellers who bought stolen valuables.

Roy, we all know, does not rest till he solves a crime. The case involving the jewel thieves who stole diamonds from a jewelry fair two years ago which was cracked



under Roy's supervision in 24 hours is still fresh in public memory. His focus this year is on reducing vehicle thefts. He told the media recently that the thieves prefer white vehicles.

Roy also told the media that the majority of rapes were committed by people known to the victims such as close relatives and boyfriends promising marriage. In 2011 the crime rate had reduced, especially after the setting up of the special squad to curb eve teasing, following the Amboli incident.

The Crime Branch of the Mumbai Police is not known to rub the salt on the wounds of the accused in its custody. But the Ironically, the Crime Branch chose to file a 1,471-page chargesheet against journalist Jigna Vora on 21



February 2012, her birthday, for her role in the murder of veteran crime reporter J Dey. The police has slapped the stringent MCOCA on Vora, who was arrested on 25 November 2011. Dey, Investigations Editor at the tabloid, Mid-Day, was gunned down in broad daylight near his residence in Powai on 11 June 2011. In all, the Crime Branch named 12 accused including the gangster in exile, Chhota Rajan.

According to the chargesheet, Vora had in the three months preceding Dey's murder, made as many as 36 calls to Rajan. The telephonic contact stopped abruptly after the murder, it said. Call records reveal that shortly after some of the calls between Vora and Rajan, Dey's shooter Satish Kalia received calls from the latter, leading the police to believe that the don was coordinating the hit. Professional rivalry was alleged to be Vora's motive in getting involved in the elimination of the senior crime reporter.

Justice Markandey Katju, Chairman of the Press Council of India (PCI), does not mince his



words. Calling a spade a spade, Justice Katju castigated the Maharashtra Government for its inaction against the culprits involved in numerous attacks on journalists across the state. In a letter addressed to Chief Minister Prithviraj Chavan sent on 22 February 2012.

A delegation of eight journalists from Maharashtra met me today and apprised me of a large number of physical attacks on journalists/media houses in the State of Maharashtra including the recent one on Times of India building in Mumbai allegedly by Shiv Sena people.

"I was informed that in the last 10 years well over 800 journalists were physically attacked, while in the last two and half years 213 journalists were attacked by political workers and anti-social elements. More shocking was the day light – murder of veteran journalist J. Day. In this connection, I had written two letters to you but there was no response from your side to either of them. Did I not even deserve the courtesy of a reply?," Justice Katju said.

Noting that freedom of the Press is a guaranteed Constitutional right, he further added: "It is the duty of

the State Government to maintain law and order in the State, but it seems to me that your Government is neither able to maintain law and order nor prevent attacks on journalists, which seriously imperils freedom of the press. You are, therefore, requested to now show cause why I should not recommend to the President of India to dismiss your State Government under Article 356 of the Constitution since your Government apparently seems to have failed to uphold the Constitution."

The visit of Union Home Minister P. Chidambaram to the National Security Guard hub at Marol in Mumbai literally brightened up the hub. Since last January the commandos had been waiting for permanent electric supply to the hub and were making do with power generated from generators. Some of the residences were without power for several nights. A day before Chidambaram's visit the hub received permanent electric connection like a miracle.



Assaults on senior citizens are on the rise in Mumbai. Not a day passes without the newspapers carrying headlines about some elderly person either getting killed or assaulted. The Bombay High Court last week took the Mumbai cops to task for failing to protect a 68 year old woman when she was assaulted by a builder in December last year in



the presence of a police inspector. Well, it takes all sorts to make the world, as we all know. There are many, many policemen in Mumbai who don't shirk their duty and are particularly kind to the elderly.

Kerala DGP Jacob Punnoose must be feeling relieved now that the two Italian Navy personnel aboard the oil tanker Enrica have been arrested. Pressure was mounting on Punnoose from the fisherfolks community in Kerala to book the men responsible for the death of two unarmed fishermen who were shot dead near Alapuzha. The victims, it is said were mistaken for pirates. The incident has heightened the need for the armed guards in such vessels to exercise caution and restraint while using their authority to use the arms in their possession. ■

A woman is shown from the waist down, holding a large white sign. She is wearing a maroon top, a grey skirt, black leggings, and white high-heeled shoes. She has a yellow bag slung over her shoulder. The sign she is holding has the text 'A SAFETY ADVISORY FOR WOMEN AT ALL TIMES' written in red, bold, capital letters, arranged in five horizontal lines. The background is a bright, slightly blurred outdoor setting.

A SAFETY ADVISORY FOR WOMEN AT ALL TIMES

Today a woman is perceived as independent and strong. Never before was she seen brimming with such confidence to shape her destiny; never before did she declare herself the respected equal of her counterpart. Unfortunately, despite this, she continues to live under the blanket of fear. Lack of safety may be perceived as a threat. Hence, be vigilant, be firm, be assertive, be confident and you will realize that you are ready to fight the battle.

Some tips you can follow to become more vigilant and proactive:

- Take services of casual labourers like painters, carpenters, plumbers, electricians for AC, refrigerators/television, machines etc only after prior personal verification or on the recommendation of any known person.
- Give intimation to the local police station whenever alone in the house for a long period of time or out of town.
- Give immediate intimation to the police station or police control room if any unknown person is loitering around the house or makes any attempt to commit trespass in the house.
- If any robber enters the house, first ensure personal safety by locking yourself inside a room and immediately inform the police control room and local police station about the clear address and location of your house.
- Maintain good neighbourly relations for spontaneous help.
- Keep telephone numbers of the local police, police help line, emergency services, neighbours, etc. so that in case of any mishap, immediately help could be sought.
- Go for installation of an alarm system.
- If you notice abnormal behavior in the neighbourhood or at the workplace, such as an unfamiliar face or someone who seems to be hanging around without purpose, inform police.
- Consider any stranger you see everyday enroute to your office/ college as a suspect. Beware of alternative routes and also make a note of all the safe hubs on those routes such as a friend's house or a public place. Do not disclose your residence address, personal numbers or e-mail address to anybody you do not know well.

PRIMARY SECURITY TIPS

Women can protect themselves in a number of ways by building their mental strength and confidence.

- Put up a verbal boundary: If someone is approaching you aggressively, please raise an alarm; shout and attract attention. Most aggression would leave a woman alone, if they felt she was not afraid to fight back.
- Know your safety props: Always keep a can of pepper spray or even a cologne or deodorant

handy or if you are at home, a mini extinguisher will do.

- Always try and walk in a group of two or more. Remember, safety lies in numbers. Busy and populated areas increase the chances of getting help and witnesses in case of a mishap.
- Look confident: Even if you feel insecure, walk and behave confidently. Criminals don't attack an individual who has an air of confidence. Even in unknown surroundings, always show that you are familiar with your whereabouts.
- If someone or something makes you uneasy, trust your instinct and leave.

LIVING ALONE

A woman living alone is seen as a soft target by potential assaulters. Hence she should follow some basic precautions.

- If you live alone, don't advertise the fact.
- If you have multiple entry points to your house, make sure they are always locked. Try to use only the door that is nearest to the busiest spot (i.e. facing the main road rather than the back garden).
- When someone knocks at your door, don't open it unless you are well acquainted with the visitor.
- Do not entertain visitors you don't know. Always confirm the identity of the representative of any service provider by calling up the number on the ID-card provided before opening the door. Install a door chain or 'magic eye' on your front door.
- Have a door viewer installed on the entry door.
- If someone comes to your door whom you do not trust or who you believe might be dangerous, call your local police station or neighbor immediately.
- Install a phone by your bed to call for help in case of an emergency of intrusion.
- Verify and register your domestic help, drivers, maids etc with the local police.
- In case of an attack, many domestic appliances can be used as weapons from a screwdriver to a fork, a pair of scissors or even a pen.
- Get to know your neighbours and your neighbourhood.
- Consider installing an alarm system but make sure it is one you know how to use.
- Never discuss your programme in front of your domestic help or any stranger. ●

High Praise & Warm Wishes

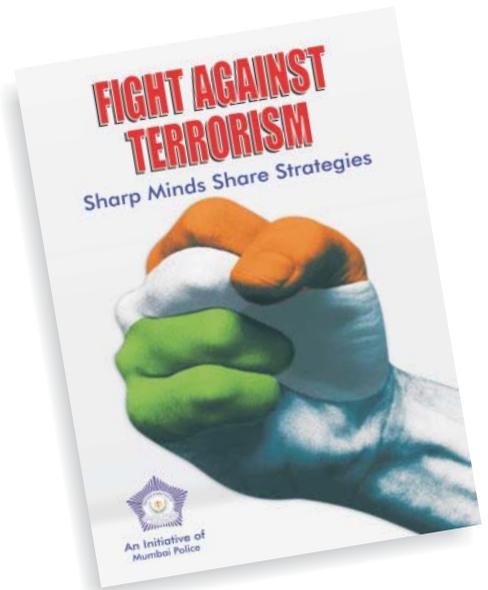


FIGHT AGAINST TERRORISM

Sharp Minds Share Strategies

YES

I WANT A COPY



For more details contact:

New Media Communication Pvt. Ltd
1, Akbar Villa, New Media House, Marol Maroshi Road,
Andheri (East), Mumbai - 400059, India.
Tel:- +91 22 2920 8888/ 2920 2999.
Telefax: +91 22 2925 5279.
Email: satya@newmediacomm.biz

Dr. A.P.J. Abdul Kalam
Former President of India



10, Rajaji Marg
New Delhi-110011

14 March 2011

Dear Shri Sivanandhan,

Thank you for your letter dated 28th Feb 2011 and sending me the well done work "Fight Against Terrorism" with thoughts from multiple minds. The topics discussed will be a good reference. My best wishes for your effort. I wish you all the best for all your future missions.

*will edit book.
श्रीवसुदेव. अंगिरस*

May God bless you,

Yours sincerely,

A.P.J. Abdul K.

Shri D Sivanandhan
No.18, Sunidhi
Gen.Bhosle Marg,
Colaba, Mumbai - 400 021

M. K. Narayanan
GOVERNOR OF WEST BENGAL



RAJ BHAVAN
KOLKATA 700 062

18 March, 2011

Dear Sivanandan,

Thank you for sending me the compilation *Fight Against Terrorism*. I believe this initiative of yours was highly commendable and has done much to highlight the threat posed by Asymmetric Warfare and the expanding dimensions of this problem. Through your personal effort and influence, you have managed over the years, to bring together several practitioners of counter terrorism and internal security and this has greatly enlarged the volume of information available on the subject. This is a significant contribution of yours towards a better security climate in the country.

On a personal note, having been associated with you in different capacities over the years, I would like to pay a tribute to your capabilities, your honesty and integrity, and above all your dedication, to making our country a safer place to live in. I feel privileged to have been associated with you, and look forward to many more occasions to interact with you on different platforms.

Do keep in touch.

Warm Regards

Yours sincerely,

M.K. Narayanan
M. K. Narayanan
18/3/2011

Shri D. Sivanandan, IPS (Retd)
18, Suniti, 9th Floor
General J. Bhonsle Marg
Opp: Mantralaya
Mumbai 400 021

Run Mumbai, Run...

Some ran for a cause and some for fun. Some showed grit and some willpower. Clad in rainbow colours, from kids to senior citizens, from disabled to able bodied, they ran in their thousands, as Mumbai watched in awe. In the end, the spirit of Marathon won the hearts of Mumbaiers!

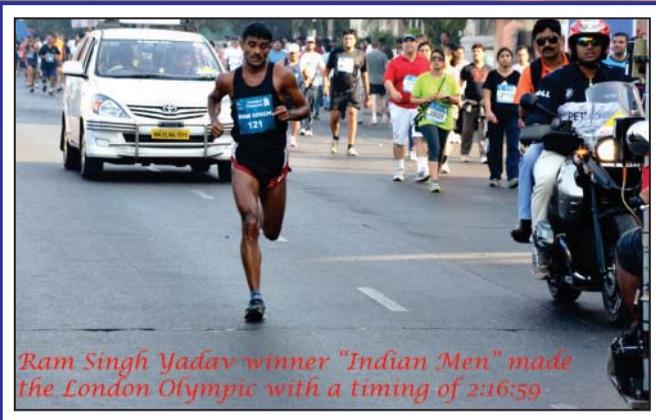




*Jatuma Sado (Ethiopia)
2nd in women category*



*Netsanet Abeyo (Ethiopia)
Winner in women category*



*Ram Singh Yadav winner "Indian Men" made
the London Olympic with a timing of 2:16:59*



*1ST - Laban Moiben (1) (Kenya) 2:10:48
2nd - Raji Assefa (4) (Ethiopia) 2:10:48
3rd - John Kyul (8) (Kenya) 2:10:54*



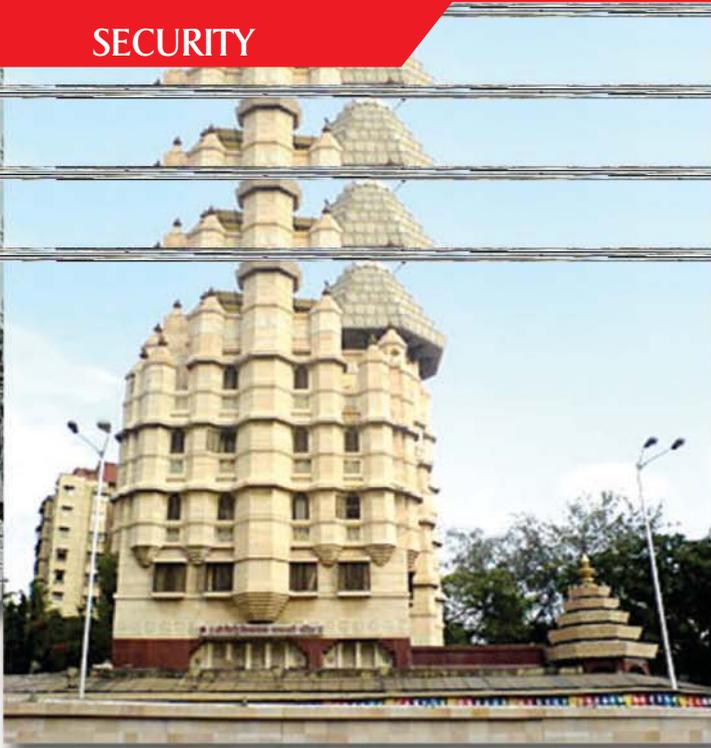
Need to Preserve & Protect India's Temple Treasures



By Dr. Sekhar, Chairman,
MicroTech Global Foundation

The recent discovery of gold, jewels and miscellaneous items worth Rs 1,00,000 crore in a relatively low-profile Padmanabha Temple in Trivandrum in Kerala has

opened a new dimension to the hidden treasures across India and stressed the need to preserve and protect them. The Kerala temple is part of an estimated 18 lakh temples spread across the



country. While the latest find is very large, others may not have their own hidden treasures. However, each of these temples possesses gold, jewelry and other valuables in varying degrees. Hence, immediate steps should be taken to secure their wealth so that it is not grabbed by unscrupulous elements.

Because of the publicity given to the Kerala temple treasure, it is expected that both external and internal forces would make every effort to steal treasures from temples generally kept in highly unsafe environments. We can imagine the amount of unexplored treasure waiting to get back much of the lost pride to the country. India abounds in rich cultural and historical heritage sites where temple architecture attracts devotees to them as places of worship and pilgrimage. Temples of India represent the religious versatility and the devotees, who constitute a vast majority of men and women believe that a visit to these places of worship followed by offerings in cash, kind and

jewelry will bring them success. These donations are also used for charity like feeding the poor or for educating them and providing them medical facilities, etc. The temple is the focus of all aspects of everyday life in the Hindu community - religious, cultural, educational and social. The temple goesers believe that this is a place where one can transcend the world of humans and attain higher spiritual experience.

Many enlightened persons have built these 1.8 million temples across the length and width of the country and the devotees with their donations have turned them into India's treasure troves of hidden riches and prosperity. Hence, steps have to be taken to preserve and protect these assets as they have survived wars, invasions and robberies. Besides, internal thefts and misappropriation of temple wealth also mean depriving these symbols of India's pride their rightful place. Most of these temples, where the common man

rushes first when in problems and seeks peace of mind, have today become crowded places streaming with devotees and hunting grounds for pickpockets and thieves. Matters get compounded as most temple authorities are unprepared to manage crowds, resulting in stampedes and riots at these places. There is an urgent need for complete integration of technology to streamline the working of the temples, not only to preserve and secure the valuables inside but to put systems in place for the worshippers to derive full satisfaction from their visit.

In earlier days, temples always led in technology. Any visit to the temples of an earlier era left the visitors wondering as to how these marvels were built in the period and come back convinced that the best of the construction technologies were used as these structures were built for future generations. In fact, some temples were built over generations in order to bring in the best available technologies from across the globe, considering their importance to the

worshippers who flock to their favourite deities to seek material and spiritual favours or relief from various problems.

According to various statistics, there are some extremely rich temples in India with huge annual revenues. Some of these are: - Tirumala Tirupati Venkateshwara Temple (Rs. 743 crore); Simhachalam Temple (Rs. 52 crore) Siddhivinayak Temple (Rs 46 crore) Mata Vaishno Devi Shrine (Rs. 500 crores); Guruvayur Temple, Shrinathji, Ambaji, Mahalakshmi, Sai Baba, Satya Sai and many more temple trusts are very rich.

According to media reports, cases of known thefts in temples amount to hundreds of crores of rupees. Since in these places money, gold and precious metals, etc., are poured in hundis, there are no strict accounting procedures and the revenue leak is very high. Compounded with this, are the thefts by outsiders and insiders with doubtful integrity, accounting for a large percentage of the carry forward treasures and the regular amounts collected. If these loses are plugged, the increased revenue could be better utilized for proper management of the facilities meant for the devotees and the public around these temples. Rough estimates indicate that if these revenue losses were brought into the system, the poverty levels would drastically come down as these 18 lakh temples are spread throughout the country. Public amenities or infrastructure facilities may be missing in many Indian towns and

villages, but for the Indians a temple is an essential requirement. If these temples are properly securitised with proper risk assessment reports updated every year, the country's rush to prosperity would be speeded up.

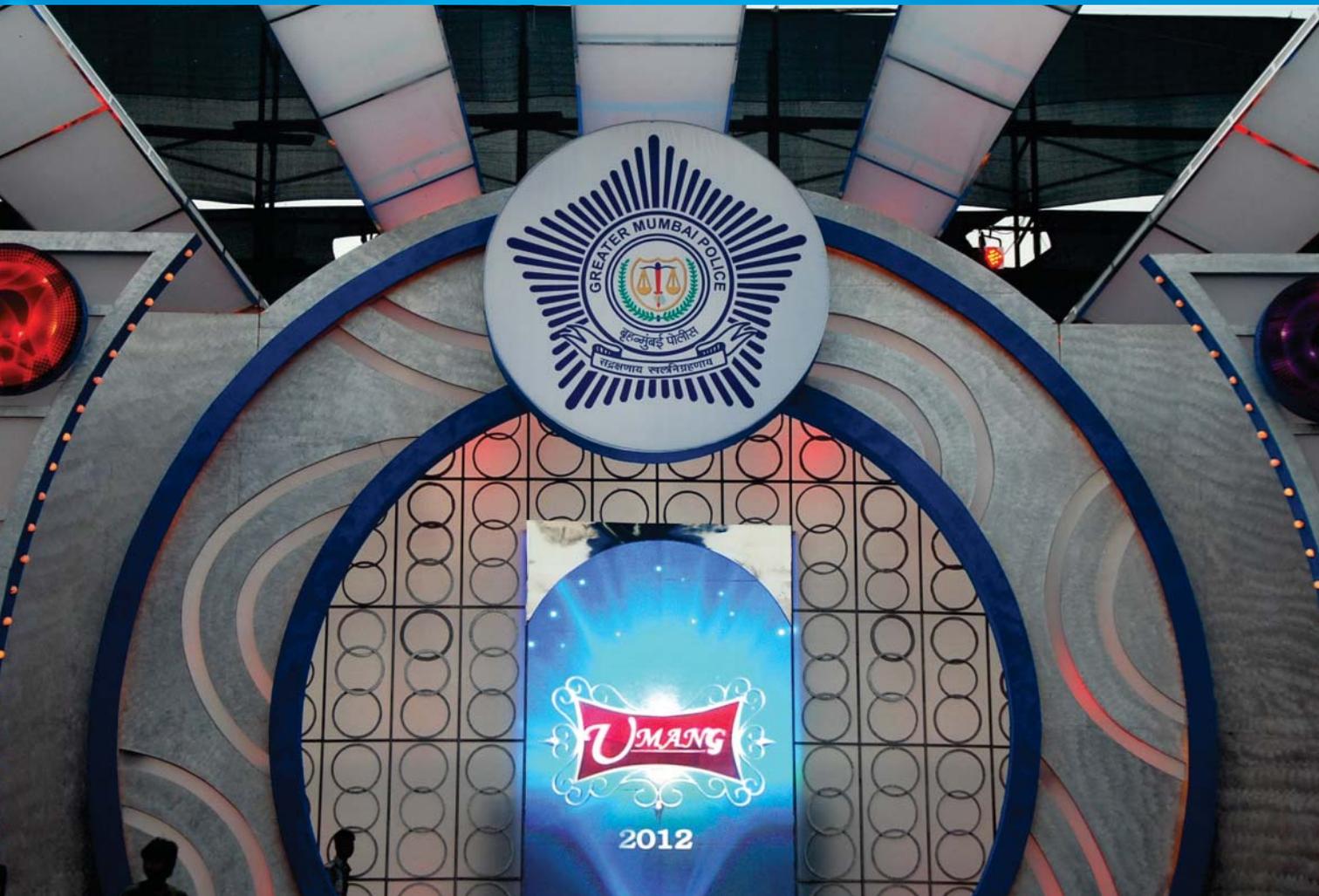
Safety and security at these temples, where thousands of people die or are injured in stampedes every year during auspicious religious occasions, are vital. More than any other economic activity, the success or failure of a destination depends on being able to provide a safe and secure environment for the devotees. There are some state-of-the-art security solutions are mentioned that would provide safe and secure environment at the temples: Closed Circuit Television (CCTV), Access Control System (ACS), Public Address System, Building Management System (BMS), Fire Alarm, Parking Management System, Guard Tour System, and Entry Scanners. Security can provide efficient and effective crowd management so that many stampede cases can be avoided. Access Control Security System can restrict completely the unauthorized entry of pilgrims and otherwise people inside the temple area to sensitive and vital places within the temple campus and thus, prohibits various types of thefts that lead to losses of billions of rupees worth of temple treasures; Security will make the temple areas more safe and secure and thus will instill faith and confidence within the minds of the devotees and pilgrims and thus, will increase number of visitors that in turn

enhance the revenue collection of temples to be used for developmental work.

The surveillance security systems can monitor 24/7 throughout the year on a real-time basis the movement of the crowd, suspicious activities of any visitor or employee of temple trusts, unattended bags and luggage and inform the temple staff in advance about of any untoward incidents such as terrorist attacks, violence, criminal activities inside the temple campus during festival seasons or otherwise in order to take necessary steps to prevent attacks resulting in loss of lives and damage to property.

Security measures can reduce extensively the damage caused by fire and can save many lives by implementing proper evacuation through proper public address systems; security systems can also remotely manage the temple infrastructures in a seamless manner to reduce the maintenance costs and hence, not only provide asset protection but also asset development. Security measures can manage vehicular traffic in a more efficient way to reduce the waiting time for the devotees and remove unnecessary traffic jams at the entrance of the temple to facilitate smooth entry of devotees inside the temple. The security system can also reduce the congestion of vehicle and hence, reduction of the emission to make the temple area green and eco friendly for the pilgrims. ●

Bonding with Bollywood



Umang is an annual customary celebration that never loses its zing! Year after year, it continues to forge the bonds between the Bollywood stars and the Mumbai Police. An evening of fun and frolic, with the cops and their families watching their favourite stars actually come down to Earth and literally dance to their tune.







Fire Safety recommendations for Existing construction of G+IV storied under group Mercantile (shop building)



By Gopal Kr. Bhattacharya

(B.Sc.,M.I.F.E. (U.K.) Fellowship (Singapore) W.M.D. U.S.A.

Director West Bengal Fire and Emergency Services, Govt. of West Bengal
Principal, Institute of Fire Services

Construction-

The interior finish decoration of the building shall be made low flame spread materials confirming I.S. specification.

Provision of ventilation at the crown of the central core –duct of the building shall be provided.

Arranging shall have to be made for sealing all the vertical ducts by materials of adequate Fire resisting capacity.

Open Space and Approach-

The open space surrounding the building shall confirm the relevant building rules as well as permit the accessibility and maneuverability of Fire appliances

with turning facility.

The approach roads shall be sufficiently strong to withstand the load of Fire Engine weighing up to 45 M.T.

The width and height of the access gates into the premises shall not be less than 4.5M and 5M respecting abutting the road.

Staircase-

The staircase of the building shall be enclosed type. Entire construction shall be made of bricks/R.C.C. type having Fire resisting capacity not less than 4 hours.

The staircase of the building shall have permanent vents at the

top and open able sashes at each floor level in the external wall of the building.

The width of the staircases shall be made as marked in the plan. Corridors and exit doors shall confirm the relevant building rules as well as rules of the cinematograph Act. With up-to-date amendments.

All the staircases shall be extended up to terrace of the building and shall be negotiable to each other without entering into any room.

Fire and smoke doors at the entrances of all the Staircase enclosures are marked in the plan at each floor level shall be

provided. The F.C.D. shall be of at least one hour Fire resisting wire glass window fitted with self-closing type openable in the direction of escape.

Lift-

The walls of the lift enclosure shall be at least two hours Fire resisting type. Collapsible gate shall not be permitted.

One of the lift shall be designed for Fore Lift. The word "FIRE LIFT" shall conspicuously written at ground floor.

Fire Fighting Water:

Underground water reservoir having capacity at 50,000 Lts and overhead reservoir of 10,000 Lts capacity exclusively for Firefighting purpose with replenishing arrangements @1000 Lts/min preferably from two different sources of water supply shall be provided. The Fire Water Reservoir shall have overflow arrangements with the domestic Water Reservoir as well as to avoid stagnancy of water. The water reservoir shall be kept full at all time.

Hydrant System-

The building shall be provided with Wet Riser of 100mm internal diameter pipe line with provision of landing valves at the staircase landings/half landings at the rate of one such riser for 1000Sq m of floor area. The system shall be so designed that shall be kept charged with Water all the time under pressure and capable to discharge 2400Lts/min at the ground floor level outlet and minimum 900 Lts/min at the top most outlet. In both cases the running pressure shall not be less than 3.5 Kgs/Cm².

All other requirements shall confirm I.S. 3844-1989.

Provision of the Hose Reel in conjunction with Wet riser is made at each floor level. Confirming the relevant I.S. specification.

Yard Hydrant/Ring Main Hydrant with provision of adequate numbers Hydrant shall be installed surrounding the building in accordance with relevant I.S. specification.

Fire Pump-

Provision of the Fire Pump shall have to be made to supply water at the rate-designed pressure and discharge into the water based system, which shall be installed in the building. One such pump shall always be kept on Stand-by preferably be of diesel driven type.

All the pumps shall be incorporated with both manual and auto starting facilities. The suction of pumps shall preferably of positive type or in case of negative suction system shall be wet Riser-cum-Down comer with suitable terrace pump with overhead tank.

Electrical Installation & Distribution-

The electrical installation including transformers, Switch Gears, Main and Meters etc. and the distribution system of the premises shall be made satisfying the code of practice for Fire safety in general building as laid down in I.S. specification 1946-1982.

The vertical ducts shall be supply sealed at alternative floor level.

The electrical installation shall be adequately protected with CO₂/D.C.P. or Medium Velocity/ Projector System.

Alternative Power Supply-

Arrangements shall have to be made to supply power with the help of a generator to operate at least the Fire pump, Pump for deep Tube-Well, fire Alarm System, Fire Lift etc. And also for illuminating the Staircase, corridors etc. and other places for assembly for the building in case of normal power failure.

Detection, Alarm and Suppression System-

Manually operated Electrical Fire Alarm system with at least three numbers of break glass type call boxes fitted with Hooters along with public address system, talk back system at each floor connecting with audio-visual panel board shall be made in Control Room. The Control Room shall be located at the entrance of Ground Floor of the building, other requirements of the system shall be made conforming I.S. 2189-1988.

Auto fire detection system with the help of Flent and smoke detector shall be installed in all places of below and preferably above false ceiling of the building. The system shall also be made in places of rooms where valuable articles have been kept. The other requirements of the system shall be made in accordance with I.S. 2189-1988.

Hooter will be sounded in such so that an operation of a Detector or Manual Call Point hooters will sounded on the same floor and immediate alternate floor.

Public Address System-

Public Address System linked between all floors and Control Room shall have to be

established.

Air conditioning System- (If Any)

The A.H.U. shall be operated for each floor with the system Air Ducts for individual floors.

Arrangements shall be made for isolation at the strategic locations by incorporating auto dampers in the Air Conditioning system.

The system of auto shut down

of A.H.U. shall be incorporated with the auto detection and alarm system.

The air handling units room shall not be used for storage of any combustible materials.

First Aid Fire Fighting System-

First Aid Fire fighting arrangements in the style of placing suitable type of portable Fire Extinguishers. First Buckets

etc. in all floors and vulnerable locations of the premises shall be made in accordance with I.S. 2190-1992.

General Recommendations-

Fire License shall have to be obtained for proposed storing and processing with L.P.G. and other highly combustible articles.

Fire Notice for Fire Fighting and evacuation from the building shall be prepared and be displayed at all vulnerable places of the building.

Floor numbers and directional sign of escape route shall be displayed prominently.

The employees and security staff shall be conversant with installed Fire fighting equipments of the building and to operate in the event of Fire and Testing.

Arrangements shall be made for regular checking, testing and proper maintenance of all the Fire safety installation and equipments installed in the building to keep them in perfectly good working conditions at all times.

A crew of trained Firemen under the experienced Officer shall be maintained round the clock for safety of the building.

Mock Fire practice and evacuation drill shall be performed periodically with participation of all occupants of building.

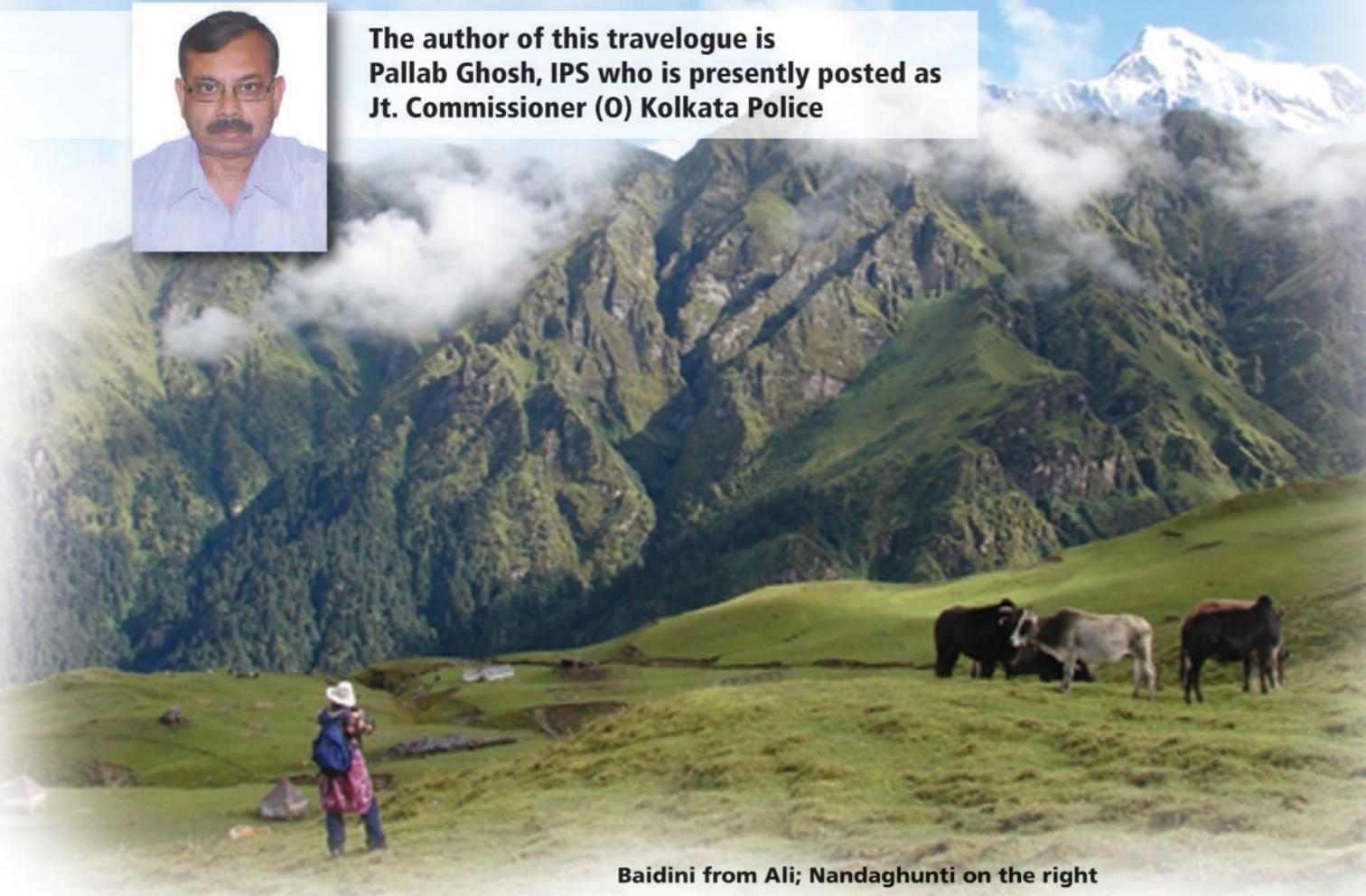
Each year a certificate is to be obtained from the Director General, west Bengal fire and Emergency Services certifying about the satisfactory services, performance of all the Life and Fire Safety arrangements and installation of the building. ●



ROOPKUND & BEYOND: A HEAVENLY TREK IN THE HIMALAYAS



The author of this travelogue is Pallab Ghosh, IPS who is presently posted as Jt. Commissioner (O) Kolkata Police



Baidini from Ali; Nandaghunti on the right

Roopkund is a glacial lake located at an altitude of 16,000 feet in the Garawal Himalayas in the Uttaranchal. I have been always fascinated with the lake not simply because of the myths and mysteries associated with it but for the variety of landscapes one comes across during the arduous

journey to it. In fact, this was my second journey to the area. This time my aim was not the Lake itself but to cross over to the other side of the pass and trek along the much more difficult trail to Ronti Saddle (19,000ft). The task was grueling and fraught with risk as one needed to negotiate a very inhospitable

terrain particularly beyond Roopkund.

Myths of Roopkund abound along the entire route to the Lake. Ma Durga took this route to reach Lord Shiva's abode at Kailash (Trishul?). On the way she killed the Demon Mahishasur at RAN-KA-DHAR off village Wan. As one proceeds further one

comes across Pathar Nachuni. Folklore goes that the king who was taking the annual pilgrimage to Nanda Devi had neglected to offer prayers mesmerized by the royal dancers accompanying him. Goddess Nanda was infuriated. The King asked for forgiveness. He was saved, but the dancers were cursed to transform into stones. One comes across a few big stones positioned at some weird angles as one passes by Pathar Nachuni. Then after a very steep climb of three kilometers you reach Kailu Vinayak. This is where Lord Vinayak was standing guard while Parvati was taking bath in Roopkund Lake. Another two-kilometer walk will take you to Baghuabasa which translates to "Abode of the Tiger". This was where Goddess Parvati left the tiger and went ahead to take her bath in Roopkund. And then finally you reach Roopkund. While Goddess Parvati and Lord Shiva were on their way to Kailas (or maybe Trishul), Goddess Parvati was feeling very dirty after killing the demons and wanted to clean up. Lord Shiva created the Lake with his Trishul and Parvati dipped herself in the blue waters and she could see her clear and beautiful reflection in the waters which was why the lake was named Roopkund.

Mysteries surrounding the Lake. In 1942 one Park ranger stumbled upon the skeletons found in plenty at the Lake. A series of researches followed and different theories were put forward to account for those skeletal remains. Are those the remains of soldiers of some military expedition to Tibet? Some say a group of traders met their end at or near the Lake. But the most probable theory seems to be the one that suggests death

caused to the members of the NANDA JATRA that takes place every twelve years along the route. Availability of bones and skulls belonging to children lends credence to this theory.

The route: I have already mentioned about the variety of landscapes on the route. I trekked twice along this route. Once in 1995 with just another friend and two guides/porters when I reached Roopkund and made an abortive attempt to reach the Jiunar Pass located 500 ft above the Lake. Profuse snow made it impossible. This year we were nine members belonging to the "Himalayan Guild" located at Bowbazar, ably led by Sunil Sardar, a veteran in the field and a dedicated soul in Himalayan expedition. This time we reached Roopkund, crossed Jiunar Pass, climbed down seven kilometers to reach a heavenly place called "Silasamudra" or the ocean of boulders just at the feet of mighty 'Trisul'. We had to undertake a very arduous trek for the next three days to reach

village Sital to get at the road head. Thus it was an eight days' trek including a rest day at Silasamudra. There are two different routes one can take from Loahajung. Route I - Lohajung - Wan - Baidini Bugiyal - Baguabasa - Roopkund and Route II - Lohajung - Didna - Tolpani - Ali Bugiyal - Baguabasa - Roopkund. And then to Jiunar pass - Silasamudra - Latakhopri - Sutol - Sital - Ghat. (see map).

The Journey: It was about 5 pm in the afternoon of 9th September 2011 when we got down from the bus at Tharali after a day long journey of 12 hours from Haridwar. We took two jeeps and reached Lohajung at about 8 pm covering a distance of 30 km. We put up in the Garwal Mandal Vikas Nigam. Next morning our guide Madan Singh Bist arrived along with two porters from Wan. Madan was contacted beforehand from Kolkata. Today was our day of acclimatization. So we would move around and the more



(Trisul-I & Trisul-II) Just below Trisul-II is the Roopkund crater seen from Baguabasa.

serious in the team would be busy with Madan and his associates distributing rations in different bags convenient for the porters to carry. This is a very important job assigned to me.

While having a stroll at Lohajung I was surprised to see the change the place had undergone since my visit in 1995. A span of 15 years was long, I told to myself. Last time I had to trudge along from Goaldam for one and half days to reach the foot of a steep hill and then climbed about a thousand feet to reach a flat place known as Lohajung Pass where I was standing today. It was indeed very difficult to reconcile today's Lohajung with the picture I had been carrying all these years. There was a tea stall and a grocery type shop and today a bazaar had come up where you could buy quality woollen stuff and mobile SIMs. The motor road originating from Goaldam/Tharali actually goes to Wan via this place. Last time I took Route- I i.e via village Wan. This time it is going to be Route II. Tomorrow we would travel by jeep along the motor road and would get down at Kuling on way to Didna – our first place of halt. But it started raining in the afternoon and if it

continues, would certainly be a dampener for a start tomorrow.

The Trek: Day I - My fears came true. It has been drizzling since early morning. We were all ready by 7 am. At 8.30 rain stopped and at 9 we reached Kuling. The remaining porters were already waiting for us at that spot. Without any further loss of time we started. The trail was well defined and by 1.30 pm we reached Didna. It was only a

5-km trek and we made it rather slowly. Didna is a very small village comprising a few families. We were accommodated in a two-roomed house having a kitchen. But it again started to rain in the evening. The roof of one of the room started leaking, so we all had to huddle in the other room. Rain during trekking can be a scourge. It not only increases the risk by rendering the pathway slippery but can be dangerous sometimes as a



portion of the path simply gets washed off. We learnt it the hard way particularly during our journey beyond Roopkund. This apart, you will miss the breathtaking beauty of the majestic mountains and varied landscapes that make this trek so singular.

Day II – The nagging rain continued through the morning. Imagine the difficulties when you have nature only to attend

to nature's call in the rain! At 8.30 raining stopped and we resumed. Today we would reach Ali Bugyal. The next 2.5 km was through a lush green forest. The tract was not difficult but the muck and slush made the task a bit hard. At the end of the forest we reached a village named Tolpani. Four/five huts



temporarily built by the herdsmen were found. These huts belonged to the shepherds who come from villages with herds of sheep/cows/buffalos for grazing at Ali Bugyal. They had come in the month of June and would stay till end of October. They live with their families. Besides grazing they do other jobs like making baskets etc. We talked to one such family, took photographs and went ahead.

A Bugyal is a high altitude alpine grassland, or meadow, in Uttarakhand. They are locally referred to as 'nature's own gardens'. They can be flat or sloped, and are carpeted with green grass and seasonal flowers. These provide an excellent grazing ground and pastures for tribal herdsmen. At elevations ranging between 3300 metres

and 4000 metres, these alpine meadows remain snow covered in winter. In the summer, the meadows burst into a multitude of beautiful flowers and grass. Ali Bugyal's beauty is simply breathtaking. You have before you a series of undulating meadows - one rolled into the next. We felt bad to have trampled the

beautiful flowers as we covered the five kilometer stretch to reach our camp site. But as we started to have the out of the world experience of carpet-walking, rain set in. We got thoroughly drenched. Although it was not risky to walk in rain on a Bugyal but we missed the excellent view of the peaks like Maikotoli (22440 feet) and Mrigthuni (22600feet). At about 4:30 pm we reached the Camp site at Ali Bugyal. It was so relieving to see three dome shaped huts made by the Forest Department at the camp site. All nine of us huddled into one hut; one was left for the porters and in the third one wash lines was fixed and the wet stuff were dumped on it. Rain by this time had stopped but it was still cloudy.' Garam Chay' was served

followed by 'Muri- chanachur' to bring us all to a chatting mood.

Day III – Today all of us were in high spirits; for the first time we got a clear sky. Without wasting any time we set off at 7 am. Our target was Baguabasa (14500 ft). In a short while on our left we saw the majestic mount Nandaghunti and Trisul. Around 500 feet below Baidini Bugyal was clearly visible

It was a pleasure to walk along an almost flat track like this. After a while I reached Pathar Nachuni. I was alone as I moved much ahead of my team. The big black rocks (supposedly the cursed royal dancers) standing erect in a somewhat symmetrical distribution gave an uncanny feeling. The next 2.5 Km was going to be tough. It was very steep leading to Kailu Vinayak. On way to Baguabasa I offered my prayers to Lord Ganesh for a successful Trek. Baguabasa was two kilometers ahead. The rare 'Bramhakamal' a typical high-altitude flower and a must in worship of Lord Kedernath are available in plenty at Baguabasa. Another species 'Fenkamal' is however a rarity.

I went past the stone-built shelter where I had put up during my earlier visit. I was shocked to see the structure in a dilapidated condition. It was now abandoned. Unfortunately some trekkers had used the wooden logs fixed at the roof as firewood. So I had to proceed another half an hour to a place called Huniathor. Three of our porters had already reached the spot and pitched our tents. The remaining members of our team gradually arrived. But the weather again started to become worse and it started to rain.

Around midnight the intensity of rain along with the wind speed increased. Inside all of us were pale. We tried to assess if snowfall had set in. Two years back our team had to spend a sleepless night at the same place and in the early hours of the morning had to withdraw with

Today we must hurry. The toughest part of the trek was ahead of us. The first part was of six kilometers up to the lake through a very steep and slippery path and then the famous Jiuner Pass was to be crossed. I was a little nervous about crossing the pass. I would

final phase – the slippery tract where loose stones under the foot made the job difficult. I touched Roopkund at 9 am sharp. It was a two-hour trek. Anybody who reached the lake after such an arduous journey would be excited at the sight of the beautiful lake with all its

(Ali Bugyal as we saw)



(Bramhakamal- above/ Below – Fenkamal)

broken tents (and broken hearts) following a night long snowfall. Parimal my tent mate was recalling the experience. We wondered if it was a replay. We were exposed in the open with no big rock to shield us from the gale. Every lightning sent shivers down our spine.

tell later why it was so. We started together but after a while I moved ahead. Halfway we crossed ChiriaNag where one should be cautious.

I advanced and reached the

collection of skeletons, etc, which I too had seen 15 years back on my first trip. But this time I had a mixed feeling. The lake itself

Day – IV: The morning however found us all hale and hearty. It was a clear sky. To our left the spectacular Himalayan range with the majestic peaks of Chaukhamba, Bandarpuch, Neelkanth and as you pan your camera to your right you are simply awestricken by the imposing Nandaghunti and then a little further right the mighty Trisul. It was so close! The rocky formation above Roopkund Lake is also visible from this place.



ChiriaNag

To be continued...



Micro Technologies (India) Ltd.
(An ISO 9001 & 27001 Company)



Secure your world

With **Micro** Intelligent Surveillance System



Install

MICRO ISS

INTELLIGENT SURVEILLANCE SYSTEM

- Live Recording
- Online Monitoring
- CCTV Surveillance
- Biometric Access Control
- Integrated security solution with various types of cameras

For Dealer & Distributor Opportunity
Call Now : 022-61458418 / 8400



Call Toll Free:

1800 209 2000

SMS*: MICRO ISS to 56767777

*Rates as applicable

Email- beseure@microtechnologies.net
www.microshoppe.biz

Products available at:



M3

YOUR SECURITY IS OUR CONCERN

*The products depicted are for representation purpose only. Those may differ with the actual ones.