

Police System in Chandigarh

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Abstract: Chandigarh is one of the renowned cities in India. Chandigarh is also known as 'The City Beautiful'. In order to cope up with the liveliness of the population of Chandigarh, Chandigarh Police has played an important role in maintaining law, peace, and order in the city. Chandigarh Police is also regarded as one of the efficient police in India. The mission of Chandigarh Police is to give efficient, law-abiding and responsive law enforcement machinery. Thus, this paper throws ample light on the Chandigarh Police. This paper includes the organization structure of the Chandigarh Police and also gives information about the different functioning wings of the Chandigarh Police.

Keywords: Police, Efficient, Chandigarh, Organization

1. Introduction

Chandigarh is a city and a union territory of India that serves as the capital of two neighboring states Punjab and Haryana. Chandigarh is also regarded as one of the best planned cities in India. Chandigarh is famous on international level for its architect and urban designs. It is also regarded one of the early planned cities from post - Independent India. Chandigarh is also known as 'The city Beautiful' and it is also one of the cleanest cities of India. Chandigarh was the dream city of the India's first Prime Minister, Jawaharlal Nehru. The city is located near the foothills of Shivalik range of the Himalayas in northwest India. Chandigarh was planned by the famous French Architect Le Corbusier. According to a research made in 2015 it is stated that Chandigarh has the highest police density in India. The French architect had designed the city for only 5, 00,000 people but at present the population is more than 12, 00,000 as of 2018.¹ In order to keep swiftness with the increasing population and needs of the city, Chandigarh Police, has played an important role in maintenance of law and order in the city and the Chandigarh Police has also taken many effective steps, which have taken been in various foreign countries as well.²

1.1 Chandigarh Police

The Chandigarh Police is the law enforcement agency for the Union Territory of Chandigarh in India. Chandigarh Police was restructured on 1st November 1966; the first chief of Chandigarh police was Shri.V.K. Kalia, SSP. The post of IGP was created in 1981, and 18 IGP's have been appointed till date. The current Inspector General of Police (IGP) of Chandigarh is Sh. Sanjay Beniwal IPS. Chandigarh Police has its headquarter at sector-9D Chandigarh. The head of the police is the Home Secretary of Police. The current Home Secretary of Police is Sh. Arun Kumar Gupta IAS. Chandigarh Police plays a crucial role in maintaining peace and order in the city and it has also taken various steps towards the strengthening its infrastructure and management

of traffic. Chandigarh Police has also evolved from a meager force of 1647 to the present strength of over 6000 men and women and more than 1000 Home Guard volunteers. Chandigarh has the highest police density in comparison to other cities and Union Territories of India. The mission of Chandigarh Police is to give an efficient, law abiding and responsive law enforcement machinery. Thus, Chandigarh Police has continuously trying to keep the city safe and secure. The specialized units of Chandigarh Police such as crime wing, Operation Cell, Security Wing, Traffic Police etc keep working 24*7 to provide best policing services to the citizens.³

1.2 Organizational Structure of Chandigarh Police

The Chandigarh police are headed by an Inspector General of Police who is assisted by a Deputy Inspector General of Police. The Senior Superintendent of Police takes care of crime and law & Order aspect in the city. Further, the Traffic & Security of the city is looked after by the Senior Superintendent of Police (Traffic & Security). The training, operations and crime against women and children are looked after by the Senior Superintendent of Police (Operation & Training). The Indian Reserve Battalion of Chandigarh Police is looked by the Commandant, IRB.⁴ The head of the police is the home Secretary of Police. The current Home Secretary of Police is Sh. Arun Kumar Gupta IAS. The Home Secretary reports to the Administrator of U.T. Chandigarh who is the Governor of Punjab.

1.3 Specialized Units of Chandigarh Police

Chandigarh Police has been divided into different specialized units which are as follows

- 1) Economic offence wing
- 2) Women and child support unit
- 3) Cyber-crime investigation cell
- 4) Security offence wing
- 5) Juvenile police unit

These units were established to deal with different types of crimes occurring in the city. These units contain the

¹ "Population of Chandigarh in 2018" available at <http://indiapopulation2018.in/population-of-chandigarh-2018.html> last visited on March 28, 2019.

² "Chandigarh Police" available at <http://chandigarhpolice.gov.in/aboutus.html> last visited on March 28, 2019.

³ Information available at <http://chandigarhpolice.gov.in/history-chandigarh-police.html> last visited on March 28, 2019.

⁴ Information available at http://shodhganga.inflibnet.ac.in/bitstream/10603/200227/6/06_chapter%202.pdf last visited on March 29, 2019.

specialized staff and the details regarding these units and staff is given below:-

1) Economic offence wing:-⁵

Over last two decades, Chandigarh has developed into a major business-cum-industrial center and has become the head of commercial activities in this presence of large number of Govt. offices, corporations, private companies, banking and finance institutions, migration from all parts of country etc; the volume and incidents of economics offences wing of combating economic offences and bringing their perpetrators to book. The economic offence wing was created in February 2003 to prevent, detect and investigate cases of Economic, Cyber and Intellectual related crimes to provide justice and desired relief to the victims and to become the benchmark for other units of Chandigarh Police in investigation of such cases. The economic offence wing will deal with important cases concerning multi-level-marketing frauds, lands and building rackets, offences of forgery, cheating by individuals and non-banking financial companies, cyber crimes, offences related to Intellectual Property rights and such like cases. Economic offence wing had very limited staff and resources so that's why the normal investigation of cases is conducted by local police stations. The complaints regarding the cases of embezzlements, misappropriation, forgery of Rs 50 lakhs or more or gang cases having interstate complicated cases can be investigated by economic offence wing.

2) Women and child support unit:-⁶

The reason behind the establishment of women and child support unit as a specialized unit is to effectively implement laws that seek to end violence against women and to give special consideration to children and juveniles who are found on the both sides of the criminal justice system that is victim as well as offenders. Violence against women cases can often be complex and require special skill in recognizing the gendered aspects of crime patterns, working with victims and their families, dealing with propagators and coordinating with multiple agencies. This unit shall aim to improve the ability of the police to respond to the unit needs of women victims.

3) Cyber-crime investigation cell:-⁷

The total number of cyber related complaints has witnessed a quantum jump recently. Complaints are now being received directly as well as through emails. The sudden spurt in the number of complaints are mostly related to malicious content posted on social networking sites, fake email ids, hacking of email ids, hacking of websites, credit card frauds, internet banking etc. These complaints cannot be ignored because of sensitiveness involved. Many of these complaints are simple in nature and can be dealt with the Police Station level as they do not required any specialized investigation.

⁵ Standing Order No.14/2017 available at http://chandigarhpolic.gov.in/pdf/Notification%20Circular/eow_14_2017.pdf last visited on March 30, 2019.

⁶ Standing Order No.84/2016 available at <http://chandigarhpolic.gov.in/pdf/Notification%20Circular/wcsu-84-2016.pdf> last visited on March 30, 2019.

⁷ Standing Order No.70/2014 available at <http://chandigarhpolic.gov.in/pdf/Notification%20Circular/cyber-crime-invest-cell-2014.pdf> last visited on March 30, 2019.

With the Cyber Crime Investigation Cell, Chandigarh mandate to take up enquiries and investigations related to serious cyber frauds, matters of data theft and other referred matters, the simple complaints and cases can be easily taken up at the Police Station level. The purpose of Cyber Crime Investigation Cell is to act as a catalyst in cases registered in various police stations under various section of IT Act by providing necessary information for tracing the criminal through the cyber prints left by him while committing the crime. In addition to this, Cyber cell will also investigate cases registered by Cyber Cell independently.

4) Security offence wing:-⁸

The Chandigarh Police Security Wing came into existence in the year 1994 as a separate unit of the Chandigarh Police. The wing is headed by the Senior Superintendent of Police, Security and Traffic and is assisted by two Deputy Superintendent of Police i.e. DSP - Security (Headquarters) and DSP (Operations). The security line is located in Sector - 29, Chandigarh. The main objective of this unit is to provide security cover in Chandigarh to the protected persons (PPs) of the Chandigarh administration and to other protected persons who visits Chandigarh. These includes various Special Protection Group (SPG) and National Security Guard (NSG) protects, Z+, Z, Y, etc. category protects such as Hon'ble Prime Minister of India visiting Chandigarh, His Excellency Governor of Punjab and Haryana, Hon'ble Chief Minister of Punjab and Haryana, Hon'ble Chief Justice and Justices of High Court of Punjab and Haryana, various senior police and civil officials, etc. as per the norms.

5) Juvenile Police Unit:-⁹

It is growing by acknowledging that the children are one of the weaker groups in any population and they need special care and protection. The Constitution of India implies responsibility on the State to make sure that needs of children's are fulfilled and their basic rights are protected. Enactment of Juvenile Justice (Care and Protection of Children) Act 2000 urges to achieve this objective and amends the legal position relating to Juvenile in conflict with law and children in need of care and protection. The Act urges certain duties on police and it imagines for creation of certain institutions consisting of Juvenile Justice Board, Special Juvenile Units and Juvenile Officers. These are made to make sure the due attention of state apparatus to juveniles who come in relation with law or other children requiring protection receive due attention of a State apparatus. Thus, Chandigarh Police has made a special unit i.e. Juvenile Police Unit at Women and Child Support Unit (WCSU) at Sector 17, Chandigarh. The Women and Child Support Unit of Chandigarh Police is entrusted with the responsibilities of handling Juvenile Police Unit. The DSP/Women and Child Support Unit is the Nodal Officer for all the cases involving juveniles.

⁸ Standing Order No.79/E-1/2015 available at <http://chandigarhpolic.gov.in/pdf/Notification%20Circular/security-wing-79-2015.pdf> last visited on March 30, 2019.

⁹ Standing Order No.11/2002 available at <http://chandigarhpolic.gov.in/pdf/Notification%20Circular/Standi ng-Order-11-2002.pdf> last visited on March 31, 2019.

1.4 Women Police in Chandigarh

In an effort to encourage women empowerment, the Chandigarh Police has recruited a large number of women police personnel, right from the level of constable to the DSP rank. In fact, women officers have also been appointed on important positions, including the posts of sub divisional Police Officers, DSP Traffic, DSP (Women and Child support unit) SHOs, zonal traffic inspectors and police post incharge, keeping in view the increasing role of women in society. According to the Home Ministry statistics, while women constitute only 5.33 per cent of police forces in India, the Union Territory of Chandigarh has relatively better representation of women in their police force at nearly 15 per cent. With crimes against women on the rise, more women officers are needed to register and investigate such complaints, so that women can feel safe while visiting the police stations. Also, special squads of women Personnel in police control room vehicles have also been set up.¹⁰

1.5 Chandigarh Police as a Fair and Friendly Force

The Chandigarh Police has been endeavoring to reach out to all sections of the society through various rallies, seminars, road safety drives, security programmes, self-defense training programmes, sports activities and public events. With a belief that 'sports is the best medium to bring together people from diverse backgrounds and interests on the same platform', the Chandigarh Police has over the years conducted several high profile sporting events like Times IGP Golf Tournament and Gully Cricket League. As a part of its community connect initiatives, the Chandigarh Police has been undertaking several steps to initiate a dialogue with the society members to improve the standards of policing. The basic idea of Chandigarh Police is to reinforce the public-friendly image of police through such events and programmes. As a part of its initiative to establish a better connection with the city residents, the Chandigarh Police organized the Times IGP Golf Tournament in 2012-13. A first-of-its-kind event in the history of Chandigarh Police, this high-profile tournament provided golf lovers from IAS, IPS, IRS, judiciary and defense cadres a common platform, along with the corporate. Also joining the field were lady golfers, amateurs and young budding golfers. A brainchild of the former DGP, Chandigarh, PK Srivastava, IPS, the event helped in establishing a better connection with the city residents. The Chandigarh Police organizes several walkathons and fun rallies to ensure a positive connection with senior citizens of the city.

With an objective to provide police assistance at the doorstep of the citizens, the Chandigarh Police has introduced Mobile Police Stations in Chandigarh. As a part of the Chandigarh Police's initiative to ensure safe and secure environment for girl students across schools and colleges of the city, the Chandigarh Police conducts several interaction programmes and self-defense training camps for girls in order to curb the incidents of eve-teasing and other

crimes against women. The Chandigarh Police has always been a forerunner in taking initiatives of public welfare. The Chandigarh Police honors the children for their key role in various activities and makes them a part of their initiatives be it for greener tomorrow or road safety. Road safety campaigns are conducted regularly by the Chandigarh Police. Various celebrities like MS Dhoni, Jimmy Shergill, Neha Dhupia, Adam Gilchrist etc have been roped in to drive the road to safety home the message. The Road Safety Week is also held by the Chandigarh Traffic Police every year. Scooter rallies and traffic awareness skits on road safety and helmet awareness are also organized by the traffic police. Painting competitions and quizzes on traffic safety are organized. Also, traffic safety workshop for taxi drivers, auto drivers, truck drivers, etc is held throughout the city. Moreover, the traffic police personnel also help senior citizens, children and disabled people in crossing the roads at busy traffic signals. Exhibitions on road safety, screening of road safety films and distribution of printed literature and CDs at several places in the city is undertaken during the road safety week. Apart from organizing rallies and seminars on road safety for the benefit of senior citizens and women folks, the Chandigarh Traffic Police also organizes blood donation camps as well as various competitions for school students and honors them in specially organized functions. The Children Traffic Park Cell located at Sector 23-A serves as the nodal agency for organizing and coordinating efforts of all government, social and corporate organizations for spreading awareness about road safety, especially, among the children. With the increase in influx of tourists into the city, the Chandigarh Police has introduced a novel concept of tourism police, which looks after the security needs of the visitors. The tourism police personnel are trained to be very polite, courteous and helpful towards the tourists. For effective communication, they are given training in Basic English and some other foreign languages.

The force guides the tourists on law and order, transportation, travel and security measures. The Chandigarh Police also organizes various cultural functions for the entertainment of the force. This creates a platform for everyone to celebrate special occasions together. Apart from this, the Chandigarh Police also conducts special classes for the underprivileged children¹¹

2. Conclusion

Chandigarh Police is stated as one of the most efficient police force in the country. Chandigarh Police has also taken various steps in order to maintain peace and harmony in the city. According to a research, it has been also stated that Chandigarh has the highest police density in India. Therefore, it can be concluded from the above paper that The Chandigarh Police has taken every possible step to maintain law and order in the city. Their main mission is to give an efficient, law abiding and responsive law

¹⁰ Information available at <http://chandigarhpolice.gov.in/pdf/coffee-table-book/section-iiii/section-iiii.pdf> last visited on March 31, 2019

¹¹ Information available at <http://chandigarhpolice.gov.in/pdf/coffee-table-book/section-iii/section-iii.pdf> last visited on March 31, 2019.

enforcement machinery. They have introduced various specialized units such as economic offence wing, cyber crime investigation cell etc to deal with the problems of the citizens. Thus, Chandigarh Police has taken various steps to become a fair and friendly force.

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