CHAPTER III

IMAGE OF POLICE: PAST AND PRESENT

The discussion in the present study yield the hypothesis that a system of administration which stands circumscribed and handicapped for change, innovation and modernization in areas of organizational, personal and procedural reforms is liable to generate and reflect a poor image of itself in the public eye. The present chapter examines the factors responsible for its poor image which ultimately affect their Police-Public Relations. The study does not go as deep and is not as wide in its coverage as Bayley’s study in evaluating the determinants of Public perspectives on police and vice-versa. But an attempt has been made to retest some of the Bayley’s hypothesis after a long time and with an additional advantage of comparing it with policemen’s own point of view about the image of their own organization by personally interviewing them.

Image of Police Administration

Is it the image which a policeman sees in his own mirror-self imaged or is it the image of the police held by specific segments of the public of a transitional conglomerate society? Politicians, minorities, laborers and all other segments of a society make their generalized image, above the police.¹ The image is always relative and naturally varying, the variance depending on the observer and the object observed through perceptual configuration are not substantially rooted in rationally. The present study focus on the cumulative effect of all the factors that have gone to make the police image in the public eyes what it is today. It will deal with the factors which lead to the image of police in recent times and how far Community Policing be more effective. Neither static nor exclusive to be characterized as ‘Fair or foul’. The image is naturally relative and varying – the variance depending on the observer and the object observed i.e., the police office and his place in administrative hierarchy.

It may also be added here that the senior officials in the police, especially in the I.P.S. would exhibit a sympathy orientation with the common man and after having narrated a story or two about popular misunderstandings, they would come up by saying that people and police in India are generally non-cooperative with one another and rarely friendly with each other.

Indian society is going through a rapid change in all aspects. The country has recorded rapid Change urbanization, industrialization, migration leading to changing values among people amidst the new economic and liberalization policies. A consequent affect of all these changes has lead into problems in a number of areas and the harmony and peaceful times of previous years are first fading. It has been a common practice to read in media about deaths, murders, looting, arson, rapes, violence, demonstrations, breaking law and order, increasing crime rates etc. undoubtedly, these influences have an impact on everyone’s life in a society. The general image of any organization including police is broadly related to the national character. It reflects in the organizational behaviour of police. It also depicts the nature of police-public relations at various levels and between various sections of society. The democratic commitment pre-supposes a representative and responsive police system not only in terms of structural mechanisms and functional control but in day today working with the people at all levels.²

Since ages, the police have aroused emotions such as fear, threat, indiscipline and corruption etc. In the mind of general public, the myth surrounding policemen have been transmitted from social environments to other spheres as well, because of which the public forget that the policemen are also a human being like every other fellow being in society. We have a tendency to observe what is easily inferred forgetting what goes on behind the scene.³ The image of police administration in India like all other images is neither with those who have to take decisions and they are anxious to return the gratitude leading to dishonest practices in the organization.

It is widely believed that the police organization is basically dominated by Partron Client

² A.A. Siddique, Police Sub Culture, Guru Nanak Dev University, Amritsar, 2004, pp.5-6.
relationships in which ties of personal connections are stronger than loyalty to the general public. This results in corrupt practices in many ways, such as in personnel administration, group corruptions, corruption at higher levels as well as the protection of offenders. It is generally seen in the police department when one higher rank officer transfers from one district to the other, his whole team (lot), rights from constables to inspector level get transfer to that place. It is sad but hard truth due to limitations of the study, the researcher could not reveal the nature of the police officers or their groups. It was observed that ninety percent of the police officials and citizens believe that the police administration is dominated by considerations other than service to the people.

3.1 Corruption

During the course of the present study an impression was gathered that transfers, postings, etc. are illegitimately dominated by the patron-client system. Another aspect of the study that at what level of the police organization do you think corruption prevails. It has assumed a serious shape among the higher ranks of the police, namely gazetted officer". The Bihar police commission also testified to the permanence of corruption. There is complete unanimity among witnesses on the point that corruption survives as an inveterate disease defying all administrative measures that have been adopted form time to time to tackle this problem". While the incidence of corruption is greater in the subordinate ranks, it is generally agreed that the most notorious, injurious, and serious instances of corruption are found among assistant sub-inspectors and sub-inspectors. Their powers and hence their opportunities are greater than those of men of lower ranks. In addition, a majority of the police officials and the citizens also believe that the superiors use their subordinates to earn money through foul means. It was pointed out that officials sometimes have to collect money for some purpose by compulsion. The burden of collecting money is on the rank and file and the real victims are the citizens. The advantage goes mostly to the top officers. In this connection, Punjab Police

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Commission observed that senior officers compel their subordinates to resort to corrupt practices. They get bribe form their subordinates and also give bad reports to them when they are transferred, so that their evidence is made weightless, if they ever be witness in any enquiry. It has been said in the memoranda that there is truth in the statement that some senior officers connive at the corruption of their subordinates for their own personal ends. Generally, the trend of evidence has been that senior officers do not check their subordinates form indulging in corruption. It has also been mentioned that certain police stations are given to officers who pay the senior officers cash and kind”. When the superiors themselves corrupt the subordinates, it is almost impossible for them to prevent or suppress corruption.

As a matter of policy, the officers at the higher levels should try to prevent their subordinates from committing offences concerning the use of authority. On the contrary, they tend to conceal offences committed by their subordinates/colleque. If such cases are detected, a serious note of it should be taken. The Punjab Police Department has a Police complaint Authority (PCA) in which complaints against police personal are heard. Department enquiry is launched, which if, one is proved guilty can be dismissed or suspended. It also hampers the promotion process of the guilty officials but the real problem lies in disposing the culprit. It was discovered that not only the superiors conceal the crime and protect their subordinates, but also the subordinates do the same. It is a matter of mutual trust and security. There is no prevention and suppression of corruption, when there is no courage to call a spade a spade.

There tradition of corruption in the police organization appears to be deep-seated in certain forms. It appears that bare necessities of life compel them to take to certain dishonest practices. These points to the fact that formal legal codes are partly incongruous with the acceptable social norms. It helps us in understanding causes of corruption. During interviews, it was found that majority of the police officials and the citizens as a whole do not know what some of the laws concerning corrupt practices are. One of the reasons why corruption prevails in the police organization is that the people

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by and large including the police officials deviate from the legally established patterns of behavior out of sheer ignorance of the legal codes. Another cause of corruption is that the police officials and the public do not know the penalties for corruption. It was also found that the major causes of corrupt practices are: (a) human desires (b) loopholes in laws and regulations (c) deep-rooted habits arising out of being accustomed to corruption, (d) lack of supervision (e) learning from other’s experiences (f) excessive authority and discretionary powers (g) economic necessities (h) need for convenience and (i) degeneration of moral values (j) reluctant to become witnesses.

Mostly police personal admitted unanimously that corruption existed in the police department. One of the senior officer of police department in the subordinate and lower ranks of the departments because of inadequate salaries, but at the same time salary does not explain the causes as there are instances of various police officers of the lowest rank being able to lead a strict honest life when many of their better paid superiors become victim to such temptations.

Police is after all part of society and it cannot be free from corruption as the entire society is corrupt. A factor which is responsible for Poor Police-Public Relations, is the incidence of corruption, if not cured will destroy the relations further. People in general has the notion that since the police is corrupt, therefore, they cannot be friendly with them. They want to remain away from the police due to rising incidence of corruption among the police force. Gap between police and public should be bridged or engulf by following:-

(i) The salaries of the police personnel should be suitably raised so to reduce the temptations of accepting bribes.

(ii) The intricate procedure at the police station should be streamlined or scrutinized so that the chances of manipulation of records are minimized.

(iii) The press can also play an important role in reducing corruption by playing down sensationalism and saying a word of appreciation for the work done by the police. This would have enhanced the image of the police and the policeman would like to keep up that image.
(iv) Dishonest and corrupt policeman should be punished and honest policeman should be given quick promotions.

(v) Finally, the supervision of police work should be so effective that the misuse of powers is reduced to a minimum.

(vi) Public should not encourage police for bribe. Severe penalty should be laid who is giving or offering the illegal gratification

The police officials and the people would perceive the nature of the police job significantly in different ways. About the nature of the processes of democratic change is having its inevitable impact on the image of the police. Most of the persons interviewed were found especially critical of the procedures, followed by the police in prevention and detection of crime and prosecution of criminals. There was almost a near unanimity on the point that archaic, harassing and delay-oriented police procedures were largely responsible for the image of the police and the citizen on the other. The respondents made a spirited plea to change the procedures through scientific research and bold innovations. But this enthusiasm for research and innovation to bring about procedural change was more or of less theoretical.

Even, the report of the Indian police commission, 1902-3, is a testimony to the fact that even today the police in India face similar criticism that it faced a hundred years ago, of inefficient operation, poor leadership, rampant corruption and brutality and incompetent investigation and prosecution of crime. In addition the emerging trends of Crime, Naxalism, Terrorism, an increasing number of social legislation, easy access to means of transport and sophisticated communication with criminals, social upheaval resulting from rising aspirations of not only a large number of unemployed youth, farmers and laborers but also of a growing middle class have the alarm bells ringing. Therefore, it is pertinent that the variance in the perceptions about the image of the police, there was near agreement among all the categories of the respondents on the issue that some conscious and deliberate effort should be made to improve the image. The police officials tried some of the grievance redressed measures like visiting hours, personal audiences,

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appointment of citizens committees etc. at their own initiative and with varying success. It is advocated and defended utility and efficiency of these measures meant to improve relations between police and the community. But they did concede that these efforts could not bear in the absence of a well conceived policy and its follow up by their successors. Casual efforts like ‘press meets’ or ‘polio weeks’ or a seminar or two on ‘police problems’ would always arouse considerable interest in the beginning but it would soon taper off because of lack of involvement and lack of organizational commitment which was basically touching these programme through on a mass scale and that also in a sustained manner.

3.2 Political Interference

Another important factor which destroys police image is the political interference with the working of police. Political interference affects the efficiency of police and people lose faith in them and the causality is Police-Public Relations. In every society and at all times politicians for their own ends have exploited police and police willing or unwilling accepted the dictates of persons who are in power.

Police administration is crippled by political in reference at every stage. Whether it is in the investigation process apprehending rowdy group by filing charge sheet at every stage, political interference is made to secure the release of such person tempering with evidence. This demoralizes the police force as well as honest officers as a blow to their honesty.\(^9\) Pressure groups, militant groups and politicians have been exerting evidence pressure on the police with the connivance and facet support of the government, with an adverse effect on law and order. This must firmly resist by every policeman, even if it means transfer, demotion or removal from service.\(^10\) However, the widespread atrocities by the police during the emergency 1976-1977 prompted the Janata Party Government to appoint the National Police Commission (NPC) headed by Dharmvira on November 15, 1977 with wide terms of reference covering the police organization, its role, functions,

accountability, relations with the public, political interference in its work, misuse of powers, evaluation of its performance etc. The commission also made recommendations on two important issues.

(a) **Role of police**

(b) **Political interference in police work**

According to the NPC, the basic role of the police is to function as a law enforcement agency and render impartial service to law, without any heed to wishes, indications or desires expressed by the government which either come in conflict with or do not confirm to the provisions contained in the constitution or laws. This should be spelt out in the police act. The police should have duly recognized service-oriented role in providing relief to people in distress situations. They should be trained and equipped to perform the service-oriented functions.

According to the Commission, “the manner in which political control has been exercised over the police in this country has led to gross abuses, resulting in erosion of rule of law and loss of police credibility as professional organization. The threat of transfer/suspension is the most potent weapon in the hands of the politician to blend the police down to this will. The commission recommended that the superintendence of the state government over the police should be limited to ensure that police performance is in strict accordance with law. In the performance of its tasks, the police should lay down broad policies for adoption in different situations. There should however be no instructions in regard to actual operations in the field. In regard to investigating work, in any case, the police are beyond any intervention by the executive or politicians”. The fragmentation and defeat of the Janata Party in 1980 and the return of Indira Gandhi again in power, put the reports of NPC to meet the same fate as recommendations of many other commissions. But these recommendations, at least, set agenda for the future discourse.
In 1996, Parkash Singh\textsuperscript{11} along with others filed a public interest litigation in the apex Court under Article 32 of the constitution of India, pleaded to issue requisite directions to government of India to frame a new police act on the lines of the model act drafted by the NPC (1971-91) to ensure that the police is made accountable essentially and primarily to the law of the land and the people. Directions were sought against the union of India and state governments to constitute various commission and boards laying down the policies and ensuring that police perform their duties and functions free from any pressure and also for separation of investigation work from that of law and order”.\textsuperscript{12}

Meanwhile with the change of government at centre, Inderjit Gupta, the then union home minister took initiative in bringing about police reforms he wrote a letter to all chief ministers on April 3, 1997, exhorting them to “rise above any narrow and partisan or political interference in the discharge of its lawful functions”. He also warned them that if they failed to initiate action to introduce police reforms, the day was not far “when the judiciary would intervene decisively to force such socially desirable changes down the throat of the political executives”. Inderjit Gupta never received any response of his letter even from the government of West Bengal, being ruled by a party to which he himself belonged. Later, during a workshop on police reforms, he shocked the participants that he did not receive even an acknowledgement from any state government.\textsuperscript{13} Eventually, the issue was addressed by many successive committees-Ribero Committee (2000) and finally Soli Sorabjee Committee (2005). Soli Sorabjee committee also known as “Police Act Drafting Committee” (PADC). The constitution of the PADC was prompted by the prime minister’s concern expressed at the conference of district superintendents of police in early 2005. The PADC submitted its model police act, 2006 to the home minister on 30 October 2006.

\textsuperscript{11} A retired officer of Indian police service and served in various states for three and a half decades. He was director general of police of Assam and Uttar Pradesh besides the border security force. He was also awarded the ‘Padmashri’ in 1991.

\textsuperscript{12} Writ Petition (Civil) 310 of 1996.

\textsuperscript{13} Inderjit Gupta’s letter no. 11018/5/96-PMA, 3 April 1997 addressed to the Chief Ministers of all States and Union Territories; G.P. Joshi, “Recent Developments” in Kerala/aj/Police/apers/gpj recent-developments-in-koralid-police.pdf.
3.3 Inhuman Treatment

Torture has become one of most heinous crime against human beings. The brutal wit of man has invented versatile forms of torture from ancient times to the current cruel days as an expression of their bestial psyche to wreck, revenge, or force the victim to act or omit, as the barbaric bully wants. Torture has thus, become one of the greatest threats to the mankind, to centuries old moral, social and ethical values. In the present society, the investigator agencies, in the anxiety to follow a short cut and to obtain a confession, often resort to torture. Victims are often forced to do things against their ideological or religious convictions saving them devoid of self-respect or self-esteem. Notwithstanding, media reports against the police and investigating agencies, the Practice of torture is continuing.¹⁴

According to the Encyclopedia of *the United Nations and International Agreements*, “torture means it any act by which severe pain or suffering whether physical or mental, is intentionally inflicted by or at the instigation of the Police or on a person for such instigation of the Police officer on a person for such purposes as obtaining from him or a third person, information or confession, punishing him for an act he has committed or is suspected of having committed or intimidating him or other person”.

Torture constitutes an aggravated and deliberate form of cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment. It is frequently alleged that Policemen resort to brutal methods and practices in their dealings with the citizens or otherwise misbehave with them. This is a somewhat curious phenomenon in view of the fact that the police as an organisation and in its philosophy, appears to have become more enlightened, and more humane than it was in the past. This is evident not only from the greater emphasis on the modern scientific approach to crime and investigation, which, to a large extent, eliminates the need to resort to third degree methods, but also from the increasing replacement by the police of its lethal by non-lethal equipment for dealing with riotous mobs. Appointment

of Public Relations officers and initiation of more Community Relations Projects by the Police are again an indication of the Indian Police life today.\textsuperscript{15} The law of arrest is frequently violated by the Police in making arrests. In many places pressure is placed on the Patrolmen and specialized squads for securing a certain quota of arrests because a large number of arrest gives, an appearance of efficiency. Also, thousands of illegal arrests are made by certain policemen in drag-net raids and the arrest of drunken persons and vagrants, with unofficial release after several hours.\textsuperscript{16} The number of illegal arrests probably would be for a Police officer to make an actual arrest before taking them to the police station for questioning or investigation. The Police are severely criticised for making illegal arrests and they are subject to damage suits by the illegally detained persons which are harassed by the police during the time of arrest, due to personal grudges. Harassed the person by humiliating them through the use of camera or Media i.e., handcuffing arrest of Karunanidhi.

In \textit{Sunil Batra},\textsuperscript{17} the Supreme Court did not find itself handicapped by the absence of a specific provisions against torture in the constitution and gathered support from \textit{Article 14 and Article 19}\textsuperscript{18} in holding against the permissibility of torture vis-a-vis persons suspected and accused of crimes. All this notwithstanding, the use of third degree methods by the police continues unabated as should be evident from some of the case heard by the Supreme Court. In \textit{Raghbir Singh v. State of Haryana},\textsuperscript{19} where the violence employed by the Police to extract a confession resulted in the death of a person suspect of theft, the Court observed:

\begin{quote}
\textit{We are deeply disturbed by the diabolical recurrence of police-torture resulting in a terrible scare in the minds of common citizens that their lives and liberty are under a new peril when the guardians of the law gore human rights to death. The vulnerability}
\end{quote}

\textsuperscript{17} (1978) 4 SCC 494.
\textsuperscript{18} The Constitution of India,1950.
\textsuperscript{19} (1980) 3 SCC 70, 71-72.
of human rights assumes a traumatic, torture some poignancy, the violent violation is perpetrated by the Police arm of the state whose function is to protect the citizens and not to commit gruesome offences against them as has happened in this case. Police lock-up, if reports in newspaper have a streak of credence, are becoming more and more awesome cells. This development is disastrous to the human rights awareness and humanist constitutional order.

The State, at the highest administrative and political levels will organise special strategies to prevent and punish brutality by Police methodology. Otherwise the credibility of the rule of law in the republic vis-a-vis the people of the country will deteriorate. The formidable problem in an alleged case of Police torture is to establish the guilt of the perpetrator of violence. Quite frequently, the wrongdoers may either be able to escape conviction due to lack of required degree of proof or may be found guilty of a lesser offence than the one warranted by actual facts. This is primarily due to degree of the situation that the complete lack of neutral witnesses. In Ramsagar v. State of Uttar Pradesh,\(^{20}\) this is really a pathetic case indicative of the extreme limits to which police violence and highhandedness may extend. In this case, the Supreme Court affirmed the conviction and sentence expressing regret at the same time that the trial Judge did not find the Policeman guilty of murder as indicated by the facts proved. Justice Chanderachud, while pointing out the special difficulties involved in the proof of torture by the Police Personnel and the need for a change in the burden of proof.

\textit{Gauri Shankar v. State of Uttar Pradesh},\(^{21}\) is a typical case of a police officer trying to rescue his colleague by giving evidence favorable to the accused policeman. The High Court persuaded itself to believe that the police officer did not give false evidence since by doing, they would have risk of losing their Job. Consequently, the High Court set aside the conviction, under sec 304, Part II and some other provisions of the Penal code and the Prevention of corruption act, of the officer-in-charge of police-station where fatal injuries were inflicted on a person suspected of dacoity. Restoring the conviction and

\(^{20}\) (1985) 1 SCC 522.
\(^{21}\) (1990) Supp SCC 656.
sentence of seven years by the trial Court and stretching the plea for substitution of imprisonment by fine, the Supreme Court observed:

_The offence is of a serious nature aggravated by the fact that it was committed by a person who is supposed to protect the citizens and not misuse of his uniform and authority to brutally assault them while in his custody. Death in police custody must be seriously viewed for otherwise we will help take a stride in the direction of Police Raj. It must be cured with heavy hand. The punishment should be such as would deter others from indulging in such behavior. There can be no room for leniency. Regarding police brutality the same kind of conclusions as above have been reached by some of the commissions set up to inquire into deaths occurring due to police torture. Some other problems like informal arrest of suspect and the submission of motivated reports by doctors with a view to help the policemen involved are also of a growing desire on the part of the Police and the Public which exists in various countries, including India. Through the organisational philosophy may have become more enlightened, the fact remains that the instances of individual Policemen misbehaving with the Public, though few, are not far between. This shows that the philosophy of the organisation has not been internalized by all its members. Every force has some bad eggs who, by their misbehavior, bring a bad name to the whole organisation and spur its credibility. This happens because the public do not make any distinction between the organisation and its individual members. To the public, every policeman is the police force._

People in general, therefore, are very critical of the legality or otherwise of every step taken by the police, people are naturally anxious to see that the power is not abused to gain personal advantage or to the advantage of others who are not entitled to such benefits. People would like to ensure that every action of the Police is above board and is well within the limits prescribed by law.²³

Allegation of Police excesses are generally brought in connection with search, seizure, arrests, detention and other punitive powers of the police. Many such complaints are made in Court to seek legal remedy against the alleged illegal acts of the Police. In the Police department, torture is quite common. It may be of any type: (i) Physical (ii) Psychological. Police are apt to be discourteous, sarcastic, or rude while dealing with person of lower socio-economic classes, but courteous and lenient when dealing with persons of high social status. Practice of torture of Indian Police is not a new phenomenon. It can be traced to the Vedic period of Indian history. The repeated exposure and virulent criticism of the brutality and the third degree methodology of Indian Police has coasted a Public stigma on it. There is very widespread suspicion and even hatred for the Police which has become one of the outstanding features.

The commission expressed its anguish thus: “Is there not a single police officer at higher levels to check these legal detentions? Does investigation mean nothing but torture? Are there is no civilized means of investigation than beating and butchery?” Regarding the ignorance and late reception of information of police brutalities at the higher level, the commission had the following observations: The fact of death reaches the ears of the Press faster than the wireless sets at police command, it should be a matter of serious concern that superior police officers are not kept informed of the gravest offences occurring within their own police stations. What for, then, is the huge organisation on which so much money is expanded? The Amnesty International in its report of 1986 has expressed grave concern regarding deaths of number of Political workers, activists and alleged terrorists as a result of Police torture or shooting in different Parts of the country.

The Police people have their own sexual pervasions and they give vent to then through incidences of sexual torture. Women are often subjected to indignity, including forced and non-consensual sex with the interrogation staff. It is mostly, the poor or downtrodden that are victims. They are interrogated in cruel ways and the interrogators mostly use third degree methods to illicit false confessions from them. It resulted into custodial crimes, custodial deaths and custodial rapes, which gave a below to/the image of Police.

Some of the important factors responsible for the lack of proper investigation resulting in the use of third degree methods, as identified by a senior police officer, are as follows: 24

1. The Investigator in a police station is overworked and has no sophisticated aids to help him. Most police stations do not even have a room where the investigation officer can talk alone to a Suspect. 25

2. Quite often, the investigating officer hands over the suspect to a constable who has neither the training nor temperament required for the art of Investigation.

3. In cases where some important politician gets interested in quick investigation, the police are bulldozed into fast action to achieve instant results. They may, therefore, be unwillingly to encourage the use of torture against the suspect. 26

4. Public support is generally not forthcoming, particularly institutions where political personalities appear to be influencing the Police.

5. A majority of ministers, administrators and senior police officers are convinced regarding the inevitability and indispensability of the third degree methods. In its report, the UP. Police commission cited the opinions expressed before it by two Divisional Commissioners in the state government. They defended third degree methods as the ‘only effective means of controlling bad characters’. The other said the ‘dishonest steps of investigation in recovery, third degree methods, creation of false evidence are minor evils when compared to the larger evil of general national dishonesty. All Judge the Police by the results achieved. The Police have to deal with class of men who belong to the worse Section of the

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25 As per estimates in crime in India, 1993 the All India ratio of work-load per for an investigation officer is around 18.1 cases officer.
society. It’s a depressing yet a matter of fact, that there are no accurate figures of such incidents as most incidents are often hushed up. Even if the police record the arrest and custody of a victim, a death in Police station is made look like a suicide or accident and the body is disposed off quickly, with the connivance of a doctor records are manipulated so as to shield the police personnel’s responsibility. The local politicians and warlords join the conspiracy. The relatives and friends of the victim are unable to seek justice because of fear, poverty and ignorance. Police atrocities and custodial violence has become so much part and Parcel of our daily lives that film and novels have recently made them staple themselves.\footnote{The Law commission Report 1955. as cited in M.J. Antony, \textit{Landmark Judgments on in Legal custody and Police torture}, Indian Social Institute, New Delhi, 1977, p. 1.}

It is evident, therefore that availability of more investigation officers and equipment, training in the art of interrogation and Public cooperation should go a long way to eliminate the use of third degree methods by the Police and made a positive image in the minds of the People for Police.

3.4 Vulgar Display of authority or misuse of authority

The Tendency on the part of certain Police officers to make their presence felt by throwing about their status all round evokes contempt. Instances of trying to get the prize seat (most probably free of cost) in cultural programmes and even creating a scene in not getting the same, are not lacking. Deliberate defiance of rules of the road, rule of parking of vehicles etc. are among the most common of such failings. Such conduct naturally end very rightly evokes disgust in the eyes of the onlookers.

3.5 Open association with person who are themselves hated for one reason or the other by the people at large

Instances of Policeman during at dhabas and hotels which indulge in illicit trade of liquor and opium are not lacking. Similarly the beat constable in villages bully (who himself is naturally interested in fasting the police to keep his authority in the village), any number
of such instances could be quoted. Such association brings not only the particular officer but the entire organisation into contempt.

True, the Policemen have to develop informers from among the undesirable elements in the interest of their work but such contacts done openly tend to create a contrary impression in the average man specially if that bad character boasts about his contact with the Police officer. The Police therefore, must develop their contacts most secretly and discreetly to prevent the tarnishing of their image.

Display of Hypocrisy

It has to be clearly realized that whatever the rank of the police officer may be, there is nothing like private life for any police officer. Depending on their rank, their private life of every policeman is a subject of wide spread discussion in the circle of people that come under the jurisdiction of the police officer concerned professing high ideals and acting baselessly is a conduct which will evoke hatred in any heart. While the Policeman would like any man to stand in the queue, it is that only police officer themselves that are never found standing in the queue. Yet, again unseemly sights of vehicle having labels of police on them, cutting into right turns wrongly or not using the dipper or giving prompt passage to over taking vehicles are too common a sight and such conduct being despicable causes the police to be held in contempt by all those who are witness.

3.6 Lackadaisical Attitude

Some people feel that the police force is inefficient, in support of the charges they very often quote loss of property by theft, burglary or dacoity and the inability of the police to remove the property stolen or burgled and to apprehend the criminals, loss of cycles and automobiles from public places, delay in arrivals of police on receipt of information, the apparent lack of interest shown by the police when report affecting life or property are lodged at the police station, especially in mofussil areas, increasing rates of motor accidents and the inability of the police to do anything to reduce their number and made public thorough fares safe, existence of drinking dens, place of prostitution, gambling
dens, places of sale of illicit liquor in the heart of important towns under the very nose of police, continuance of immoral traffic in women and children and inability of police to prevent it, failure of Police to afford protection to the innocent villagers against designing cheats and imposters, helplessness of the police to prevent exploitation of poor by more enlightening people, failure of the police to detect criminals who are misappropriating or embezzling public funds for their benefit, inability of the police to remove untouchability, in spite of massing of an Act by the Parliament for its removal and to keep antisocial elements under-check by Police. In fact, the duties of Police are so wide and all embracing that many more failures can be listed out to suggest inefficiency of the Police in the performance of their duties. At the investigation level, some of the Police problems are Non - Registration of First Information Report, delay in Investigation work, Excessive judicial concern for the criminal, Reluctance of the witnesses to cooperate with police investigation, distrust of Police, anticipatory bail Provisions of Law and Police discretion of converting non-cognizable category and the vice-versa. There are other causes also which deteriorates the images of police:

**Bad Behaviour**

People are very critical about the behavior of the Police on all occasions and in most of the cases the complaint is that the Police are not behaving with them properly and there is lack of human understanding and approach in the discharge of Police duties.

**3.7 Treatment of Witnesses**

It appears that objection is mainly raised at police by the people that they are not being treated courteously at the Police stations where they go with complaint, they are often kept waiting for long hours without anybody paying attention to them and whenever they protest against such harassment, bad language is used against them. This type of behavior of Police deteriorates the image of police due to such acts. Because the policemen are supposed to enforce the laws, open and flagrant violations by the police themselves evoke the strongest resentment among the people. The keeping of double standard of
conduct one for the Public and one for the police officer themselves cannot but lead to hatred of the Police.

3.8 Vindictive Conduct of High-Handedness

There are Police officers implicating innocent persons in all kinds of cases are not lacking where such innocent persons either out of self-respect or out of a will to defy an over-bearing attitude of a Police officer have caused many disgraceful conduct by Police officers, e.g., A taxi driver after the end of his day’s work may be going home but if he denies a police officer a ride, he is likely to bring the wrath of the laws of the land upon himself. Similarly, unobliging Public carriers are subjected to all kinds of challans by Some Policemen. Such victims are the surest and natural propagators of ill-will against the police.

3.9 Being a victim of vices like alcoholism, womanizing and greed

Policemen whatever be the rank having any of these vices are sound to go down in the estimate of the Public they serve. As already stated, if any Police officer consider that he can indulge in these things without anybody getting to know of it, they are obviously securing under a very wrong and dangerous illusion. These Kind of vices projects the negative image of the police in the public minds.

3.10 Wayward children of the Police officer

Instances are not lacking where a Police officer, who was himself a good and a respected man greatly loss his grip and was subjected to ignoring because of the misdeeds of his grown up children. Police officers children particularly in the ranks of Station House Officer more often are turn out as a thoroughly bad. When the children especially son of a police officer gets into a school, the goonda and undesirable element are that school freinds bestow favors by feasting them at restaurants and try to befriend them with the obvious motive of using the friendship. The ignorant lad having no idea as to why such
boys are bestowing favors on them promptly becomes their friend and in due course finds them circulating only among the undesirable elements of the Institutions. The father who is obviously too busy with his day to day work to have a chance to look into the ongoings of his son, discovers about his son’s conduct only when it is too far to make amends.

If the basic concept, that all powers vested in a police officer are to be utilized as a trust given to them by the society is kept clearly in mind and the police officer is able to watch themselves and check their steps as soon as they find that they are utilizing even a fraction of these powers for their personal benefits and comfort, much of the stigma which is attached to the Police will have been cleared. The above, therefore, are the kinds of conduct that will legitimately evoke hatred in minds of the people and therefore have to eschewed altogether if the image of the police officer has to be prevented from being tarnished.

3.11 Conclusion

However, even after eschewing the above varieties of conduct, a police officer cannot look forward to winning the hearts and the love of the people they serve because by keeping these wrongful behavior, they presents themselves only negatively. In order, therefore to become friend and guide of all the people of their circle, every policeman has to develop certain positive qualities and it has to be said without hesitation that where police officers have conducted themselves and projected an image of being a real protector and friend, the public has never stayed behind in giving the police officer concerned their whole hearted love and co-operation.