The concept of 'police authority' is quite old and its origin can be traced with the emergence of early forms of community life when the need was felt to maintain order among its members. This raised the inevitable question of an agency for the enforcement of rules and laws. The need for survival gave birth to organised military forces. Gradually it was felt that military men because of their orientation to deal with an enemy were ill-suited to deal with the problems of internal security. It became evident that functionaries for maintenance of law and order had to be different from the military force and a separate specialist agency for the enforcement of laws of the land and preservation of internal peace was called for.

Knowledge about police administration in early Hindu times in India is rather obscure. However, from the study of ancient literature it is obvious that there was an elaborate system of secret and repressive police. In early days, the indigenous system of police in India was organised in many ways to the system of Saxon-England. The Zamindars in India are required to maintain public peace. The village responsibility was enforced through the headman who was assisted by one or more village watchmen. In Mughal period, the Arabo-cum-feudalistic institution of Faujdar and Kotwal was instituted. The British introduced the Daroga system to assist the servants of the East India Company who were functioning as Judges and magistrates. The Daroga system proved to be ineffective and there was a marked increase in the rate of crime. Hence there was systematic attempt to improve the management of law and order situation by Lord Wellesly in 1801. It was felt that each independent police force in the district under the control of its own District Magistrate and a post of Superintendent of Police was created. Afterwards there was Police Commission in 1860 and subsequent enactment of the Police Act of 1861. Since then the police organisation have undergone several changes to the present shape of the organisation.
The states in the Union are generally very large in size, both from the point of view of area and population. Communication facilities continue to be inadequate. To obviate this, a divisional system of administration was evolved. A few districts falling in a contiguous area, were grouped together to form a division or range. The number of division or range in a State depend on its size and population. The divisional officer of police department in the range is known as Deputy Inspector General of Police (DIG).

**State and Range Police Organisation**

The Police Act of 1861 laid the foundation for the police set up that exist in India today. According to section 4 of the Police Act, 1861, the administration of the police in a State is vested in an officer styled the Inspector General of Police assisted by such numbers of DIG and AIG as the State Government may deem fit. At the district level the act provides a District Superintendent of Police, to be responsible for the police administration in his area subject to the general control and direction of the District Magistrate. The organisational chart in respect of State Police organisation is given below:-

![State Police Organisation Diagram]

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**STATE POLICE ORGANISATION**

Inspector General of Police

Special Inspector General of Police

Additional Inspector General of Police

DIG(Range) AIG DIG DIG DIG DIG DIG DIG

SP-I/C Dis- RLY (Trg) (MU) CID Wire- Inte/

trict Principal less Spl.

ASP/DSP I/c

SP RLY PTC

Dy. Comdt

Inspector

(Comm. S.P.)

Platoon Commander

(Inspr)

Head Constable

Constable

Asstt. Sub-Inspr.

Head Constable
The district police organisation is headed by a Superintendent of Police. In a larger district, there are Additional Superintendent of Police to assist the Superintendent of Police. The organisation of district police is given below:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Position</th>
<th>Officer</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Superintendent of Police</td>
<td>I/c District</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Confidential Office</td>
<td>Addl Supdt of Police</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Special Br.</td>
<td>ASP/Dy.SP Home Inspr. I/c D.P.O.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Crime Bureau</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Special Investigating Agency</td>
<td>District Police Officer</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Reserve Lines</td>
<td>Office Supdt. Clerk</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Traffic Police</td>
<td>ASP I/c Sub-Division</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Signal Squad</td>
<td>Circle Inspr.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Prosecuting Br. Office</td>
<td>Sub-Inspector/Inspir I/c Police Station</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Head Constable/ASI/SI I/c D.P.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

From the study of the organisational set up, it can be seen that officers above the rank of Inspector are mainly covered with the supervisory duties. Officers from the rank of Inspector and below are the actual functionaries engaged in field duties. From the analysis of the organisational set up, the four important functional units of State and district police organisation can be identified, viz.,

(a) Civil police, the branch which is posted to manage the police relations and out-posts.

(b) Armed police, the reserve force which is responsible for handling law and order situation, guard duties, etc.

(c) Special Branch and Crime Branch or plain-cloth policemen responsible for collection of intelligence.
(d) Wireless and Motor Transport Branch — for maintenance of motor transport and line of communication (telephone and wireless).

The officers above are the rank of Inspectors are gazetted, though in some cases the Inspectors are declared gazetted in few States. The expression 'Subordinate' ranks mainly consists of the following ranks:

(a) Inspector
(b) Sub-Inspector (S.I.)
(c) Assistant Sub-Inspector (A.S.I.)
   (In some States there is no Assistant Sub-Inspector rank)
(d) Head Constable (H.C.)
(e) Constable (P.C.)

For the purpose of the present study, samples will be selected from the four branches viz., civil, armed, special branch/crime branch and wireless/telephone/motor transport. The four ranks i.e., Inspector, Sub-Inspector, Assistant Sub-Inspector/Head Constable and Constable have been selected to the present investigation. The detailed plan of the sample for the present study will be discussed in Chapter-IV.