

Management of District Police Administration in the State of Andhra Pradesh, India

B.Ravi Kumar

Ph.D., Research Scholar, Dept. of Political Sciences and Public Administration, S.K. University, Anantapuramu, A.P. – 515003.

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ABSTRACT

The District Police Administration is built around police District. Each police district comprises of four to six or more police sub-divisions, which coincide with the boundaries of the revenue district. Organizationally, the police sub-divisions are further sub-divided into police circles and police stations. The district police is headed by the District Superintendent of police/Superintendent of police, he is from IPS (UPSC). The Sub-divisional police office is headed by the Deputy Superintendent of Police, he is the cadre of group-I from State Public Service Commission or promoted from below cadre. The police circles are placed under the control of Circle Inspector while the police stations are administratively managed by the sub-inspector of police in Andhra Pradesh and also in different states. Some police stations also have their police outposts within their territorial jurisdiction, which are usually under the charge of Asst. Sub Inspector of Police/Head constable depends on the importance of the place where on out post is located. For organizational purpose, or police station is the smallest field unit of police administration. The superintendent of police who heads the District police office Coordinates the functions of the Heads of the District Police lines District Crime Bureau, District Special Branch, District Traffic Branch, District Prosecution Branch and Police Control Rooms the volume of work which depends upon the size and special demographic characteristics of the district, generally determines the size of police network and the functions of the superintendent of police. As a police Boss/Chief, he has to work in close liaison and collaboration with his administration seniors at the Range and State Head quarters and also with his subordinates with in District level.

1. Introduction

A formal police system existed in ancient India. Secret agencies in ancient India were not conceived of as an instrument of oppression but as a tool of governance. Secret agents were considered “eyes of the king” the arthashastra mentions two wings of “secret service” Viz “Samstha” and “Sancara”.

The Madras Act XXIV of 1859 which marked the beginning of the Madras Police and shortly later, The Police Act of 1861 instituted the system of police which forms the foundation of modern-day police in India. The “Ceded Areas” of Andhra, as they were popularly known, continued as part of the Madras Police and it was only in October 1953, after the birth of a separate Andhra State that the Andhra State Police gained individual existence. Finally with the formation of Andhra Pradesh on 1st November 1956 integrating the Telugu areas of erstwhile Hyderabad State with the Andhra State, Modern Andhra Pradesh Police came into existence.

“The full form of POLICE is Public Officer for Legal Investigation and Criminal Emergencies”

2. District Headquarters and office of the Superintendent of Police

The District Police Office constitutes the hub of the Indian police system on an average a District covers about 4,500 Sq. miles and a population of over three to four million people in Andhra Pradesh, India. In addition to providing administrative services, the District Head Quarters have a large Jail and store-houses for clothing equipment, arms and ammunition. The District Police Office is represented by its

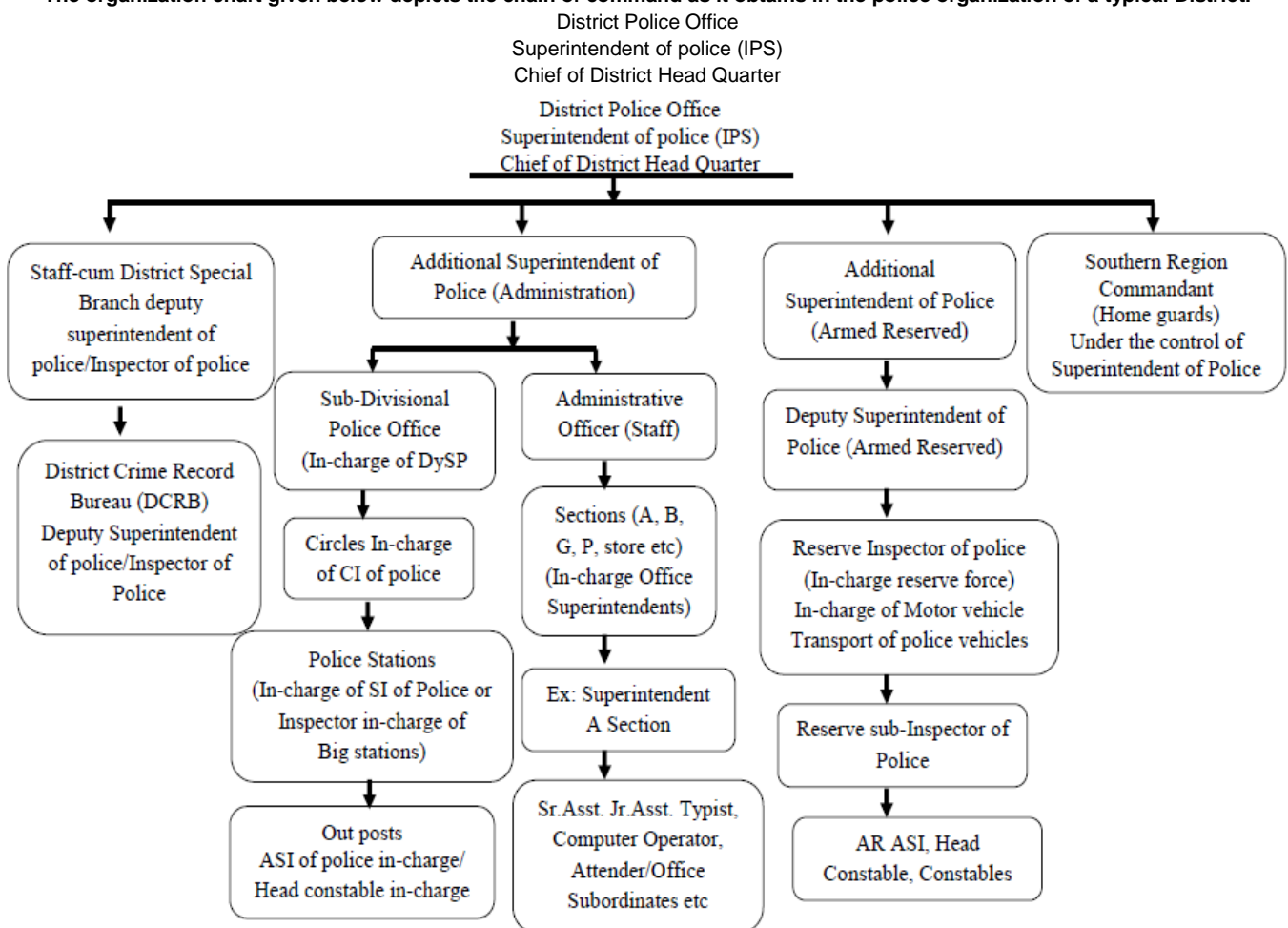
chief, the Superintendent of Police. He is always a member of the IPS and wields a great amount of power and prestige in the district working under the overall supervision of the District Collector. He look after the problems of law and order and that the administration of the crime and vice in the district. As the chief intelligence officer of the district, he collects information from the lower levels and communities his assessment of the same to his superiors of the district police personnel system and looks after the service conditions of the junior police employees working under his charge and there are Intelligence SP, ASP, DSP, CIs, SIs, HCs, to assist him. The CID organization operates from its headquarters. Adequate discretion has been vested in the police authorities at this level and this facilities a happy mediation between general directions and adjustment of specific circumstances. He is directly responsible for their efficiency, morale and discipline as policemen. In district which territorially includes big cities, the SPs have additional and special responsibilities such as regulation and control to traffic, collection of special intelligence and handling of political and commercial conflicts of violent nature.

The District police Head Quarter Controls the network of police Sections spread all over the District. The Superintendent of police, who presides over this organization, is the key functionary through whom the state Police Head Quarter Operators and the police stations below look him for command, guidance and action. Hierarchically Speaking, this district of police in most of the states, and in Andhra Pradesh Organized into police sub-divisions and police Circles, which Comprise a Cluster of police Stations. The Additional or Deputy Superintendents of police look after the work of Police Sub-

Divisions, while the circle Inspectors deal with the Supervisory work of police stations falling within their respective Circles. A Number of Staff Agencies such as Crime bureau, Special Branch, Special Investigating agency, and Intelligence wing etc., Stand Converged into the office of the District Superintendent of police, who , in turn, operates through a network of line units, such as police stations, special Squads, Prosecuting branch, Traffic police and Armed Reserve police, and Home Guard's wing. The superintendent of empowered to take all sorts of Preventive measures, if a breach of peace is apprehended in the District. To avoid untoward Situations, he may advice the collector to issue prohibition orders and even to clamp curfew, if the situation So Warrants. In the event of actual breach of peace, he is expected to make adequate police arrangements to cope with the situation Crowd- Control

during fairs and religions festivals are his Special Concerns . If agitations are launched by political parties or other militant groups, the superintendent of police is required to take special precautions Consistent with the Susceptibilities of Special groups. Holi , Diwali, Dussehra Festival, Ganesh Nimarjanum, Bakrid, VIP Visits, election Campaigns and political meetings etc are some of the Special Occasions when mass Congregations threaten to violate public order and as such their management Constitutes Special responsibilities of the superintendent of police Deliberate violation of laws is a crime and even where it does not disturb police peace or security in an immediate Sense , It has to be detected and plugged in time in the larger public interests. The Superintendent of Police of a District has Special responsibilities in this regard.

The organization chart given below depicts the chain of command as it obtains in the police organization of a typical District.



3. Superintendent of police Controls the incidence of Crime in his District through

- (a) Effective patrolling by his fleet;
- (b) Investigation of grave crimes and making and receiving special reports about these cases and
- (c) Administrative Supervision over his subordinates who keep constant vigilance, takes preventive measures, and maintain up-to-date records of criminals in the District.

The function entails a number of Subsidiary duties. The superintendent of police has to call for reports, supervise in

person and visit the scenes of crime soon after their occurrence. This is a major traditional function and victims involved in these crimes after go to the superintendent of police as aggrieved parties in appeal. The Superintendent of Police supervises the operations of Crime and Special Branches of his CID. He sense periodic information to the Deputy Inspector General of Police at regular intervals. He also acts as a line agency on behalf of the state organization of the CID, which special kinds of intelligence operations on the request of union agencies like CBI or CIB or SPE. The Civil, the Political and the senior police officials of the government have to be kept constantly informed about the incriminating activities of the

saboteurs (destroying) of peace and enemies of the state. The functions of the superintendent of police further include various kinds of organizational and personnel responsibilities at the district level. He has to maintain an adequate supply of Vehicles, regarding this there is Motor Vehicle Transport Under the control of Armed Reserve Police Force in there premises of District police office. Arms, Communications regarding this there is communications Stations with Technical staff like CI, SI, H.C and PC in Communication, equipments and other accessories like uniforms, police canteen, police store, Police LPG Gas agencies and Police Welfare Hospitals with Medical Staff i.e. Doctor, Nurses and other staff., and police co-operative society to get loan for police personnel at low rate of the interest and etc., in a good shape. He inspects police Stations within the jurisdictional limits of his district and provides for necessary physical conditions to keep his men working in a satisfactory state of morale and motivation. As a captain/ Boss/Chief of his team the superintendent of police has a critical say in the policies pertaining to recruitment , training programmers Transfers, Promotions and disciplinary matters, he evaluates the performance of his subordinates and takes disciplinary actions as and where needed. To effect discipline in the force he attends parades, gives personal interviews and recommends cases for personal interviews and recommends cases for promotion, punishment and transfers to his seniors Ex. Deputy Inspector General of police in case of S.Is and C.Is Transfer and promotions, Punishments. He gives punishment in cases of Asst.SI, HC, and PC. He organizes Sports, tournaments annual get-together and special meets to keep his district force in high Spirits. He undertakes police welfare projects and provides incentives to his juniors for better performance. As Head of the office, he is personally responsible for the correctness of cash and store accounts of his department. He maintains financial property by observing rules and is expected to effective measures conducive to internal economy for the organization. He supervises the office work of his civilian officials, who handle the inflows and out flows of all kinds of communications, horizontally as well as vertically, Democracy in the Country has developed a new responsibilities upon the superintendent of police and that is to evolve and maintain friendly and coordinial police-public relations in the district. Superintendent of police has to maintain special research calls or police-public relations units like SPANDANA, FRIENDLY POLICE, COMMUNITY POLICE OFFICER (Voluntary organization) in his organization to keep their fingers on the pulse of the people. Thus, the functions and duties of a superintendent of police in a district are fairly wide, varied and far-reaching. They make him a centers person in the District Administration. Sitting in the office of the district police Chief, the superintendent of police deals with juniors, seniors and trainee IAS, IPS, Non-colleagues, people, political parties and an endless variety of political and Quasi-political pressure groups. His main functions are certainly preservation of peace and prevention of crime but the ancillary roles that grow around these major functions like collection intelligence, Traffic control in the main towns, and inculcation of health public relations make him a really powerful District police officer who occupies a pivotal position in District police administration.

4. The Office of the Sub-Divisional police officer:

Each Sub-Division is headed by a police officer of the Rank of Deputy Superintendent of police (officer of state (Andhra Pradesh) police service are directly recruited as Dy SP or promoted from lower rank i.e. from Inspector of police) or an Assistant Superintendent Police simply called ASP (an young officer of IPS) the officer who heads a sub-division is known as SDPO rasp sub-divisional police officer

5. The office of the Circle Inspector of police

A circle comprises Two to three police stations. They are administratively managed by the sub-Inspector of police. An Inspector of police who heads a police circle is the circle inspector of police or CI. In large towns or cities in the District some police stations/upgraded police stations is headed/in-charge by the circle Inspector of police (an upper subordinate rank). A police Station is the basic unit of policing, responsible for prevention and detection of crime, maintenance of public order, enforcing law in general as well as for performing protection duties and making security arrangements for the Constitutional Authorities, Government functionaries, representatives of the public in different legislative bodies and local self governments public figures etc.,.

6. The Office of the Sub-Inspector of Police:

The Sub-Inspector of police is one of the living anomalies of the Indian of administration. Originating in the Daroga System of mediaeval India, the office of the sub-Inspector represents a queer and ingenious grafting of the low and order machinery on the district-based and district – biased revenue administration of the country, evolved by the colonial rulers of India. It was the office around which Sir Charles Wapier reorganized his Sindh Constabulary under the district police administration in 1853. The later Torture Commission (1855), and the police Act (1816), Concentrated their reform Zeal primarily on the office of the Superintendent and the Sub-Inspector continued to be a petty functionary with enormous powers and Herculean responsibilities. His recruitment and training have rendered him into a pathetic picture of apparent muscle, mentally insecure and psychologically timid and staring. He is efficient but he does not care what the social and economic costs involved are. Having nothing but crude and blatant power to exhibit and constantly surrounded by all sorts of criminals, delinquents, neurotics and abnormal, he finds his mental equipment and intellect-cultivation too fragile to stand to the strain.

7. The police Station

“A police station; by definition,” is a place or post generally or specially declared as such by the state government and includes local area specified by the state government by the state government and includes local area specified by the state government on this behalf. It is a primary administrative unit of police investigation which receives and registers information and complaints about cognizable offences. The Jurisdiction of or police station is often changed or recognized by the state government on the recommendation of the DGP, DIG range and the District collector. The average area of a police station in the state of Andhra Pradesh is about 200 to250 SQ miles, covering about with a population of approximately 1,00,000 persons or. Just above. Normally the personnel of a police

Station consists of one SI, one or two ASIs, 4 to 5 Head Constables and 15 to 20 Constables. SI is also called a SHO or the officer –in-charge of police station. Functionally Speaking, the police stations in Andhra Pradesh are generally of four types.

- 1) The Rural police station/Taluka Police Station.
- 2) The Town police station (like I Town, II Town, III Town, IVth Town)
- 3) Traffic Police Station
- 4) Mahila/Disha police Stations

8. A Station House officer can be enumerated as the following duties:

Performing to law and order, prevention and control of crime, detection of crime, traffic, public assemblies and processions, beats in the area police station management

Records in a police station:

The Records in a police station are FIR Books, case Dianies, charge sheets, Final Reports ,Bail bonds, search lists, seizure lists, Register of Non–FIR cases, Register of unnatural death cases like accident, murder, suicide cases etc, In Quest reports, especially of the murder cases. The SHO is especially charged with the responsibility of maintenance of several other kinds of useful police records which among others, include General Dairy, Crime Register, A conviction register History Sheets and Surveillance Register, Village Information Sheet, The crime map the station limits map, bad character Rolls, Rowdy Sheeter's Sheet, Thieves Map, The crime Index, Statistics, Property Register, Summon and warrant Registers, Absconders Register,

In addition to the above, there are other registers which are to be maintained in connection with the administration of Arms Act of 1959. These registers are:-

- 1) Arms license Register and
- 2) Arms Deposit Register.

Through these registers the police station keeps an up-to-date record of information about public order, grave crimes, useful intelligence and measures taken by the administration in the past and the present. They also indicate the future course of police station .The CIs/SIs of Police signs all these documents in person and he and his juniors are personally responsible for the safe custody of significant records.

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The Constabulary:

Constables are the lowest Rank in the organizational hierarchy of police administration of a district. As they belong to civil police. When on duty, they wear prescribed uniforms. They are recruited straightway from the masses and mostly belong to rural sections of society, the Educational Qualifications and Equipment of the Constables are Intermediate, and required height and chest and healthy, constables for the district are recruited and trained at police training college . Armed police have their reserve lines or barracks these.

The functions of a police constable:

- 1) To perform such guard and escort duties as are assigned to him by his seniors from time to time. He acts as a centry at the police station and guards prisoners in the lock-up, the treasure chests, the malkhana and all the property of the police station.
- 2) To patrol the area of his beat during night and to regulate traffic during day, depending upon the nature and volume of work at his police station.
- 3) To regulate processions and assemblies, to Suppress public disturbances, to enforce orders for search and seizures and to execute summons and warrants as routine duties. These duties assume importance during emergencies.

9. Conclusion

The structure and mechanism of District police administration has been too static to face the dynamism of change. The lower ranks of the hierarchy are neither recruited from amongst the qualified strata nor are they empowered to do jobs according to the changing needs of the community. There is over centralization in the organization and working and the entire organization is saddled with multitudinous and multipurpose functions. The old structures have yielded little room for specialization and satisfaction and still less, for innovation and reform. The organizational functioning of the police has been adversely affected by compulsions of political awakening and new socio-culture ethos of the post-Independence era .The need for decentralization and autonomous flat structures at state and district level police administration is increasingly being realized and a through overhaul and radical re-organization of the police machine, at all levels of hierarchy, especially at the district is more than overdue.