CHAPTER V

METHOD

The present research work attempted to make a comparative study of personality of male criminals with that of a normal Indian male sample. Criminal behaviour was studied through the use of various psychological tests purporting to measure different personality variables as also to determine the extent to which the criminals differed from a group of non-criminals on variables of:

1. Intelligence, as measured by the standard Progressive Matrices (Ravens 1960).

2. Anxiety as measured by a short form of the Taylor's Manifest Anxiety Scale (Taylor, J.A. 1953).


DESIGN

A factorial design of 2 x 3 is used for the selection of criminals. The prisoners were therefore classified according to type of crime (2 groups) and age (3 groups). This gave a total of 2 x 3 = 6 cells. In each cell there were 50 prisoners so that a total sample of 6 x 50 = 300 criminal subjects was obtained. This gave the following design:
Similarly, the normal group of subjects were divided into 3 cells according to 3 age categories. 50 subjects were selected for each age group of normals so that there were $3 \times 50 = 150$ subjects altogether.

1. **AGE:** For the purpose of this study, both criminal and normal subjects were divided into 3 age groups (ref. Sinclair and Chapman 1973).
   1. 21-30 years
   2. 31-40 years
   3. 40 years and above

The criminal sample was also divided into 3 age groups and then further classified according to the type of crime committed by them.

2. **CLASSIFICATION OF CRIME**
   Two main categories were made:
   1. Major Crimes
   2. Minor Crimes

All crimes were grouped under these two categories so that each
criminal could be labelled either a major or a minor criminal (Singh 1976).

1. Major Crime :- Offences against the state or persons which are trialable by the court of sessions, are major offences, irrespective of the fact whether they are cognizable or non-cognizable and bailable or non-bailable. The following offences come under the major crime :-

(i) Abetment (From Section 109 to 120 of the IPC; if the major offence is trialable by the Court of Sessions) such as joining hands with some one in committing a crime.

(ii) False evidence and offences against public justice: (Sections 194, 195, 201, 211(c), 222 of the IPC).

(iii) Bribery (Section 161 of the IPC and section 6 of the corruption act).

(iv) Offences related to coins and government stamps (Sections 232, 234, 235, 238, 240, 251, 489(a)(b)(c)(d) of the IPC).

(v) Offences effecting the human body such as :-
   (a) Murder (Sections 302, 303, 304, 307, of the IPC).
   (b) Offences related to abortion and miscarriage (Sections 312, 313, 314, 315, 316, of the IPC).
   (c) Offences related to hurting a person (Sections 325, 326, 328, 331, 333 of the IPC).
(d) Offences related to kidnapping (Sections 363(b), 364, 366(a)(b), 367 of the IPC).

(e) Offences related to rape (Section 376, 376(a)(b)(c) of the IPC).

(vi) Dacoity and Robbery (Sections 395, 396, 397, 398, 399, 400, 402, 412 of the IPC).

(vii) Mischief and fire (Sections 436, 437, 438, 439 of the IPC).

(viii) Criminal trespass (Section 449, 450, 459, 460 of the IPC).


2. Minor Crime: Offences which are triable summarily and by any court of justice or where the punishment provided by the legislature is two or less than two years are minor offences. The following offences come under the minor crime:

(i) Theft (Section 379 of the IPC).

(ii) Offences against the human body such as causing injury to the human body (Sections 323, 324 and 325 of the IPC).

(iii) Arms act (except bombs etc.) of 1959 and section 25(1)(b) of the Arms act.

(iv) Excise act (except section 61(1)(c) of 1914.

(v) Opium act of 1878.

(vi) Weights and measures act and sections 264 to 267 of the IPC.
(vii) Indian drugs etc.

(viii) Offences related to public morality (Section 109, 110 of the Cr.P.C.) such as way wardness, loitering at night.

(ix) Offences against marriage (Section 498 of the IPC).

(x) Offences against public servants (Sections 125, 127, 136, 187 of the IPC).

(xi) Offences against the religion (Sections 295 to 298 of the IPC).

(xii) Unlawful assembly (Sections 143, 144, 145, 147 of the IPC).

(xiii) Sale of obscene books and material (Sections 292, 293, 294 of the IPC).

**SAMPLE**

Two groups of subjects were selected, one group consists of male prisoners and a second group of male outpatients from 2 large heterogeneous hospitals (ref. Warder, Presly and Kirk, 1963). The hospital offered a large number of subjects representative of the normal population. This sample could be considered as a non-criminal sample, i.e., of individuals who have not been convicted of a crime by a law Court (Udai Pratap Singh 1973).

1. The selection of criminals was made from the Tihar Central Jail, Delhi. Under trials were excluded from the sample. The
Tihar Jail consisted of a mixed type of criminal population totalling about 4000. Of these the anti-social or political prisoners or those under Misa detention were not included in the sample. The rest of the prisoners were divided into 2 major categories of those who committed (1) minor or (2) major crimes (ref. page ). It was believed that this population constituted a reasonably random sample of inmates of Indian prisoners from Urban areas.

2. The selection of normal subjects was made from the outpatient departments and general wards of 2 large heterogeneous hospitals of Delhi. They constituted a random sample of urban Delhi who were compatible in the socio-economic status with the selected sample of criminals. Chronic and psychiatric patients were excluded, since in their case, prolonged illness could have resulted in permanent modification in the acquired traits of personality. These patients due to prolonged illness, would also yield a higher score of anxiety.

MATERIAL

The 300 prisoners and 150 normals, i.e., a total sample of 450 subjects will be administered the following tests and inventories:

3. The Neuroticism Scale Questionnaire or 'NSQ' (Scheier, I.H., and Cattell, R.B. 1961).
The PIN, NSQ and TMAS were translated into Hindi and then administered to the subjects since the sample was mainly Hindi speaking.

1. **Standard Progressive Matrices (Ravens 1960)**

The Standard Progressive Matrices (henceforth called SPM) was used for measuring intelligence. It is a non-linguistic test to apprehend meaningless figures presented for observation, see the relations between them, conceive the nature of the figure completing each system of relations presented, and by so doing develop systematic Method of reasoning (Raven 1960). It is a "culture-reduced Measure of general intellectual ability (Elley and MacArthur 1962) and hence of international usage. It has been found to correlate highly with other intelligence tests. Mohan (1972) found a high positive correlation of .654 between SPM and a verbal test of general mental ability.

The scale consists of 60 problems divided into five sets of 12 each. The problems become progressively more difficult. It can be given as an individual, self-administered or as a group test.

The test was administered according to the norms layed down in the manual. The instructions were strictly followed from the manual of SPM (Raven 1960, pages 8-9).

The answer forms were scored according to the key given in the guide to the SPM (Ravens 1960, page 12).

The PEN Inventory was revised and used for testing by Eysenck and Eysenck in 1970. This test measures 3 dimensions of personality, i.e. Psychoticism (P), Extraversion (E) and Neuroticism (N). There are 78 questions altogether of which 60 measure P, E and N (20 for each dimension). The other 18 questions constitute the Lie Scale which is an index of the dependability of the subjects' responses. The PEN was first used by Eysenck and Eysenck (1970) on 603 prisoners from various British Jails.

The PEN was administered according to the instructions given on the inventory. The subjects' responses were then scored on P, E, N and L by using the scoring key for the inventory.

The inventory was translated into Hindi before administration and the validity and reliability of the Hindi and English version of PEN were determined.

**Validity**: To check the validity of the Hindi version of PEN, the method of criterion validity was used (Guilford 1956) 50 subjects were selected for this purpose. These subjects were female students of the Lady Irwin College, New Delhi. The correlations between the Hindi and English version of PEN were as follows: \( P = +.746 \), \( E/I = +.624 \), \( N = +.760 \) and \( L = +.686 \).
Reliability: The method of Test-Retest Reliability was used (Anastasi 1954). A gap of one month was given between the first test and the re-test. The values for reliability for the Hindi version and English version of PEN were:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>P</th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th>P</th>
<th></th>
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<tr>
<td>Hindi</td>
<td>0.739</td>
<td>E/I</td>
<td>0.669</td>
<td>English</td>
<td>0.896</td>
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<tr>
<td>N</td>
<td>0.812</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>N</td>
<td>0.844</td>
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<tr>
<td>L</td>
<td>0.725</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>L</td>
<td>0.783</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

(Mohan and Jaspal in Press)

3. Taylor's Manifest Anxiety Scale (Taylor, J.A. 1953)

The TMAS was constructed by Taylor in 1953. The construction of the test was aimed more as a measure of drive level rather than that of anxiety. The general assumption was made that in all situations, individuals scoring high and low on the TMAS will differ in drive level (Taylor 1951, 1953; Rosenbaum, G. 1950).

For the present study, a short form (28 items) of the TMAS was used. This scale was shown by Bendig (1957) to have a high correlation with the total MAS and a satisfactory reliability. Schalling and Holmberg (1970) also used this short form of the TMAS in their study to measure Extraversion in criminals.

The TMAS was administered and the directions from the form read out. The forms were scored using the key for this scale.
The TMAS was translated into Hindi and the validity and reliability of this form in Hindi and English both were ascertained (Mohan and Jaspal (in Press). The validity was +.836 and the test-retest reliability (Hindi version) was = +.809 and the test-retest reliability (English version) was + .787.

4. The Neuroticism Scale Questionnaire or 'NSQ' (Scheier, I.H., and Cattell, R.B., 1961).

"It is a brief, accurate, valid and non-stressful measurement of Neurotic trends in the normal abnormal adult or young adult. It is brief (40 items, 5 to 10 minutes), easy to administer in individual or mass group form and easy to score by a standard key scoring system" (Scheier and Cattell, 1961).

The NSQ is an integral part of the IPAT plan for providing basic measures for each factorial personality dimension. The NSQ test is designed to give a properly weighted total on those 6 personality dimensions which express neurotic trend. The Neurotic associated Personality Factors measured by the NSQ are:

1. **Factor I**: Over protection, tender minded, cultured, protected, emotional sensitivity (vs. tough mindedness).

2. **Factor E**: Depressiveness, Inhibited, sober, seriousness (vs happy-go-lucky, cheerfulness).

3. **Factor F**: Submissiveness, suggestibility dependance (vs Dominance).
Anxiety

(4) Factor Q: Worry, guilt-proneness (vs. assured self-confidence)

(5) Factor Q: Ergic tension (from frustration)

(6) Factor C: Ego weakness of emotional immaturity and instability (vs. ego strength).

The last 3 dimensions listed above, as indicated, are known to group together in a second order factor of anxiety (Cattell and Scheier 1957, 1958) and the test provides only one separate subscore for these 3 dimensions - an anxiety score - which becomes the 4th component of the test. These components are distinct and statistically virtually independent of one another, each providing information or psychologically meaningful aspects distinct from the other (Scheier and Cattell 1961).

The 5th and final score of the NSQ picks up the overall neurotic trend.

The test is in the form of a single four-page booklet, consisting of 40 questions to which 3 alternative responses can be made. Instructions were read out from the booklet and the test administered accordingly. The key is used to score the responses of more than one answer had been marked for each question, the procedure given in the handbook was followed. The scoring stencil was placed on the answer form and the raw scores read off, adding to give the total Neuroticism scores (and the raw scores for each of the 4N components separately).

The NSQ was translated into Hindi and the validity and reliability of this form in Hindi and English both were
determined (Mohan and Jaspal in Press). The results of the Pearson Product moment correlations are presented in the Contingency Table given below:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Validity</th>
<th>Reliability</th>
<th>English</th>
<th>Hindi</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>I</td>
<td>+.844</td>
<td>+.885</td>
<td>+.872</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>F</td>
<td>+.710</td>
<td>+.541</td>
<td>+.772</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>E</td>
<td>+.523</td>
<td>+.609</td>
<td>+.801</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>An</td>
<td>+.705</td>
<td>+.807</td>
<td>+.75%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gv.NT</td>
<td>+.876</td>
<td>+.888</td>
<td>+.863</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Administration of the Tests**

The experimental group of prisoners were tested not more than 10 subjects at a time. On the 1st day of investigation, the subjects were told that their help was required for research purposes but that this would not in any way help in their prison record. Only those prisoners who voluntarily agreed to assist were used in the study.

The criminals were first given the NSQ and then the SPM after a rest interval of 10 mins. following that on one day. The PEN and TMAS were then administered after an interval of a day or two days. The entire testing was done in a separate room provided by the Jail authorities. The subjects were seated at sufficient distance from one another to avoid any copying.
The administration of the tests on the non-criminal samples was done according to the convenience and availability of the subjects and no strict order of administration of the 4 tests was maintained.