Chapter 8

Brief Summary, Conclusion and Suggestions
Chapter 8

BRIEF SUMMARY, CONCLUSION AND SUGGESTIONS

The present study "A sociological study of crime with special reference to two prison of Bundelkhand Region (U.P.)" has focussed on analyse the causes of crime in Jhansi and Banda Distt. of Bundelkhand Region. Attempt has been made to provide an explanation for the patterns emerged in the analysis of crime in India and state of Uttar Pradesh. In this analysis, it was observed that the increase or decrease in crime in India and Uttar Pradesh maintained some consistency. The implication is that the crime in the country and the state has been increasing proportionately to the increasing size of population. The variation between different of crime types of India and Uttar Pradesh are possibly due to nature and composition of social and cultural set ups. Some of the noteworthy features of crime in India are (1) a long term upward trend in total crime along with types of crime i.e., murder, decoity and robbery; (2) a short term decline, rise and decline of crimes viz, house breaking and theft in the years from 1995 to 2000. The trends of crime in the state of Uttar Pradesh are : (1) total crime seems to be on decrease in long term except in the year 1998 along with the other types crime of except in the year 1998 along with the other types of crime i.e., house breaking and theft (ordinary and cattle); (2) there is a long term decrease in crime i.e, murder decoity and robbery.

The last few decades have witnessed an increasing trend in the incidence of various types of crimes in India as a consequence of which we find overcrowding of convicts and under trials in prisons.
This trend has motivated social scientists in general and criminologist in particular to investigate into the circumstances and factors which have been responsible for development of criminal behaviour.

The criminals social background is one of the important factors that influences his operations. This does not mean that his personality is unimportant for the systematic understanding of his criminal behaviour. A close scrutin of the interaction between a persons social and environmental influences and his personality may provide a glimpse into the criminals behaviour as such indifferent fields. In the present times crime as a social phenomenon has to be reckoned with. The understanding of its causes is important in order and keeping under control its incidence. It is necessary to scientifically investigate and diagnose the different socio-economic factors that have led a section of the people under different situation of stress and strain to commit crimes.

The present study has endeavoured with the aid of manageable contemporary research tool and techniques to uncover the socio-economic backgrounds of the convicts with a view to correlate them with the types of crimes they have committed under different situation. The study has also tried to examine the attitude of the prison inmates towards the prison work programmes, its environment, authorities and administration, etc, which may be useful in assessing the plans and programmes now being adopted for reformation and rehabilitation of the prisoners and in chalking out modification as may be necessary. Patterns and incidence of crime being different in different part of our country it is certainly important to encourage regional studies. This is study of the 300 sampled convicts undergoing imprisonment in 2 district Jail of Bundelkhand Region.
The main objective of the study was to examine the different situation in the family, in the neighbourhood, in assorted occupational groups, associational groups and recreational groups that have stimulated and provoked the convicts to commit different types of crimes. The conceptual framework of the Research has been to analyse the various situation to which criminal behaviour responds. The incidence of crime in uttar pradesh over the last one decade has been showing a faster increasing trend then of the other states. In this state taking the year 1995 as the base, by the year 2000 there has been an decrease of 2.4 percent in the incidence of crime under the I.P.C. per one lakh of population. The research was taken up with the intention of providing a picture of the pattern and intensity of crimes prevalent in the state and compare it with the criminal statistics of India. Further, attempt has also been made to provide a comprehensive data regarding the socio-economic background of the convicts population in Bundelkhand Region and also to analyse the role of prison in re-sociolisation and rehabilitation of the convicts.

METHODOLOGY:

The sample was drawn from two district headquarters jails of Bundelkhand Region (U.P.) namely Banda and Jhansi. The distance between both jail is 193 km. only. The capacity of both Banda and Jhansi were respectively 444 and 406 and the whole capacity of both jails was of 850. But the total strength of criminals in both district jails was found to be 1230 on July 2002. The universe of the study was 1230 inmates but as this was difficult to study the huge number of inmates. Therefore the researcher would select randomly only 300 inmates from this universe.

Prior to the commencement of our final data collection, a pilot survey was conducted in one district jails, Such as Jhansi. This was done in order to find out defects, if any, niour research design and
make suitable modification therein. If necessary. The same comprises of only male convict or more than eighteen years of age who have been convicted for a period of two years or more for committing offences under the I.P.C. The sample on the whole comprises of male offenders convicted under different sections of the I.P.C. who confessed before us that they had really committed the crimes.

The data were collected with the help of an interview schedule developed for this study. The C.J.M. Ist. Banda and Jhansi permitted us to conduct interview with the convicts either in the presence of the jail superintendent or the Jailor. Initially in almost both the jails we were asked to conduct the interviews in the presence of the jail authorities. The atmosphere was there not quite congenial to extract truth from the offenders. Realising that the freedom of the inmates was much restricted in this kind of interview we requested the jail authorities to sit next door in a place where they could listen to our discussions but the interview would not be in a position to see them. In most of the jails this kind of convenient arrangement was made from the second day onwards to carry on effective interview. Thus, the information supplied by them could not perhaps be completely free from restraint.

Two jails were visited during September 2002 to February 2003 for collection of the data required for the study. Secondary data were collected referring to the history sheets of the convicts, their jail records and other official records maintained in the office of jail superintendent etc. Some aspects of the inquiry like the amenities provided to the inmates and their living conditions inside the prison etc. were recorded through observation. The three point rating scale was used to measure the attitude of the convicts on the prison work programmes and
Major Finding

Convicts and their socio-economic Background:-

The crime based classification showed that out of total 300 convicts 148 (49.33 percent) have been convicted for murder, 50 (16.67 percent) for dacoity and Robbery, 23 (8.67 percent) for theft, 47 (15.66 percent) for sexual offence and 29 (9.67 percent) for miscellaneous crimes. We find that majority being murder 49.33%.

- **Age :** Distribution of inmates on the basis of Age revealed that 7.00 percent convicts out of 300 convicts belongs between 18-20 years of age 45.33 percent from 21-30 year, 37.67 percent from 31-40 year, 8.33 percent from 41-50 years and only 1.67 percent only from 51-55 years. Therefore majority of the criminals were generally belonged to the age, group between 21-30 years.

- **Caste :** Distribution of convicts by caste revealed that 30.66 and 27.67 percent of the convicts belonged to SC and OBC categories respectively and 6.67 percent and 23.00 percent belong to the ST and Gen respectively.

- **Religion :** Majority (82.67 percent) of the convicts belongs to Hindus and rest to christians and Muslims communities.

- **Education :** - Education attainments show that 41.33 percent were illiterate, 16.67 percent are educated up to the primary standard 16.00 percent upto in upper primary standard and 26.00 percent upto the secondary education and above. The higher concentration of convicts has been found in the illiterate and less educated categories.
Occupation: As regards employment position more than half of the convicts had agricultural occupation and about one fourth were serving as daily labours. The remaining were engaged in business, salaried jobs other categories of occupations and only 35 (11.65 percent) were unemployed.

Native background: Distribution on the basis of their native background reveals that 59.67 percent have come from rural background and 40.33 percent from Urban background.

Marital Status: Marital Status revealed that Majority 61.67 percent of the convicts are married.

Numbers of Children: Majority 55.68 percent of the convicts have between 1-3 children and 27.68 percent had 4 children.

Habits: Distribution of convicts by their habits revealed that majority 46.67 percent of the convicts have three vices, Prostitution Drink and Gambling and rest are addicted to Drink and Gambling on the bases of above analysis it is evident the all types of criminals have very had habits.

Factors for Criminality: Distribution of convicts on the basis of factors which leads them to commit crime were land dispute has been one of the major factors while crime has resulted in creating misunderstanding among the family members relative and neighbours that provoked majority of the respondents to commit crimes.

Family type: Classifying on basis of type of the family, 64.67 percent have come from joint families and 35.33 percent from Nuclear families.
Family size: - It has been noticed that majority (54.00 percent) of the respondent were having large sized (6-9 members) families.

Economic Condition: - Looking in to the economic condition of the respondents majority (53.00 percent) of them come under the lower income group category (Rs. less then 3000 per month). While 24.67 percent are in the middle income group (Rs.3001-4000 percent). In most of the cases the convicts themselves were the major contributors towards their family income.

Family Income: - Comparing the family income and the size of family members under the present rising prices of essential commodities, we found that most of the convicts were leading a hard pressed life. Their adverse economic conditions have to a great extent instigated them to indulge in criminal activities.

In the foregoing analysis the socio-economic backgrounds of convicts have been analysed. In the succeeding pages, attitude and present behaviour of the inmates that investigated and motivated crime commission have been analysed.

Neighborhood Environment and Crime: - Distribution of the convicts regarding their neighborhood environment show that majority 44.33 percent had anti-social neighborhood and 41.67 percent had normal environment situation.

Family life and Interpersonal relationship and crime: - Revealed that (54.33%) and 29.67 percent of the convicts had harmonious and inimical relationship.
- Family Background and crime: Majority 63.00 percent of the convicts come from infect family and 37.00 percent from Broken family.

- Demoralized Homes and Crime: Distribution of the convicts coming from Normal families and families where incidence of crime were earlier recorded showing that majority 54.33 percent of the convicts belonged to normal family and 45.67 percent convicts from the family where earlier commission of crimes have been recorded.

- Parent Behaviours and Crime: Majority 52.67 percent of convicts had very strict parent during their childhood period.

- Parent habits and Crime: Majority 31.33 percent of the convicts parents have drinkers, Gambler and Loose character and used to Beat them 26.00 percent of the convicts parents were drinker, used to beat and were having gambling habits.

- Recreation and crime: 19.33 percent convicts out of 300 were addicted to movies, Drinking, Gambling and Prostitution and others 89.00 percent were addicted to Movies, Drinking and Gambling for their recreation.

- Influence of cinema and Crime: Cinema over the behaviour of criminals generate attitudes among the normal person also. Majority 38.33 percent and 36.00 percent of the convicts accepted crime oriented and using of various method for committing crime respectively generating criminals attitudes.

- Criminal Economic Condition and Crime: Opinion regarding income of the inmates revealed that 70.67 income and in which
60.8 percent convicts wrongfully earned money and supplement their day to day need.

- Future plans of the convicts: Majority 57.67 percent of the convicts said that they will continue of their old profession.

- Opinion regarding family and reaction of the society: Majority 37.67 percent 31.67 percent and 16.00 percent of the convicts said that society and their family members were to them unco-operate, looked them doubtfully and did not give due Respect.

- Opinion regarding police behaviour after their release: Majority 60.00 percent of the convicts said were looked doubtfully.

- Residence after release: Majority 61.00 percent of the convicts after their release have thought of returning to their own families in villages.

From the preceding discussion it can very well be inferred that adverse situation in the family neighborhood, occupational sphere cinema, economic condition, Recreation, Parents behaviour and habit have directly or indirectly motivated and instigated most of the respondents to commit one or the other type of crime. Thus, our hypothesis No. 1 i.e. 'Adverse situation in the family, neighborhood, occupational group, associational group and recreational group have a positive role in the geneses and progression of crime' has been found to be fully true having been amply substantiated with data.

- Friends occupational colleagues, family members, personal problem, inadvertent accidental association etc. have been traced out to be the factors which instigated majority of our respondents to commit crimes.
Distribution of convicts by causes behind their crime commission revealed that 41.00 percent of the convicts viewed land dispute as a major factor,

Looking into the specific categories of instigational source we found 29.67 percent, 29.67 percent, 10.66 percent and 8.00 percent resorted to crime under the influence of family members, inadvertent associational personal factors, and occupational colleagues respectively.

Distribution of the convicts by their types of instigational sources researcher found that 41.00 percent, 23.00 percent, 20.33 percent, and 10.67 percent resorted to crime under the influence of situational, associational, situation cum-associational, and association-cum-situational sources, respectively, while 5.00 percent were not frank enough to provide us with relevant information.

Thus above analysis provides ample support to our hypothesis no. 2, i.e. most of the crimes were committed being backed by one or the other type of instigation/motivation.

To-day, prison is no longer considered as a cell or solitary confinement where a prisoner is thrown to starvation and death. The prison system in India runs on modern patterns. If follows the reformation trend of thought as prevailing in the contemporary period. Since it is considered that an empty mind is the devil's work shop attempts are being made to keep the prisoners busy all the time so that they may not waste time in pendering over their family problems and their present or indulging in anti-prison activities.
Information collected with the help of 3 point rating scale on different aspects of the vocational training programmes revealed that a sizeable number 59.7 percent of the convicts were satisfied with the selection procedure of working conditions and were sincerely participating in the vocation work assigned programme feeling its utility for future rehabilitation.

Data on the attitudes of the inmates towards jail authorities and administration revealed that 54.9 percent of the convicts have frankly expressed their negative feeling while 29.1 percent gave positive views and 16.00 percent did not respond. This kind of negative attitude has developed due to the rigid prison rules and administration.

Information regarding the basic facilities available to prisoner inside the jail realised that 81.67 percent 78.33 percent, 93.33 percent and 71.67 percent of the convicts are unsatisfied (said very bad) with the food, clothes, lodging and medical facilities respectively.

Information regarding the opinion of jail authorities towards the inmates, majority 79.33 percent of the convicts were maintaining satisfactory conduct in the prisons and 76.33 percent of the convicts have good relations with the fellow prisoners. They further remarked that the inmates were keeping good conduct on account of strict jail administration and also with the hope of getting remission of their sentences for early release.

Thus, our hypothesis No.3 i.e., "Situation inside prison are less conducive toward proper reformation and rehabilitation" has been amply supported by the responses given by the inmates.
As has been assessed by the jail authorities it is interesting to note that majority 76.33 percent of the convicts were keeping harmonious relationships with their fellow prisoners. This is but natural on their part because they are the immediate friends and they have to live with them till the final release.

Analysis on the convicts perception about leisure hours revealed that majority 54.33 percent 31.00 percent and 8.34 percent of the convicts were getting 3-4 hours, 5-6 hours, above 7 hours leisure per day respectively.

Utilisation of leisure time shows that 41.00 percent, 30.33 percent, 17.00 percent and 11.67 percent of the convicts spent their leisure time into gossiping, Recreation, Rest and Reading/writing respectively.

Enquiry on the visitor of inmates revealed that that most of the cases their adult male family members paid regular visits as against the female members who visited only in urgent situational demands 25.33 percent stated that they do not have any visitors.

In view of our above findings, we may advocate a couple of suggestions for more careful and scientific analysis of the academic specialists and for carefully planning the policies and programmes of reformation and rehabilitation. For effective functioning of prison organisation we must tackle the problems of both the inmates and the officials. But the present study has limited its scope to highlight some of the problems of the prison inmate as confronted inside the prison. Such problems have been dealt with below under separate heading offering some specific suggestions for consideration by planner’s and policy makers.
Suggestions and Recommendation

1. Diagnostic clinic :- The official records do not speak any things about the specific factors responsible for committing an offence. Therefore with the help of a team of social scientists a reception centre can be set up involving sociologists, psychologists, criminologists etc. for through investigation of the offender's Socio-Economic Background, the causal factor responsible particularly the situations and motivations for the commission of the crime. Only then methods for proper reformation can be thought of.

2. Classification :- Classification does not mean the isolation of the inmates from one another rather it aims at rendering effective treatment. Now-a-days, individualised treatment is considered to be more effective in the process of reformation. It is advocated that personal characteristics of the offender of his treatment needs alone should be the basis of classification in order to provide individualized treatment. Examination of personal characteristics and treatment needs of the offender can very well be taken up by the experts of the reception centre as suggested earlier and then suitable methods of treatment along with work assignment can be prescribed. If not in all the jails, at least in each district jail a reception centre has to be established. Offenders having been given their sentences can straight away be brought to the nearest district reception centre for an appropriate prison where a suitable treatment programme including the vocational training is available.

3. Prison work - Programmes : Prisoners should be provided with adequate vocational training during the period of detention which would be of immense help for their reformation and rehabilitation. It is to be realised that the work assigned to the inmate is of great
importance. While assigning work to an inmate one has to keep in view his psycho-social background, skill, period of detention intelligence, education and his special aptitude.

4. Steps should be taken by the government to introduce training in some modern vocational programmes according to the demands in the contemporary society, thereby providing the prisoners ample scope to select programme of their choice and participate sincerely. The existing traditional vocational programmes should be improved introducing modern and sophisticated machines and tools. The working atmosphere inside the prison industries should be made congenial so that the inmates can participate in the activities with a lot of interest. Provisions for insurance against accidental injury resulting at the time of work should be worked out. Thoughts should also be given to introduce the group insurance by the Government to provide financial assistance to the offender's family if it is found that his family members were not involved in the commission of crime.

5. Prison wage rates should be made at least equal to that of the wages of workers in the community outside the prison, if not higher. In this regard the minimum wages Act may be referred to and to possibilities of introducing such wage rates as prescribed under it can be considered. Further the wage for extra-work should be attractive enough to act as an incentive to the offender for doing extra work. In fact, a through restructuring is essential regarding the structure and functioning of prison industries.

6. Basic Amenities in the prison :- Steps should be taken to provide the basic amenities in the prison, like drinking water, proper food, latrines, bathrooms, etc. Attention has to be given for maintaining the hygienic conditions by regularly cleaning the latrines, drains, urinals, etc.
7. Adequate facilities for games:- sports and other recreational activities should be made available to the prisoners. These activities should form a part of their daily life in the prison to inculcate in them a sense of discipline and responsibility. Besides, the inmates are faced with the problems of food of inferior quality and unsuitable living condition. These have to be improved with a little governmental effort and proper supervision. Regular staff meetings at which all staff members including the head of the inmates should be conducted in order to know the extent of the problems of the prison inmates and officials on the basis of such survey reports, programmes for development of the prison system as a whole could be thought of.

8. Re-organisation of official - Inmate Relations :- Prison administration staffs are usually oriented towards the values of security, custody and retribution rather than reformation. Such kind of orientation does not help in promoting a healthy relation between the officials and inmates which is of utmost essential for reformation of the inmates. To recognise staff inmates relations, there must be classification of inmates as well as of the staff maintaining an appropriate ratio between the two for effective functioning. As suggested by many, the establishment of jail panchayat is essential which will go a long way in harmonising the relations between these two groups. We feel that the jail - panchayat, with its Psycho-social advantages, will decrease the inimical attitude between these groups and also help controlling the prison offences resulting out of dissatisfaction.

9. Rehabilitation and Future Plans of the Inmates :- After a long period of detention inside the prison when one is released it is obvious that he would feel himself as a stranger in his own society and even in the midst of his family members. As a matter of fact trouble for a prisoner begins after his release from the prison. This is because he
has been cut off from the family and society for long time. In order to avoid such problems of alienation the leave rules should be made flexible allowing the inmates to keep frequent contacts with his relatives and friends. Further, liberal rules should be implemented allowing the family members and relatives to meet the offender at short intervals. Besides steps should be taken to modify the provisions of conditional release as given under probation and parole, which will ease the problems likely to be encountered at the time of rehabilitation.

The future plans of inmates should be examined with the help of an expert committee consisting of different social scientists. The jail reception committee, as suggested in each district jail can take up this task at an appropriate time in a suitable place and the plan out the programmes of rehabilitation. This committee should also take the assistance and advice of the village panchayat and voluntary organisation of the area where an offender is to be rehabilitated.

As has been stated earlier the effective functioning of the correctional institutions, particularly the prison depends on the welfare of both the inmates and the officials. The present study suggested that further research can be taken up on the problems of two closely associated groups such as the prison officials and the prisoners family.

To sum up, we conclude that many of the common human situations leading to crime will often be with us. The discordant home life, adverse social situation bad influences of friends and colleagues will always motivate and instigate the people to involve in criminal activities. What requires immediate attention is to identify such situations which play a major role in the development of deviant behaviour. Thus, through scientific investigations and studies we can
understand the adverse situations which directly or indirectly influence people to commit crimes. Further regarding reformation and rehabilitation of the criminal as fresh look on the structure and function of the prison organisation is necessary.