
FROM THE *Commissioner's* DESK

The sharp rise in Delhi's population – a sizeable chunk of which is migrant, a concomitant proliferation in the vehicular mix, high frequency of demonstrations and the attendant sensitivities, and the consistently focal scrutiny of media, combine together to accentuate severalfold the complexity of policing challenges in the National Capital. Since large sections of Delhi's populace still live in underprivileged clusters, the socio-economic disparities between the opulent and the less affluent are a significant crimogenic factor, and the resultant youth impatience, driven by a pronounced get-rich-quick penchant, gets discernibly reflected in delinquent street demeanour. Faced with a daunting task, and despite being grossly over-stretched due to manpower shortages, the Delhi Police in 2017 went about carrying out its mandated duties and obligations with unflinching diligence.

The priorities before the Delhi Police leadership during the year were clearly delineated: bring about visible improvement in police presence, tone up the service-delivery mechanism to enhance the confidence of complainants, cater especially for the vulnerable sections, make good the personnel shortages, and enforce zero tolerance as regards staff aberrations. Women's safety and the nagging

menace of street crime called for focused strategies and, with incidents of terror frequently occurring in many cities around the globe, anti-terror preparedness became an area of critical focus.

Our strategy to combat crime was decisively imparted a preventive focus. Beat-in-focus policing, identification of active criminals and effective surveillance on them, high visibility of police on streets, intensive two-wheelers' checking with an element of surprise, concerted drive against illicit weapons, and robust community participation in the preventive endeavour, were consistently emphasized upon. All this led to a healthy reduction in heinous crime by 23.43% in 2017. Street crime came under control with a sharp decline in robberies and snatchings by 21.05%. Insistence on focused investigation also led to a

Our consistent preventive endeavour led to a healthy reduction in heinous crime by 23.43% in 2017. Street crime came under control with a sharp decline in robberies and snatchings by 21.05%

high rate of detection of heinous cases, which was 87.98 % in 2017, as compared to 71.81 % last year.

Women's safety was a priority focus-area and remained our prime concern during the year. Under the banner of Sashakti, extensive self-defence training was imparted by our trainers and around 2 lakh girls were covered in 2017. Other initiatives like high police visibility in vulnerable areas, introduction of women patrols, Shishtachar and Nirbheek coupled with large-scale cyber awareness campaign in schools, also yielded encouraging dividends. The Himmat App. was revamped making it bilingual and more

Due to increased visibility, improved policing and enhanced awareness, incidents of rape reduced by 0.73%, molestation by 18.88%, insult to modesty by 30.54% as compared to last year.

user-friendly, and safety awareness campaigns were launched in a big way through advertisements. Due to increased visibility, improved policing and enhanced awareness, incidents of rape reduced by 0.73%, molestation by 18.88%, insult to modesty by 30.54% as compared to last year. Further, realising that women's safety issues would urgently necessitate a multi-pronged strategy inclusive of mindset reformation, constant

liaison was kept with civic authorities apprising them of the dark and lonely stretches in the city, and a social awareness campaign was also launched in the form of "Run for Ladli".

In 2017, one critical area we concentrated on was galvanizing the beat system of policing so as to involve beat officers at the cutting-edge level in a big way in crime prevention and detection. Even if it meant going that extra mile, I chose to interact directly with the beat staff of all the districts in order to sensitize them about our priorities, and motivate them for better performance in intelligence collection, crime control, and community interface. Women beat officers were inducted for boosting up policing in vulnerable areas. Beat officers who did outstanding work were selected for felicitation in the Police Headquarters in front of the top brass. One beat officer of Shahdara District was given out-of-turn promotion for single-handedly engaging armed robbers.

For enhancing police visibility in areas inaccessible to the motorcycles and PCR patrols, newly designed bi-cycles were provided to beat staff for patrolling narrow lanes and parks where senior citizens and women go for a stroll during morning and evening hours. As a 'green' initiative, these bicycle patrols supplement the motorcycles and vans which focus mainly on the arterial and main roads of Delhi, and for a friendlier interface with students, all-women bicycle patrols also cover campus areas, schools and colleges.

Anti-terror strategisation was given top priority, and further upscaled. During the year, 5 terrorist modules were busted and 11 terrorists arrested. Delhi Police also launched "Parakram" commando vans, mandated to handle terror-related and other serious situations warranting armed response, as also to instill a feeling of security and safety with their obtrusive presence at strategic intersections of high footfall.

Delhi, being the National Capital, witnesses a plethora of dharnas on issues concerning any part of the country or the world. This year, we made an analysis and ascertained that it is youth angst that mostly expresses itself in such demonstrations, and engaging the youth in skillful negotiations in order to contain them even while permitting lawful ventilation of their grievances would substantially obviate situations of friction. In a unique experiment, we launched Officer-oriented Policing Models in two police stations – P.S. Parliament Street and P.S. Maurice Nagar – with a view to

Realising that women's safety issues would urgently necessitate a multi-pronged strategy inclusive of mindset reformation, constant liaison was kept with civic authorities apprising them of the dark and lonely stretches in the city, and a social awareness campaign was also launched in the form of "Run for Ladli".

Women beat officers were inducted for boosting up policing in vulnerable areas. Beat officers who did outstanding work were selected for felicitation in the Police Headquarters in front of the top brass.

skillful, yet effective, engagement of youth in law and order situations. In this model, officers and lady police remained in the forefront, and the anti-riot platoons became the fall-back option. This has paid rich dividends this year and potential situations of confrontation have mostly been nipped in the bud.

Aspirations and impatience in a megacity like Delhi have often driven youth to delinquency and crime. In street crime, for instance, almost 95% are first-timers with proclivities to recidivism once out of jail. The 'YUVA' initiative of Delhi Police to engage and steer street children and youth towards the mainstream of society, was taken to newer heights this year by creating facilities in selected police stations where youth got trained to get gainful employment under the Pradhan Mantri Kaushal Vikas Yojna. The target-group under this scheme comprised school dropouts, juvenile offenders, victims of crime, and selected dependents of incarcerated offenders. In Yuva, the Delhi Police worked in close collaboration with the National Skill Development Corporation (NSDC) and the Confederation of Indian Industry (CII).

In another path-breaking community policing initiative, the Delhi Police launched Prahari involving security guards and chowkidars so as to train and sensitize them for meaningful participation with the police in prevention of crime. Under this scheme, private security personnel, hitherto unorganized, ill-trained and poorly equipped, have been inducted as Prahari, and their cooperation in crime prevention has been enhanced through joint training, regular joint security briefing meetings and information sharing. All Praharis are given 'Basic Orientation on Security Trends' (BOOST) on enlistment which is followed thereafter by regular modules on latest security gadgets, crime prevention strategies, and the Eyes and Ears Scheme.

The 'YUVA' initiative of Delhi Police to engage and steer street children and youth towards the mainstream of society, was taken to newer heights this year by creating facilities in selected police stations where youth got trained to get gainful employment under the Pradhan Mantri Kaushal Vikas Yojna.

Cognizant of the fact that public perception of police image is dependent largely on how a visitor is handled at the police station, as a step towards smoothening the grievance redressal at Police Stations, the Delhi Police in 2017 inducted Public Facilitation Officers in 70 police stations. The idea

A number of digital & technology initiatives were launched – the notable being the on-line facility for grant of licences for performances in auditoria. A Technology Cell was created and the Delhi Police inducted a Chief Technology Officer on deputation from a Technical University.

was to make the initial contact point in a police station more responsive, empathetic and effective. Earlier, the Duty Officer interacted with the complainants, but due to his pre-occupation with other urgent commitments, the visitors often did not get timely attention and guidance. The Public Facilitation Officers, duly sensitized after an intensive training process, will now be handling complainants and facilitate their grievance redressal.

Faced with the stiff challenge of managing traffic in a complex megapolis like Delhi, the Traffic Police, by dint of its basic thrust on education, improvement in road engineering, and adopting new technologies for enforcement and regulation, managed to reduce fatal road accidents by 0.9% and injuries in road accidents by 9.52%. For de-congestion and smoother movement, several intersections were identified for out-of-the-box solutions, and Google-based intervention was introduced for the first time for clearing vehicular hold-ups. On the anti-pollution front, the Delhi Traffic Police also took stringent action, and

prosecuted over 1,22,000 vehicles. We involved school children and Traffic Sentinels in a big way in traffic enforcement, and during the year the Delhi Traffic Police also launched a major Road Safety Education drive, covering 920 schools and over 10 lakh students across the city.

Both in the digital and technological fields, the Delhi Police launched a number of new initiatives – the notable being the on-line facility for grant of licences for performances in auditoria. A Technology Cell was created and the Delhi Police inducted a Chief Technology Officer on deputation from a Technical University. In times to come, be it intelligence gathering, crime prevention and investigation or handling of Cyber crimes, the Delhi Police intends introducing technology in big way in all aspects of policing.

In its anti-corruption stance, the Delhi Police all along maintained 'zero tolerance'. Police aberrations that have a direct bearing on the image of Delhi Police were identified, and strict administrative action including dismissal in the more blatant instances, was taken in each act of

Police aberrations that have a direct bearing on the image of Delhi Police were identified, and strict administrative action including dismissal in the more blatant instances, was taken in each act of misdemeanor, impropriety or corruption.

For better service delivery to Delhi citizenry, 3 new districts were made functional. Delhi Police will soon get a more cosmopolitan character once the new recruits, numbering 7300 and drawn from all over the country, get operationalised.

misdemeanor, impropriety or corruption. This reflected in the form of lesser corruption complaints during the year, and complaints pertaining to non-registration of cases or any misbehavior with any public person also came down.

It is indeed a feather in the Delhi Police cap that during 2017, no law and order situation was allowed to escalate and all important heinous cases were solved. For better service delivery to Delhi citizenry, 3 new districts were made functional. Delhi Police will soon get a more cosmopolitan character once the new recruits, numbering 7300 and drawn from all over the country, get operationalised. Our endeavour will be to carry forward the good work of 2017 to the New Year as well, with particular focus on combating crime and terror, technological upgradation, improving our community outreach, sharpening our response to distress calls, and further toning up our service-delivery to women, other vulnerable sections and the public at large.
