

*The Kolkata*

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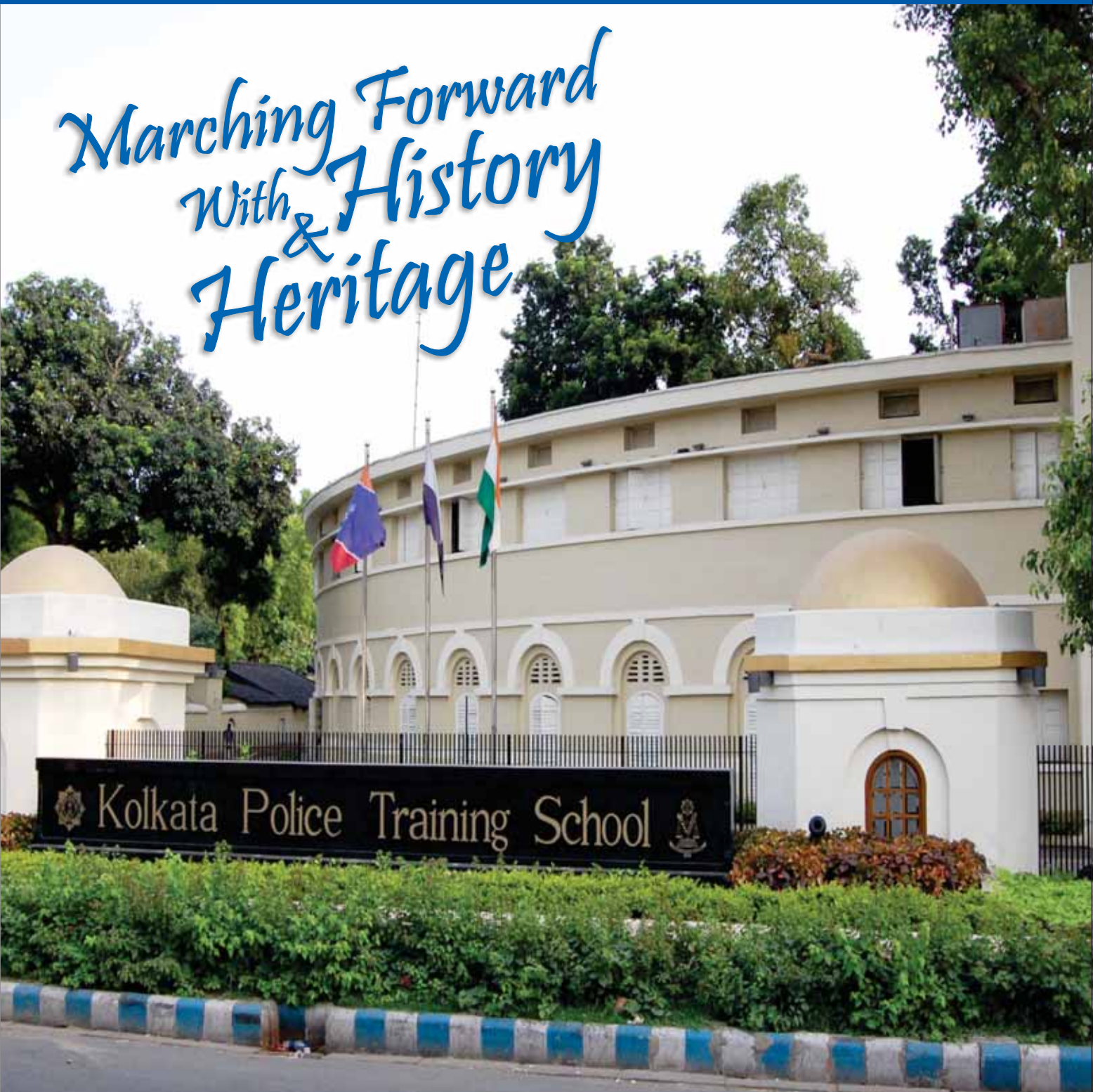
# PROTECTOR

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*A Magazine for the Kolkata Police*

**PROMOTING PEACE**

*Marching Forward  
With History  
& Heritage*





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Kolkata - **Anurag Sinha**: +91 9830043339 Mumbai - **Vinay G**: +91 9892601656

A DIVISION OF NEW MEDIA

New Media Communication Private Limited,  
1 Akbar Villa, Near Old State Bank Bus Stop,  
Marol- Maroshi Road, Marol, Andheri - (East),  
Mumbai- 400 059 India  
Phone: +91 22 29208888/ 29202999  
Telefax: +91 22 2925 5279  
[www.newmediacomm.com](http://www.newmediacomm.com)  
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# *The Kolkata* **PROTECTOR**

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Late Shri. R.K. Prasad

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**Managing Editor:** Satya Swaroop  
**Directors:** B.K. Sinha, Kamaljit S.  
**Executive Editors:** Uday Tarra Nayar, Atula Imchen & Suresh Vasudevan

**Marketing Services:** Veerendra Bhargava  
**Admin & Finance:** Sunil Kumar  
**Liaison Officer:** Vrunda G  
**Support Executive:** Arvinder Kaur Sethi  
**Circulation:** Jawaharlal, Santosh G, Vijay

**Art Director:** Santosh Nawar  
**Sr. Graphic Designer:** Hemant Kolambe

**Photographer:** Md. Iqbal Khan

**For Advertising Contact:**

+91-9830043339/9051112019  
Email: anurag@newmediacomm.biz

### BRANCHES:

#### Kolkata:

**Anurag Sinha**, Regional Head  
New Media Communication Pvt. Ltd.  
23A, Royd Street, 2nd Floor, Room No 202,  
Kolkata - 700016. Tel: +91-33-22640070/22640071  
Email: anurag@newmediacomm.biz

**Abhijit Chatterjee**, Assistant Editor  
Mobile: +91-9038542369  
Email: abhijittekdin@gmail.com/abhijit0908@rediffmail.com

**Anirban Saha, Reporter**  
Mobile: 9038484371, E-mail: anirban13saha@yahoo.in

**Vicky Rai**, Admin & Circulation

#### Pune:

**Jagdish Khaladkar**, Regional Director  
Mobile: +91-9823038315  
Email: pune@newmediacomm.biz/j.khaladkar@gmail.com

#### Patna:

**Rajesh Naraen**, Vimmi Prasad  
173 - B, 2nd Floor, S.K. Puri, Patna - 800001. Bihar  
Email: rajeshnaraen@newmediacomm.com  
Mobile: +91-9334390988

#### Bangalore:

**C.V. Shankararayanan**  
Mobile: +91-9902216970

#### Australia Office:

**Bandhana Kumari Prasad**, 129 Camboon Road,  
Noranda, Perth, W.A. 6062 Tel: +61-892757447  
Email: bandhana@newmediacomm.biz

#### New Media Communication Pvt. Ltd.,

New Media House, 1 Akbar Villa, Marol Maroshi Road,  
Andheri (E), Mumbai - 400059  
Tel: +91-22-29250690. Telefax: +91-22-29255279  
Email: enquiry@newmediacomm.biz  
www.newmediacomm.com

#### Kolkata Police Headquarters

18, Lalbazar Street, Kolkata - 700001. West Bengal, India  
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facts before making business decisions using the same.



*Dear Readers,*

Warm greetings.

Kolkata – the erstwhile capital of British India has been a witness to many historical events. The city is steeped in history. A plethora of heritage buildings and monuments are spread across the city, and as one of the oldest institutions of administration, Kolkata Police, has its own tale of rich history. The transformation from Imperial Police to Calcutta Police and thereafter, Kolkata Police, has been a long journey. Historical significance apart, the few buildings where Kolkata Police stations are housed are reminiscent of rich, Roman architecture.

This issue of Kolkata Protector focuses on the glorious, historical buildings of Kolkata Police. It is important for the present, younger generation to know their history. There are as many as 15 buildings of Kolkata Police with historical significance. For example, the headquarters of Kolkata Police (Lalbazar) was known as Palmer House during the early days of British rule. Similarly, the present Police Training School was previously known as Dalanda House. It was previously a mental asylum and the semi-circular structure was so built so that the inmates are being closely watched and monitored from all angles. This same building later became a torture chamber for revolutionaries by the colonial government. The present Kolkata Police Museum was an occasional residence of Raja Ram Mohan Roy, the pioneer of Bengal Renaissance while the Wireless Branch Station building belonged to the family of Bhawal Raja.

At present, Kolkata Police has a workforce of nearly 32,000 personnel in different ranks and its jurisdictional area has also expanded. Kolkata Police contingents with its various branches, departments, sections, cells, wings and battalions require more space with the changing situation. Despite considerable space crunch, Kolkata Police did not demolish its old, dilapidated buildings but felt the need for conserving them as finer minds in the Force pleaded for the same. Adequate fund was allocated for the restoration of these decrepit buildings. Some of them have already been renovated and have thus been saved from oblivion.

The other stories and features catered in this issue have evolved with time and are detailed with the attribution of police officers. Besides a good read, I am sure this issue will be useful for students and researchers as well.

As humans, we all wait for a new dawn, a better tomorrow. Let us pray to the Almighty to ensure this world to be a safe, secure and peaceful one.

Wish all of you a joyous and prosperous 2016.

Happy Reading!

**Satya Swaroop**  
**Managing Editor**

satya@newmediacomm.biz



**Dear Readers,**

At the outset, I would like to convey my heartfelt gratitude to the citizens for their cooperation and support to us as the city celebrated the series of festivities in the last few months. The indomitable spirit of Kolkatans who actively went out of their way to help us in managing big events like Durga Puja, Eid, Muharram, Kali Puja and Chhat Puja spurred their success. Our contingent worked tirelessly in maintaining law and order, ensured smooth traffic flow thus resulting in peaceful celebration of each event. Kolkata Police has been considerably successful in checking noise pollution through continuous surveillance on selling of fire crackers during Durga Puja, Kali Puja etc. Numerous winter fairs, events and cultural functions also took place in the city like Christmas and New Year celebrations. Much joy, enthusiasm and goodwill permeated through the city with new hopes and aspirations as citizens welcomed the New Year.

Kolkata Police has been trying to get over many a hurdle despite its manifold tasks. One very significant project was the conservation and restoration of its old, heritage buildings steeped in history. Some of the buildings housing Kolkata Police stations have already been renovated. In this issue, the cover story will dig up the history of these buildings. Besides, an article on a community initiative – Sukanya, and an article on River Traffic Police have been presented as Special Focus and Special Story respectively. Furthermore, there are articles on Commando Training and Kolkata Police Dog Squad. These informative articles will inform you about the aspects of training and surveillance. Read on for many more illuminating articles, regular segments and columns in this issue.

Kolkata Police is well aware of the expectations of the citizens. Their safety and security is our first priority. This is the reason why we consider it a joy to sacrifice our personal benefit and comfort for the call of duty.

I wish the citizens of the City of Joy much peace, happiness and prosperity in 2016.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Rajeev'.

**Rajeev Kumar**  
**Commissioner of Police, Kolkata**  
kolpolcp@gmail.com

# Rajeev Kumar Leading from the Front



*The new Commissioner of Police, Kolkata, **Rajeev Kumar**, a 1989 batch IPS officer, is totally dedicated to his calling as a man of the uniform. A remarkable bio-data replete with numerous accomplishments, Kumar served in multiple assignments Kolkata and West Bengal police jurisdiction, including Superintendent of Police (SP), Birbhum; Special SP, Enforcement Branch; Deputy Commissioner, Enforcement Branch; Deputy Commissioner, Central Division; Special SP, CID; Deputy Inspector-General, CID (Operations); Joint Commissioner, Special Task Force; Additional Commissioner, Calcutta Police; Commissioner, Bidhannagar Police. He was Additional Director General, CID before his latest assignment at Kolkata's Police headquarters.*

*A dedicated friend of citizens who is tough on criminals but a trusted and super efficient officer who delivers; these are attributes that best describe him. **Anurag Sinha** of **Kolkata Protector** met up with the new CP for a brief interview, shortly after his appointment.*

## **As the new Commissioner of Police, Kolkata, what is your list of priorities?**

My first priority is to ensure safety and security to the citizens of Kolkata. That being said, I will also accord the same priority to every visitor. We want to showcase Kolkata as the

safest place for citizens and well as tourists.

## **You have earlier served with Kolkata Police. Do you feel this as being a homecoming? What do you want the Force to be?**

Yes, it is definitely a homecoming. Prior to this

assignment, I was a part of this prestigious Force as Deputy Commissioner, Joint Commissioner & Additional Commissioner of Police. Kolkata Police is truly the pride of the State and country as well. Kolkata Police has a very rich history and is often compared with Scotland Yard. I want



Kolkata Police to retain its glory. The command of the Force would have to be strictly followed and under no circumstances should there be any breach. I want it to be a stronger, determined, well-equipped Force delivering even better service to the community. It is therefore vital to imbibe and nurture the highest level of professionalism and commitment keeping in mind the growing needs of the society and also considering that police work is rapidly expanding beyond conventional boundaries.

**You have served in many other important assignments before assuming charge of the present post. Could you please share some of your noteworthy experiences?**

I have served as ADG (CID), Commissioner of Police, Bidhannagar and discharged responsibilities in many other assignments before assuming this office. Every person experiences many things during his professional journey of which some are definitely noteworthy. But right now I want to focus on the present responsibility.

**Do you have any special plan to motivate the Force?**

Motivating the Force is one of the top priorities. We will put emphasis on strengthening Human Resource Management. The welfare for the Force is another important aspect which will be taken care of.

**What would you like to convey to the rank and file of the Force as well as to the people?**

The police cannot work in isolation. It needs community support as citizens are the eyes and ears of the police. We will make every effort to enhance community participation for ensuring better service to the society.

**How do you plan to track down criminals?**



We have efficient officers and modern equipment that will aid in tracking criminals and prosecute them. Our efforts will be to strengthen the abilities in tackling emerging challenges.

**With the advent of technology and emergence of social media, cyber crime is becoming a major cause for concern in recent times. What are your plans to curb this new menace?**

The world has become a global village thanks to technology. Besides its positive aspect, it has also unveiled and magnified the scope of cyber crimes. We do keep an eye on social media and have also started cyber patrolling. It is a special area but our officers and men are specially trained to monitor the situation. They are technically efficient to detect the source of such crimes, investigate the same and bring the culprits to book. Since the domain of crime has changed in recent times, we undertake some augmentation programmes for increasing the awareness level of citizens and sensitise them about these new trends.

**How important is Community Policing as a modern method of policing? What are your plans relating to this?**

Community Policing is a very important tool of modern policing and it is practiced all over the world. There has been a symbiotic relation between core policing and community policing. Modern policing demands strong bond with the



community. It is the need of the hour to connect with the community in every aspect. The main ingredient of Community Policing is trust and it is our objective to build a mutual trust between the police and the public. This trust rests upon the transparency and commitment from both ends. Core policing in modern days is based on stronger intelligence network and community policing is complimentary to core policing. We already have some community initiative schemes and we would like to further strengthen all community programmes in the next few months.

**How do you envision Kolkata in the future?**

Kolkata Police is one of the oldest

police forces in India. I would like it to be the best in the country. Safer, faster and friendlier is the slogan of Kolkata Traffic Police. A safer, faster, friendlier Kolkata will remain better forever and that is how I envision the city to be in the coming days.

**The job of the top cop of Kolkata Police is 24x7. How do you de-stress and find time off for your hobbies?**

Yes, there is hardly any leisure time in the lives of cops. It is very difficult to manage some spare time for ourselves but I do try to find time to exercise and swim. It helps me to stay fit as well as be stress-free throughout the day. I also love reading so I take some time off to go through new books and magazines regularly. ■



# A Peek at the Rich History Behind the Magnificent Kolkata Police Buildings

By Our Correspondent

Kolkata Police has a rich history. The journey to the present has been a long and eventful one. That is why it is felt that we go back in time and flip the pages of history to unveil this glorious past.

As one of the oldest institutions in the arena of governance and administration, Kolkata Police went through an evolutionary process in the past decades. The old buildings of Kolkata Police are naturally evident of this fact. The system of policing was introduced in India by the British rulers. Policing was initially introduced to enhance law and order, but in course of time, the police became instrumental in serving the interest of the colonial ruler and turned oppressors, particularly towards the native population who were desirous of being free from the clutches of colonial rule. With independence, Indian Police,

including Kolkata Police, scrapped the colonial legacy. However, the visionary Kolkata Police decided to preserve its historical deeds and documents for the next generation. Besides its manifold tasks, Kolkata Police has decided to concentrate on the conservation of historical documents and buildings in its possession. Its commitment towards restoration and preservation is already bearing fruit as is evident in the following pages of this chapter.

A few, newly restored buildings have received the prestigious 'KMC-INTACH Award' for best preserved buildings. The endeavour that Kolkata Police has been putting in since 2011 in refurbishing their heritage buildings is revitalising the city and we believe this will definitely encourage others to also do the same.



A wide-angle photograph of the Kolkata Police Headquarters, a large, ornate red-brick building with multiple wings and arched windows. The building is surrounded by a paved area with orange traffic cones. The sky is clear and blue.

## Kolkata Police Headquarters

# Lalbazar

This property belonged to John Palmer, the 'Prince of Merchants'. His company fell on bad times and his property was sold in 1835 to house the police headquarters. The four buildings within the campus underwent several changes and attained their present shape during the first two decades of the 20<sup>th</sup> century. During 1856-62, Michael Madhusudan Dutta, the 19th century Bengali poet and playwright, served as a judicial clerk in the Presidency Chief Magistrate's court which was also housed there.

A photograph of the Kolkata Police Museum, a single-story red-brick building with a classical facade featuring four white columns and a pediment. The entrance has a set of steps. There are some plants in pots in front of the building.

## Kolkata Police Museum

113, APC Road

This property was owned by Raja Rammohan Roy who lived here from 1815 to 1830. In 1874 the Government of Bengal rented the premises for relocating the Sukea Street Thana. It finally acquired it in 1918. In 1928, the Sukea Street Thana was shifted to Amherst Street and since then, the premises accommodated the office and official residence of the Deputy Commissioner of Police, North & North Suburban Division. In 1996, the central building was converted into a museum and archives for the Kolkata Police.





## Police Training School

Dalanda House, AJC Bose Road

Dalanda House takes its name from Dullundah - one of the fifty-five villages acquired by the East India Company in 1758. In 1847, the biggest lunatic asylum for natives was established here after shifting the old one from Russapagla. In 1906, the property was passed on to the Stamp & Stationary Department of the Government of Bengal.

In 1914, after eight years of persuasion, Sir Frederick Halliday, Commissioner of Police, Calcutta, succeeded in establishing the Police Training School here by discontinuing the practice of sending recruits to Bhagalpur for training. However, during the first few years, it became infamous when Charles Tegart used it as an interrogation centre for the freedom fighters of Bengal.

Today Dalanda House is not only the centre for the city's police training but also houses the Police Dog Squad. Architecturally, this heritage building follows the Panopticon style of Jeremy Bentham which was commonly used in prisons, hospitals and asylums where a circular structure with a surveillance house at its centre kept all inmates fearful of constant vigilance.

Dalanda House is the recipient of the KMC-INTACH Award for the Best Restored Building in 2014.





# Sealdah Traffic Guard

Almond House, 18, Canal Street

The building at 18, Canal Street where Sealdah Traffic Guard is located at is known as the 'Almond House.' It was owned by Mr C.H.Smith who resided in it from 1892 till it was purchased by Mr C.J. Disscut in 1900. This premises belonged to Mr Basanta Lal Nathany during 1929 -1942. It was subsequently occupied by Sir Abdul Halim Ghuznavi who later purchased it. In 1948, he bequeathed this property to a Trust whose trustees were Begum Lady Quartriana Sultana Zobeida Faroqui and Nawab Sir KGM Faroqui.

Sir Abdul Halim Ghuznavi (1876-1953), the Zamindar of Delduar, Mymensingh and Chairman of Tangail Municipality actively participated in the ongoing political, economic and educational movements. In 1905, he moved a resolution opposing the partition of Bengal in the Indian National Congress at Banaras. To popularise Swadeshi goods, he started the United Bengal Company and the Bengal Hosiery Company. He was a member of the Indian Legislative Assembly in 1927 and was a delegate to all three Round Table Conferences. He was appointed as the Sheriff of Calcutta in 1935.

This house which had a rich collection of rare books and documents was also used as a public space for socio-political meetings including several Swarajya party meetings. In time, the house fell into a deplorable state of disrepair and the Trustees could no longer maintain it.

in August 18, 1970, this 28 cottah property was acquired by the Commissioner of Police, Calcutta for the Enforcement Branch. in March 17, 1976, the Sealdah Traffic Guard was established here. This old, decrepit building was considered for demolition but in 2014, finer minds who were committed to the conservation of heritage in Kolkata Police revoked the decision and restored the historical building, thus saving it from oblivion.





# Limelight

Centre for Police - Citizen Connect, 112, Ripon Street

Before the 19<sup>th</sup> century, Ripon Street was known as 'Mendhee-bagan-ka-rusta' and South Collinga Street. 112 South Collinga Street was the residence of R.E. Twidale, a pleader of the Calcutta High Court between 1874 and 1891. The property was then sold to the Maharaja of Nadia, Kshitish Chandra Roy, who named it the Nadia House.

In 1912, the house was purchased by Surendra Nath Motilal of Muchipara for his daughter Sarajubala Devi, who married the Borokumar of the Bhowal Estate of Dacca. The building was remodelled in 1926 and the Maharani of Bhowal owned it till 1948. Mejo Kumar Ramendra Narayan Roy of the Sanyasi Raja fame stayed here between 1924 and 1929 and fought his legal battles in the Calcutta High Court and the Privy Council.

During World War II, the British Government in India requisitioned the premises for the Allied troops and later handed it over to the Commissioner of Police, Calcutta who formally acquired it in 1948.

By 2004, the building, now old and decrepit, was being considered for demolition. Yet again, conservationists within the police department revoked the decision.

In 2013, the Kolkata Police Housing & Infrastructure Development Corporation Ltd restored the historical building, redesigned the landscape of the premises and saved it from oblivion. Limelight, as it is now called, is dedicated to the citizens of the city to hold socio-cultural programmes. It is the recipient of the KMC-INTACH Award for the Best Restored Building in 2013. ■

# Section House Buildings

## PRELUDE

The history of the present structure of policing in Kolkata goes back to colonial times. Until recently, Kolkata was known as Calcutta, a name coined by Job Charnock, an Englishman who settled in the city, near the banks of the Hooghly, in the early 17<sup>th</sup> century. During Job Charnock's time, there was no regular police presence in the city. The origin of the Calcutta Police can also be traced as far back as 1704, when authorities decided to set up a watch and ward unit after a prolonged deliberation at a meeting in Fort William on 6<sup>th</sup> February 1704. It was ordered in Council "that one Chief Peon, 45 Peons, 2 Chhubdars or Chobdars (Sceptre - bearers) and 40 Goalas (Milk men) be appointed. Thus was laid the foundation of policing in Calcutta. The Head Peon was designated as Kotwal and the peon was renamed PAIK (Watchman) within one year. In 1710, the Company introduced night patrol in town areas. As a result, law and order improved. In 1720, the Company appointed one Zamindar, Gobinda Mitra of Calcutta, to be in charge of both civil and criminal administration. Three Naib Dewans worked under the

Zamindar. One of them was in charge of the police.

By a statute passed by the Governor General-in- Council in 1778, the strength of the police in Calcutta was raised to 700 Paiks, controlled by 31 Thanedars and 34 Naibs under a Superintendent. This was published by a Gazette Notification by the Commissioner in charge of policing on 9<sup>th</sup> June 1785. Calcutta, under the above mentioned notification, was divided into 31 Thanas, among which were Armenian Church, Old Fort, Chadpal Ghat, Jorasanko. Thana (Police Station) buildings were then known as Section House.

## PARK STREET PS

Earliest available records show that in 1856 and 1857, the location of the present Park Street Police Station was at 3, Middleton Row. It was then named as Budamtollée Thana (Alphabetically it was Section P in 3<sup>rd</sup> or Southern Division) under Superintendent George Purney having his Divisional Office at the same premises at 3, Middleton Row. Inspector WJ Moore was in charge of the then Budamtollée Thana. The then Bamun Basti Thana (now Shakespeare Sarani PS) was also located at the same premises. However, the records of 1862 and 1863 show the location of Budamtollée Thana (Section P in 3<sup>rd</sup> or Southern Division) at





40, Park Street under the aforesaid Divisional Superintendent. In 1874, Park Street Police Station or Budamtollie Police Station (Section P in South Division) was located at 1, Royd Street in the charge of Inspector A. Story. This police station was under Divisional Superintendent J. Mylan whose office was at 52, Park Street. By the close of 1918, the premises at 89, Park Street was acquired by the Govt. of Bengal for Park Street Police Station because premises No. 4, Kyd Street which was held on a monthly lease, was no longer available. Remodelling of the premises at 89, Park Street was done the following year. Subsequently in 1924, a proposal was submitted to float a loan of Rs 17 Lakhs during the next two years to meet non-recurring cost for acquisition of land, construction of buildings of some police stations and outposts and for the construction of barracks in the Park Street Police Station compound. It was suggested to finish construction work for occupancy within 1926. Park Street Police Station building is an exposed brick building, has an arched entrance door with a pediment supported on pilasters and semicircular arches over the windows on the first floor. The present Park Street PS (Sec-K1) is housed here.

### **BOWBAZAR PS**

The earliest reference regarding Bowbazar Police Station could so far be traced to 1856 under Second or Middle Division. It was then located at 24 & 25, Bowbazar Street. The police station was then controlled by Inspector W. Rennicks. The



Divisional Superintendent was Mr. G B Mitchison and his office was at 24, Bowbazar Street. In 1868, the jurisdiction of the said Police Station was Bowbazar Street (now Bipin Behari Ganguly Street) in the north, Dhurumtollah Street (now Lenin Sarani) in the south, Wellington Street (now Nirmal Chunder Street) in the east and Bentinck Street in the west.

The other police stations bordering this police station were Colootollah Police Station (portion of present Bowbazar and Jorasanko PS areas) to the north, Taltollah Police Station to the south, Puddopuker Police Station (present Muchipara PS area) to the east and Mangoe Lane Police Station (present Hare Street PS area) to the west.

According to available records in 1874, this police station was located at 33, Bowbazar Street (near Baptist Church). It was then alphabetically known as Section J under the Middle Division of Calcutta Police. Mr. A Younan was the Superintendent of this Division. His office was located at 32, Bowbazar Street (now Bipin Behari Ganguly Street). However, at present this police station is alphabetically known as Sec-H.

In 1924, Mr. C A Tegart, the then Commissioner of Police submitted a proposal to the government to float a loan (from Govt. of India) of 17 Lakhs during the next two years to meet the non-recurring cost of construction of buildings and charges for acquisition of land for combined Bowbazar and Hare Street, Sukea Street and other police stations. By the end of 1924, the Legislative Council had voted for allocation of funds. Construction of a building for both Bowbazar and Hare Street Police Stations started at 42, C R Avenue in 1925. It was occupied in 1926. A separate building for Bowbazar Police Station was constructed at 13, Kapalitola Lane and was inaugurated by the then Chief Minister Jyoti Basu on December 8, 1986.

### **JORABAGAN PS (Duff College)**

The information from the earliest available directories of Calcutta shows that in 1856, Jorabagan Thana (Section E within 1<sup>st</sup> or Northern Division) was located at 4, Pathuria Ghata Street. Inspector W. Alexander was in charge of the police station. Inspectors S. C. Arratoon and Sheikh Molinee were also posted there. Mr. H.T. Green was the





Divisional Superintendent having his office at 47, Chitpore Road. In 1874, the Thana was located at 20, Durmahatta Street. Even in 1906, the Thana, within Northern or 1<sup>st</sup> Division, was located at the same place in the charge of Inspector B.B. Sinha and under Divisional Superintendent, S.C. Alridge. Subsequently, the Thana shifted to 74, Nimtola Ghat Street which is the present address for Jorabagan PS (Sec-B).

Rev. Alexander Duff came to Calcutta in 1830 at the instance of the Church of Scotland in order to spread English education in India. He was welcomed by Raja Ram Mohan Roy who permitted to introduce a school at the Brahmo Samaj building. At the instance of Raja Ram Mohan Roy, Rev. Duff established General Assemblies Institution on July 13, 1830 with five students in the house of Kamal Bose at 51, Upper Chitpore Road on rent at the rate of Rs. 40/- per month. As the students increased, the school was shifted to the house of Gorachand Basak in Garanhatta area, and by March 1838, it was shifted to its own building in Cornwallis Square, in the east of Hedua.

Meanwhile, there was a split in the Scottish Churches because of

disagreement and disharmony - 'Church of Scotland' and 'Free Church'. As Rev. Duff belonged to the latter, he severed connection with the General Assemblies Institution and started Free Church Institution or Duff College at 68, Nimtola Ghat Street on rental basis. Later, in March, 1847, the Duff College was shifted to its own newly constructed palatial building at 74, Nimtola Ghat Street. The building has Tuscan style columns in the frontage. The projecting central wing has a high arched porch and a broad flight of steps leading up to the main central hall on the ground floor. This building had 28 classrooms with a capacity of about 1200 students. The college building had three big halls - two of which had the capacity of 700 and 450 students respectively, one library and a laboratory. The Duff College continued its classes in this building till 1908. Following the settlement of differences among the Scottish Churches, Free Church Institution again united with General Assemblies Institution and shifted to the original Scottish Church College in Hedua.

As per Government records, this building was purchased by the

Government of Bengal from Rev. A. Tomery of Free Church Mission on July 22, 1908 for Rs. 2,00,000. The superficial plinth area including its verandah is 16,134 sq. ft. In 1909, administrative approval was received for alteration in the Duff College building for the purpose of converting it into a police district headquarter. Work was slated to be completed by 1910. By 1908, Jorabagan Police Station started functioning from this building and some alterations were also made for the Armed Police barracks in 1912. Additions and alterations were again made in 1913 as two new Courts were opened in January 1914. The Northern Court with the Fifth Presidency Magistrate with jurisdiction over the northern part of the town was housed in this building while another Court, being the Southern Court with the Second Presidency Magistrate with jurisdiction over the southern part of the town, functioned from 4, Kyd Street.

## MUCHIPARA PS

A rich Punjabi Huzurimal, who was a Sikh by faith, dug a lake with an area about 55 bighas beside Baith Khana in Bowbazar locality in 1780. The lake was known as Padmapukur and the



police station there was known as Padmapukur Police Station. Later, another police station was set up at the western side of the filled-up lake. This newly constructed Muchipara Police Station then consisted of Champatala, Dingabhangra, Chasadhopa Para etc.

The area of Muchipara PS was divided into three parts - Muchipara, Padmapukur and Sankharitola and existence of the three police stations were evident among the 40 Police Stations in 1822. During this period, Captain Steel, an army officer, was appointed as Superintendent of Police under the overall control of D. Mc Farlon, the Chief Magistrate. Following a report from the SP Captain Steel, the number of police stations was scaled down to 37 in 1832. Some police stations were merged at this time. Sankharitola PS was merged with Padmapukur PS.

During the early days of British rule, particularly before the emergence of modern policing, the police in many situations used to exercise power more than its executive role. In 1864, a Deputy Commissioner was appointed to look after the executive role of the police. Calcutta Police then consisted of

a Commissioner of Police, one Deputy Commissioner, three Superintendents, 30 Inspectors, 45 Sergeants, 32 Havildars, 25 European Constables and 1315 Indian Constables. There were six Mounted Orderlies, 116 men in the River Police and 183 armed men as reserve force. According to the Calcutta Municipal Corporation Act 1876, the city of Calcutta was divided into 18 police stations and each was marked according to CMC ward. Muchipara P.S was earlier marked as Ward No 9.

## JORASANKO PS

Jorasanko is a neighbourhood in north Kolkata and it is so called due to the existence of two (jora) wooden or bamboo bridges (sanko) that spanned a small stream at that point.

In 1819, Chief Magistrate of Calcutta, Mr. Shakespeare, suggested setting up some police stations comprising of one Thanadar, one Mohara, one Zamadar and 15 Burkundazs or Constables. The British Government accepted the proposal. They were then raised to 40 in 1822. One Chowkidar of Jorasanko Police Station looked after 73 houses against 21 Chowkidars which was sanctioned earlier (1822).

In 1830, Ainuddin was the Thanedar of Jorasanko Police Station. It is pertinent to mention that at the time, most of the Thanedars were Non-Bengalis.

In 1856, Calcutta Police Force was established under the charge of Commissioner of Police Mr. Samuel Wauchope. The total number of police stations in three divisions had been reduced to eighteen (18), as on emanation, the area and number of police personnel was augmented in each police station. In 1856, Jorasanko Police Station was situated at 47, Chitpore Road (Upper) and alphabetically called Section F. It was under the charge of J.S. Morton, Inspector, 3<sup>rd</sup> Class, and H.T. Green was Divisional In-charge, North Division. The strength of Jorasanko Police Station at that time was two European and 89 native police (Total - 91).

In 1857, T. Mc. Namara, Inspector 3<sup>rd</sup> Class, took over Jorasanko PS from J.S. Morton, Inspector, 3<sup>rd</sup> Class. In 1866, Gabriel Anthony, Inspector, 2<sup>nd</sup> Class took over Jorasanko Police Station from Barnard, Inspector, 2<sup>nd</sup> Class. The PS was then at 64, Chitpore Road. In 1874, Inspector Abdool Rahman joined Jorasanko Police Station which was at 79 & 80, Upper Chitpore Road. W.R.Lamb was appointed as Divisional In-charge in place of H.T. Green. In 1875, Inspector T. Duke joined Jorasanko Police Station.

According to Calcutta Exchange Gazette on 25<sup>th</sup> March 1868, the jurisdiction of this police station was Upper Chitpore Road in the North; Gurudas Street in the South; Machhooa Bazaar Street in the East; Cornwallis Street and



Chitpore Road in the West. This was evident in a circular issued by J. Lambert, Commissioner of Police vide Order no. 252 dated 19<sup>th</sup> January 1891.

In 1905, Sir Frederick Lock Halliday, then Commissioner of Police, made major contribution towards the modernization of Calcutta Police. At that time, the jurisdiction of Calcutta Police was divided into three town divisions. Jorasanko Police Station was under the First Division.

In 1906, B. Gupta and L.N. Mullick joined Jorasanko PS as the first Indian personnel under Divisional In-charge, S.C. Alridge.

According to records, the present Jorasanko PS was situated at 20, Mukhtaram Babu Street. The Calcutta Police Gazette (CPG) published on 20<sup>th</sup> September 1921 in Para No. 3475 states that Jorasanko Police Station was shifted from 20, Mukhtaram Babu Street to 7 & 7/1, Syed Sally Lane on 18<sup>th</sup> September 1921. Later in

1927, with reference to the CPG published on 22<sup>nd</sup> March 1927, the presence of the Jorasanko PS was found at Chitpore Spur. It is evident from the records of Calcutta Municipal Corporation (presently named as Kolkata Municipal Corporation) that the present Bal Mukund Makkar Road (so named on November 29, 1938) was previously called Chitpore Spur and also as New CIT Road.

After Independence, Sub Inspector Basanta Kumar Chatterjee was posted at Jorasanko PS. He was succeeded by Sub Inspector Subir Ranjan Chatterjee. Basu Dinesh Chandra Chandra was the Officer-in-Charge and he was succeeded by Sub Inspector Najm-ul-Huda.

From the records of Calcutta Municipal Corporation on 1<sup>st</sup> January 1981, the present premises of 16, Bal Mukund Makkar Road was owned by the Executive Engineer, P.W.D. Suburban Division. The building, owned by the Commissioner of Kolkata Police, and Jorasanko PS, or Section E1, has been using this building since 1982.

## HARE STREET PS

From 1864 to 1916, there were 18 *Thanas* in town and they were divided into three divisions.

1. North Division
2. Middle Division
3. South Division

By the Commissioner's Order No. 983, dated 19<sup>th</sup> April 1916, on and from 25 April 1916, the number of *Thanas* in town was reduced from 18 to 12. Hare Street Thana was placed under the Southern Town classification and alphabetically assigned the letter G.

As per the Calcutta Police Gazette dated 9<sup>th</sup> January 1918 Para No. 80, the old Waterloo Section was redistributed as Section G - Hare Street along with a sub-section XIV at 21, Waterloo Street which was popularly known as the Waterloo Outpost.

The first Indian Sub-Inspector to be in charge of Section G was Nepal Lal Mullick who relieved Sub Inspector M. Fallon by the Commissioner's Order No. 238 on 14<sup>th</sup> February 1918. He was subsequently relieved by E. Neilson on deputation to Section G for Nepal Lal Mullick's promotion.

The first dacoity alarm system was established at Hare Street Police Station which was located at 14, Hare Street with an outpost on 21, Waterloo Street and another at 1, Pollock Street.

Although there are no chronological records stating the exact date of the establishment of Hare Street Police Station, but from certain records of the Calcutta Police Gazette dated 13<sup>th</sup> November 1929, it appears that Hare Street PS was under the Second Division Port Police and was combined with Bowbazar under the heading - South Town





Police Station. It was called the Police Section House Section G as per the Calcutta Police Gazette dated 25<sup>th</sup> February 1928 under the Ld. Commissioner, Sir Charles Tegart. It also came to light that the Hare Street PS Section G and Bowbazar PS Section H were constructed at the Kapalitola Lane as per records.

Hare Street and Bowbazar Thanas combined were the largest police stations in terms of numerical strength.

The peripheral jurisdiction of both the thanas - Section G and Section H remains the same till date but the ratio of civilians to police has increased dramatically. The total area of policing extends to 2.56 square kilometres.

Section H and G were housed in the same building at 47, Central Avenue which was officially bifurcated into two distinct holdings of their own in 1986. The building at 47, Chittaranjan Avenue which houses the Hare Street Thana has since been declared a heritage structure of national importance by KMC.

## BURRABAZAR PS

The existence of Burrabazar PS was first recorded in 1930 with another 39 police stations in Calcutta under the British rule. At that time, a total of 28 'chowkidars' were posted at Burrabazar P.S. with the duty to keep watch over the residences and properties inside the P.S. jurisdiction.

After the implantation of Patton Committee advisories, the strength of Burrabazar Police Station in 1856 was 95, of which two were European. The first 'Thanadar' of Burrabazar Police Station was Ashraf Khan in the year 1830, as mentioned in historical documents.

As per Calcutta Police Gazette dated 02.02.1918, Para No. 315 (File No. 3068-15), Burrabazar Police Station was situated at 7, Sambhu Nath Mallik Lane, Calcutta - 700007, a four-storied building. Referred as 'Section D', Burrabazar Police Station was under North Town Division. At present, Burrabazar Police Station is alphabetically known as Section D1.

However, the shifting of the police station to another premise was under consideration because of legal complexities. Finally, the building of Burrabazar Police Station was shifted to 8, Mullick Street, Calcutta - 700007 vide Calcutta Police Gazette dated 11.08.1932, Para No. 2954. From 1932 till date, Burrabazar P.S. is located at the same



address. As per K.M.C. record, the plan for formation of this building was sanctioned on 27.09.1919 in favour of a private owner, Late Valbhav Das Madho. At that point of time, Mullick Street was part of K.M.C. Ward No. 07. However in 1927, then Commissioner of Police, Calcutta, requisitioned the four-storied building at 8, Mullick Street, Calcutta - 700007, for official use.

The first Indian Officer-in-Charge of Burrabazar Police Station after independence as per record was D.N.Mullick (01.01.1952-01.07.1952).

At present, the premise falls under K.M.C Ward No. 42, Borough-V. The Police Station building is being maintained by Public Works Department, City Division, Writers' Building.

The 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> floors of the building are used as barracks for the PS staff and as a restroom for the officers of the P.S. The 4<sup>th</sup> floor is demarcated as family quarters. Altogether, 70 iron cots have been placed inside the barracks to accommodate the Force. ■







## DODGE KINGSWAY DELUXE

This Dodge Kingsway Deluxe vehicle was purchased by the Kolkata Police on 26.11.1956 from M/S. Auto Distributors at a price of Rs. 11, 431/-. It was the official vehicle of the Commissioner of Police. Shri. H.S. Ghosh Chowdhury, IP, was the first Commissioner of Police to use this vehicle.

Today, this majestic vehicle has become a part of Kolkata Police's heritage and history. It is in good condition, regularly maintained and is the pride of the Kolkata Police. It is now being used only on ceremonial occasions by the Commissioner of Police like Republic Day Parade, Independence Day etc. ■





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# Instilling Confidence in **Girls** through **Sukanya**

Anirban Saha

The Sukanya Project, a martial arts training provided to school girls from various city schools, is one of the most talked about initiatives of the Kolkata Police. The wide appreciation it has received from the public and school authorities alike has kept it in high gear since its inception in February 2014. The second phase of the three-month schedule received a record number of applications, but due to limited seats, students had to be selected on merit basis.

“Sukanyas are ready to fight back any untoward situation. This project instills confidence amongst girls,” said Soven Banerjee, Assistant Commissioner-in-Charge of Community Policing Wing of Kolkata Police. These young ladies do not think of themselves as the weaker sex anymore, all

thanks to the self defense training, he added. “We have also conducted a feedback session of this ongoing Sukanya Project and received positive response. The foremost thing which the students and many parents and teachers want is for the training to be a year-long activity. We are looking into this and see if this can be fulfilled.” Not resting on the positive response, Soven Banerjee constantly requests for suggestions and wants the students, teachers and parents to speak their heart out about anything regarding the project.

The martial arts training provided to the students include judo, karate, kick boxing, aikido, taekwondo and mixed martial arts - which encompasses boxing, kick boxing, karate, jiu-jitsu, muay thai, taekwondo,

wrestling and judo. Apart from these self defense techniques, the girls are also taught to avoid any conflict arising out of a situation. “The training sessions not only improve their physical strength but also go a long way in increasing their mental strength and self confidence,” said Pradipta Kumar Roy, who along with his wife Ruma Roy Choudhury, both Masters of Taekwondo and Taekwondo Hall of Fame members, train students of six schools under Sukanya. At Jagadish Vidyapith for Girls, one of the schools under taekwondo training, older students who have been trained in the first phase, are also encouraged to take part in the training sessions with the newer trainees. “This is beneficial to the students as they can strive towards perfecting their skills.



Sharpening skills in martial arts require much discipline, dedication and determination. One must train diligently to constantly challenge the body and mind to achieve perfection," added Mr. Roy. Such is the enthusiasm about the project that even some of the teachers have started training in martial arts.

Martial Arts not only develop the physical aspect of a being but also bring forth a distinctive personality and help in better understanding of oneself. Many people around the world have made martial arts a profession. At Surah Kanya Vidyalaya under Beliaghata PS, the girls are being trained in kickboxing under the supervision of Sensei Montu Das and his associates, Indrajit Pandey and Naushad Alam. The second phase of the training has ended and has infused the necessary skills of self defense in students. Ankita Bera, a Std VIII student said, "The training has boosted my confidence level, thanks to the rigorous mental and physical conditioning I went through." Another student, Paromita Mondal of Std IX added, "Some of our parents, my mother being one of them, did not approve of us fighting. I had to convince her by helping her understand the pros of the training. She agreed after I assured her that I will balance my studies and other activities along with it."

In a brief meeting with Debjani Dutta Roy, Principal of Surah Kanya Vidyalaya, it became evident that everyone wanted the training sessions to continue. She said, "During feedback sessions with the Kolkata Police authorities, I have suggested increasing the duration of the three month's course to a year-long activity so that a sense of continuity and flow keeps the students proactive." Sports-in-Charge of the same school, Ganga Majumder, put forth a significant viewpoint. She suggested counseling sessions in moral ethics and behavior for boys of various schools so that a sense of respect for the female gender is instilled in them at an early age. Keeping in mind the patriarchal nature of the Indian society, change in mindset has become necessary so that females too can equally strive at par with their male counterparts.

Principal of Brahmo Balika Shikshalaya, Jana Majumdar echoed the thoughts of parents whose wards have received training under the project. "The parents have been supportive and they provide positive feedbacks regarding this initiative of the Kolkata Police. A big thank you also goes to the trainers for their diligence and dedication in training the girl child for self-defense."



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# Combat Force: Ready to Counter Terrorist Attacks

**Lt. Col Nevendera Singh Paul**

Deputy Commissioner, Combat Battalion

Terrorist attacks are the new menace of human civilization and the world has witnessed deadly attacks in different parts of the world. India is also not unaffected from such attacks as the many instances of cowardice have been witnessed in our country on many an occasion. The changing face of terrorist attacks has shocked almost every country including India. Terrorists are the enemy of human civilization, irrespective of their caste, creed, religion and nationality. The world has to stand united to fight against terrorism and make the world a safe place for mankind. India too is gearing up for the same. One of the reasons for such deadly attacks at important places is to draw the attention of the global community and get wide publicity. In the face of terrorist attacks at various places around the world, Kolkata Police created its combat battalion in 2010.

The establishment of commando forces in India was initiated in 1962 but gradually, some more forces were created to enhance safety and security. They are Para Commandos, Special Frontier Force, Garur Commando Force, Marine

Commando Force (MARCOS) and National Security Guard (NSG). These forces are always prepared to respond to any attack. They also provide VIP security and aid in rescue operations.

Kolkata Police's Commando Force is always prepared to fight any terror attack in the city as well as conducting rescue operations during natural calamities or disasters. The Commando Force is well equipped with advance weapons like INSUS, AK's, SLR, GLOCK PISTOL, 9MM PISTOL etc which are used for security purposes as well as for rescue operations. The city has witnessed exemplary services of the commandos during the inferno of AMRI Hospital and Stephen Court. The death toll could have been worse if not for the Commandos.

Kolkata Police sends their best boys for commando training. They are trained by the NSG. These Commandos are physically and mentally trained and prepared in a very special environment. Kolkata Police's Commando Force carries out mock drill operations on a regular basis under the guidance of the NSG.

## Special Forces of Kolkata Police and Functional Efficiency

It should come as no surprise to anyone that initially, the police force was geared only for maintenance of law and order. With the expansion of threat perception, the police force has become responsible for increasing counter terrorism and is rapidly adopting desired training and equipment. Kolkata Police has created a specialized unit for counter-terrorism operation on the line of SWAT units to provide a cutting edge to the emerging opportunities in the city's security.

## Meeting Today's Threat

The role of Special Operations Group (SOG) and Commando (CDO) of Kolkata Police is to ensure a calibrated, swift and dynamic response to security contingency in Kolkata and execute decisive speedy operations against terrorist strikes. They are seamlessly trained in the full spectrum of







Tactical Urban Training. Ability to achieve success in a mission requires being prepared with live, high quality training. The training offers immediate, accurate feedback and evaluations, giving one the right tools for training and learning for life. Training modules with ability to instantly evaluate the results from training session creates an effective learning process.



### Environmental Realities and Necessities

It is imperative that environmental necessities and likely future trends of operations being undertaken will decide the structuring of the Force. Considering the existing security environment, security apparatus in various vital/vulnerable areas and vital/vulnerable points (VAs/VPs) in the city as well as tackling terror strikes in the shortest time-frame, there is a need to train our CDOs to operate in inter-operability with other security agencies. The significance of maintaining a force that is on a high state of readiness and a swift response to overcome challenges posed by all facets of terrorism remains the focal point of the vision for which it is raised. It is an accepted fact that as the threat dimensions has become dynamic, the role and employment of SOG/CDOs will be as 'first responders' and later as integrated efforts with both Army and National Security Guard (NSG). A delayed response by SOG/CDOs defeated the 'raison d'etre' for their raising and hence needs to be mobilized in the shortest time frame.

#### Benefits of Specialized Troops

- A formidable force readily available to be launched in the city for operations at short notice.
- Recce, liaison and mock exercises at various VAs/VPs along with various stakeholders.
- Planning, requisitioning, provisioning of essential services during training, exercises, routine functioning and operations.
- Occasional visibility and information of their presence helps in confidence-building measures amongst populace.
- Acts as deterrent which precludes the terrorists from resorting to any misdemeanor.
- Regular training exercises with all stakeholders underlines in-depth knowledge about strength and limitations which entails mission-oriented training to ensure reckonable combat worthy unit.



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# Cop's Commitment

## A Gift to Kolkatans

By Our Correspondent

"We were overwhelmed, felt honoured when Durga Puja organizers during the coordination meeting suggested that we take a one day break during festivities so we can spend it with our families," said Santanu Chattopadhyay, Officer-in-Charge of Bowbazar Police Station. Like previous years, a meeting chaired by the Commissioner of Police, Surajit Kar Purkayastha, was held at Rabindra Sadan. While sharing the experience of being on duty working for 10 days at a stretch during Durga Puja, Muharram, Lakshmi Puja, Chattopadhyay said, "During the discussion, some Puja Committee members placed a proposal before the CP



to grant us leave for a day so that we could enjoy the Puja festivities with our family." What better recognition for our hard work than this, he exclaimed.

It is almost impossible for any police personnel to take a break during major events like the Puja, but their kind gesture left the policemen very grateful and humbled. The people's warmth and concern for the cops as well as their families was overwhelming, as described by OC Bowbazar Police Station.

It is true that cops' duty schedule is hectic but police personnel passionately keep discharging their duties without complaint. No personnel can skip duty especially during big events. The overlapping dates of Durga Puja and Muharram this year posed as a challenge before the police. According to the then DC (Central) Bastab Vaidya, "It was a great challenge for us because the issue of overlapping dates was quite sensitive. Kolkatans get into the festive mood at least three days prior the normal puja schedule. The Muslim community also take out

processions from Akhras for holding mock fights. Traffic management as well as maintaining law and order during such days is a mammoth task. But police personnel of all ranks would be performing their duty relentlessly for 10 days. Like many others, I also did not bother to go home every night but slept for a few hours on my office sofa. The integrity, sincere effort and continuous duty have made us excel and become champions in managing such big events."

Amit Rakshit, Officer-in-Charge of Jorasanko Police Station said, "Processions from Akhras were taken out from 15<sup>th</sup> October and





on 24<sup>th</sup> October, the tenth and final day. The Tajias of Muharram were immersed in the water bodies in the Wattgaunge area. After constant interaction with the Akhra members, they agreed to give up the practice session for a few days. There are as many as seven Akhras in Jorasanko and Bowbazar Police Station area, he added. Santanu Chattopadhyay, OC of Bowbazar PS informed that several meetings with the Khalifas (Chief of Mazaar), Deputy Commissioner and finally with the Commissioner of Police

yielded positive results in averting any confrontation with the puja crowd.

Three types of processions are taken during Muharram. Mughal procession is taken out by the Shias. They did not forego the procession but shortened their route and timing and the Muharram volunteers helped the police with traffic management. Durga Puja was scheduled for three days from October 20 onwards and the crowd is heavily concentrated on CR Avenue especially during the afternoon. Muslim religious and

social leaders thus decided to forego Muharram procession on the seventh day. Similarly, the route and timing for the procession on the ninth day was curtailed following constant deliberation with the leaders. The then DC (Central) while describing their efforts informed that periodic meetings with the Khalifa and social leaders helped reached a pragmatic solution on the issues of overlapping dates and crowd management. ■



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# Kolkata Police Ensures Security During Chhat Puja

By Our Correspondent

Kolkata is a mini India and a true example of the country's unity in diversity. Chhat Puja or the worship of the sun god is observed by a section of Hindi speaking people. There are nearly 50 lakhs people in Kolkata participating in Chhat Puja. Chhat is observed for two days during sunrise and sunset. The followers choose a route leading to the ghats or water bodies. Since a good number of people gather at the ghats, Kolkata Police makes all necessary arrangements for the safety and security of Chhat worshippers. They also secure the corridors along the river ghats. Traffic is diverted to avoid commotion. Personnel of Disaster Management Group (DMG) is kept ready should any rescue operation is required. Round the clock monitoring is also taken up by the River Traffic Police.

Kali Puja is followed by Chhat Puja, so Kolkata Police judiciously plan traffic movement and crowd management

during these big festivities. The Police takes all possible preparations for managing the crowd and traffic during Chhat Puja. Devotees, including women and children, either walk or take a vehicle to get to the river ghats. Some perform *dandi* along the way, so traffic is regulated or diverted.

This year, Chhat was observed on November 17 and 18. On the first day, devotees gathered at the river ghats before sunset and then gathered on sunrise the next morning to worship the sun god. Barricades were installed at specific points for their safe passage. Police picketing was also set up to maintain law and order during their transit. These were seen at Babughat, Gwalior Ghat, Baje Kadamtala Ghat, Ahiritola Ghat and other bathing ghats along the Ganga.

Deployment of police personnel and their safety and security arrangements were made at Ramtekari Ghat in Kasba area, Ranikuthi Pond, Layelka Pond, Pimpurkur Pond in







Bansdroni and Subhas Sarovar in Belegkata area.

Watch towers were installed on the riverfront for surveillance. Plainclothes personnel from the Special Branch and Watch and Ward Section of the Detective Department were deputed along the river ghats to ensure security. DMG personnel, including divers and swimmers, kept vigil on speed boats and country boats. The River Traffic Police monitored the situation and alerted people of possible high tide.

This year, nearly 5000 police personnel from all ranks were deployed for Chhat Puja, informs an Inspector of the Office of Special Addl CP (HQ). ■



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KP Mementos:

# A Source of Pride

By Our Correspondent



## Wear Our Colours

In order to convey this message to the public, Kolkata Police set up a memorabilia shop at the exit gate of its headquarters at Lalbazaar. The idea of setting up such an outlet was conceived by Kolkata Police following the London visit of Soumen Mitra, the then Spl. Commissioner of Police (1). While sharing his

London experience, Mr. Mitra told colleagues about the existence of such outlets in London where police souvenirs were sold to the public.

This gift shop was inaugurated by then Commissioner of Police in 2007. Souvenirs include a long list of articles ranging from T-shirts to wooden wall hangings with prices varying

from Rs.8 to Rs.6000. The mementos with the Kolkata Police logo created a good impression and positive image among the public. "Police personnel and the public can buy souvenirs for themselves as well as for friends and families from this outlet on all working days from 1100 hours to 2100 hours" informs Susanta Mitra, ASI in charge of this counter. ■



# Value for Money

## Subsidiary Canteens

By Our Correspondent



In an effort to help police personnel and their family reduce the burden of daily essentials, Kolkata Police set up subsidiary canteens for police personnel of all ranks at all units. They can buy grocery or any household articles from these canteens at an economical price. There are seven such canteens run by Kolkata Police at Police

Training School (PTS), Body Guard Lines, 2<sup>nd</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup>, 5<sup>th</sup> Battalions and at the Special Branch and Wireless Branch.

Subsidiary Canteens are operated by a committee under the Chairmanship of DC (Combat) and AC (PTS) who acts as the Executive Officer. Different items and articles are

directly purchased from manufacturing companies at discounted and slashed offer prices and the same rebate is offered to police personnel.

This facility has now been extended to Home Guards and Civic Volunteers. ■

# Champions of Friendship Cup

By Our Correspondent



Amidst huge fanfare and a dedicated fan following, the Friendship Cup Tournament, organized by Kolkata Police recently concluded at Body Guard Lines. Organised as a Community Policing initiative, this annual football tournament has been held since 1997. This year, 755 Para (neighbourhood) teams, 52 Schools 24 Colleges participated in the tournament.

Sukchar KC Vidyayatan Team B was the winner of the School Footers category while Team A of the same school was the runners-up. In the College Footers category, Charuchandra College won the Champion's Trophy while Behala College was the runners-up. The Para Football category saw Beliaghata No. 70 Adhibasi Brinda clinching the trophy

while last year's champion, Paradise Club, emerged as the runners-up.

Apart from the trophy, each winning team and runners-up team received a cheque of Rs. 25,000 and Rs. 20,000 respectively.

Sourav Biswas, Subho Dhar and Md. Farid were named the best players from each category. ■



# Mediclaim Benefits for Kolkata Police

By Our Correspondent

Nearly 32000 Kolkata Police personnel including 4000 Home Guards are covered under the Kolkata Police group mediclaim policy. Included in this policy are their spouses, children, siblings and parents.

The policy which commenced since 2005 has unanimously benefitted the police personnel in getting specialized treatment

on cashless and reimbursement claims. All major hospitals in the city are empanelled in the policy for offering cashless treatment to ailing Kolkata Police personnel and their relatives, informed Jt. CP (Org) Champak Bhattacharya.

Apart from this, there is a personal accident policy in which a nominee of the police

personnel, who dies while on duty, gets Rs. 15 lakhs. The nominee will get Rs. 5 lakhs in case of accidental death even when the personnel is not on duty.

A lump sum annual premium to run the policy is given from Kolkata Police Family Welfare Centre. ■



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# City Salutes

## Kolkata Police

By Our Correspondent



The prestigious Kolkata Police was honoured for its commitment and tireless service during Durga Puja by a leading tea producing company. The Force was felicitated with a memento which was received by the then Spl. Addl. CP and Jt. CP (HQ) Rajeev Mishra. While accepting the award, Mishra said, "We are overwhelmed by the spirit of the citizens. This honour is indeed a big morale booster."

The interactive session was attended by a group of selected personnel from different ranks of Kolkata Police. They shared their experiences with the citizens. The felicitation programme was organized at Bengal Club following a message campaign "Thank You Kolkata Police" launched by the tea producing company in association with a Bengali tabloid daily.

Prior to this felicitation programme, the said daily



selected 16 persons who visited 20 different locations of the city to thank the police personnel on duty.





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# Health Hazards Faced by Traffic Police Due to Pollution

**Dr. Sanjoy Kumar Gupta** (ENT Surgeon)  
Medical Officer, Kolkata Police Hospital

Pollution and stress are fast becoming an inseparable part of our daily life. We are exposed to them in one form or the other. Ironically, both are inter-related. A prime and visible example of these two hazards affecting human life is when we look at the life of a policeman. Its direct implication in a policeman's life is a major area of concern. Of the seven main types of pollution, the most common ones faced by a policeman are air, noise and water pollution. These greatly add to his stress level.

Stress is defined as a disturbance in the body's balance due to physical, mental or emotional stimuli. It manifests itself in different ways namely fatigue, chronic headaches, irritability, mood swings, loss of appetite, low self-esteem and diminished sex drive. It may correctly be noted that stress is a major global health challenge affecting the well-being of service providers and media specialists. Stress is thus a silent killer.

When one is stressed out, his/her actions are affected. For e.g, a frustrated person tends to disturb his surroundings by

making a lot of noise like playing the radio at high volume or honking unnecessarily while driving etc. He might use foul and abusive language or is generally irritated. In the process, such behavior affects people around him and stress is then passed on to others. By blowing the horn loudly or putting on the radio at high volume, he creates noise pollution. Therefore, stress and pollution in one form or the other are inter-related.

Noise pollution is also the result of modern industrialized urban life and is a direct consequences of congestion and population explosion. The effects of noise pollution are adverse and cause several health disorders. When a traffic police is continuously exposed to noise pollution, his sleep is affected and he thereby loses productivity and efficiency. It affects his peace of mind.

Noise pollution as an environmental problem has gained momentum in the recent past. High noise level can contribute to cardiovascular problems. Exposure to

moderately high levels of noise during a single eight-hour period causes a statistical rise in blood pressure of 5 to 10 points and an increase in stress and vaso-constriction leading to increased blood pressure noted above, as well as increased incidence of coronary artery disease.

Air pollution is yet another cause of stress. Among the many reasons of air pollution, traffic congestion is one single, major area of concern. Traffic congestion reduces average traffic speed which in turn results in vehicles burning fuel inefficiently and polluting the environment.

Traffic police plays a vital role in our day to day life. Unfortunately, stress, air and noise pollution pose a serious occupational hazard to them. A recent study showed that 79.4 percent of traffic constables were stressed due to this.

A traffic police's job is physically demanding and mentally challenging. Most of the traffic police suffer from hearing problems, respiratory distress, indigestion and other related





ailments. The government has formulated various measures for the well-being of the traffic police. However, periodical checkups are highly recommended to prevent late diagnosis.

### Physiological Effects:

The physiological manifestations of noise pollution seen in police personnel are:-

- Headache caused by dilated blood vessels of the brain
- Increase in heartbeat rate
- Narrowing of arteries
- Fluctuations in the arterial blood pressure by increasing the level of cholesterol in the blood.
- Decrease in heart output
- Chest pain

- Digestive spasms through anxiety and dilation of the pupil, thereby causing eye strain
- Impairment of night vision
- Decrease in the rate of colour perception
- Lowering of concentration and memory loss
- Muscular strain and nervous breakdown

### Psychological Effects:

- Depression and fatigue considerably reduces the efficiency of the police personnel
- Insomnia as a result of lack of undisturbed and refreshing sleep
- Straining of senses and annoyance as a result of slow but persistent noise
- Affecting of psycho-motor

- performance  
e) Emotional disturbance

### Noise Pollution Level (db) and its Harmful Effects

#### Level in (db) Effects

Up to 23 - No disturbance

30 to 60 Esp. at upper range - Damage to health, psychological and vegetative state

60 to 90 - Muscle pain, high BP, disturbed sleep  
90-120 damage to health, perforation of tympanic membrane and sensorineural hearing loss

To summarize, police personnel, home guards, constables, sergeants working for long hours on busy streets are exposed to noise and sound pollution. Their shifts should be reduced and they should be strictly advised to use "respiratory masks" and take regularly "steam inhalation", gargle with antiseptic mouthwash and use "earplugs" to mitigate the harmful effects of sound pollution.

Regularly audiometry, pulmonary function test (PFT) and ENT examination should be done to prevent the harmful effects at the earliest. ■

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# Surveillance on the River Front

Abhijit Chatterjee

Memories are sweet, but not always. The bitter ones astound and horrify us, like the 26/11 attack in Mumbai. Terrorists using hijacked fishing trawlers came ashore, and in unprecedented attacks, two prime hotels, a landmark railway station Chhatrapati Shivaji Terminus (CST), a government hospital, a heritage cafe and a Jewish Community Centre, were targeted. 164 people lost their lives and at least 308 people were injured. Except for Ajmal Kasab, all the terrorists were shot dead by security forces in an encounter that lasted three days. Six police personnel and commandos were killed during the operation. Learning from this horrific and deeply disturbing incident, Kolkata Police has beefed up surveillance on the river front.

But turning back the pages of history, we find that the naval route was an important route undertaken by many explorers to find new land, discover interesting and exotic finds. Foreign traders including British, French, Dutch, and Portuguese came to India through the naval route. In early

18<sup>th</sup> century, waterways were considered as the most important mode of transport and trade. Kolkata, an important port on the bank of the river Hooghly, was the capital of the country during the British regime and naturally, surveillance and policing along the riverfront became necessary.





River Traffic Police came into existence in 1829 following the report submitted by the Barnell Committee, appointed by Lord William Bentinck in September of the same year. Back then, the RTP had to cover a stretch from Ichapur Canal in the north to the sea in the south. The RTP started working with an initial strength of 47 men. Presently, it keeps vigil up to Konnagar- Panihati in the north and BudgeBudge-Bauria in the south. This specialized force is administered by a DC (Port Division) and headed by an Officer-in-Charge, who is an Inspector of Police and assisted by an Addl. OC. Besides, Sub Inspectors, Sergeants, ASIs and Constables, launch staff like Sarengs, Laskars, Launch Drivers, Dandi Majhis (Boat Men) are part of the force.

The RTP operates its own launch but also hires some from time to time. The patrolling launches keep surveillance on vital installations like Kolkata Port Dock, Netaji Subhas Dock, Lock Gates, Vidyasagar Setu, Rabindra Setu, Nivedita Setu, Bally Bridge, Dakshineswar Temple, Belur Math, Botanical Garden as well as Budge-Budge Oil Installation Jetties.

Following a peace accord between Rani Rashmoni and the then British Government, fishing trawlers and boats are still entitled to have free movement in the river Hooghly. However, patrolling launches keep an eye on the movement of boats and vessels from the neighbouring country as they come to Budge-Budge for procuring fly ash from TT Shed of CESC. The RTP launches can intercept and frisk any suspicious boat or vessel. The RTP can challenge any boatmen or Sareng and can verify the relevant documents. If they fail to produce the documents or satisfy the police, the RTP is empowered to seize the vessel and prosecute the offending boatmen/Sareng/Master of the said vessel under the Rule/Bye Laws of Kolkata Port Trust or Inland Vessel Act. The Force supervises the regulation of river traffic, looks after the enforcement of Port Rules and Regulations and



## Officerspeak

Our personnel are extremely helpful, cooperative and sincere. They do not complain when they have to work for a long stretch of time. There are launch services in different routes and we also have to be vigilant to prevent any accident. I have learned many things from my colleagues, particularly from the launch staff as they are more experienced than me since they were deputed here right after their recruitment. They can sense a storm, thunderstorm and other natural calamities even before they strike. We then alert the fishermen and people accordingly.

**Parthasarathi Pal**, Officer-in-Charge, RTP

also control movement of small rafts in the river. Prevention of thefts and smuggling are also part of its daily job.

Besides surveillance, the RTP personnel retrieve drowned victims. Disposal of human corpses found in the river is also an important task of the RTP. The corpses are brought down to the jetty and handed over to the concerned police stations for further process. The RTP personnel keep in touch with the Missing Persons Squad and other police stations for the same. The patrolling launches sound an alert with their loud hailer and warn bathers during

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high tide. During immersion of Durga Puja, Kali Puja, Chhat Puja, they maintain extreme surveillance and keep vigil at the 28 ghats. RTP coordinate with the Disaster Management Group (DMG) during the immersion period.

#### Trivia:

Parthasarathi Pal is a 1986 batch

Sergeant. He was deputed to the Traffic Control Room (TCR) after his training. He was stationed there till January 1993. He was then transferred to Wireless Branch and worked there till 2000. He had a brief stint at New Alipore and Park Street Police Station in 2001. In June of the same year, he was transferred to Reserve Force and deputed at

Writers' Building. He was again transferred to Wireless Branch in 2002 and worked there for two years. He was posted at Lalbazar Control Room from 2004-2008. He was promoted to the rank of Inspector in 2008 and became the OC (Control Room) till July 2014. He was with the 4<sup>th</sup> Battalion from July 2014 to March 2015. He has since been working as OC, River Traffic Police.

**Present Strength:** Inspector - 1, SI / Sgt- 2, ASI- 6, Constable- 28, Civic Volunteer-7

Launch Staff: Dandi Majhi- 40, Majhi- 8, Engine Driver-5, Greaser-4, Laskar- 5, Sukhani-3, Sareng-3

River Traffic Police,  
Outram Ghat Jetty





# Discharging Duties *With* Dogged Tenacity

Abhijit Chatterjee



Sometimes they are looked down and demeaned by people. Most times, they do not have anyone vouching for them. They are the most loyal, yet only a certain percentage of humans know this. We are talking about man's best friend - dogs.

But, there is one department that understands and cherishes dogs for their loyalty and sixth sense. Dogs are appreciated and rewarded many a time by the Police Department for their invaluable services for tracking down criminals and aiding in crime investigation.

Consider the case of the Dog Squad of Kolkata Police which is housed at the Police Training

School (PTS) campus. The different breeds of dogs there are looked after by their handlers and assistant handlers who are considered to be their foster fathers. Coco, Jojo, Bravo, Rosy, Nancy, Snoopy and many others are members of the Dog Squad of Kolkata Police.

The journey of Dog Squad in Kolkata Police began in 1971 when Scotland Yard gifted one German Shepherd dog, Pavlavo, to its Kolkata counterpart. Few years down the line, three more dogs were inducted in the squad. The Dog Squad was officially sanctioned with six dogs in 1976 under the supervision of an Inspector. At present, there are

36 dogs (29 bitches and seven dogs) of various species and breeds like German Shepherd, Doberman, Rottweiler, Labrador, Golden Retriever, Cocker Spaniels etc. Breeding programmes are undertaken at regular intervals to fill up any shortage, says Officer-in Charge, Pradeep Kumar Pandey.

As with all animals, dogs are very sensitive and have an extremely developed sixth sense. The trained dogs corroborate the investigation of crimes and are thus used for different aspects of policing. The trained dogs of Kolkata Police discharge their duties with utmost tenacity, obedience and





sincerity. The average life span of a dog is 12 years. Their reflex action goes down when they cross eight years of age. A medical board reviews their overall health condition and if a particular dog is not fit for policing anymore, it is declared to be retired.

The dogs of KP Dog Squad are deputed for specialized tasks and are trained according to the different disciplines bestowed upon them. They can be a crime tracker, an explosive detector, a narcotic detector, or a search & rescue and guard & assault dog. Crime Trackers are trained for tracking crimes like murder, dacoity, kidnapping etc. Explosive Detectors are experts in detecting high and low intensity explosives. Narcotic Detectors are capable of identifying narcotic drugs. These dogs are used in passenger/cargo

terminals at airports to prevent drug smuggling. Some dogs are specially trained for search and rescue missions in collapsed structures, buildings etc., while some dogs are trained to guard and assault. These dogs are used at important venues where VVIPs are present.

The dogs under the different disciplines are trained at National Training Centre for Dogs (NTCD), the official training centre for dogs at BSF Training Academy at Tikampur, Gwalior, Madhya Pradesh. The centre is supervised and run by Ministry of Home Affairs. Puppies are procured and reared in the Dog Squad and sent with their handler and assistant handler for training at NTCD when they are six to nine months old. Depending on the discipline, training can be for six months to one and a half year duration. Training is unique

because the respective handlers and assistant handlers undergo specific training programmes along with their dogs. Dogs are trained to carry out the order of their respective handlers and assistant handlers. These handlers are chosen based on their special affinity and commitment to dogs and have to make a written declaration that they will take care of their dogs no matter the circumstance.

The Kolkata Police Dog Squad provides each dog with its individual kennel, fan, feeding and drinking bowl, grooming and maintenance kit. Each dog has a registered birth certificate with a family tree that goes back seven generations on each side of its family. A microchip is implanted in each dog whereby information is readily available at all times. The dogs are also registered with the Kennel Club of India.

The dogs' day start at 5 a.m. where they are taken to complete their morning rituals. After this, their body temperature is checked by their handler. The average body temperature of a grown-up dog is 101 degree Fahrenheit. If it is more than 102 degree, it means the dog has fever. It is then treated accordingly. About 6 a.m., the dogs are taken to different







## Officerspeak

Human beings actually look down on animals and that is why we think we are their masters rather than their friend. The relationship between a handler and his dog is the same as parents have with their child. To gain a child's trust and confidence, parents let their children know that they are their friends and confidantes. Dog handlers also treat their dogs as their friends and guide them. The dogs reciprocate this friendship. These trained dogs carry out the instructions of their handlers to please them. They have certain needs and comforts and they are as emotional as human beings. Handlers are thus sensitized towards their dogs' needs and emotions. The relationship between a dog and a handler is everlasting, and in most cases, handlers take on the responsibility of looking after his dog post its retirement.

### Pradeep Kumar Dubey

Officer-in-Charge, Dog Squad

places like the bus terminus, railway station, shipyard, market and warehouse to acclimatize with the outside surroundings. They are then brought back by 8am and then go through a massage and grooming session for half an hour. Their diet is

strictly followed as prescribed by the Animal Nutrition Board. After lunch, the dogs are rested for at least two hours. Around 3 p.m, they are again taken to relieve themselves and then taken to the field for light exercises and other sports activities to increase their stamina and flexibility. Another round of grooming and massage takes place after this which is then followed by dinner. Annual vaccination programmes are taken up to prevent rabies, distemper and corona. Dogs also suffer similar diseases as humans like rheumatism, cataract, tumour, cancer, kidney problems etc. Being special dogs, the police have assigned two veterinary surgeons - Dr. D. Basak and Dr. S. Basu to take care of them and are readily available for any emergency.

Utpal Ghosh, Asst. Handler of Bravo (Labrador), has been working in this squad for seven years. He will be going for his second training. He had previously taken care of two other dogs, Coco and Jojo. This is what he has to say. "We do not have a separate existence from our dogs. They are part of us, even more than our family members. They are and demanding, possessive and emotional but we love that about them." Raju Pal, a veterinary trained nurse who handles Nancy (Labrador/Retriever) has been working in the squad for nine years, echoes the same thing.

These trained dogs have proved to be an asset to the Police Department. They have been recognized for their efficiency. At the All India Police Duty Meet in 2008, Snoopy, an expert in explosive detection, received a bronze medal for her valiant effort. Another brave dog, Coco, received a silver medal in 2015 at the same meet. ■

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# Surveillance & Reconnaissance Made Easy through Technology

By Our Correspondent

No country perhaps can be considered safe and secured, especially after 9/11. We have witnessed a series of terrorist attacks in different corners of the world. The wounds of the terrorist attack of 26/11 are still fresh in our minds. Threat perception has been rapidly changing throughout the country. Kolkata had no such experience before the attack in front of USIS in Kolkata. After this attack, Kolkata Police changed its strategy for security check and surveillance. Kolkata Police has resorted to new technologies for surveillance and reconnaissance of the situation.

Since Kolkata is a densely populated and sprawling metropolis, its transformation

requires its police to reorient and equip itself with modern technologies to deal with the complex nature of city policing. The challenge is to cover the risk by providing maximum security to its populace with as few personnel and resources as possible. With this in mind, Kolkata Police introduced Unmanned Aerial Vehicle (UAV) to augment its effectiveness. "At present, Kolkata Police has only one UAV for aerial surveillance. A second one will be purchased very shortly. The tender is being processed for the same," informs Jt. Commissioner of Police (Establishment) L.N. Meena. The UAV is an aircraft without a pilot on board. It is flown and maneuvered by a pilot using a





# Cellular Mobile News Gathering Unit Kolkata Police



remote control from a ground control station. The UAV takes crystal clear pictures and videos from the air and streams it to the base station. These pictures and videos can be sent to the control room giving real time information of the activities in the area under surveillance. The four-armed device is equipped with rotors at the end of each arm. Therefore, be it crowd

control during rallies and agitations, riot situations, hostage attack situations or reconnaissance activities, the UAV gives a bird's eye view of the entire situation. In general, UAVs not only do surveillance and reconnaissance, but are also essential tools in gathering quick information for effective decision-making which is the foundation of city policing in

modern times. Estimating the UAV's utility, the Hon'ble Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee had aptly christened it as 'DURDANTO'. It's the endeavor of Kolkata Police to serve by its name.

Besides UAV, Kolkata Police has recently introduced Bag Packs for capturing live video of any event or incident. Live video recording will help the police assess the situation in real time. This is also an addition for augmenting surveillance and reconnaissance. A Monitoring Cell has been set up at Lalbazar for receiving downlink recorded output through Bag Packs. This initiative was launched by Kolkata Police during the Christmas season. The police personnel of Photography Section, Scientific Wing of Kolkata Police are now working with eight Bag Packs. ■



# Reconciliation for a Greater Cause

Abhijit Chatterjee

Over the ages and in many societies, women are considered as the weaker sex. Although the outlook towards women has changed considerably, we still see the narrow mindset trying to subtly persist. This is one main reason why women become soft targets and victims of crimes even today. The offence and crime against women has increased during the last few decades. It is paradoxical to consider that there had been no offence against women earlier. This misconception is due to the fact that women were hesitant in exposing the maltreatment they faced. Now, women are coming forward to register a complaint or case against offenders. The changing scenario prompted the Kolkata Police to set up a special cell for redressing women's grievances and combat crime against women. The Women Grievance Cell under the Detective Department became functional in 1988.

Even in the 21<sup>st</sup> century, women in our country are mostly victims of dowry which often times lead to domestic violence. Daughters-in-law are brutally tortured leading many to their premature death. The killing of a housewife or abetting her to commit suicide is a common phenomenon. The Women Grievance Cell monitors and

supervises the investigation for cases like Dowry Death (under Section 304B IPC), Abetment to Commit Suicide (under Section 306 IPC), Rape (under Section 376 of IPC and POSCO Act), Torture against Wives (under Section 498A IPC), Molestation (under Section 354 IPC), Eve Teasing (under Section 509 IPC) and other women-related cases. Sometimes, the elderly, particularly women, are physically and mentally tortured by their children or sons/daughters-in-law for their property. Such complaints are also addressed by the Women Grievance Cell.

This Cell helps women to record complaints and cases and also

takes action for proper investigation. It also monitors different cases related to women registered with the police stations of all divisions. Sometimes it also takes charge of important cases for further investigations from the police stations vide orders from superior authorities. A case is then registered under Section 498A IPC. Some complainants are badly in need of shelter. Aggrieved women who need shelter, monetary help or medical relief is advised to do so under the Protection of Women from Domestic Violence Act, 2005. Simultaneously, the aggrieved women are provided necessary assistance to contact







## Officerspeak

More incidents of crimes against women are coming to light due to awareness. Women are more vocal now than ever. They neither hide the fact nor feel ashamed to register a complaint when they are victims of any unwarranted situation. However, most of the women do not want to break the marriage ties for various reasons. Their children's future is uppermost in their mind. Third party interference creates complications between husband-wife relationships. We advise family members of both sides not to interfere on the issue. Every member of the in-laws' family, including the husband and wife, should have patience and be accommodative. This is the *mantra* for a happy family. While dealing with different domestic problems, we try our level best to find some amicable, acceptable and peaceful solutions which actually help the entire family. We are always mindful that we are here to correct and not destroy. Reconciliation for sustaining a marriage and family is important to us.

**Gouri Mukherjee**

Officer-in-Charge, Women Grievance Cell

the Protection Officer for getting relief within a short period. Women Grievance Cell plays a key role in giving such assistance. The Cell runs a toll free help line (1091) for helping distressed women so that local police stations can spot her and extends necessary assistance.

Beside this, officials of this Cell also make every effort to sort out disputes women face at their matrimonial homes provided both parties mutually agree for reconciliation. The officers of this Cell interact and deliberate with the aggrieved parties to reach an amicable settlement for the greater social cause.

## Trivia

Gouri Mukherjee became part of Kolkata Police after completing her training in 1989. She was deputed as Sub Inspector at the Headquarters Force and worked there for a little over a year. She was transferred to the Women Grievance Cell, Detective Department in 1991. She also worked at the Immoral Traffic Section then went on to work at Hare Street Police Station for two years in two terms. She was promoted to the rank of Inspector in 2008. She became Addl. OC at the Immoral Traffic Section in 2010 and was posted there for two years. She was retransferred to Women Grievance Cell as OC in 2012. She was awarded the Indian Police Medal in 2005. ■



# Mother-Son Duo Jailed for Ten Years Each in Dowry Death Case

**By Our Correspondent**

*The curse of dowry still persists in our country and every year this menace takes the lives of many married women. Although Kolkatans claim to be a step ahead from the rest of the country with their progressive and modern outlook, the city is no exception to dowry deaths. Statistics of such deaths is alarming and there need to be a change in the people's mindset or it will boomerang catastrophically.*



**Ref: Topsia P.S./D.D. Case No.35, Dated 15.03.08 U/S- 498A/ 304B/ 34 I.P.C.**

**CASE:** Suman Shaw was only a few months old into her marriage when her husband and in-laws began physically and mentally torturing her. The torture started when they demanded a Colour TV and other materialistic values. Not being able to bear the torture any longer, Suman Shaw consumed insecticide on 14.03.08 at her parents' house. She was rushed to Calcutta National Medical College & Hospital, where in a dying declaration, blamed her husband Gobinda Shaw and in-laws for having to take the extreme step. She died the next day.

**BRIEF FACTS:** Suman Shaw, the younger daughter of Joydev Shaw of 4, Chhatu Babu Lane, Kolkata-14, under Entally P.S, was married to Gobinda Shaw, son of Shiba Shaw, resident of 86, Christopher Road, Kolkata 46, under Topsia P.S. The marriage

was arranged through negotiation and solemnized on 29.04.2007. At the time of marriage, Suman Shaw's father, a man of meager earnings, can only afford to give a wooden cot, steel almirah, clothes, utensils etc. as dowry gifts. After marriage, Suman Shaw went to her matrimonial house with her *Stridhan*. But within a very short period of time, her husband Gobinda Shaw, mother-in-law Mina Shaw and others, started to torture her physically and mentally and demanded a Colour T.V. as well as other things. She tried her best to make them understand that her poor father would not be able to meet their demands but they paid no heed to her request. Instigated by his parents, Gobinda Shaw brutally beat Suman Shaw on 08.12.07. She was taken to N.R.S. Medical College & Hospital for

treatment. There was a lull in the torture for sometime but on 12.03.08., the physical torture was back and she was driven out from the matrimonial house by her husband and in-laws. Upon hearing the treatment meted out to her daughter, Suman Shaw, Kali Devi and some of her relatives rushed to Suman Shaw's matrimonial house for reconciliation but they were also abused by her husband and in-laws. Finding no other alternative, Kali Devi rescued her daughter from her in-law's house and took her to Calcutta National Medical College & Hospital after a General Diary (G.D) was lodged at Topsia P.S. Initially, her parents were unwilling to lodge a criminal case against her in-laws, as they, as well as Suman, wanted to reconcile with her husband and in-laws. Suman was discharged from Calcutta





National Medical College & Hospital on 13.03.08.

Suman's parents sent some relatives to her matrimonial house to settle the matter amicably but they were reprimanded by her husband, Gobinda Shaw, and her in-laws. In a language not fit to be spoken by anyone, the members of her in-law's house also tried to tarnish Suman's character and blamed her of having an illicit relationship with one of their neighbours. Suman's relatives returned to her parents' home shell-shocked and narrated the entire incident to them. Suman, who was within earshot, started crying after hearing the allegations against her. She stopped taking food. Not able to bear the unfortunate turn of events in her life, Suman consumed insecticide at her paternal home on the evening of 14.03.08. She was rushed to Calcutta National Medical College & Hospital where her dying statement was recorded by an officer of Topsia Police Station in the presence of the doctor on duty. She blamed her husband, in-laws and their relatives for her having to take the extreme step. Suman passed away on 15.03.08 at the hospital.

**INVESTIGATION:** A case was initiated immediately after Suman's death. It was recorded on 15.03.08 by the officials of Topsia P.S. following a written and signed statement of Joydev Shaw, the father of the victim. The husband's victim Gobinda Shaw, and his relative were arrested and produced before the court of Ld. A.C.J.M, Sealdah. Gobinda Shaw was remanded to police custody while the relative, a minor, was sent to a remand home.

The case was taken over by the Women Grievances Cell, Detective Department, for further investigation. Anticipatory bail plea of Mina Shaw, the mother-in-law, was rejected by the court during investigation. Acting on a tip-off, Mina Shaw was subsequently arrested. Many witnesses, including independent witnesses, were examined during investigation to verify the allegations. After investigations were completed, a chargesheet was submitted within the stipulated period (72 days) before the Ld. A.C.J.M, Sealdah under Section 498A/304B/34 of I.P.C. against the accused husband and mother in-law. The charge against the minor was submitted

before the Ld. Principal Magistrate Juvenile Justice Board, Kolkata.

**SEIZURE:** During investigation, the attendance M.C.dt.13.03.08, bed-head tickets of dt.14.03.08 and 15.03.08 of Calcutta National Medical College & Hospital and outdoor ticket of N.R.S. Medical College & Hospital dt.08.12.07 including the medical report of the victim were seized.

**TRIAL:** The case was committed by the Ld. Additional District Judge, Sealdah and transferred to the Court of Ld. Additional Sessions Judge, Fast Track, 1st Court, Sealdah. At the time of framing charge, Ld. Judge (Fast Track, 1st Court,) granted bail to Mina Shaw, the mother-in-law due to poor health. 25 witnesses were examined. On completion of the trial, the judgment was delivered on 29.11.10 by the Ld. Judge. The judgment said, "The convict, Gobinda Shaw (Husband) and Mina Shaw (Mother-in-law) are hereby sentenced to undergo Rigorous Imprisonment (R.I.) for 3 years each and to pay Rs. 3000/- each, and in default of payment, to further undergo R.I. for 3 months each for commission of offence under Section 498A I.P.C. The convict, Gobinda Shaw and Mina Shaw are also sentenced to undergo R.I. for 10 years each and to pay a fine of Rs. 5000/- each, and in default of payment, they are to undergo rigorous imprisonment for 6 months each for the commission of offence under Section 304B I.P.C. Both the sentences are directed to run concurrently."

Sub-Inspector Sajedur Rahaman of Women Grievances Cell, Detective Department, Kolkata was the Investigating Officer in this case. ■



# Protection of Women from Domestic Violence Act, 2005

**Sushmita Banerjee**

Advocate, Alipore Judges Court

Domestic Violence Act is an act that provides all women in domestic relationship, whether marriage or live-in, a right to seek legal action against her male partner if she perceives her male partner's conduct is a form of domestic violence. If the complaint is lodged, a protection officer, predominantly a female, will pass restraining orders and give the couple a second chance to reconcile. If the woman complains yet again, the male partner, irrespective of his family background and social status, will be convicted with one year imprisonment and fine of Rs. 20,000/- without any further enquiry.

## Forms of Domestic Violence

(a) Harms or injures or endangers the health, safety, life, limb or wellbeing, whether mental or physical, of the aggrieved person (woman) or tends to do so and includes causing physical abuse, sexual abuse, verbal and emotional abuse and economic abuse; or

(b) Harasses, harms, injures or endangers the aggrieved person (woman) with a view to coerce her or any other person related

to her to meet any unlawful demands for any dowry or other property or valuable security; or

(c) Has the effect of threatening the aggrieved person (woman) or any person related to her by any conduct mentioned in clause (a) or clause (b); or

(d) Otherwise injures or causes harm, whether physical or mental, to the aggrieved person (woman).

**The Protection of Women from Domestic Violence Act 2005** differs from the provision of the Penal Code - **Section 498A** of the **Indian Penal Code** as it provides a broader definition of domestic violence.

Primarily meant to provide protection to the wife or female live-in partner from domestic violence at the hands of the husband or male live-in partner or his relatives, the law also extends its protection to women living in a household such as sisters, widows or mothers.

## Purposes of the Section

(i) "physical abuse" means any act or conduct which is of such a nature as to cause bodily pain, harm, or danger to life, limb, or

health or impair the health or development of the aggrieved person and includes assault, criminal intimidation and criminal force;

(ii) "sexual abuse" includes any conduct of a sexual nature that abuses, humiliates, degrades or otherwise violates the dignity of woman;

(iii) "verbal and emotional abuse" includes

a) insults, ridicule, humiliation, name calling and insults or ridicule specially with regard to not having a child or a male child; and

b) repeated threats to cause physical pain to any person in whom the aggrieved person is interested.

(iv) "Economic abuse" includes

a) deprivation of all or any economic or financial resources to which the aggrieved person is entitled under any law or custom whether payable under an order of a court or otherwise, or which the aggrieved person requires out of necessity including, but not limited to, household necessities for the aggrieved person and her



children, if any, stridhan, property, jointly or separately owned by the aggrieved person, payment of rental related to the shared household and maintenance;

b) disposal of household effects, any alienation of assets whether movable or immovable, valuables, shares, securities, bonds and the like or other property in which the aggrieved person has an interest or is entitled to use by virtue of the domestic relationship or which may be reasonably required by the aggrieved person or her children or her stridhan or any other property jointly or separately held by the aggrieved person; and

c) prohibition or restriction to continued access to resources or facilities which the aggrieved person is entitled to use or enjoy by virtue of the domestic relationship including access to the shared household

For the purpose of determining whether any act, omission, commission or conduct of the respondent constitutes "domestic violence" under this section, the overall facts and circumstances of the case shall be taken into consideration.

#### **Information to Protection Officer and Exclusion of Liability of Informant**

(1) Any person who has reason to believe that an act of domestic violence has been, or is being, or is likely to be committed, may give information about it to the concerned protection officer.

(2) No liability, civil or criminal, shall be incurred by any person for giving in good faith of information for the purpose of sub-section (1).

#### **Duties of Police Officers, Service Providers and Magistrate**

A police officer, protection officer, service provider or Magistrate who has received a complaint of domestic violence or is otherwise present at the place of an incident of domestic violence or when the incident of domestic violence is reported to him, shall inform the aggrieved person

a) of her right to make an application for obtaining a relief by way of a protection order, an order for monetary relief, a custody order, a residence order, a compensation order or more than one such order under this Act;

b) Of the availability of services of service providers;

c) Of the availability of services of the protection officers;

d) Of her right to free legal services under the Legal Services

Authorities Act, 1987 (39 of 1987);

e) Of her right to file a complaint under Section 498A of the Indian Penal Code (45 of 1860), wherever relevant.

Provided that nothing in this Act shall be construed in any manner as to relieve a police officer from his duty to proceed in accordance with the law upon receipt of information as to the commission of a cognizable offence.

#### **Duties of Shelter Homes**

If an aggrieved person, or on her behalf, a protection officer or a service provider requests the person in charge of a shelter home to provide shelter to her, the person in charge of the shelter home shall provide shelter to the aggrieved person in the shelter home.

#### **Duties of Medical Facilities**

If an aggrieved person, or on her behalf, a protection officer or a service provider, requests the person in charge of a medical facility to provide any medical aid to her, the person in charge of the medical facility shall provide medical aid to the aggrieved person in the medical facility.

#### **Appointment of Protection Officers**

(1) The State Government shall, by notification, appoint such number of protection officers in each district as it may consider



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necessary, and shall also notify the area or areas within which a protection officer shall exercise the powers and perform the duties conferred on him by or under this Act.

2) The protection officers shall, as far as possible, be women, and shall possess such qualifications and experience as may be prescribed.

3) The terms and conditions of service of the protection officer and the other officers subordinate to him shall be such as may be prescribed.

#### **Duties and Functions of Protection Officers**

(1) It shall be the duty of the protection officer

a) to assist the Magistrate in the discharge of his functions under this Act;

b) to make a domestic incident report to the Magistrate, in such form and in such manner as may be prescribed, upon receipt of a complaint of domestic violence and forward copies thereof to the police officer in charge of the police station within the local limits of whose jurisdiction domestic violence is alleged to have been committed and to the service providers in that area;

c) to make an application in such form and in such manner as may be prescribed to the Magistrate, if the aggrieved person so desires, claiming relief for issuance of a protection order;

d) to ensure that the aggrieved person is provided legal aid under the Legal Services Authorities Act, 1987 (39 of 1987) and make available, free of cost, the prescribed form in which a complaint is to be made;

e) to maintain a list of all service providers providing legal aid or counseling, shelter homes and medical facilities in a local area within the jurisdiction of the Magistrate;

f) to make available a safe shelter home, if the aggrieved person so requires, and forward a copy of his report of having lodged the aggrieved person in a shelter home to the police station and the Magistrate having jurisdiction in the area where the shelter home is situated;

g) to get the aggrieved person medically examined, if she has sustained bodily injuries and forward a copy of the medical report to the police station and the Magistrate having jurisdiction in the area where the domestic violence is alleged to have been taken place;

h) to ensure that the order for monetary relief under Section 20 is complied with and executed, in accordance with the procedure prescribed under the Code of Criminal Procedure, 1973 (2 of 1974);

i) to perform such other duties as may be prescribed.

2) The protection officer shall be under the control and supervision of the Magistrate, and shall perform the duties imposed on him by the Magistrate and the government by, or under, this Act.

#### **Duties of the Government**

The Central Government and every State Governments, shall take all measures to ensure that

a) the provisions of this Act are given wide publicity through public media including television, radio and the print

media at regular intervals;

b) the Central Government and State Government officers, including the police officers and the members of the judicial services, are given periodic sensitization and awareness training on the issues addressed by this Act;

c) effective coordination between the services provided by concerned ministries and departments dealing with law, home affairs including law and order, health and human resources to address issues of domestic violence is established and periodical review of the same is conducted;

d) protocols for the various ministries concerned with the delivery of services to women under this Act, including the courts, are prepared and put in place.

#### **Procedure for Obtaining Orders of Reliefs**

##### **Application to Magistrate**

(I) An aggrieved person or a protection officer or any other person on behalf of the aggrieved

person may present an application to the Magistrate seeking one or more reliefs under this Act:

Provided that before passing any order on such application, the Magistrate shall take into consideration any domestic incident report received by him from the protection officer or the service provider.

2) The relief sought for under Sub-section (I) may include a relief for issuance of an order for payment of compensation or damages without prejudice to the right of such person to institute a



suit for compensation or damages for the injuries caused by the acts of domestic violence committed by the respondent:

Provided that where a decree for any amount as compensation or damages has been passed by any court in favour of the aggrieved person, the amount, if any, paid or payable in pursuance of the order made by the Magistrate under this Act shall be set off against the amount payable under such decree and the decree shall, notwithstanding anything contained in the Code of Civil Procedure, 1908 (5 of 1908), or any other law for the time being in force, be executable for the balance amount, if any, left after such set off.

3) Every application under Sub-section (1) shall be in such form and contain such particulars as may be prescribed or as nearly as possible thereto.

4) The Magistrate shall fix the first date of hearing, which shall not ordinarily be beyond three days from the date of receipt of the application by the court.

5) The Magistrate shall endeavour to dispose of every application made under Sub-section (1) within a period of sixty days from the date of its first hearing.

#### **Service of Notice**

(1) A notice of the date of hearing

fixed under Section 12 shall be given by the Magistrate to the protection officer, who shall get it served by such means as may be prescribed on the respondent, and on any other person, as directed by the Magistrate within a maximum period of two days or such further reasonable time as may be allowed by the Magistrate from the date of its receipt.

(2) A declaration of service of notice made by the protection officer in such form as may be prescribed shall be the proof that such notice was served upon the respondent and on any other person as directed by the Magistrate unless the contrary is proved.

#### **Counseling**

(1) The Magistrate may, at any stage of the proceedings under this Act, direct the respondent or the aggrieved person, either singly or jointly, to undergo counseling with any member of a service provider who possesses such qualifications and experience in counseling as may be prescribed.

(2) Where the Magistrate has issued any direction under Sub-section (1), he shall fix the next date of hearing of the case within a period not exceeding two months.

#### **Assistance of Welfare Expert**

In any proceeding under this Act, the Magistrate may secure the services of such person, preferably a woman, whether related to the aggrieved person or not, including a person engaged in promoting family welfare as he thinks fit, for the purpose of assisting him in discharging his functions.

#### **Proceedings to be held in Camera**

If the Magistrate considers that the circumstances of the case so warrant, and if either party to the proceedings so desires, he may conduct the proceedings under this Act in camera.

#### **Right to Reside in a Shared Household**

(1) Notwithstanding anything contained in any other law for the time being in force, every woman in a domestic relationship shall have the right to reside in the shared household, whether or not she has any right, title or beneficial interest in the same.

(2) The aggrieved person shall not be evicted or excluded from the shared household or any part of it by the respondent save in accordance with the procedure established by law.

#### **Protection Orders**

The Magistrate may, after giving the aggrieved person and the respondent an opportunity of

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being heard and on being prima facie satisfied that domestic violence has taken place or is likely to take place, pass a protection order in favor of the aggrieved person and prohibit the respondent from

- a) committing any act of domestic violence;
- b) aiding or abetting in the commission of acts of domestic violence;
- c) entering the place of employment of the aggrieved person or, if the person aggrieved is a child, its school or any other place frequented by the aggrieved person;
- d) attempting to communicate in any form, whatsoever, with the aggrieved person, including personal, oral or written or electronic or telephonic contact;
- e) alienating any assets, operating bank lockers or bank accounts used or held or enjoyed by both the parties, jointly by the aggrieved person and the respondent or singly by the respondent, including her stridhan or any other property held either jointly by the parties or separately by them without the leave of the Magistrate;
- f) causing violence to the dependants, other relatives or any person who give the aggrieved person assistance from domestic violence;
- g) committing any other act as specified in the protection order.

#### **Residence Orders**

(1) While disposing of an application under Sub-section (1) of Section 12, the Magistrate may, on being satisfied that domestic violence has taken place, pass a residence order

a) restraining the respondent from dispossessing or in any other manner disturbing the possession of the aggrieved person from the shared household, whether or not the respondent has a legal or equitable interest in the shared household;

b) directing the respondent to remove himself from the shared household;

c) restraining the respondent or any of his relatives from entering any portion of the shared household in which the aggrieved person resides;

d) restraining the respondent from alienating or disposing off the shared household or encumbering the same;

e) restraining the respondent from renouncing his rights in the shared household except with the leave of the Magistrate; or

f) directing the respondent to secure same level of alternate accommodation for the aggrieved person as enjoyed by her in the shared household or to pay rent for the same, if the circumstances so require:

provided that no order under Clause (b) shall be passed against any person who is a woman.

2) The Magistrate may impose any additional conditions or pass any other direction which he may deem reasonably necessary to protect or to provide for the safety of the aggrieved person or any child of such aggrieved person.

3) The Magistrate may require from the respondent to execute a bond, with or without sureties, or preventing the commission of domestic violence.

4) An order under Sub-section (3) shall be deemed to be an order under Chapter VIII of the Code of Criminal Procedure, 1973 (2 of 1974) and shall be dealt with accordingly.

5) While passing an order under Sub-section (1), Sub-section (2) or Sub-section (3), the court may also pass an order directing the officer in charge of the nearest police station to give protection to the aggrieved person or to assist her or the person making an application on her behalf in the implementation of the order.

6) While making an order under Sub-section (1), the Magistrate may impose on the respondent obligations relating to the discharge of rent and other payments, having regard to the financial needs and resources of the parties.

7) The Magistrate may direct the officer in-charge of the police station in whose jurisdiction the Magistrate has been approached to assist in the implementation of the protection order.

8) The Magistrate may direct the respondent to return to the possession of the aggrieved person her stridhan or any other property or valuable security to which she is entitled to.

#### **Monetary Relief**

(1) While disposing of an application under Sub-section (1) of Section 12, the Magistrate may direct the respondent to pay monetary relief to meet the expenses incurred and losses suffered by the aggrieved person and any child of the aggrieved person as a result of the domestic violence and such relief may include, but not limited to

- a) the loss of earnings;



- b) the medical expenses;
- c) the loss caused due to the destruction, damage or removal of any property from the control of the aggrieved person; and
- d) the maintenance for the aggrieved person as well as her children, if any, including an order under or in addition to an order of maintenance under Section 125 of the Code of Criminal Procedure, 1973 (2 of 1974) or any other law for the time being in force.
- 2) The monetary relief granted under this Section shall be adequate, fair and reasonable and consistent with the standard of living to which the aggrieved person is accustomed.
- 3) The Magistrate shall have the power to order an appropriate lump sum payment or monthly payments of maintenance, as the nature and circumstances of the case may require.
- (4) The Magistrate shall send a copy of the order for monetary relief made under sub-section (1) to the parties to the application and to the in charge of the police station within the local limits of whose jurisdiction the respondent resides. (5) The respondent shall pay the monetary relief granted to the aggrieved person within the period specified in the order under sub-section (1).

(6) Upon the failure on the part of the respondent to make payment in terms of the order under sub-section (1), the Magistrate may direct the employer or a debtor of the respondent, to directly pay to the aggrieved person or to deposit with the court a portion of the wages or salaries or debt due to or accrued to the credit of the respondent, which amount may be adjusted towards the monetary relief payable by the respondent.

#### **Custody Orders**

Notwithstanding anything contained in any other law for the time being in force, the Magistrate may, at any stage of hearing of the application for protection order or for any other relief under this Act grant temporary custody of any child or children to the aggrieved person or the person making an application on her behalf and specify, if necessary, the arrangements for visit of such child or children by the respondent: Provided that if the Magistrate is of the opinion that any visit of the respondent may be harmful to the interests of the child or children, the Magistrate shall refuse to allow such visit.

#### **Compensation Orders**

In addition to other relieves as may be granted under this Act, the Magistrate may on an

application being made by the aggrieved person, pass an order directing the respondent to pay compensation and damages for the injuries, including mental torture and emotional distress, caused by the acts of domestic violence committed by that respondent.

#### **Power to Grant Interim and Ex Parte Orders**

(1) In any proceeding before him under this Act, the Magistrate may pass such interim order as he deems just and proper.

(2) If the Magistrate is satisfied that an application prima facie discloses that the respondent is committing, or has committed an act of domestic violence or that there is a likelihood that the respondent may commit an act of domestic violence, he may grant an ex parte order on the basis of the affidavit in such form, as may be prescribed, of the aggrieved person under Section 18, Section 19, Section 20, Section 21 or, as the case may be, Section 22, against the respondent.

#### **Court to give copies of order free of cost**

The Magistrate shall, in all cases where he has passed any order under this Act, order that a copy of such order, shall be given free of cost, to the parties to the application, the police officer in-charge of the police station in the

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jurisdiction of which the Magistrate has been approached, and any service provider located within the local limits of the jurisdiction of the court and if any service provider has registered a domestic incident report, to that service provider.

### **Duration and Alteration of Orders**

(1) A protection order made under Section 18 shall be in force till the aggrieved person applies for discharge. (2) If the Magistrate, on receipt of an application from the aggrieved person or the respondent, is satisfied that there is a change in the circumstances requiring alteration, modification or revocation of any order made under this Act, he may, for reasons to be recorded in writing pass such order, as he may deem appropriate.

### **Jurisdiction**

(1) The court of Judicial Magistrate of the first class or the Metropolitan Magistrate, as the case may be, within the local limits of which (a) the person aggrieved permanently or temporarily resides or carries on business or is employed; or (b) the respondent resides or carries on business or is employed; or

© the cause of action has arisen, shall be the competent court to grant a protection order and other orders under this Act and to try offences under this Act. (2) Any order made under this Act shall be enforceable throughout India.

### **Procedure**

(1) Save as otherwise provided in this Act, all proceedings under Sections 12, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22 and 23 and offences under Section 31

shall be governed by the provisions of the Code of Criminal Procedure, 1973 (2 of 1974).

(2) Nothing in sub-section (1) shall prevent the court from laying down its own procedure for disposal of an application under Section 12 or under sub-section (2) of Section 23.

### **Appeal**

There shall lie an appeal to the Court of Session within thirty days from the date on which the order made by the Magistrate is served on the aggrieved person or the respondent, as the case may be, whichever is later.

### **Cognizance and Proof**

(1) Notwithstanding anything contained in the Code of Criminal Procedure, 1973 (2 of 1974), the offence under sub-section (1) of Section 31 shall be cognizable and non-bailable. (2) Upon the sole testimony of the aggrieved person, the court may conclude that an offence under sub-section (1) of Section 31 has been committed by the accused.

### **Penalty for not Discharging Duty by Protection Officer**

If any protection officer fails or refuses to discharge his duties as directed by the Magistrate in the protection order without any sufficient cause, he shall be punished with imprisonment of either description for a term which may extend to one year, or with fine which may extend to twenty thousand rupees, or with both.

There is growing criticism that the dowry laws are often being misused, particularly Section 498A IPC which is observed by many in India as being prone to

misuse because of mechanical arrests by the police.

Section 498A IPC was challenged but upheld by the Supreme Court of India in 2005. In 2010, the Supreme Court lamented about the possible misuse of anti-dowry laws in *Preeti Gupta & Another v. State of Jharkhand & Another* Case and recommended a detailed investigation. In July 2014, in the case of *Armesh Kumar v. State of Bihar & Another*, a two-judge bench of the Supreme Court reviewed the enforcement of Section 41(1) (A) of CrPC which instructs the state of following certain procedures before arrest, and went on to observe that the 498A had become a powerful weapon in the hands of disgruntled wives where innocent people were arrested without any evidence due to non-bailable and cognizable nature of the law. The Apex Court has termed the misuse of the law as 'Legal Terrorism', as unscrupulous women in a bid to settle scores, drag all family members into a dowry harassment case though they may be "totally unconnected" with the case. The decision received criticism from feminists because it weakened the negotiating power of women. Other welcomed the decision as landmark judgment to uphold the human rights of innocent people.

On April 19, 2015, the Indian Government sought to introduce a bill to amend Section 498A IPC based on the suggestions of the Law Commission and Justice Malimath Committee, on reforms of criminal justice. ■





# উপভোক্তা বিষয়ক দপ্তর, পশ্চিমবঙ্গ সরকার



১১এ, মির্জা গালিব স্ট্রীট, কলকাতা-৭০০ ০৮৭

যদি আপনি নিম্নলিখিত একটি/একাধিক পরিস্থিতির সম্মুখীন হয়ে থাকেন তবে প্রতিকারের জন্য ক্রেতা সুরক্ষা আদালতে (কনজিউমার ফোরাম) নামমাত্র ফি দিয়ে আপনার অভিযোগ জানান :

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- পণ্য বা পরিষেবা যদি জীবন/নিরাপত্তার ক্ষেত্রে বিপজ্জনক হয়

## কিভাবে অভিযোগ পেশ করবেন :

নিম্নলিখিত বিষয়গুলি বিস্তারিতভাবে উল্লেখ করে সাদা কাগজে আপনি বা আপনার প্রতিনিধি অভিযোগ পেশ করতে পারেন :

- অভিযোগকারীর নাম ও ঠিকানা
- বিরোধী পক্ষের নাম ও ঠিকানা
- অভিযোগের বিবরণ
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- এক বা একাধিক উপভোক্তা
- বিভিন্ন স্বেচ্ছাসেবী সংস্থা
- উপভোক্তার উত্তরাধিকারী বা প্রতিনিধি

## কোথায় অভিযোগ দায়ের করতে হয় :

যেখানে অভিযোগের কারণ ঘটেছে বা বিরোধীপক্ষের অফিস অবস্থিত, সেই জেলা/রাজ্যের ফোরামে অভিযোগ জানাতে হবে। এ ছাড়া আর্থিক পরিমাণের উপরেও ফোরামের এজিয়ার নির্ভরশীল।

পণ্য/পরিষেবার মূল্য ও ক্ষতিপূরণের পরিমাণ	ফোরাম
কুড়ি লক্ষ টাকা পর্যন্ত	জেলা ফোরাম
কুড়ি লক্ষ টাকার বেশী ও এক কোটি পর্যন্ত	রাজ্য কমিশন
এক কোটি টাকার অধিক	জাতীয় কমিশন

ক্রেতা সুরক্ষা আদালতে উকিল নিয়োগ বাধ্যতামূলক নয়। অভিযোগকারী নিজের সওয়াল নিজে করতে পারেন। অভিযোগের কারণ ঘটনার ২ বছরের মধ্যে অভিযোগ জানাতে হবে।

## কী কী প্রতিবিধান পাওয়া যায় :

- পণ্য বা পরিষেবার ত্রুটি বা ঘাটতি দূর করা।
- ত্রুটিপূর্ণ পণ্যের বদল বা মূল্য ফেরত।
- ক্ষতিপূরণ।
- মানুষের জীবন বা স্বাস্থ্যের পক্ষে বিপজ্জনক বস্তু বা পরিষেবার বিপণন বন্ধ করা।
- বিভ্রান্তিকর বিজ্ঞাপনের প্রভাব দূর করতে সংশোধনমূলক বিজ্ঞাপন।

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# Police Panorama



1



2

## Durga Puja



3



4

- 1, 2 & 3 Kolkata Police controlling crowd during Durga Puja.
- 4 Cops helping a senior citizen and others to get a taxi during Durga Puja.
- 5 Pronam members assembled for visiting pandals during Durga Puja.
- 6 Mayor and CP welcoming and greeting Pronam members.
- 7 Pronam members are on the way to Durga Puja pandals.
- 8 Folk singers entertaining on board Pronam members with musical performance.
- 9 Pronam members visiting Durga idol at a puja pandal.
- 10 & 11 Kolkata Police personnel performing duties at river ghats during immersion.



5



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8



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11







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3



4



5

## Chhat Puja

1&2 Kolkata Police personnel controlling crowd at river ghats during Chhat Puja

3, 4 & 5 Ever vigilant River Traffic Police alerting worshippers along the river ghats during Chhat Puja.



1



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7



8

## Friendship Cup

- 1 Champion of the Friendship Cup 2015
- 2 CP awarding the Winners' Trophy to Charu Chandra College team.
- 3 & 4 Teams in action during Friendship Cup Tournament.

- 5 Kolkata Police personnel with veteran footballers before a friendly match.
- 6, 7 & 8 Veterans showing their skills during the match with Kolkata Police personnel.





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7

Allen Park

- 1 CP with dignitaries during Pre Christmas celebration organized by Kolkata Police.
- 2 Guests having a gala time at the event.
- 3 Christmas Carols sung to usher the festive mood.
- 4 A young chap performing a Christmas song.
- 5 Bickram Ghosh with his team performing during Christmas celebration.
- 6 A band performing at the event.
- 7 The presenter at the Pre Christmas Event.





1



2



3

## Sampark



4



5

- 1 Students visiting Control Room at Lalbazar, learning its function.
- 2 Students visiting Chitpore Police Station on account of 'Sampark' programme.
- 3 Students visiting Traffic Control Room to observe its function for the traffic management in the city.
- 4 Police- Public interface. Students attending a programme at Phulbagan Police Station.
- 5 Film actor Soham with students attending 'Sampark' programme

## Probaho



1



2



3



4

- 1 Cops donating blood at Prabaho organized by Cossipore Police Station
- 2 Police personnel donating blood at Prabaho

- 3 & 4 750<sup>th</sup> Blood Donation camp 'Prabaho' organized by Kalighat Police Station.





1



2

## Christmas Day



3



4



5



6



7

- 1 & 2 Kolkata Police controlling huge crowd during Christmas night.
- 3 Kolkata Police maneuvering smooth flow of traffic.
- 4 & 5 People hanging around on Christmas night at illuminated Park Street.
- 6 CP with superior officials inspecting security arrangements during Christmas.
- 7 Police personnel watching atop the tower to ensure full proof security.





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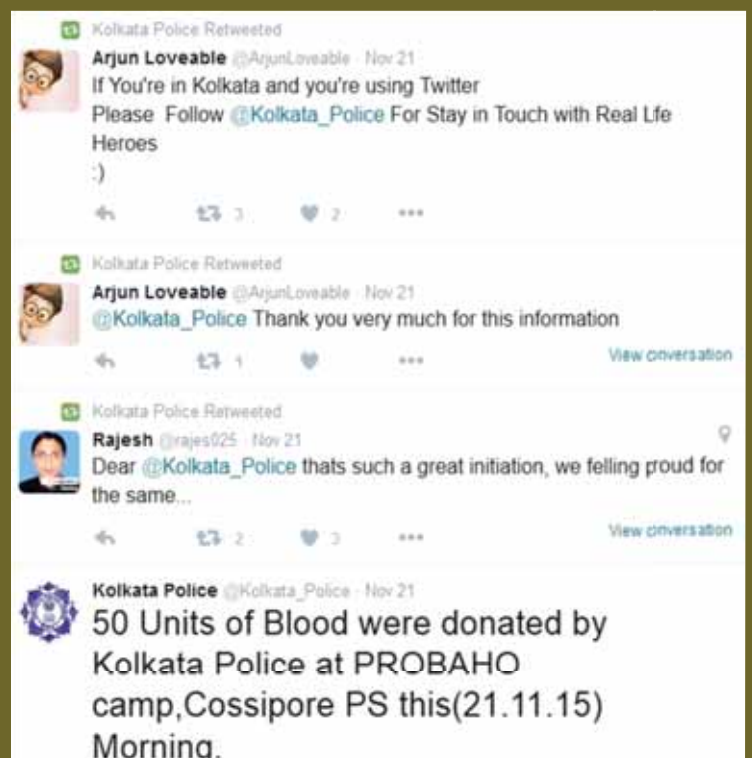
7

- 1 Kolkata Police set up an Assistance Booth for New Year carnival
- 2 & 3 New Year Day celebration. Police personnel managing traffic at Park Street till late night.
- 4, 5 & 6 People in celebratory mood. Police personnel controlling fun loving crowd.
- 7 Superior Officer intercepting the biker at Park Street.



## In Touch with the Citizens via Social Network

In an attempt to connect with the citizens of Kolkata, Kolkata Police have set up a twitter account as well as a blog. Citizens can now follow KP on twitter on the handle @KolkataPolice while they can read more about the Force at the blogspot - kolkatacops







### Views...

Posted by [kolkata cop] under [News / Views](#)  
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I have had some very pleasant experience with Kolkata Police in general and KTP specifically!

The latest episode happened today! Date: 11 Sep 2014 Time: 6:20 AM Location M.G Road and C.R Avenue Crossing! A person is seen profusely bleed from his right ankle. A Pvt. Bus had crushed his leg and sped away! The constable on duty rushes to the injured person, consoles him, stops a Taxi, helped the injured person into it. The constable requested people standing around to accompany the injured and admit him in Emergency ward of Calcutta Medical College. No one agreed commenting it may bring problem for them. When one person agreed, the constable took out his wallet and paid taxi driver the fare to Calcutta Medical College! Yes sir, you read it correctly that the constable PAID the taxi fare, though the person accompanying the victim volunteered to pay but constable said: "Aapni keno deben, Aapni cooperate kore upakaar korleni!" You might wonder how do I know all these minute details. I was the person who took the injured person to Medical College.

Through you I would like to urge all friend and Public that do share your happy moments with Kolkata Police to keep them enthused and encouraged to have a helpful attitude.

Regards.

-Ravindra Kr. Karnani

GirishPark



# Impact of Social Media Usage

Amrita Priya

While researching for this article, I came across an interesting story about a woman, with no history of trauma, ending up in hospital due to chronic addiction to the WhatsApp messaging service during the Christmas holiday. She had not engaged in any excessive physical activity prior to Christmas day. However, on Christmas day, she spent an estimated six hours holding a modestly weighted mobile phone sending a huge amount of messages. As a result, she had to seek treatment for severe wrist pain. The diagnosis was bilateral extensor pollicis longus tendinitis of the thumb or “WhatsAppitis”.

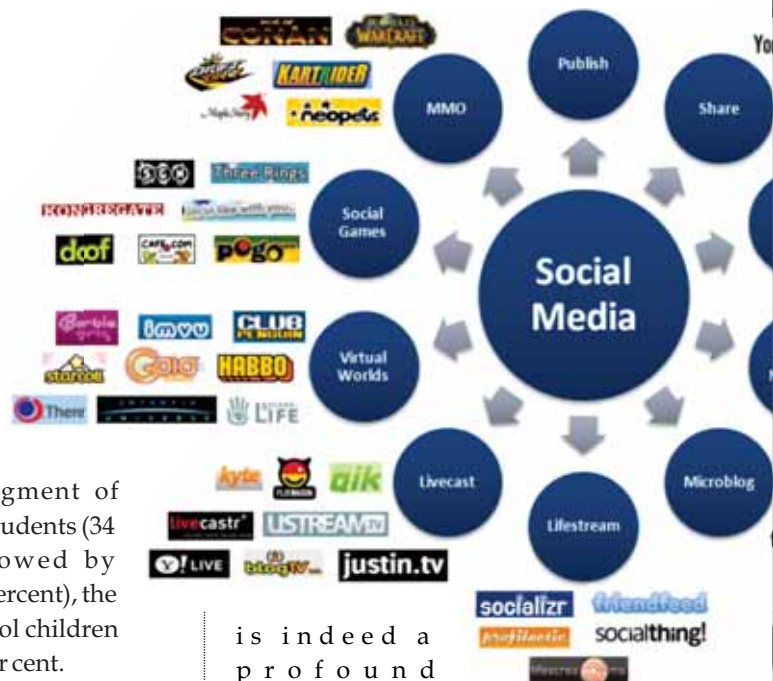
According to a report by Internet and Mobile Association of India and IMRB International, the total number of social media users in India has reached 143 million. Urban areas witnessed a growth of 35 percent with 118 million users as on April 2015. On the other hand, the number for rural India stood at 25 million, up from 12 million in 2014, showing a growth of 100 per cent. Facebook emerged the leading social media website with 96 percent of urban users

accessing it, followed by Google Plus (61 percent), T w i t t e r (43 percent) and LinkedIn (24 percent).

The largest segment of users is college students (34 percent), followed by young men (27 percent), the report said. School children constituted 12 per cent.

The accelerated pace of growth of social media users have given experts enough reason to predict that by 2018, total users might increase to upto 500 million users in India. “Accessing social media is one of the key reasons for people to access the internet. In fact, social media was the reason they embraced the internet,” said the IAMAI-IMRB report on social media.

If we ask ourselves, what social media has done to us, the answer would be that we have started living in two worlds – The Real World and The Virtual World. “People who smile while they are alone used to be called insane, until we invented smart phones and social media.” This



is indeed a profound observation by an African writer and satirist.

In a study of Cyberpsychology, Behavior and Social Networking, it was found that lonely adolescents go online in order to meet new friends. The study manifested the significant impact of online communication especially to those individuals who had claimed loneliness as the reason why they go online. Further, the study has revealed that the most frequently shared topics of lonely individuals are more personal and intimate compared to those individuals who never reported their loneliness. Moreover, these teens have also indicated that online communication is more



frequent because of the notion that in their online world, they do not feel any shame and can share and talk more freely.

If the positive sides of Social Networking Sites (SNS) are explored, it can be said that they are used for social enrichment by those identified as extroverts and as social compensation for those who are identified as introverts. SNS have helped maintain, create, and strengthen new ties by permitting the social groups to be more closely bonded, contribute and give back to their respective networks.

The interactions online via social networking sites do not necessarily remove people from their real world. These interactions have further maintained and sustained relationships as individual change or transfer from one community to another. This use of technology keeps them in contact with each other more often. Moreover, social networking sites (SNS) offer the individuals such as students, professionals and others, who go online, an opportunity to create a positive image of oneself. One is able to create a digital footprint with each update and is able to promote one's personal brand. SNS enhances a person's confidence and psychological

well-being making him/her more socially active. In a nutshell, People's Social Capital increases.

Just as we have two sides to a coin, the flip side of SNS is that it takes away much of the user's time.

People in the virtual world can be aggressive and expressive but they can be the exact opposite in the real world, thus it is very difficult to know about the real personality of people through social media. They gradually lose inhibition in talking to strangers. The number of youngsters that trust the virtual world and interact with strangers registered a whopping increase of 36 percent this year, to 53 percent, from 17 percent last year. These shocking numbers are part of the annual study named Tweens, Teens and Technology, conducted by Intel's security arm McAfee, which examines online behaviour and social networking habits of Indian tweens (8-12 years) and teens (13-17 years).



Another shocking revelation from the study is that 52 percent of the Indian youth access their social media accounts at schools with tweens (57 percent) being more active than the teens (47 percent). Shockingly, even though the minimum age to register on social networking sites such as Facebook, Snapchat, Pinterest, Tinder, Tumblr, and Vine is 13, children aged between 10-12 years access them more regularly than teenagers. More than 60 percent of youngsters create fake profiles to be accepted virtually. A big reason for such behaviour is identity crisis which happens when children start idolising someone in movies and advertisements. Whatever goes on in the lives of teens virtually has a spillover effect in their real

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lives too. About 46 percent of youth have got into trouble at home or school as a result of being on a social networking website, the finding said. Out of the same sample, two-thirds admitted to having difficulty relaxing when they are unable to use their social media accounts.

Posts on social media many a time present an idealised version of what is happening, what something looks like, or how things are going. This can lead users to constantly compare themselves to others and think less of their own lives. If things are going particularly well for people in your newsfeed and you are having a rough day, this is likely to negatively affect your mood. There is therefore a loss in confidence due to unfair comparisons to others.

Lack of online safety measures lead to consequences such as cyberbullying. Cyberbullying is an enormous concern, especially for adolescents. According to the McAfee report, two out of three polled youngsters had some experience with cyberbullying and an overwhelming number said they would not know what to do if they were harassed online. An organization that aims for internet safety called Enough is Enough, conducted a survey that found 95 percent of teenagers who use social media have witnessed cyberbullying, and 33 percent have been victims themselves.

Social Media can lead to Fear of Missing Out (FOMO). Fear of missing out is a phenomenon that occurs when you feel the pressure to be doing what everyone else is doing; attend

every event, and share every life experience. It can evoke anxiety and cause social media users to question why everyone is "having fun without them." Surveys have even found that people feel insecure after using Pinterest because they feel that they are not crafty or creative enough. Facebook and Twitter can make people feel like they are not successful or smart enough. Social media also hinders concentration. Research has shown that our brains do not have the capacity to fully focus our attention on two things at once, and instead multitasking causes our brain to quickly switch from one task to another. This hinders information processing and productivity. Closing out one's Twitter and Facebook feed can seriously help get some work done.

If we link social media usage to the Freudian ideas of the Id, ego and super-ego, many examples of positive psychological effects of social media would become evident. Perhaps one of the most important points is that social media does not necessarily take us out of the real world. It can instead be used to revive and preserve relationships with other people. Even more exciting about this technological world is that there is an incredible number of like-minded people who can connect in just one click. Research presented in the journal *The British Psychological Society* found that students who experience low self-esteem can take advantage of social media and its capability to bond with others in order to pull themselves up from slumps in their mood. Teenagers using SNS are good at displaying virtual

empathy to fellow human beings. These sites can provide tools of teaching that can really help in an engaging learning process.

However, if a comparative analysis of pros and cons is made, then social media does more harm to adolescents compared to adults. Young people using social media, especially Facebook, are more narcissistic by nature. Facebook presence in the lives of individuals show more signs of psychological disorders including mania, aggressive tendencies, anxiety, depression and anti-social behaviours. It can also have a negative impact on learning. Middle school, high school and college students who check Facebook at least once, during a fifteen-minute study period, achieved lower grades.

However, social media is not just about selfie-taking narcissists, cyberbullies and killing productivity. Social media is doing good to Golden agers and making life cheerful for them by making them socially active even when they stay confined to their homes most of the time. Through the use of social media, adults feel technologically at par with the younger generation. When used in moderation and with the right intentions, it really can achieve what it was first set out to do – To Connect People.

**Amrita Priya** is a freelance writer. She contributes articles in different magazines at regular intervals and provides contents on Psychology and Management to US-based academic portals. She has authored a few books like 'Romance on Facebook', 'Two Quality Ladies', 'Cereals and Pulses' etc. ■





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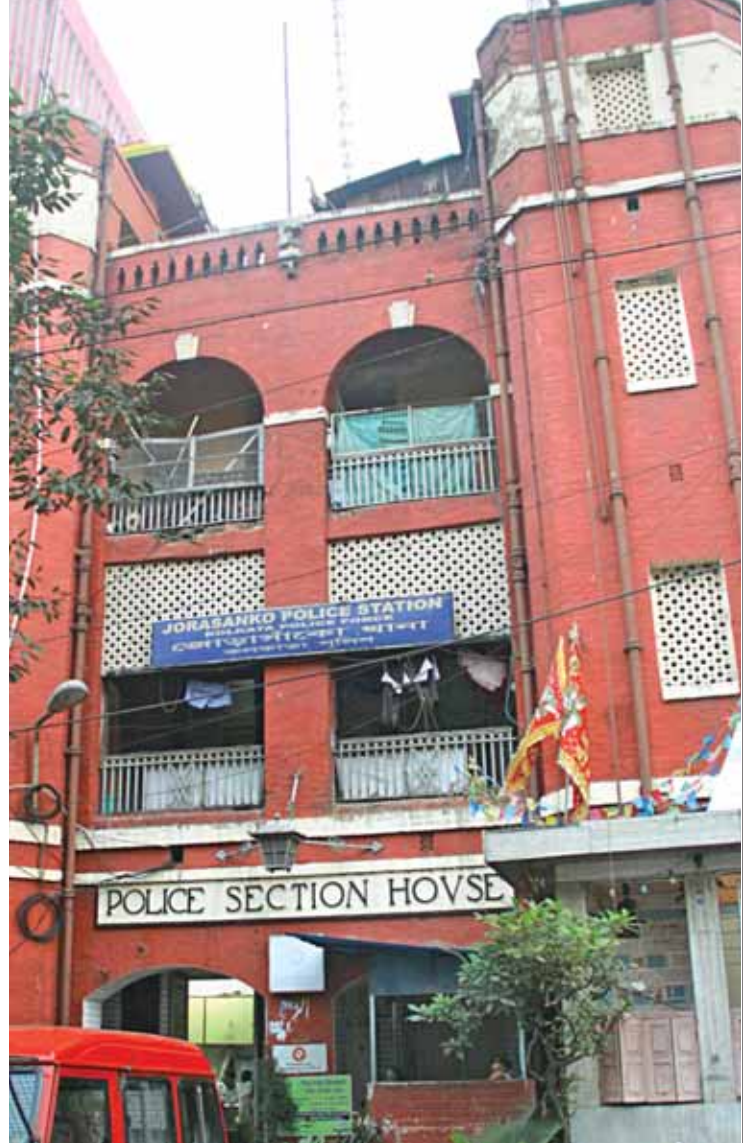
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# Jorasanko Police Station

Abhijit Chatterjee



*The Jorasanko Police Station jurisdiction is approximately one sq k.m and consist of four municipal wards – 39, 41, 43 and 44. The locality is densely populated. The population of this small area is approximately six lakhs. A metro station - M G Road, falls under this jurisdiction. CR Avenue is the lifeline of this area and College Street is the centrepont for educational and cultural activities. Jorasanko area is busy due to its close proximity to Burrabazar- a wholesale market. Besides local residents, thousands of commuters avail the roads and different modes of transport from this area.*



## Jurisdiction:

**North:** CR Avenue - Muktaram Babu Street crossing

**South:** C R Avenue - Colootola Street crossing, Colootola Street - Surya Sen Street crossing

**West:** Rabindra Sarani from Muktaram Babu Street crossing to Colootola Street

**East:** Bidhan Sarani - Muktaram Babu Street crossing, College Street - Surya Sen Street crossing

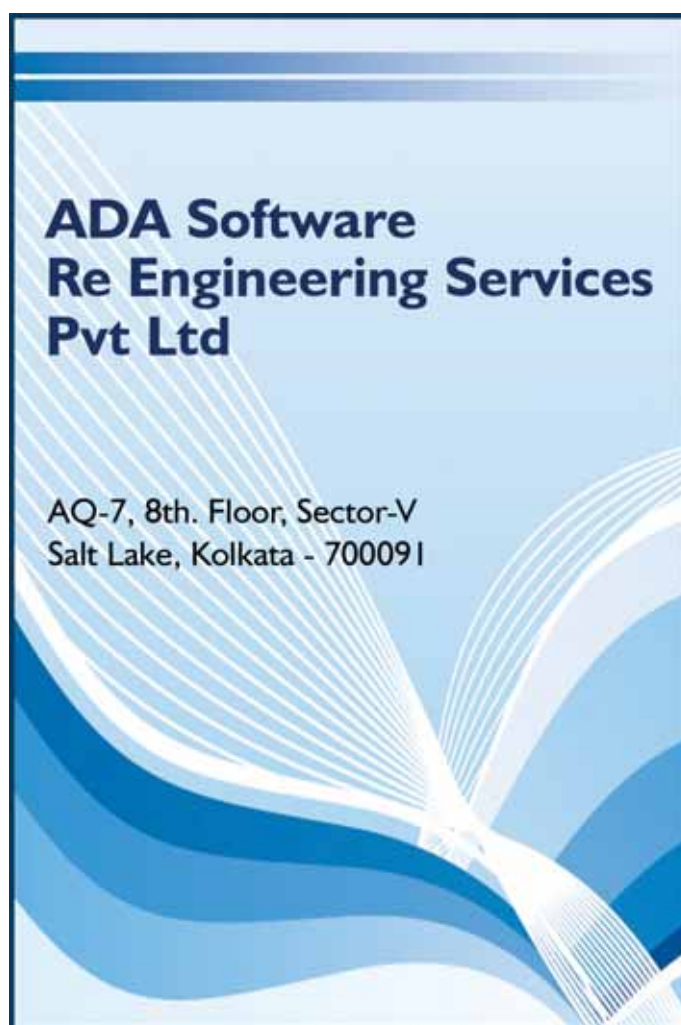
## Area Profile:

Jorasanko is one of the important police stations under the Central Division of Kolkata Police. A slum in Kalabagan, is to some extent, a trouble-prone area from the law and order point of view. Calcutta University, Presidency University, Institute of Social Welfare and Business Management (ISWBM), All India Institute of Hygiene and Public Health fall under the jurisdiction. Besides, there are some renowned schools like Hare School, Visuddhananda Saraswati Higher Secondary School, Tantia High School, Md. Zaan School etc. Marble Palace is the tourist attraction in this area. The famous auditorium - Mahajati Sadan which was named by Rabindranath Tagore and inaugurated by Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose, is also situated in this area. The office and press of the esteemed Hindi daily newspaper Sanmarg is situated along M.G. Road metro station. More than fifty percent area of the western side of C.R. Avenue is popular for commercial activities. Apart from some banks, there are offices like College Service Commission, Burrabazar Post Office, Telephone Exchange and Railway Computerised Reservation Booking Office. A peripheral office cum library of State Archive at Bhabani Dutta Lane is under the jurisdiction of this police station. College Street market, which is

now renamed as Barno Parichoy, is the treasure island for shoppers. Two parks - Md. Ali Park and Marcus Square are also part of this station. Md. Ali Park is well-known for its famous Durga Puja. Until a few years back, Marcus Square was the choicest place of the circus company. Another famous landmark present under this jurisdiction is Mechhua Bazar, the famous wholesale fruit market.

## Challenges:

The area witness common law and order problems like commotion, scuffle, theft and chain snatching. Domestic violence is also a regular occurrence. The police has to keep eyes on such situations to prevent flare ups or violence. This police station also goes all out to maintain peace and communal harmony. The officials hold beat meeting at regular intervals with the Citizens' Committee, Aman Committee and the local clubs.





## Officerspeak

I advise all my colleagues to be good PROs and to develop proper communicate with the public. Proper communication solves 50 percent of any problem. We work as a team and our officers and men are friendly and helpful. We hold beat meetings with the citizens, local clubs regularly and sort out common law and order problems with the help of the councillors. Our friendly outlook creates confidence on the citizens and in turn helps us get more information about offenders.

**Amit Rakshit**, Officer-in-Charge, Jorasanko PS

## Policing:

The law and order situation in this area is by and large peaceful. However, the visibility of police in the locality is emphasised. Patrolling parties, including the Duty Officer, are a common sight at night. All the localities, lanes and bye-lanes

are not left from this daily routine of supervision by cops in motor cycles. They ensure that residents feel safe and secure. Police kiosks have been set up in many parts of this jurisdiction to assist the public.

## Beyond Policing:

The community policing initiatives are conducted with due importance. Annual Blood Donation Camp- Probaho is organised. Besides, Friendship Cup (Para Football), Carrom Competition, Football tournaments are organised involving local clubs. Football and cricket kits, carrom boards are distributed to local clubs to encourage sports and games. A nabadisha centre and a computer training centre - Kiran - for the minority youth is also run at Kalabagan.

## Trivia:

Amit Rakshit, a Sub-Inspector of 1989 batch had earlier served at Park Street, Bhawanipore and Alipore Police Station. He was then transferred to Homicide Section (DD) and worked there till 2004. He was then transferred to Jorasanko PS for two years and then for another two years at Burrabazar Police station. He was promoted to the post of Inspector in 2008 and transferred to Special Task Force (STF) and worked there for one year. He joined Park Street police station as Addl. OC and worked there for 3 years. He became Officer-in-Charge of Parnashree PS in 2011, and in 2014, he was transferred to Jorasanko PS as OC. He has been conferred with the Prasansa Padak in 2012 and the Indian Police Medal in 2013.

## Present Strength:

Inspector - 2, SI - 12, LSI - 1, Seargent - 1, ASI - 27, L ASI - 1, Const - 80, L Const - 2, Home Guard - 14, Civic Volunteer - 9, Police Driver - 5

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# Managing Traffic at Busy South Kolkata

Abhijit Chatterjee

## BOUNDARY:

**NORTH:** S P Mukherjee Road - Monoharpukur Road, Sadananda Road - Mahim Halder Street, K. P. Lane- Mohim Halder Street, S.P. Mukherjee Road- Kali Temple Road- Sadananda Road -Kali Das Patitundi Lane - Deshopriya Park Road(West)

**CENTRAL:** Rash Behari Avenue- Pratapaditya Road, Sadananda Road, S/P Mukherjee Road- Rash Behari Avenue, Rash Behari Avenue- Lake Road, S P Mukherjee Road- Southern Avenue, S P Mukherjee Road- Mudialy, Sarat Chatterjee Avenue- Southern Avenue, Southern Avenue- Lake Place, S P Mukherjee Road-Abdul Rasul Avenue, Deshapran Sashmal

Road- Charu Avenue, Deshapran Sashmal Road-Russa Road, Sarat Chatterjee Avenue- Dr. S. N. Roy Road

**SOUTH:** Deshapran Sashmal Road- T C Road, Tollygunge Road- T C Road - Deodhar Rahaman Road- Lake Garden Flyover

**WEST:** Alipore Road - Gobinda Audduy Road, Chetla Central Road- Alipore Road, CC Road- Rakhal Das Audduy Road, Gobinda Audduy Road-Peary Mohan Roy Road, Alipore Road - Chetla Hat Road, Judges Court Road (inside), Alipore Road (back side of Judges Court Gate), Rakhal Das Audduy Road- Chetla Road (Mashari More), Chetla Hat Road- Gopal Nagar Road.

**SOUTH WEST:** T C Road- Basantalal Saha Road, T C Road

in front of Ratan Pal Petrol Pump, Station Road Chetla Road - P C Sarani - T C Road- Amartya Sen Sarani, T C Road- D M Sarani (Hindustan Sweets), T C Road- Sahapur Road- Durgapur Lane.

The locality is thickly populated with nearly 10.72 lakhs inhabitants and nearly 1.2 lakhs vehicles plying daily through the important roads within 4.6 sq. km of this area of this traffic guard. Rash Behari Avenue virtually is at the central position after the expansion of jurisdiction of Kolkata Police. The traffic flow has increased during the last few years and it is a challenging task to manage the ever growing traffic in this area. However, the officers and personnel of Tollygunge Traffic



Guard work with utmost sincerity to ensure smooth traffic flow in this busy area.

Some vital installations, important places and prestigious institutions within this traffic guard area are Kalighat Temple, Keoratala Burning Ghat, Rasbehari Gurudwara, Greek Orthodox Church, Lake Kali Bari, Rabindra Sarobar Stadium, Tipu Sultan Mosque, Kalighat Pumping Station, Chetla Pumping Station. Some notable educational institutions are Nabanalanda, Carmel, Andhra Association School, Shree Shree Academy, Chetla Boys School, Chetla Girls School, Kailash Vidyamandir, Charuchandra College, Hastings House - College for Education (Women), David Hare Training College, Deshbandhu College for Girls, Women Christian College. Besides these, few banks and offices of the Public Service Commission (PSC), Survey Building, B G Press, Alipore Judges Court, Chetla Municipal Market, Lake Market and Lake Mall are important landmarks of this area. Shoppers can find various items ranging from grocery to apparel, flowers to cutlery, dry fruits to costume jewellery, ornaments to books and periodicals. This is a culturally-rich area. Theatre, shows, musical and cultural programmes are held on a



regular basis at Tapan Theatre, Jogesh Mime, Mukta Manch, Uttam Manch and Ahindra Manch.

**Challenges:** According to Traffic Police, SP Mukherjee Road and Rash Behari Road crossing is Zero Tolerance road. The jargon indicates that this area is completely a No Parking Zone. Rash Behari Road crossing is now virtually the central position of the city following incorporation of added areas. Since the jurisdictional area of Kolkata Police has already extended and the pressure of vehicular traffic has gone high, it is a big challenge for Tollygunge Traffic Guard to ensure uninterrupted traffic flow here. Another challenge for this Traffic Guard is to manage traffic movement during the cremation of eminent personalities from different walks of life because most of the funeral processions pass this area and head towards

Keoratala Burning Ghat.

**Beyond Policing:** Besides observation of Road Safety Week, Tollygunge Traffic Guard organizes workshops on Safe Driving for Auto and Taxi drivers twice a year. It has already organized Medical Checkup Camps for drivers as well as the locals in association with B P Poddar Hospital and Cipla.

**Achievements:** In 2015, thanks to the promptness of Sergeant Suman Pal that the life of an elderly person, Balbat Jha, a resident of 18/A, Birpukur Road of Regent Park PS, was saved. While Sergeant Pal was on duty on 18<sup>th</sup> June at around 9:40 pm, a conductor of a South bound private bus on route no. 228 alighted from the bus and informed him that an aged passenger had fallen unconscious due to a cardiac attack. Understanding the



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## Officerspeak

I believe in perfection so I ask my officers and men to set goals and work with utmost sincerity. Police personnel should have the ability to assess any situation while managing traffic even at very busy times of the day or areas. He has also to act with soundness of mind. A traffic personnel can do this perfectly only when he works with conviction and perseverance.

**Biswajit Ghosal**, Officer in Charge, Tollygunge Traffic Guard

gravity of the situation, Sergeant Pal applied CPR on the ailing person and took him to the nearby M R Bangur Hospital. The doctors thanked the Sergeant for his presence of mind which helped saved the elderly man who was later shifted to SSKM Hospital.

In another incident, an errant auto driver was arrested and put into custody for 14 days due to timely intervention of Sergeant Partha Ghosh. On July 21, 2015, a Traffic Constable on duty informed Sergeant Ghosh that a young lady and her father were being manhandled by an auto driver near Rash Behari Road and Sadananda Road crossing. The auto driver even misbehaved with the Traffic Constable

when he tried to tackle the situation. Sergeant Ghosh immediately rushed to the spot and arrested the unruly auto driver and a case was registered against him with Tollygunge PS following a complaint by the victims. The Sergeant was rewarded by the Department for his prompt action.

**Trivia:** Biswajit Ghosal, Officer-in-Charge of Tollygunge Traffic Guard joined Kolkata Police in 1986 as a Sergeant. After completion of training, his first posting was at Howrah Bridge Traffic Guard in 1988. During 1988-1996, he served at East Traffic Guard, Traffic Control Room, South Traffic Guard, and at the Headquarter Traffic Guard. He worked at Writers' Building from 1996 to 2000 under the Reserve Force. He was again transferred to Howrah Bridge, Headquarter Traffic Guard. He then became Officer-in-Charge of Traffic Control Room. He was then promoted as Inspector in 2007 and transferred to 2<sup>nd</sup> Battalion. In 2007, he led Kolkata Police team for election duty to Gujarat. He became OC Control from 2008 to August 2011. In September 2011, he was appointed Addl. OC of Tiljala Traffic Guard and then in Jorabagan Traffic Guard. He was posted at Belegghata Traffic Guard as OC in April 2012. He received the Prasansha Padak in 2012. He was then transferred to his present posting at Tollygunge Traffic Guard as OC in January 2015.

### Present Strength:

Inspector-2  
Sergeant-11  
ASI-7, Cons-63, HG-58  
Police Driver-4, Civic Volunteer-1





# Citizens' Candid Talk

*With the festive season over, The Protector sought opinions from the residents of Kolkata on how the city police fared in their duties during Durga Puja, Kali Puja, Diwali etc. With rising concerns about environmental pollution worldwide, they were also asked about their views and suggestions on checking pollution in the city.*

- As told to **Anirban Saha**



**Debarun Saha**  
Student, Techno India

The Kolkata Police did a good job in discharging their duties during the festive season. Though there were rules and restrictions to curb noise pollution, some firecrackers exceeded the standard noise limit. Heavy fines should be imposed on people who flout the rules.

It is because of Kolkata Police that we were able to go pandal hopping during Durga Puja and moved safely from one point to another even late at night. Their hard work is praiseworthy and I appreciate the way they handled the huge crowd and traffic.



**Kingshuk De**  
Sales Manager, Otis



**Kamalika Bhowmik**  
Student, NSHM

Traffic Police personnel are exposed to air pollution and suffer from bronchial infection. COPD is common to them. Pollution is an important issue but people are either unaware, careless or indifferent. They should be made aware of the gravity of the situation. I would suggest Kolkata Police to organise awareness programmes on environment and involve the public through Community Policing Initiatives.



**Susmita Nag**  
Student, NSHM

For most of us, the festive season is the time to relax and have fun but it is not so for the police. They have to be more alert, cautious and ready for action. They promised to make our holiday season safe and they did an excellent job doing so as well as handling the heavy rush of people and traffic.



**Lopamudra Roy**  
Student, NSHM

The Kolkata Police did an excellent job in controlling the crowd all over the city. Measures should have been taken to help more senior citizens visit the Puja pandals apart from the *Pronam* members. Environmental pollution is now a serious cause of concern. Students along the roads reminded drivers of the 'No Honk' pledge so as to curb noise pollution but air pollution can only be checked by imposing heavy penalties on vehicles spewing black smoke from their tailpipes. Kolkata Police should include environmental awareness and protection in their SAMPARK programme.

Regarding environment pollution, I would say we all are busy commenting on what others are doing and not doing. If each one of us tries to reduce individual carbon footprint by cautiously using the available resources, pollution can be lowered substantially. We are taking much more than what we are giving back to our planet.



**Poulami Saha**  
Homemaker



**Amitava Saha**  
Retd. Govt. Employee

Controlling pollution levels is a mammoth task in itself, but it is not impossible. The public must do their part irrespective of regulations set by the government. Vehicle emissions are a major pollution contributor and curbing it requires the initiative of all car owners. Regarding crowd management during the festivals, Kolkata Police has done a commendable job this year too, and I thank them for their hard work.

Kolkata Police did a good job in ensuring a safe festive time for the citizens. Crowd and traffic management have been efficiently done with the aid of modern technology. Controlling air and noise pollution during Diwali is a mammoth task but with their constant vigilance, these have also been brought under control to quite an extent this year.



**Misha Mukherjee**  
Student, NSHM



## LIST OF SUPERIOR OFFICERS OF KOLKATA POLICE

<b>Designation</b>	<b>Name of Officer</b>	<b>OFFICE</b>
<b>Commissioner of Police</b>	<b>Sri Rajeev Kumar, IPS</b>	<b>2214-5060 2214-5424 (FAX)</b>
<b>Spl. C.P. (II)</b>	Sri Jayanta Kr. Basu, IPS	2214-5476 2250-5170
<b>Addl. C.P. (I)</b>	Sri Vineet Kumar Goyal, IPS	2214-1696 2250-5085
<b>Addl. C.P. (II)</b>	Dr. R Sivakumar, IPS	2214-1515 2250-5173
<b>Addl. C.P. (I II)</b>	Sri Rajeev Mishra, IPS	2214-5799 2250-5149
<b>OSD &amp; EO, Co-ordination</b>	Sri P. K. Chattopadhyay, IPS (Retd.)	2214-1354 2250-5302
<b>Spl. Addl. C.P. &amp; Jt. C.P. ( Hqrs.)</b>	Sri Supratim Sarkar, IPS	2214-3970 2250-5207
<b>Spl. Addl. C.P. &amp; Jt. C.P. (PRB)</b>	Sri Sib Sankar Dutta, IPS	2283-7671 2283-7678
<b>Spl. Addl. C.P. &amp; Jt. C.P. (TP)</b>	Sri Laxmi Narayan Meena, IPS	2214-5558 2250-5273
<b>Spl. Addl. C.P. &amp; Jt. C.P. (Intelligence)</b>	Sri Pallab Kanti Ghosh, IPS	2282-5957 2283-7015
<b>Spl. Addl. C.P. &amp; Jt. C.P. (Admn.)</b>	Sri Mehboob Rahman, IPS	2214-1836 2250-5080
<b>Jt. C.P. (Crime)</b>	Sri Debasish Boral, IPS	2214-5737 2250-5089
<b>Jt. C.P. (O)</b>	Sri Champak Bhattacharyya, IPS	2214-5509 2250-5262
<b>Jt. C.P. (STF)</b>	Sri Vishal Garg, IPS	2214-5950 2250-5130
<b>Jt. C.P. (AP)</b>	Sri Satyajit Bandopadhyay, IPS	2479-3554 2409-9188
<b>D.C. Wireless Branch</b>	Sri Sujay Kr. Chanda, IPS	2283-7656 (R St.) 2283-7674 (R St.) 2214-5557 (LB) 2250-5088 (LB)
<b>D.C. S.D.</b>	Sri Murli Dhar, IPS	2281-3467 2283-7057 2289-3816
<b>D.C. C.D.</b>	Sri Akhilesh Chaturvedi, IPS	2228-1403 2228-5210
<b>D.C. P.D.</b>	Sri Sudeep Sarkar, IPS	2439-7174 2409-3118 2409-3103 2409-9334
<b>D.C. E.S.D.</b>	Sri Dhrubajyoti De, IPS	2374-5645 2374-6431
<b>D.C. N.D.</b>	Sri Subhankar Sinha Sarkar, IPS	2360-5650 2360-6403
<b>D.C. S.E.D.</b>	Sri Gaurav Sharma, IPS	2290-4660 2290-4664
<b>D.C. S.W.D. (Behala DIVN.)</b>	Sri Rashid Munir Khan, IPS	2499-4702 2499-4291 2499-4120

<b>D.C. S.S.D. (JDV. DIVN.)</b>	Sri Pandey Santosh, IPS	2499-4711 2499-4070 2499-4287
<b>D.C. D.D. (II)</b>	Sri Nagendra Nath Tripathi, IPS	2214-1516 2250-5233
<b>D.C. D.D. (Spl.)</b>	Smt. Debasmita Das, IPS	2214-1057 2250-5222
<b>D.C. S.T.F.</b>	Sri Sumanjit Ray, IPS	2214-1720 2250-5164
<b>D.C. S.B. (Security)</b>	Sri Dip Narayan Goswami, IPS	2282-0631 2282-1931
<b>D.C. S.B. (II)</b>	Sri Kamal Kr. Patra	2282-2090 2283-7014
<b>D.C. S.B. (III)</b>	Sri Pijush Kanti Chakraborty	2282-3602 2282-3601
<b>D.C. S.C.O. (I)</b>		2290-0549 2283-7036
<b>D.C. S.C.O. (II)</b>	Sri Tenzing Bhutia	2287-5881 2283-7033
<b>D.C. T.P. (I)</b>	Sri V. Solomon Nesakumar, IPS	2214-5403 2250-5087
<b>D.C. T.P. (South)</b>	Sri Niladri Chakraborty, IPS	2499-4703 2499-4294 2499-4411
<b>D.C. T.P. (II)</b>	Sri Goutam Gupta	2214-5803 2250-5083
<b>D.C. T.P. (III)</b>	Sri Verghese Kunjachan	2214-1830 2250-5383
<b>D.C. R.F.</b>	Sri Ashesh Biswas, IPS	2214-3366 2250-5348 2214-1952 (NABANNA)
<b>D.C. E.B.</b>	Sri Rabindra Nath Sarkar, IPS	2283-7700 2283-7800
<b>D.C. H.G.O.</b>	Sri Subrata Kr. Karmakar	2262-1671 2262-1673
<b>D.C. Women Police</b>	Smt. Debasree Chatterjee	2214-1953 2250-5370
<b>Sr. D.C. &amp; D.C. 1<sup>st</sup> Bn. A.P.</b>	Sri Meeraj Khalid, IPS	2409-9054 2409-9215
<b>D.C. 2<sup>nd</sup> Bn. A.P.</b>		2557-5050 2530-0804
<b>D.C. 3<sup>rd</sup> Bn. A.P.</b>		2409-9096 2409-9208
<b>D.C. 4<sup>th</sup> Bn. A.P.</b>	Sri Amitava Barma, IPS	2337-3320 2334-1054
<b>D.C. 5<sup>th</sup> Bn. A.P.</b>	Sri Debasis Sarkar, IPS	2355-9007 2355-5411
<b>D.C. 6<sup>th</sup> Bn. A.P.</b>	Sri Dipankar Chakraborti	2409-9055 2409-9200
<b>D.C. 7<sup>th</sup> Bn. A.P.</b>	Sri Mihir Kr. Das	2409-9056 2409-9190
<b>D.C. 8<sup>th</sup> Bn. A.P.</b>	Sri Debapriya Dasgupta	2530-0817 2530-0889
<b>D.C. Combat Bn.</b>	Lt. Col. Nevendera Singh Paul	2262-5222
<b>Administrative Officer, KPD</b>	Sri Pratip Kr. Ghosh, W.B.C.S.(Exe.)	2214-3059 2214-1975 (F) 2250-5234



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