

Chapter 8 POLICE ORGANISATION

There are various police forces to maintain internal security, law and order within the nation. While each state of the Republic of India has its own police, there are additional police resources with the State and Central governments which can be employed during an emergency, natural calamity or for assisting the administration during events such as festivals, elections etc. Some of these are as follows:-

A) Central Reserve Police Force (CRPF): The CRPF functions directly under the MHA, it came into existence on 27th July 1939, it is the largest among the central armed police forces. The force is headed by a Director General. It has done yeoman service to the nation. It has 240 Battalions including 6 Women's battalions. The CRPF is deployed along the length and breadth of the nation in various roles.



Role:

- (1) When necessary due to break down of law and order in any state or union territory, assist the administration in restoring the situation.
- (2) Relief and rescue during natural calamities.
- (3) Conduct anti insurgency operations against anti national and separatist elements.
- (4) During war assist the armed forces.

B) State Reserve Police Force (SRPF): Just like the CRPF, at the State Government level there are SRPF battalions comprising of personnel from within their state. SRPF is headed by an officer of the rank of Deputy Inspector General of Police. The SRPF is a reserve force at the disposal of the state government to assist the local police in maintaining law and order. These battalions are concentrated in camps within the state, where they undergo special training. During war they are given rear protection duties.



Role:

- (1) Act against anti social elements.
- (2) Assist the local police when called upon to maintain law and order.
- (3) Conduct anti insurgency operations against anti national and separatist elements.

C) Home Guard: Home Guard is an organization established in 1948 under the MHA, it is spread across all states and union territories. Its primary objective is to assist the administration and society in times of emergency or whenever called upon to do so. It is manned by volunteers from the local area of their deployment; the volunteers including Men and Women are from all sections of society, they work for the Home Guard in their spare time, thus giving it diverse capability. Home Guard is divided into two types i.e. Rural and Urban. The Home Guard functions as per the Home Guard Act. The organization is headed at the state level by “Commandant General Home Guard”. The organization is based on regional basis down to the District and Taluka level. Home Guard volunteers undergo an initial orientation training camp ranging from 10 to 42 days. They also undergo a weekly drill and an annual refresher camp of 8 days.

Role:

- (1) Assist the administration in maintaining law and order, traffic control and protection of public property.
- (2) Assist in implementation of state and central social welfare schemes.
- (3) Assist the administration during festivals, elections and other large public events in maintaining order and discipline.
- (4) Provide relief during natural calamities, riots and terrorist violence.
- (5) Help maintain communal harmony and good order.

D) Civil Defence: The civil defence organisation is one which is aimed at saving life, minimising damage to property and maintaining continuity of essential services and industrial production in the event of an hostile air attack. In a large country such as India, while civil defence is planned at the national level it is the responsibility of each state government to organize civil defence within its respective state. The Director General Civil Defence is the head at the national level, with a Director Civil Defence heading the state organization.



The civil defence organization is divided in three levels i.e. National, State and District. While there is a permanent core staff, the rest comprise volunteers from a spread of special skill sets i.e. retired defence personnel, post and telecom, medical and health workers, engineers and social workers etc.

Role: The aim of civil defence is to prevent loss of lives and property from air attacks. Accordingly its roles are defined as follows:-

- (1) Defuse enemy directed bombs and explosives.
- (2) Maintain communication channels.
- (3) Enforce blackout in cities.
- (4) Assist those injured in enemy attacks.
- (5) Firefighting and rescue.
- (6) Protection of public property.
- (7) Establish welfare centres.

Activities

1. Interview a Police person

(a) Name and designation of the person.

.....

(b) Where he or she is serving

.....

.....

(c) Serving since

.....

.....

(d) Educational and professional qualifications

.....

.....

(e) Memorable experiences

.....

(f) Advise or message to youth

.....

2. Visit a police station in your vicinity and enquire about its organization and functioning. Write down what you have learnt during the visit?

