



All India Conference of Director Generals of Police

For Prelims: 58th All India Conference of Director Generals/ Inspector Generals of Police, DGPs (Director general of police), IGPs (Inspector-General of Police), Criminal Laws.

For Mains: All India Conference of Director Generals.

[Source: PIB](#)

Why in News?

Recently, the Prime Minister of India attended the **58th All India Conference of Director Generals/Inspector Generals of Police** in Jaipur, Rajasthan.

- It was a three-day being held in hybrid mode with **DGPs (Director general of police), IGPs (Inspector-General of Police)** and Chiefs of Central Police Organisations.
- A wide range of policing and internal security issues including Cyber Crime, Technology in Policing, Counter Terrorism challenges, Left Wing Extremism, and Prison Reforms were discussed at the conference.
- Another key agenda of the conference is **deliberations on the road map for implementation of the new [Criminal Laws](#)**.

What are the Key Highlights of the PM's Address?

- **Paradigm Shift in Criminal Justice:**
 - The PM emphasized the **significant shift brought about by the enactment of new criminal laws**, advocating for a justice system focused on **citizen dignity, rights, and justice first**, moving away from punitive measures to data-driven approaches.
 - He highlighted the **importance of sensitizing women and girls** about their rights under the new laws, urging the police to ensure their safety and freedom to work fearlessly anytime, anywhere.
- **Positive Image of Police:**
 - He stressed the **need to enhance the positive perception of the police** among citizens, suggesting the use of social media at the grassroots level to **disseminate positive information** and messages.
 - Additionally, proposed leveraging social media for disaster alerts and relief efforts.
- **Citizen-Police Connect:**
 - He advocated for **organizing sports events as a means to strengthen** the bond between citizens and the police force.
 - He also encouraged government officials to stay in border villages to establish better connections with the local populace.
- **Transformation of Police Force:**
 - He encouraged the Indian police to **evolve into a modern, world-class force in alignment with India's rising global profile**, aiming to contribute to the vision of a developed India by 2047.

What are the Issues Associated with the Police Forces?

- **Custodial Deaths:**
 - Custodial deaths refer to **fatalities that occur while a person is in the custody of the police** or other law enforcement agencies.
 - According to the [National Crime Records Bureau \(NCRB\)](#), while the number of such **custodial deaths** had declined over three successive years from 146 in 2017-18 to 100 in 2020-21, **they had recorded a sharp rise to 175 in 2021-22.**
- **Excessive Use of Force:**
 - Instances of excessive force by the police have been reported, leading to injuries and fatalities.
 - Lack of proper training and oversight contributes to the misuse of force in some cases.
 - A police officer is a public servant and hence is expected to treat its citizens in a lawful manner.
- **Corruption:**
 - Corruption within the police force, including bribery, and other forms of misconduct, undermines public trust.
 - High-ranking police officials have occasionally been exposed as engaging in corrupt practices, and lower-ranking police officers have also been exposed as accepting bribes.
 - **Ex: Prohibition law enforcement.**
 - The laws **create a fertile ground for police corruption** by boosting demand for banned substances, such as alcohol.
 - The combination of increased profitability and law enforcement discretion tempts **officers to engage in corrupt practices.**
- **Trust Issues:**
 - There is a significant trust deficit between the police and the community, affecting cooperation and information sharing.
 - High-profile cases of police misconduct contribute to public skepticism and mistrust.
- **Extrajudicial Killing By Police:**
 - There have been many instances of Extrajudicial killings by the police in the name of self-defence, which is commonly known as 'encounter.'
 - There are no enigmatic provisions or statute in Indian law that **legalizes encounter killing**. In various judgments of the Supreme Court, it had limited the use of police excesses.
 - During 2020-2021, 82 people were killed in the name of encounter which increased to 151 during 2021-2022.

What are the Recommendations for Police Reforms?

- **Police Complaint Authority:**
 - In the case [Prakash Singh v/s Union of India, 2006](#), the [Supreme Court](#) directed to **establish the Police Complaint Authority in all the states of India.**
 - The Police Complaint Authority is authorized **to investigate matters relating to any kind of misconduct by police of, above, below the rank of Superintendent of Police.**
 - SC also directed separation of investigation and law and order functions to better improve policing, **setting up of State Security Commissions (SSC)** that would have members from civil society and forming a **National Security Commission.**
- **National Police Commission Recommendations:**
 - The National Police Commission (1977-1981) in India made recommendations for police reforms, emphasizing the **need for functional autonomy and accountability.**
- **Shri Ribeiro Committee:**
 - Shri Ribeiro committee was constituted in 1998, on the directions of the Supreme Court, **to review action taken on police reforms**, and to suggest ways of implementing recommendations of the Commission.
 - The Ribeiro Committee **endorsed major recommendations of National Police Commission (1978-82) with certain modifications.**
- **Malimath Committee on Reforms in the Criminal Justice System:**
 - The [Malimath Committee](#) on Reforms in the Criminal Justice System set up in 2000, headed

by V.S. Malimath made 158 recommendations including that of setting up a central law enforcement agency.

▪ **Model Police Act:**

- In accordance with the [Model Police Act, 2006](#), each state must establish an authority made up of retired High Court judges, civil society members, retired police officers, and public administrators from another state.
 - It focused on the functional autonomy of the police agency, encouraged professionalism and made accountability paramount for both performance and conduct.

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