



Aridaman Jit Singh
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Dear Mr. Ranjit Singh

At the outset I congratulate you for successfully steering the Haryana Police with your very realistic perception and visionary policy decisions that are going to play a very decisive role in winning the trust of public and enable you in effective policing of the state.

It may not be out of place to mention the basic responsibility of the state is to protect citizens' inalienable rights to life, liberty and dignity and the police remains one of the most visible state representative on the streets mandated to discharge above duty.

But some of the incidents of recent past portrayed a completely retrograde picture and call for a very critical introspection and as a concerned citizen and security professional I would like to draw your kind attention to the following factors to initiate immediate steps to stem the rot.

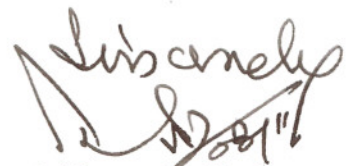
- (i) In a very recent incident that took place at Bhiwani on the 3rd of November a young boy was killed by the armed police personnel but most unfortunate happened when the supervisory police officers began making statements in media to camouflage the criminal act of Haryana police team. I have no reservations in expressing that such a stance adopted by the police leadership has left every citizen of the state in potential danger of the death just a bullet away.
- (ii) Under such circumstances as a security professional I think every armed police constable on the streets is a very big security hazard to the life and safety of public that police is supposed to protect. The profession of arms is a very sacrosanct and sacred profession and calls for a very high degree of discipline and that comes from regular training and indoctrination of very high value system and the existing police set-ups in the States sans the both. Weapons from the police personnel performing routine duty should be completely withdrawn and only few specialised teams who can be spared for regular training under strict supervision of a gazetted Officer shall be allowed to perform with arms. Armed police personnel with the lack of training cannot be better than unskilled contract labour.
- (iii) In the aftermath of Bhiwani incident. The comments of senior supervisor police officers in media reflected on the lack of field experience and projected unprofessional picture of the complete failure of police leadership, leading to erosion of trust of public and proving that police is "**dysfunctionally functioning**".
- (iv) It can be a very positive step from you as the police Chief to take a policy decision and confine your press briefings and statements only to the policy matters of police functioning and not to comment on facts related to cases unless authenticated by field staff and hold the field staff accountable with visible punitive action if reports are contrary to reality. To draw a policy and train the police officers in media handling at field level and **completely restrict the supervisory level police officers to holding press conferences on policy matters only**.
- (v) In last few decades we have seen demonstrative militarization of the police and that is one of the most dangerous trends. There are fundamental differences in the objectives and ethos of Military and Police and no parallels should be drawn or copied for the want of genuinely creative functioning ideas as a substitute to field experience. The militarization of the police, shreds the very spirit of democratic fabric and counterproductive for justice administration mechanizations. We need to be very realistic while implanting the borrowed ideas of other organizations.

- (vi) The beacon lights and sirens/hooters shall be used by police only when in hot pursuit or in a state of emergency to protect the lives and property of public but not as a matter of routine/privilege associated with status. Instructions shall also be issued to prohibit the use of this privilege with private vehicles of police personnel and other government officials lest it loses its sanctity.
- (vii) Please issue suitable directions on **Alcohol Consumption Policy** for **Haryana Police** personnel while on duty or in police station's premises. Police personnel may be completely prohibited from consumption of alcohol; there can't be any permissible limit for them except complete prohibition and stringent punishment for delinquents and realistic plan for enforcement with the help of vigilant citizen groups.
- (viii) Police personnel shall be completely prohibited from carrying arms in civilian clothes and stringent punishment for delinquent and realistic operational directions to enforce accountability of arms, ammunitions and seized materials.
- (ix) Please bring all your police stations under the ambit of CCTV to prevent illegal detentions and illegal activities in the police station premises.
- (x) Provision of sentries and protection guards with police officers looks like making a mockery of professional capabilities and putting a question mark on the abilities of police officers. Tax payers money shall not be blown up to maintain the colonial practices in the form of rank associated privileges. Police officers, irrespective of their rank and status are paid from exchequer in public interest to protect the public, if they feel vulnerable and incapable and need protection guards for themselves it means it is result of flawed training and thinking and needs to be addressed immediately to bring attitudinal change in the mindset of police officers and to raise their self esteem. Those police officers who are perceived to be under threat shall carry weapon on their person rather than entrusting it to their driver or reader and later become casualty like the Orissa cadre DIG.

As a concerned security professional and responsible citizen of India, I express my complete solidarity with you to bring professionalism to Police in Indian states .

with best of regards

To,
Shri Ranjiv Singh Dalal
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Aridaman Jit Singh