

Chapter 1

THE ORGANISATION OF POLICE

1.1 Introduction

The word 'police' come from the French, and less directly from Greek *polteia*, which means government or administration. In the eighteenth century the word 'police' was coined in France. It is also known as constabulary, after constables, who were an early embodiment of police officers.¹ The term "police" refers primarily to agents of the state whose function is the maintenance of law and order and especially the enforcement of the regular criminal code.²

In 1829 Sir Richard Mayne said that the primary object of an efficient police is the prevention of crime: the next that of detection and punishment of offenders if crime is committed. To these ends all the efforts of police must be directed. The protection of life and property, the preservation of public tranquillity, and the absence of crime, will alone prove whether those efforts have been successful and whether the objects for which the police were appointed have been attained.³

Police are the gatekeepers of the criminal justice system.⁴ Police as a functionary of criminal justice system, has to play a crucial role in maintenance of peace and enforcement of law and order within its territorial jurisdiction.⁵ The criminal justice

¹ Sheikh Hafizur Rahman Karzon, *Theoretical and Applied Criminology*, 1st ed. (Dhaka: Palal Prokashoni, 2008), p.205.

² Edwin H. Sutherland and Donald R. Cressey, *Principles of Criminology*, 6th ed. (Philadelphia: Lippincott, 1960), p.330.

³ [<http://www.met.police.uk/history/definition.htm>, Last visited 10 March 2010].

⁴ [<http://www.nation.ittefaq.com/issues/2009/01/21/news0207.htm>, Last visited 12 March 2010].

⁵ N.V. Paranjape, *Criminology and Penology*, 13th ed. (Allahbad: Central Law Publications, 2000), p.298.

system is designed in such a way that no criminal offence remains out of the police knowledge and no criminal remain unanswered for their commission of crimes.⁶

1.2 Development of Police Organization in UK and USA

The beginning of civil protection against crime and disorder in England came with the promulgation of the Edict West Minister in 1285 by King Edward I. Under the system, local groups of property owners numbering about a hundred each were responsible for maintenance of peace in their district. This system prevailed in Great Britain for centuries.

By the advent of eighteenth century United Kingdom witnessed a considerable increase in crimes of violence. Therefore a police force of 126 constables was set up to arrest the growing incidence of crime and disorder.

A regular system of constabulary was, however, established in England by *the Act of the British Parliament* passed in 1787 for the maintenance of peace and tranquility in Ireland. These constables were responsible for enforcement of law and order in boroughs and towns. As the civilization progressed, the complexities of life multiplied due to the impact of the industrialisation and urbanization. Consequently, the existing strength of the constabulary proved inadequate for the maintenance of law and order. Therefore, Sir Robert Peel, the Home Secretary of England pleaded for a change in the existing system of constabulary. This led to the passing of *the Metropolitan Police Act, 1829*, which provided for a separate police force for Metropolitan City of London. Similar police force was introduced throughout the United Kingdom in subsequent years. The constables working in the police were popularly called “Peelers” after the name of Sir Robert Peel who pioneered this scheme. Later on they came to be known as ‘Bobbies’.

The first two commissioners of Robert Peel’s London Metropolitan Police through unremitting efforts ceaseless vigilance, were able to raise a police force which was unarmed and committed to eschew violence as far as possible. The success

⁶ [<http://www.nation.ittefaq.com/issues/2009/01/21/news0207.htm>, Last visited 12 March 2010].

was commendable as it generated among the British people a sense of orderliness and respect for law.

One of the important developments in British Police system is the rural police force. The rural police system in Britain is an outcome of historical development. The rural beat consists of eight villages or hamlets with a population of about 2000 persons. Rural police is mostly to deal with rural agricultural and live-stock matters. In order to perform its duties efficiently, it has to maintain liaison with the various government departments and also agricultural and veterinary officials. Though a officeman is supposed to be on duty day and night, he has to perform eight hours beat patrol, which may be continuous or with an interval in between two-periods. He also does night patrolling for the purpose of prevention of crime.

On the whole, it can be said that in United Kingdom the police enjoys public support and respect and there are very few occasions of lethal use of force by the policemen. The police personnal are well trained and equipped with atest gadgets and weapons to tackle the problem of crime and criminals efficiently. They command high respect in English Society.

Before United States came under the influence of the Britain, the civilians performed the function of night-watchmen by rotation with a view to protecting the society from crimes and criminals. This watch ward arrangement proved effective to control growing incidence of crime and disorder in rapidly expanding cities. Consequently, a regular police force was established in New York in 1844. A regular police force was, however, set up in America by *the Dougan Charter of 1886*. The adoption of regular police in American cities did not prove very useful because of extremely low wages offered to policemen. An inclination towards violence was the main requirement for entry into the police force. The new police, therefore, became pawns in the spoils system and shared in general corruption preventing in the local politics.⁷

⁷ N.V. Paranjape, *ibid*, pp.299-300.

1.3 Purpose of Police Organisation

The purpose of the police is to maintain safety, security, peace and order in society.⁸ The police shall further this purpose by means of prevention, assistance and law enforcement.⁹ To serve these purpose they are empowered to use force if necessary and every citizen has a general duty to assist and co-operative police personnel.¹⁰

1.4 Duties of Police Organisation

The traditional function of the police, which remains the most important even today, is to deal with the criminal in action. This function requires detection and investigation of crime, arrest of the offenders and the collection of evidence against those who are prosecuted in courts of law.

Another duty of the police is to effect prevention of crime. Traditionally this function involves patrolling by the police and preventive action against potential wrongdoers under the vagrancy laws. In a more modern context, the prevention of crime by the police includes the detection of juvenile delinquency and the reference of suitable cases to the juvenile courts and other correctional agencies.¹¹

Other duties of the police are:

- (i) to avert of breach of the public peace and order and any danger to the safety of individuals and public security;
- (ii) to carry out checks, controls and supervision in accordance with applicable law;¹²
- (iii) to facilitate the movement of people and vehicles;
- (iv) to assist those who cannot care for themselves, the intoxicated, the addicted, the mentally ill, the physically disables, the old, and the young;
- (v) to resolve conflict, whether it is between individuals, groups or individuals, or individuals and their government;

⁸ Monjur Kader & Md. Muajjem Hussain, *Criminology*, 1st ed. (Dhaka: Jasim Publications, 2006), p.223.

⁹ [http://www.politi.dk/en/About_the_police/duties/, Last visited 12 March 2010].

¹⁰ Monjur Kader & Md. Muajjem Hussain, *ibid*, p.223.

¹¹ S.M. Afzal Qadri, *Ahmad Siddique's Criminology*, 5th ed. (Lucknow: Eastern Book Company, 1999), p.302.

¹² Monjur Kader & Md. Muajjem Hussain, *ibid*, pp.223-24.

(vi) to identify problems that have the potential for becoming more serious problems¹³ and

(vii) to assist citizens in other dangerous situation.¹⁴

1.5 Community Policing

Community policing is a multidimensional model that focuses on the values, attitudes, and behavior of the organization, both internally and externally. It is a philosophy that recognizes and accepts the active role of the community in influencing the philosophy, management, and delivery of police services. The community is not simply viewed as a passive recipient of police services, but as an active element in the decision-making process which affects priorities, allocations, and implementation of police services. It promotes community, government, and police partnership, proactive problem solving; and community engagement to address the causes of crime, fear of crime, and other community issues. In community policing, a law enforcement agency and law abiding citizens work together to prevent crime, arrest offenders, solve ongoing problems, and improve the overall quality of life.

Thus, community policing are to minimize the gap between the citizens and the police, raise public awareness, keep the people away from committing crime, build citizens' trust on the police, rehabilitate criminals and strengthen the rule of law and establish good governance.

1.6 Difference between Community Policing and Traditional Policing

In Community Policing, police are the public and public are the police. The measurement of police efficiency determine by the absence of crime and disorder. Police deal with citizen's problems and concerns and the problems that disturb the community most takes place highest priorities.

¹³ [<http://faculty.ncwc.edu/Mstevens/205/205lect01.htm>, Last visited 21 March 2010].

¹⁴ Monjur Kader & Md. Muajjem Hussain, *ibid*, p.224.

In traditional Policing, a government agency responsible for law enforcement. The measurement of police efficiency determine by detection and arrest rate. Police deal with incidents and crimes that are heinous and create violence takes place highest priorities.¹⁵

¹⁵ *Ibid*, pp.224-25.

Chapter 2

POLICE IN BANGLADESH

2.1 Bangladesh police

Bangladesh Police is the main law enforcement agency of Bangladesh. It is administered under the Ministry of Home Affairs of the Government of Bangladesh. Bangladesh Police plays a crucial role in maintaining peace and enforcement of law and order within the whole of Bangladesh. Though the police are primarily concerned with the maintenance of law and order and security of persons and property of individuals, it also plays a vital role in the criminal justice system.¹⁶

Bangladesh Police is a disciplined force within the meaning of *Article 152 of the Constitution of the People's Republic of Bangladesh*. It is a structured force having its network all over the country. Police of Bangladesh owes its creation to *the Police Act, 1861*. Bangladesh Police has its own administrative set up in urban and rural areas. Administrative units of police are designated as Dhaka Range, Chittagong Range, Khulna Range and Rajshahi Range. In 1994 Barisal Range started to function with 6 districts. Now there are another two ranges, namely Sylhet Range and Sarda Police Academy.¹⁷

Bangladesh Police became member of the Interpol in 1976 and was elected as a member of the Executive Committee of the organization in 1988. Bangladesh Police has played an important role in international peace-keeping under the supervision of

¹⁶ [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Bangladesh_Police, Last visited 19 March 2010].

¹⁷ Sheikh Hafizur Rahman Karzon, *ibid*, p.205.

the UN. Members of Bangladesh Police have been sent to Namibia, Cambodia, Mozambique, Rwanda, Yugoslavia, Haiti, and Angola.¹⁸

2.2 History of Bangladesh Police

The Bangladesh Police inherits its organisation from the police of British India - *the Police Act of 1861* still defines the basic structure and functions - and the police of Pakistan, of which it was a part until independence in 1971. During the Pakistan period, the police was involved in containing political agitations and its composition included non-Bengali ethnic groups from other parts of Pakistan. During the Bangladesh Liberation War, many Bengali police officials defected to join the ranks of the Mukti Bahini guerrillas who sought the independence of Bangladesh from Pakistan. In the post-independence period, Bangladesh police was reorganised and increased in strength.¹⁹

2.2.1 British India Period

Calcutta city took birth in the hands of Job Charnak, an English merchant, on August 24, 1690, and keeping law and order devolved on the shoulder of Britishers. Calcutta Police emerged from the “Zamindari Police”, which was under the authority of the Nawab or Nazim of Murshidabad. Some changes were made to the judicial and police administration during the regime of Warren Hastings. In 1792 the Regulation for the Police of the Collectorship in Bengal, Bihar and Orrisa was approved in the Council of the Government General. Under this system the collectorship or the newly established districts were divided into several thanas, in each of which a Darogah was appointed to look after the law and order. As there was no combination of the police functions of the thanas a Superintendent of Police was appointed for the Presidency of Bengal in 1808. but it was impossible for a Police Supert to control and combine the police activities of a vast area. The post of the Superintendent of Police was abolished in 1853 and the Deputy Commissioner was given the responsibility to

¹⁸ *Ibid*, p.211.

¹⁹ [<http://www.facebook.com/group.php?gid=75629973747>, Last visited 25 March 2010].

monitor the activities of police force in the locality under his jurisdiction. For the Purpose of police administration the Province of Bengal was divided into 9 divisions and 37 districts in 1854. During the mutiny of 1857 the police system based on thana was proved to be a total failure. According to the recommendations of the Police Commission, *the Police Act, 1861*, was enacted, under which the post of Inspector General of Police was created, and the post of the Superintendent of Police was created in the districts. This structure provided the basic scheme of police administration in British time and continued so in the Pakistan and provides basis of police structure in Bangladesh.²⁰

2.2.2 Pre-Liberation Period (1947-1971)

After the emergence of Pakistan in 1947, the Police force of this country was named, at first, as East Bengal Police and later as East Pakistan Police. In East Pakistan, this police force started working as provincial police force. In this period East Pakistan police force experienced various organizational, financial and other problems. Reforms in the organizational structure became essential. In 1953 Shahabuddin Report and in 1956 Hatch Burnwell report recommended enhancement of the organizational structures of Dhaka Police and Narayangonj Police. These reports also recommended increasing the number of police forces of Dhaka and Narayangonj districts. However, no constructive efforts were taken of the overall development of the police force. In 1960-1961 a Police Commission headed by Justice B.G. Constantine and in 1969 another Police Commission headed by Major General A.O. Mitha had been formed. However, no recommendations submitted by these two committees were implemented

The then DIG of Dhaka Range became the IGP of British India. The first Bengali IGP was Mr. Zakir Hossain. However, the police force of Pakistan continued the system of British period. Police were compelled to carry out unpopular orders. The act of shooting on the participants of language movement demonstration in 1952 was

²⁰ Sheikh Hafizur Rahman Karzon, *ibid*, pp.204-05.

a perfect example of colonial rule and suppression. The philosophy of police of the British regime had never been complementary to democratic values and political development - The philosophy which we have inherited from the British rule is a peculiar blend of colonial practices and magnanimous heritage of the British regime. It involves subordination to the rule of law and popular accountability, on the one hand, and passive relations between police and public except in times of emergency, both personal and public, on the other hand. Although Police is considered the main driving force of law, it is never allowed to play the central role of traditional Criminal justice procedure

The basic truth is that police is made to revolve around the principles of imperial power in the sub-continent. There were a lot of changes in police structure but no qualitative changes in the function of police - Indian police history can be seen as the expansion and contraction of an imperial power-always set upon an impermeable stratum of village institutions. Structure came and went, but there was no qualitative evolution from one imperial high-point to another. In terms of ensuring the security of life and property, the imperial agents of law and order played the more important role. Village policing was essentially a self-regulatory mechanism closely tied to the internal power structure of village society. Therefore, this fact has to be considered while explaining the relationship between police and public in Bangladesh. There had not been any changes of this philosophy during the Pakistan period.

2.2.3 Post Independence Period (1971 to the date)

The most glorious chapter of the history of Bangladesh Police is that Bangla speaking members of our police participated along with the citizens in our Independence War. Many of the members of our police became martyrs during this War of Liberation. Many police personnel embraced martyrdom on 25 March 1971 fighting bravely with mere 303 rifles against the Pakistani invaders. The resistance by the Bengali members of police at Rajarbag is basically the first chapter of armed struggles during our War of Independence. This armed resistance was a clear indication to all that they had no

other alternative but to go for an armed struggle to achieve independence. Few of the police personnel were assigned to maintain law and order right after achieving the Independence. In 1972 the number of police was increased by recruiting officers and staff of different ranks. Dhaka Metropolitan Police and Armed Police Battalion were raised in 1976. In 1977 a Committee was formed on 'police training' headed by Retired IGP M.A. Kabir. However, the recommendations of the Committee were not implemented. Twelve women police were recruited in the Special Branch for the first time in 1974. Women police were recruited for Dhaka Metropolitan Police in 1978. Police had extensively been reformed in the early 1980s according to the recommendations of Enam Committee and by the Administrative Reforms of 1984. Bangladesh was divided into 64 districts. The positions of the Circle Inspector and the Officer-in-Charge were enhanced to ASP and Inspector respectively. The number of police was also increased. In 1986 a Committee was formed headed by Additional IGP Toieb Uddin Ahmed. The number of police force was increased and the logistic supports for police were enhanced as per the recommendations of this Committee. In 1988 another committee was formed headed by Justice Aminul Islam. According to the recommendations of this Committee the post of Additional IGP was created and the number of different police units like police stations, investigation centers and the number of police force were increased. Recently (in 2004) Rapid Action Battalions have been raised comprising the members of Armed Forces, Police, BDR and Ansars. The dresses of police have been changed according to The Dress Rules, 2004. With this the century-old emblem of police came to an end.²¹

²¹ [<http://www.police.gov.bd/index5.php?category=18>, Last visited 10 March 2010].

Chapter 3

LAWS GOVERNING BANGLADESH POLICE, IT'S ORGANOGRAM AND BRANCHES

3.1 Laws governing the Bangladesh Police

The Bangladesh Police is mainly governed by *the Police Act (1861)*, *the Code of Criminal Procedure (1898)*, *the Police Regulation, Bengal (1943)*, *the Armed Police Battalions Ordinance (1979)*, and relevant *Metropolitan Police Acts*.

3.1.1 Police Act, 1861

This Act describes the constitution of the police force; superintendence of the force; appointment, dismissal, and other conditions of service of inferior officers; power of inspector-general to make rules; special police and their powers; and duties of police officers.

3.1.2 Code of Criminal Procedure, 1898

This basic criminal law contains provisions on the constitution of criminal courts and offences; power of courts; aid and information to the magistrates, police, and persons making arrests; arrest, escape, and retaking; prevention of offenses such as security for keeping the peace and for good behavior, unlawful assemblies, public nuisances, temporary orders in urgent cases of nuisance, and preventive action of the police; information to the police and their powers to investigate; and proceedings and prosecutions.

3.1.3 Police Regulation of Bengal, 1943

It is regarded as the bible of all levels of police staff, with 1,290 regulations. It incorporated changes in the rules necessitated by *the Government of India Act, 1935* and describes the police organization; relations with other departments; direction and control mechanisms of the police; privileges and general instructions; duties of all ranks of police officers; detailed description of police stations, court police, railway police, criminal investigation department, and special armed force; appointment, recruitment, and promotions; compensation and allowances; training and examination; uniform and clothing; punishment and appeals; and housing facilities.

3.1.4 Metropolitan Police Acts

There are four Acts for administering the Metropolitan Police of Dhaka, Chittagong, Khulna, and Rajshahi. These Acts were formulated in 1976, 1978, 1984, and 1992, respectively. All the Acts describe the organizational structure, responsibilities, rank structures, appointment, transfer, power to formulate regulations, administration of the force, power and duties of the officers, and action taken for security and maintaining law and order in the respective metropolitan cities.

3.1.5 Armed Police Battalions Ordinance, 1979

In accordance with the provisions of this Ordinance, a force called Armed Police Battalions was formed to perform internal security duties; recover unauthorized arms, ammunitions, and explosives; apprehend armed gangs of criminals; and assist other law enforcing agencies.²²

3.2 Organogram of Bangladesh Police

The highest officer of police administration in Bangladesh is ‘Inspector General of Police (IGP)’, who controls all departments of police under indirect supervision of the Home Minister. Some senior police officers help him in his work at police

²² Monjur Kader & Md. Muajjem Hussain, *ibid*, pp.227-28.

headquarters. A Deputy Inspector General of Police is appointed for each range of civil administrative unit. He controls district level police administration under his range. There are six civil ranges and one railway range in Bangladesh. In each range there is a Deputy Inspector General of Police. Besides, police commissioners of three divisional cities (Rajshahi, Chittagong and Khulna), administrative head of Central Intelligence Department (CID), head of Special Branch (SB) and Sarda Academy are of the rank of the Additional Inspector General of Police.

At the district level, superintendent of Police/ Police Super (SP) is the chief of police administration. An Additional Police Super (Add. SP), few Assistant Police Supers (ASP) and official staff help him in his administrative work. An Assistant Police Super controls the administrative of a circle. In every police station under a circle, the administration is controlled by an Inspector or by an Officer in-Charge (OC). In district headquarters some armed police are kept reserve under the District Police Super. This force is engaged on emergency basis when law and order falls rapidly. Activities of CID and SB police are extended at field levels parallel to district police in addition to their activities at central headquarters. Two police supers in two railway districts under Bangladesh Railway range conduct the administrative activities of railway police. An Additional Police Super and an adequate number of Assistant Police Supers help Police Super in his job. A group of armed police named Railway Special Armed Force is appointed to work under him.²³

3.3 Branches of Bangladesh Police

Organisationally, Bangladesh police has some and each branch has its own method of action.

3.3.1 Metropolitan Police

Metropolitan police is the special police force for the capital city and other metropolitan cities in Bangladesh. In Bangladesh an ordinance was promulgated on

²³ *Ibid*, pp.228-29.

20 January 1976 to provide for the constitution of a separate police force for Dhaka metropolitan area. The establishment of a separate police for Dhaka had major implications:

- (a) *The Police Act, 1861* was made inapplicable for the Dhaka metropolitan area;
- (b) Jurisdiction of the district magistrate was barred in certain cases;
- (c) Superintendence of metropolitan police was vested in the government while the administration of the force was left to the police commissioner.

In a similar way separate metropolitan police was established in Chittagong (1978), Khulna (1984), Rajshahi (1992), Sylhet (2006) and Barisal (2006).²⁴

3.3.2 Special Branch (SB)

Special Branch of Police was established in 1963, with its headquarter at Malibagh. It was entrusted to collect information about the activities of the political parties and politicians and inform the government about the updated political situation of the country. In Bangladesh Special Branch of Police (SB) maintains the same legacy and is put under the obligation to collect information about the activities of different political parties.²⁵

3.3.3 Criminal Investigation Department (CID)

The Central Criminal Investigation Department was established in 1904. In 1910 the Criminal Intelligence Branch was unified with the Criminal Investigation Department (CID). For identifying the criminals and detecting the crimes, the Criminal Investigation Department has a number of specialized departments, those are, namely, bureau of finger printing, bureau of foot print, bureau of hand writing, bureau of micro analysis, bureau of chemical analysis, section of forged currency and bureau of photography.

²⁴ *Ibid*, pp.232-33.

²⁵ Sheikh Hafizur Rahman Karzon, *ibid*, p.210.

3.3.4 Armed Police Battalion (APBn)

In 1976 Bangladesh government established a reserved force of the Armed Police Battalion consisting of 9 Battalions. It was directly put under the authority of the Inspector General of Police.²⁶

3.3.5 Rapid Action Battalion (RAB)

RAB is an elite force started its formal operation from June 2004. The talented members of Bangladesh Army, Navy, Air force, Police department and BDR are selected to form RAB. This force is generally used for special purpose and given special training. This force was constituted in a crucial moment when the law and order situation had seriously been disturbed by the notorious criminals, murder and other grave offences became uncontrolled and police personnel struggled to overcome the situation.²⁷

During some time after the formation, the RAB was praised for their activities in controlling crime. But very soon they became controversial for created a culture of killing people during crossfire. All the killings are extra-judicial killing and are made in clear violation of *the Constitution, the Penal Code and the Code of Criminal Procedure*. Within a time-span of January to December, 2004, 63 people were killed by the Rapid Action Battalion during crossfire,²⁸ which increases day by day.

Other Branches of Bangladesh Police are:

- (i) District Police
- (ii) Railway Police
- (iii) Traffic Police
- (iv) River Police
- (v) Highway Police²⁹

²⁶ *Ibid*, p.209.

²⁷ Monjur Kader & Md. Muajjem Hussain, *ibid*, p.233.

²⁸ Sheikh Hafizur Rahman Karzon, *ibid*, p.222.

²⁹ Monjur Kader & Md. Muajjem Hussain, *ibid*, p.232.

Chapter 4

THE ROLE OF BANGLADESH POLICE

4.1 Vision of Bangladesh Police

The vision of Bangladesh police is to provide service to all citizens and make Bangladesh a better and safer place to live and work.

4.2 Mission of Bangladesh Police

The missions of Bangladesh police are:

- (i) To uphold the rule of law
- (ii) To ensure safety and security of citizens
- (iii) To prevent and detect crime
- (iv) To bring offenders to justice
- (v) To maintain peace and public order³⁰

4.3 Functions playing by Bangladesh Police

Various types of functions of Bangladesh police are briefly stated below.

To prevent misdeeds of criminals, police arrests suspected criminal and law violators and takes them under police custody and brings them before a court of law. Through this process police tries to put a bar on criminal activities. *The Code Criminal Procedure, 1898*³¹ elaborate preventive action of the police. Every police officer may interpose for the purpose of preventing, and shall, to the best of his ability

³⁰ *Ibid*, p.228.

³¹ *The Code of Criminal Procedure, 1898*, Ss.149-153.

prevent the commission of any cognizable offence.³² They also take all necessary measures to protect the property of the Government.³³

Police is the principal state agency to investigate criminal activities of the miscreants. If the offence is being done, then the police carry out investigation. *The Code Criminal Procedure, 1898*³⁴ deal with the police powers to investigate a criminal case. If any criminal case starts on making an FIR with the officer-in-charge of a police station, a copy of the FIR is forwarded to the court whereupon a G.R case (General Registrar case) starts. The police officer immediately takes up investigation of the case and if any person is arrested, s/he is produced before the Magistrate within 24 hours exclusive of the time required for the journey from the place of arrest to the Magistrate's court.

Any police officer making an investigation may examine orally any person supposed to be acquainted with the facts and circumstances of the case. *The Code Criminal Procedure, 1898*³⁵ provides what civilities should be followed by police officer when making oral examination. A person during oral examination shall be bound to answer all questions relating to the case put to him by the concerned police officer, other than questions the answers to which would have a tendency to expose him/her to a criminal charge or to a penalty or forfeiture. Any statement made to a police officer cannot be used for any purpose at any inquiry or trial in respect of any offence under investigation. This statement may be used to contradict such witness. *The Evidence Act* provides some safeguards as to the time when a person is interrogated by police. While interrogating a suspect the questioning must not be coercive or too intimidating. The police should not extract admission for confession by coercive means, which is known as third degree method. Statement made to the police officer by the accused is not admissible in evidence except that part of the statement which leads to discovery of any incriminating material.³⁶

³² Sheikh Hafizur Rahman Karzon, *ibid*, p.211.

³³ Monjur Kader & Md. Muajjem Hussain, *ibid*, p.236.

³⁴ *The Code of Criminal Procedure, 1898*, Ss.154-176.

³⁵ *The Code of Criminal Procedure, 1898*, s.161(2).

³⁶ Sheikh Hafizur Rahman Karzon, *ibid*, pp.211-14.

Search and seizure are very important activity of police. When conducting search and seizure fair and reasonable procedure should be maintained. *The Code Criminal Procedure, 1898*³⁷ deal with the mode and procedure how a search should be conducted. Police may conduct a search with or without warrant. Usually, a Magistrate issues a search warrant, which should contain some necessary details. The first condition requires the document should show some crime has been committed. It should specify a place or places to be searched. It should spell out a reasonable time limit within which it must be conducted.

Police to inquire and report on suicide and unnatural death. The officer in charge of a police station or an authorized police officer, on receiving information that a person has committed suicide or has been killed by another or has died under circumstances raising a reasonable suspicion, shall immediately give intimation thereof to the nearest Magistrate empowered to hold inquests. The Magistrate, then, shall proceed to the place where the body of the deceased person is, and therein the presence of two or more respectable inhabitants of the neighborhood, shall make an investigation and draw up a report of the apparent cause of death. The report shall describe such wounds, fractures, bruises and other marks of injury as may be found on the body and state in what manner, or by what weapon or instrument (if any) such marks appear to have been inflicted. Finally the report shall be signed by such police officer and other person or by so many of them as concur therein, and shall be forthwith forward to the Chief Metropolitan Magistrate, or the District Magistrate.

Police has another function as prosecutor. When any crime has been committed, ultimately the state becomes victim. Responsibility lies with the state to bring the culprits before a court of law. On behalf of the state police investigates to identify the real offenders and public prosecutor conducts the case. Police and public prosecutor in collaboration with each other may come out successfully in redressing a crime. The success of the prosecution case depends on the efficiency of the police investigation.

³⁷ *The Code of Criminal Procedure, 1898*, Ss.96-105.

The police, as prosecutor, need to have thorough knowledge of substantive and procedural law of crime.³⁸

Police also carry out his functions by patrolling in the street, protecting important establishments, realizing illegal drugs, discovering illegal arms and explosives, guarding illegal business, assisting in conduction of public examinations.³⁹

³⁸ *Ibid*, pp.218-20.

³⁹ Monjur Kader & Md. Muajjem Hussain, *ibid*, pp.236-37.

Chapter 5

**THE PRESENT CONDITIONS AND PROBLEMS OF
BANGLADESH POLICE**

5.1 The Conditions of Bangladesh Police

5.1.1 Delinquency of Bangladesh Police

Delinquency in the police service is not only a modern day's phenomenon. It spread its roots at the very beginning of the police history. Bangladesh Police also historically carries forward the bad reputation of being a corrupt public agency since its inception during the British Bangla in 1861.⁴⁰ Police misbehavior, harassment, bribery, corruption, abuse of power and negligence in duty are the major features of police delinquency⁴¹ and people becoming dissatisfied with police performance and treatment.⁴²

The police officers taking money from criminals and tip off criminals through their informants before any anti-crime drive so that they have enough time to go underground. The officers allow all kinds of illegal activities in return for money. They also have links with organised burglars who pay them regularly. They pick up innocent people with the consent of the officers-in-charge, keep them in custody and only release them when they pay, otherwise, the detainees are sent to court under *the Dhaka Metropolitan Act*.⁴³

⁴⁰ [<http://www.ethicsinpolicing.com/article.asp?id=5404>, Last visited 27 March 2010].

⁴¹ [<http://www.hrsolidarity.net/mainfile.php/2004vol14no05/2365/>, Last visited 27 March 2010].

⁴² [<http://www.nation.ittefaq.com/issues/2009/01/21/news0207.htm>, Last visited 25 March 2010].

⁴³ [http://www.sos-arsenic.net/English/womenproject/police_Corruption.htm/, Last visited 18 March 2010].

Torture is a frequently-used tool to extract money. The police arrest people without warrants or orders from the legal authorities and beating them with sticks, batons, boots, fists and kicks during and following arrest. These persons are detained without registering any record and are intimidated with the threat of being killed in staged encounter killings often referred to as "crossfire" killings. All of this is done in order to extract bribes and enrich the police. Failure by the detainees to pay bribes leads to the use of torture. Due to demoralisation, victims do not expect legal redress in Bangladesh. A police station, which is the initial place where victims are to lodge complaints, by default refuse to record complaints of torture when a member of the police or military is named as the alleged perpetrator.⁴⁴

The recording of a First Information Report (FIR) of a cognizable offence is the most important legal duty of the police station-officers. But it is a common allegation of the people against the police that they very often refuse to lodge the FIR. The power and responsibility of recording cognizable offences is, also, the most notorious source of police corruption. The rich and influential persons can easily manage the police officers to register an FIR, true or false, by influencing or bribing, while the poor people are being deprived of their legal rights. The rich people can also easily prevent the opponent victims from lodging the complaint by money to bribe the police officers. The public perception on the police is greatly influenced by the non-registration misconduct. House hold surveys conducted by the TIB revealed that each house hold of the country desiring for registering a criminal case in the police station has to pay tk-3,983. A previous baseline survey of the TIB claimed that 68.1% of the complainants reported to have payments to the police for filing complaints as First Information Report (FIR).⁴⁵

Visiting detainees has become another source of corruption. In the thana, 97% of the civilians had to pay money to see the detainees; in the zilla sadar, 96.1%; and the upazilla level thanas, 94.3%. On the other hand, politicians, army personnel, village police, etc. are able to meet detainees without paying anything. Besides these sources,

⁴⁴ [<http://www.ahrchk.net/statements/mainfile.php/2008statements/1553/>, Last visited 07 April 2010].

⁴⁵ [<http://www.nation.ittefaq.com/issues/2009/01/21/news0207.htm>, Last visited 25 March 2010].

the police are also able to collect money from both legal and illegal traders as well as transport utilities.⁴⁶

The Immigration Police of Bangladesh are among the worst of their kind in the world. When any poor man goes to the Immigration Police Desk at the airport, his dream begins to fade. The police begins to harass him and seizes his passport in the way that requiring clearance from his permanent home address before he could depart. Thus for this unnecessary harassment the poor man can nothing but return home.⁴⁷

Most often police is involved with various criminal activities. Last year a sergeant with three theft car has been arrested from sylhet by the Dhaka Metropolitan Police and an ASI was found to hijack 16,00,000 taka and in the very act of doing he was arrested in Dhaka. There is also found that a police member stopped a rickshaw and tries to hijack with the help of other two police member, Sub-Inspector and DB Constable, then the crowd sent up him to Thana and that other two police members escaped away.⁴⁸

There are many officers realise money from a number of vehicles by setting up check posts at different parts of the capital. A sole objective of the police sergeants is to take money from the bus drivers. They are charging the bus drivers at will.⁴⁹ Police requisites the mini bus, truck, pick-up and leguna mostly by force. The owners of the car do not get any money for the requisition. The drivers and helpers faced various tortures by the police if they protest against requisition. Daily almost 150 cars are requisites by the police. As a result the car owners become irritated.⁵⁰

Drug peddlers remain beyond the arms of the law through payment to the officers, adds the report. Traders at different shopping complexes and business establishments are forced to pay and so are roadside vendors. Because of the failure

⁴⁶ [http://www.nipsa.in/resources/Bangladesh_police_policy_note, Last visited 07 April 2010].

⁴⁷ [http://www.upiasia.com/Human_Rights/2008/09/30/bangladesh_police_friends_or_foes/4854/, Last visited 27 March 2010].

⁴⁸ *The Daily Somokal* (17 October 2009), p.1.

⁴⁹ [http://www.sos-arsenic.net/English/womenproject/police_Corruption.htm/, Last visited 18 March 2010].

⁵⁰ *The Daily Jugantor* (16 September 2009), p.1.

of the police to chase and apprehend dacoits and terrorists they are now being chased by the crowds and the criminals are beaten to death. For the failure reason is that these dacoits entice the policemen through bribes and secure their freedom, or they may obtain bail from the courts and later escape with much of their booty.⁵¹

In recent years 31 thousands and 43 police officers of different ranks were punished for various delinquent behaviors like corruption, misuse of power, misconduct and other irregularities. Among them 26 thousand and 290 police officers were awarded with minor punishment, while 4 thousands 171 officers received major punishment. A total number of 272 police officers lost their jobs. The punishment receivers are the police officers ranging from the post of a constable to the superintendent.⁵²

For the abuse of the police power, the Supreme Court of Bangladesh has come forward to the rescuer of the hapless victims of and has been trying to safeguard life and liberty of the citizens. The Supreme Court has issued a number of directives to the police as to arrest and detention of suspects and provided what type of treatment should be given to the people under police custody. In *BLAST v. Bangladesh*⁵³ a Division Bench of the High Court recommended to amend the existing law. The Bench issued fifteen directives henceforth to be followed by the police. Among them most important are- disclosure of identity of the arresting officer at the time of arrest; recording reasons for arrest; communicating the news of the arrest, if not arrested from home; getting the arrestee examined by a government doctor if injury is found on his person; allowing him to be interrogated in the presence of a lawyer appointed by him. In *Saifuzzaman v. State*⁵⁴ another Division Bench of the High Court Division took notice of the severe violation of the fundamental rights of the citizens by police and failure of the Magistrate in acting in accordance with law.

⁵¹ [http://www.sos-arsenic.net/English/womenproject/police_Corruption.htm/, Last visited 18 March 2010].

⁵² [<http://www.ethicsinpolicing.com/article.asp?id=5404>, Last visited 27 March 2010].

⁵³ 55 DLR 363, as cited by Sheikh Hafizur Rahman Karzon, *ibid*, p.230.

⁵⁴ 56 DLR 324, as cited by Sheikh Hafizur Rahman Karzon, *ibid*, p.231.

5.1.2 Misery life of Bangladesh Police

Life in the police force is very difficult.⁵⁵ They live in their living quarters with neglect and sub-human conditions. Several chowkis are lined up together in one room, where sometimes two officials have to share one single chowki. These multi-purpose chowkis are also used during meal times since it is practically impossible to eat sitting on the ground that is filled with bricks and debris. The grimy, smelly bathroom has a single light bulb which has not been working for several days. If the light bulb that the roommates had ordered weeks ago does not arrive anytime soon, they have to spend their own money to buy one soon. In kitchen, still using wood and coal to cook, the walls and the floors are filled with grime, soot and muck. Their meals are cooked in these unhygienic conditions everyday. When police officers manning the streets, lunch delivered on spot by the delivery officials. But sometimes, the delivery truck ends up coming to the spot too late and because of the constant shifts from one place to another they miss the delivery trucks. At times like these, they buy their own lunch. A police officer works for 18-19 hours, more than the shifts allocated for each officer, as a result they do not get enough time for rest.⁵⁶

5.2 The problems of Bangladesh Police

5.2.1 Unambiguous Act

The structure of police was established by the British rulers and the laws regulating the activities of the police were enacted by the same ruling elite. Both the structure and laws require extensive review. Our police owe its creation to *the Police Act, 1861*, principal purpose of which was to maintain the status quo. The Act puts major emphasis on maintenance of order. Rather than focusing on the professional aspect of crime control, the Act overemphasizes the constabulary functions of the police.

⁵⁵ [<http://crisisgroup.org/home/index.cfm?id=6427>, Last visited 18 March 2010].

⁵⁶ Elita Karim, 'Making the Police People Friendly', *Star Weekened Magazine*, (22 September 2007), p.12.

5.2.2 Lack of Educational Qualification and Proper Training

The police of lower echelon constitute majority of police force. But they, particularly the constables, Nayeks and low ranking police officers, do not possess substantial educational and intellectual attainments. Their treatment and exposure to the general people is very arrogant and frightening.

Because of lack of proper training and motivation, police do not know that they are the servants of the Republic, which requires its people to be served properly. Members of police force are busy with serving the government officers and party in power, rather than acting in a service-delivery system.⁵⁷

The police force was designed to be a public-frightening organization, not a public-friendly agency. Service to the people was not an objective of its design.⁵⁸

5.2.3 Lack of Accountability and Supervision

Police organization of Bangladesh lacks sufficient accountability, both internal and external. Internal accountability can enhance competence, and prevent corruption whereas external accountability can ensure people-oriented service. Law prescribes the mode and manner how the police officers will dispose of their duties, but there is insufficient departmental mechanism, and no neutral body of the state to scrutinize whether the police officers are doing their duties properly. It creates widespread human sufferings, and violation of citizens' rights.⁵⁹

There may be hundreds of causes for the subordinate police officers to get involved in criminality or professionally unwanted misconducts. But the dominant cause is the lack of supervision of the under commands by the senior police officers. Where a single officer has to supervise nearly a hundred subordinates, the supervision turns nothing but the tending of a flock of sheep by a shepherd boy.⁶⁰

⁵⁷ Sheikh Hafizur Rahman Karzon, *ibid*, pp.225-26.

⁵⁸ [http://www.adb.org/Documents/Periodicals/ADB_Review/2005/vol37-2/better-policing.asp, Last visited 25 March 2010].

⁵⁹ Sheikh Hafizur Rahman Karzon, *ibid*, pp.227-28.

⁶⁰ [<http://www.ethicsinpolicing.com/article.asp?id=5404>, Last visited 27 March 2010].

5.2.4 Insufficient Salary

Salary given to the police officers and constables is insufficient. Police officers and constables work 13-18 hours a day, which is almost double than the working hours of the government employees of other professions. On an average officer in charge of a metropolitan police station works 18 hours a day, an officer in charge of district and thana level works 15 hours. In all the police stations Sub Assistant Sub-Inspectors and constables work 13-16 hours a day. But their salary is not sufficient their serving 13-18 hours a day. The salary structure of police is like that of other government employees, they do not get any remuneration for extra work.

5.2.5 Inadequate Logistic Support and Deficiency in Manpower

Police is always confronted with the problem of inadequate logistic support. On an average 5-6 police staffs sit in each room of a police station. In most of the police stations there is no room for conference or meeting. Police stations of districts and thanas have no prison van. Metropolitan police stations though have prison vans, but those are old and obsolete. Malkhanas of metropolitan and district police stations are narrow and unhygienic, whereas police stations of thanas have no malkhana. The toilet facilities of police stations are insufficient. Most of the police stations do not have sufficient number of cars, and the available cars are old. The police stations are not provided with necessary furniture. Just 45.5 percent arms in the metropolitan police stations are Chinese shot guns, 78.6 percent arms in the police stations of districts are three rifles, in thana police stations this is 95.5 percent. Criminals are using modern arms Chinese rifle, AK-47 rifle, SMG, LMG etc., whereas our police is equipped with such weapons, which are difficult to carry and maneuver.⁶¹

The ideal police-public ratio is that there should be at least 01 police officer per 400 citizens. But this international standard is not actually appropriate to the

⁶¹ Sheikh Hafizur Rahman Karzon, *ibid*, pp.226-27.

Bangladeshi context. The existing ratio of police-public of Bangladesh is 01 police man for some 1500 public. So it is a significant problem.⁶²

5.2.6 Investigational Problem

Police is the only state agency to investigate criminal cases, the outcome of which may be a charge-sheet for the prosecution or final report for release of the accused. This reality places police an advantageous situation which they can manipulate and they do it extensively for their personal gain.

Police officers do not get sufficient time for controlling crime and investigating criminal cases. On an average every Sub-Inspector of district police stations has to investigate 7.5 cases in month, and Sub-Inspector of thana police stations 4 cases. They do these investigating activities in an addition to other duties, hence police officers remain reluctant to take up new cases. Metropolitan police spend 40.6 percent time of a month for maintaining law and order, 32.7 percent for ensuring the security of VIPs, and 18.4 percent for works relating to criminal cases. Police officers of district and thanas take half of the time of a month for securing the VIPs.

5.2.7 Political Interference

Government uses the police as a branch of it's political organisation and suppresses the rightful activities of opposition political parties. Extensive political use of police force hinders the development of professionalism, as a result less qualified and dishonest police officers are placed important positions, and the people remain deprived of the service of honest and sincere police officers. Because of excessive political use, police has no chain of command.⁶³

⁶² [<http://www.ethicsinpolicing.com/article.asp?id=5404>, Last visited 27 March 2010].

⁶³ Sheikh Hafizur Rahman Karzon, *ibid*, p.227.

5.3 Recent Initiatives for Solving Problems of Bangladesh Police

The allowance fixed for the police force in the new pay scale will be effected from the July of this year. This allowance includes special allowance, acting allowance, unconditional travel allowance, telecom allowance, mounted police allowance, PBX allowance, traffic allowance, driving allowance etc.⁶⁴ In order to bring mobility to police activities a step has been taken to buy car cost of taka 700 crore. After the final approval of the project, the cars of these amounts of value will be bought gradually within the next five years. If the proposal is accepted, 3 pick-ups, 4 motor cycle, micro bus for the quick service of the police and buses will be bought for every thana in the country. Besides these, to provide immediate treatment to the sick police members and officers, ambulance will be bought.⁶⁵ The police head quarter gives proposal to buy telecom machinery cost of 20 crore taka in order to control various crimes.⁶⁶ 50 new police fari will be established very soon.⁶⁷ The government takes decision to appoint almost 35 thousands recruits in different posts including this year to December 2011.⁶⁸

⁶⁴ *The Daily Jugantor* (07 September 2009), p.16.

⁶⁵ *The Daily Sangbad* (30 October 2009), p.12.

⁶⁶ *The Daily Sangbad* (08 September 2009), p.12.

⁶⁷ *The Daily Jugantor* (18 October 2009), p.16.

⁶⁸ *The Daily Jugantor* (19 September 2009), p.1.

Chapter 6

CONCLUDING REMARKS

6.1 Recommendations

We require a new Police Act, which will focus professional aspect of crime control and clearly define police role and responsibility. The new Act needs to ensure police professionalism, accountability and modern police management, the proper functioning of which to improve human security and access to justice.⁶⁹ Further the *Special power Act of 1974* should be repealed as most offences there under are already covered by *the Penal Code* and other laws. What needs to be done is a comprehensive review of *the Penal Code*, *the Code of Criminal Procedure* and the *Evidence Act* to determine their appropriates, effectiveness and practicality.⁷⁰

Create a Parliamentary Committee to oversee police functioning. The creation of such a committee would enhance the accountability of police to elected officials and serve as a democratic means to review departmental policy. Establish a Police Complaints Commission (PCC). The need for a PCC remains and must be established if the Bangladesh police are to become more professional. The PCC must be fairly constituted and tasked with looking into complaints of police misbehavior, torture and abuse of authority.

Provide adequate resources to the Human Rights Commission of Bangladesh (HRCB) so that it may review police misconduct. Given the lack of a police-specific review body, and the fact that there is no guarantee a Police Complaints Commission

⁶⁹ Sheikh Hafizur Rahman Karzon, *ibid*, p.225.

⁷⁰ Monjur Kader & Md. Muajjem Hussain, *ibid*, p.240.

will be set up soon, it is critically important for the HRCB to have the means to properly review the conduct of disciplinary forces.⁷¹

The thana building should be situated on government land. The practice of housing a police station in an improvised or rented accommodation should be avoided. All police stations should have sufficient toilet facilities for the staff, detainees, and visitors. Necessary furniture and fittings as well as equipment, including land telephone, mobile telephone, wireless sets, computer, printer, fax, internet, and CCTV camera should be regularly supplied to every police station.

To facilitate dissemination of information, there should be an information board beside the main gate of the police station stating the procedure for filing GDs and FIRs, meeting the arrested persons and others, making complaints against police harassment, and all other services delivered by the police station. Inside the station, a receptionist should be stationed to assist complaints and visitors. The reception should keep a database of relevant and frequently requested information. Duty officers should always properly record allegations, GDs and FIRs in a computer database designed for filing complaints. Services should also be available for filing by electronic mail or telephone.

An independent police ombudsman should be appointed to control the widespread corruption in the police force. The office should be given strong authority to deal with all kinds of irregularities. It should have regional units through which the public can file complaints for non-registration of cases, delay in investigation, corruption, rudeness, abuse of power, and the like against erring police officers.

Necessary laws should be enacted to institutionalize the community policing system. Budgetary allocation should be made available to facilitate community policing all over the country.⁷²

Establish a coordination board to oversee and coordinate all new and existing police improvement projects to ensure that they are in line with the overall objectives of the Bangladesh Police Strategic Plan. The board should also reach out to the

⁷¹ [http://www.nipsa.in/resources/Bangladesh_police_policy_note, Last visited 07 April 2010].

⁷² Monjur Kader & Md. Muajjem Hussain, *ibid*, pp.242-43.

districts and sub-districts to ensure information flows and a realistic assessment of grassroots needs and capacity. It could also act as a liaison with reform efforts in the wider justice sector.

The international community should increase support for improving the capabilities of the police and civilian security organizations by assisting with curriculum reform and modernizing police training, with an emphasis on community policing techniques.⁷³

Use of the police for political, economic and personal interests is a practice that must cease altogether. To do this, attitudes of both those in power and the police should be changed. Those in power should realize that the police are not to be used for political and personal ends. The police themselves should also realize that they are servants of the people, not of any ruling party or privileged segment of society.

The police must be given sufficient independence in the performance of its duties and functions, free from external pressure or influence. To safeguard its independence, the police need to be given a lump-sum budget in each fiscal year and accorded enough discretion to utilize this budget according to its needs, provided there is accountability transparency.

In terms of increasing competence, a new curriculum for police education and training should be developed with a view to making the Bangladesh Police more capable, service-oriented, people-friendly and efficient. Technical training must be intensified to build expertise and keep abreast with modern technology. Training on forensic toxicology, forensic serology, DNA analysis and data bank, drug analysis, food analysis and analysis of explosive substances should be administered to members of the forensic division. All training institutions should have sufficient infrastructure including classrooms, accommodation, training materials and logistic support.⁷⁴

Recruit more women. For the Bangladesh Police to properly deliver services to women, it requires far more female constables and officers. Although the Strategic

⁷³ [<http://crisisgroup.org/home/index.cfm?id=6427>, Last visited 18 March 2010].

⁷⁴ Monjur Kader & Md. Muajjem Hussain, *ibid*, pp.240-41.

Plan of 2008-2010 called for the recruitment of 3000 additional female police, only 600 had been recruited by July 2009. Thus, a more concerted effort is required to address the gender imbalance within the Bangladesh Police. This might include a 10% reservation for women in the force, as in other parts of government.

Increase resources for the Bangladesh Police. The lack of resources makes it quite difficult for the police to properly perform its duties. Thus, the Bangladesh Police require more staff, more vehicles and better pay. With pervasive corruption and poor morale attributable to poor salaries and working conditions, it is imperative that more of the development budget be apportioned to the police.⁷⁵

It is the police who need to radically change their attitude. The authorities must punish those who abuse their power to harass citizens, and open channels for victims of abuse to get redress from the perpetrators. The people will automatically start cooperating with the police when the force becomes civilized and trustworthy.⁷⁶

There should be equality and fairness at the time of recruitment and training of the police. The Government receives donations for many unproductive sectors which remain idle and this money can be used to increase the number of police and police reform. Police must behave humane with the person arrested and if there is good discussion between police and the person arrested then the trend of violence will be reduced. If a person is arrested without any sufficient ground and harassed by the police, then the police must be forced to give compensation to the arrestee, so that the abusing tendency of the police power reduces. The living quarters of the police should be improved and food quality must be better. The benefits like Ration, bonus of the Police should be increased, otherwise they can't work fairly.⁷⁷

⁷⁵ [http://www.nipsa.in/resources/Bangladesh_police_policy_note, Last visited 07 April 2010].

⁷⁶ [http://www.adb.org/Documents/Periodicals/ADB_Review/2005/vol37-2/better-policing.asp, Last visited 25 March 2010].

⁷⁷ [<http://www.thedailystar.net/law/2005/07/05/monitor.htm>, Last visited 07 April 2010].

Government wants to use the police whimsically. Most often they create obstacles to the reformation activities in many ways. Government should be desire to implement the reformation activities by avoiding this type of mentality.⁷⁸

Political parties should be interested to reform the police force in Bangladesh.⁷⁹

6.2 Conclusion

Accused of corruption, misuse of power, violating human rights, nepotism and inefficiency the police have lost its creditability and acceptance to general people a long time ago. Gaining back the public's trust, therefore, is quite a challenge. Reforms in the police force cannot be achieved only by providing logistic support or arranging modern training facilities or even by increasing the salary of the police. There are other issues that need to be taken care of. Because the genesis of troubles incapacitating the police lies not so much within the force as in external factors. Unless there is a change in the practice of using police for political and personal interests the aspiration for an efficient and people friendly police will be an unrealistic goal.⁸⁰ Now it is high time that through the reform police officials are given back the self respect, integrity and the confidence that they have lost over the decades. Only then, can the archaic notion of ruling over the people change to serving the people.⁸¹

⁷⁸ *The Daily Sangbad*, (28 September 2008), p.12.

⁷⁹ [<http://www.humanrightsinitiative.org/programs/aj/police/exchange/police%20reforms%20initiative/%20in%20Bangladesh%20-20NBK%20Tripura.ppt>, Last visited 21 March 2010].

⁸⁰ Shaikh Nazrul Islam and Shamim Ahsan, 'Revamping a Corrupt System', *Star Weekened Magazine*, (20 September 2002), p.8.

⁸¹ Elita Karim, *ibid*, p.15.

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