

Police and Social Responsibility: A Study with Special Reference to Chhattisgarh Police

Rahul Tiwari¹, Anil Manjhi²

¹(Scholar, Law Graduate, Govt.J.Yoganandam, Chhattisgarh College, Raipur, C.G. India)

²(Assistant Professor English, Department of Humanities, Govt. Engineering College Raipur C.G. India)

Abstract: Police organization plays an important role in administration of Centre as well State Government. They have a rich history in context to India. They mainly safeguard public and maintain law and order in society. Apart from it their duties also include social responsibility towards important sections of society. Thus in this paper study has been done with special reference to Chhattisgarh Police and their social responsibilities towards special sections of society like women, children, patient and destitute persons, arrested persons, unclaimed dead bodies, transgender and animals has been analyzed, which highlights that they have special concern regarding these sections and work to their best for the protection, prevention of crime and welfare of the society.

Keywords: animals, Chhattisgarh Police, children, patient and destitute persons, Police, social responsibility, transgender, unclaimed dead bodies, women.

Date of Submission: 16-08-2018

Date of acceptance: 03-09-2018

I. INTRODUCTION

With the dawn of 01 November 2000, a new state took birth in India as State of Chhattisgarh for the sake of welfare and development of the people residing in this region, which added a new page in the history of development of India. Development alone is not the priority of the new state within a nation, but along with it the safety and prosperity of the people also matters a lot and “Effective and efficient law enforcement is the basic sign of good governance”[1]. This could be achieved by the important role being played by the Police of the State as well as Centre in totality. It is a law and order maintaining and crime controlling organization. Police organization has been blamed and criticized more than being appreciated for its work. In context of Chhattisgarh Police it plays a wide range of roles and has a broad scope of duties to perform. It is the prime concern of Chhattisgarh Police to “aim for benefit of good people”, which is expressed through department’s motto “परित्राणाय साधूनां” which has been mentioned in Chapter 4 verse 8 of *Shrimad Bhagwad Gita* as

परित्राणाय साधूनां विनाशाय च दुष्कृताम् |

धर्मसंस्थापनार्थाय सम्भवामि युगे युगे || ८ ||

which means that to bring salvation to good people, to destroy the evil people and to re-establish religion, I appear in each era. These lines perfectly describe the role played by Chhattisgarh police, specifically the social responsibility which it has towards members of the society, especially towards women, children, discriminated persons like transgender, animals, even towards unclaimed dead bodies and fulfill certain key responsibilities towards society by means of traffic management by which it helps the good and needy people, fight against crime and criminals and maintain law and order and so therefore it is a topic of great importance to bring forth these various social roles played by police in light to understand their true value in terms of society.

II. HISTORICAL BACKGROUND OF POLICE

2.1 Etymology

The word “Police” has been derived from Greek word “Politeia” which means Citizenship or administration of state or government and its synonym Latin word “Politia” which means state or administration or civilization, whereas similar word in French language “Polis” means city or citadel. The derivation of the word police can be understood from the three derived words of Politeia. The first derived word is “Polity” which refers to constitution which people of a country frame with the object of equal benefit of all. The second derived word is “Policy” which means that manner by which the regulation and direction of Government work manner is being done and the selection of specific action plan for achieving the goals set in constitution are being made

and finally the third derived word is “Police”, which means to maintain the order, make people abide by law and deciding of method of control of State’s internal governance.

2.2 Police in Ancient India

Origin of Police finds its sources in the specific rules that originated to regulate the human behavior, which developed in the form of conventions and rules based on morality. But with the advent of time, human started violating such rules on account of his selfishness, so need for definite rule for standard behavior was felt. For instance rules were framed for Hindus in “Code of Manu” which described the norms of human behavior in different situations and made provisions for punitive measures in case of their violation. Similarly Buddhist developed their “Code of Conduct”, Christians developed “Sermon on the Mounts” and Muslim had “Quran” as their complete code of conduct. For the survival of various societies, obeying of such rules was very important but with time increased number of communities and it became difficult to control all such different societies and communities. Thus a leader was selected for the purpose amongst them who was allotted reformative and prohibitory powers, in other words the work of modern police was carried out by then such leader.

Similarly in Kautilya’s Arthashastra, various Police activities like discovery of violations and prohibition of such violations, arresting of different types of criminals, their attendance for judicial enquiry and various penal measures for various crimes have been clearly specified. Thus in ancient India, dharma and such rules and codes and Shastras formed the sources of principles of police activity which regulated the then society, which was seen in administration skill and law and order maintained by Maurya in 4th century B.C. which in future took a new shape in Mughal India.

2.3 Police in Mughal India

A well defined organizational structure of police system was evident during the Mughal reign. Subedar or Governors were appointed to maintain law and order and criminal justice, along with other important duties. Fauzdar assisted Subedar and was the head of military police and Sepoys and was responsible for arresting of culprits, taking cognizance of all vicious crimes. Likewise Shiqdar were subordinates to Fauzdar and personnel appointed by Fauzdar named as Thanedar looked after the thanas into which a Fauzdari was divided and carried out function of controlling police in smaller areas to maintain law and order. In city areas Kotwal; the chief of the city police arrested thieves, did night patrolling and collected intelligence information. Thus a glimpse of the modern police structure was visible during the Mughal period, which took a well organized form in the British Period.

2.4 Police in British India

In British India after 1765, the state was segregated into commissionaires, which was further divided into districts, districts were divided into Parganas and thereby Parganas further divided into Police Stations being headed by Commissioners, District Magistrates, Superintendent of Police and Sub Inspector respectively. The Sub Inspectors were also called by other names like Daroga, Kotwal and Thanedar. The credit of being “Pioneer of Uniform Police System” goes to Lord Cornwallis, who on 7th December 1792 brought the Regulation, which got enacted in Regulation XXII of 1793. Now each district was divided into Thanas being headed by Daroga who was responsible for arresting culprits and presenting them before Magistrates within twenty four hours of arrest. Now full time appointments and reasonable salary were being paid to the Police Officers. The major contribution of British’s rule in the field of Police enactment is the passing of police Act (Act V) of 1861, which aimed to bring province under severe Magisterial control by use of integrated police force and maintain law and order.

2.5 Police in Independent India

Post Independence, Police system in India gained its validity through the provisions made in Indian Constitution in Seventh Schedule in List I : Union List as entry 2A “ Power of Central Government in State” and in List II: State List as entry 1 “Public Order” and entry 2 “Police” which empowers Centre and State in domain of Police System and defines their separate powers in this field. India having a quasi federal form of Government has Central Government at Centre and State Government at various States.

III. CENTRAL POLICE AND STATE POLICE

Ministry of Home Affairs does the role of administration and regulation of police system at the centre whereas at state level, State Home Ministers are generally in charge of Police Administration being assisted by Commissioner, then Director General of Police, then Inspector General of Police the Deputy Inspectors General and the Assistant Inspector Generals, Superintendents of Police, Deputy Superintendents of Police, Inspectors of Police, Sub-Inspectors /Assistant Sub-Inspectors of Police, Head Constables and Constables. Similar to it the Police Organization is being classified based on their controlling authority and being armed force or unarmed force, which can be represented by following flowchart.

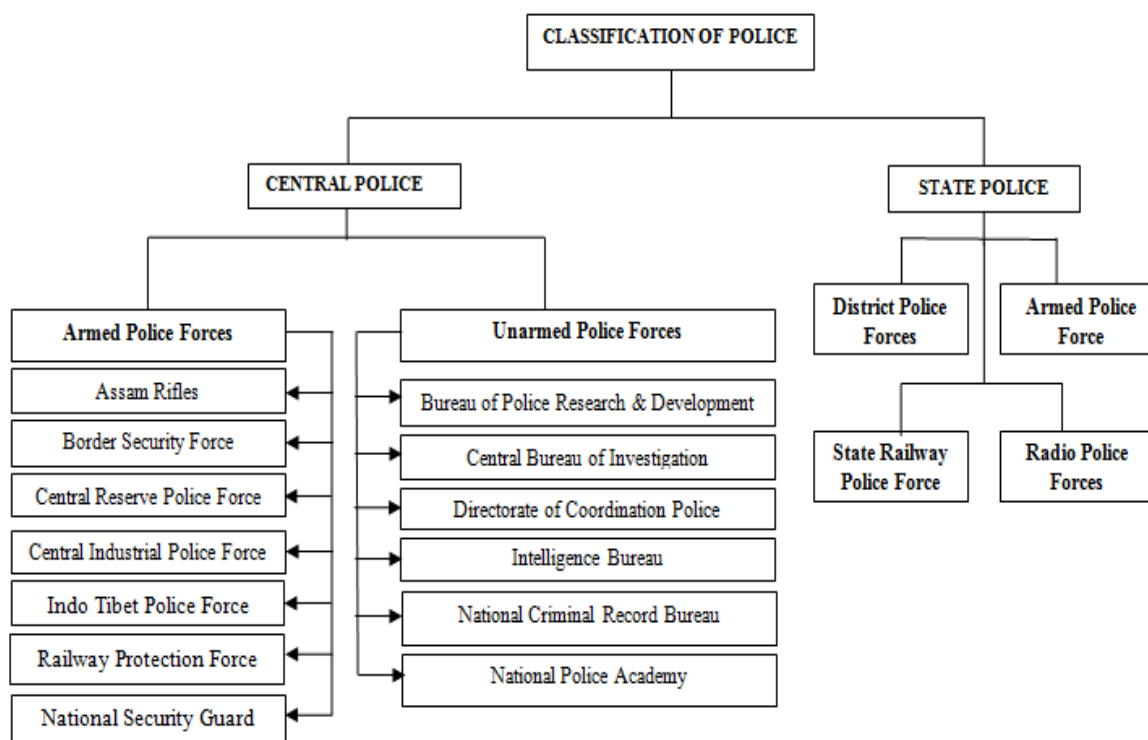


Figure 1. Classification of Police

3.1 Chhattisgarh State Police: Its Function and Responsibilities

In context of Chhattisgarh State, which formed on 01 November 2000, “Chhattisgarh Police Act” got enacted in 2007, in which Chapter V deals with Functions and Responsibilities of Police Officers and various sections of this chapter describe about different kinds of functions and responsibilities like section 23 sub section 1 lays down duty as follows:

- (a) To enforce the law, and to protect life, liberty, property, rights and dignity of the people;
- (b) To prevent crime and public nuisance;
- (c) To maintain public order;
- (d) To preserve internal security, prevent and control terrorist activities and to prevent breach of public peace;
- (e) To protect public property;
- (f) To detect offences and bring the offenders to justice;
- (g) To arrest persons whom he is legally authorized to arrest and for whose arrest sufficient grounds exist;
- (h) To help people in situations arising out of natural or man-made disasters, and to assist other agencies in relief measures;
- (i) To facilitate orderly movement of people and vehicles, and to control and regulate traffic;
- (j) To gather intelligence relating to matters affecting public peace and crime;
- (k) To provide security to public authorities in discharging their functions;
- (l) To perform all such duties and discharge such responsibilities as may be enjoined upon him by law or by an authority empowered to issue such directions under any law. (S.23, Chhattisgarh Police Act, 2007)

Section 24 to 31 lays down other roles and responsibilities, yet the one mentioned in Sec. 23(1)(a) to (l) are the prominent one. These duties and responsibilities are towards common men in general yet within this boundary Chhattisgarh Police play an important role in dimension of social responsibility towards specific sections of society.

IV. CHHATTISGARH POLICE AND ITS RESPONSIBILITIES TOWARDS SOCIETY

“Society” according to August Comte; the father of sociology “is a social organism which poses a harmony of structure and function and according to Morris Ginsberg, “society is a collection of individuals united by certain relations or mode of behavior which mark them off from others who do not enter into these relations or who differ from them in behavior.” [2]

Police plays a wide range of role to keep society in sound condition, “they are the guarding angels who safeguard the common men at cost of their lives”. They are the great pillars on which the law and order of the entire society stands firmly. They register crimes in day to day life and investigate the matter and make all efforts to reach the actual culprit behind the crime. They keep on patrolling at day as well night time to prevent any mis-happening, which creates a sense of terror among the criminals and puts a control over their wrong activity. Whether it may be a matter of theft, robbery, dacoit, rape, kidnapping, abduction, accident or any illegal activity, people immediately seek assistance of Police in the matter. Also in cases of unnatural death, it is the Police by whose authorization, postmortem of the dead bodies are being conducted.

4.1 Activities of Chhattisgarh Police towards women in society

Apart from the above key roles, some specific activities are being performed by Police with regard to special sections of society like towards women. Chhattisgarh police has showed special concern towards female security and aid assistance. At present Women Helpline 1091, a social initiative is being run by Chhattisgarh Police at all 27 districts of the state. Any women in danger could register her complaint at an ease by dialing 1091. In order to prevent domestic violence and family disputes, several women advisory centre have been established at each district headquarter under the supervision of Superintendent of Police of that district.

In order to provide female friendly atmosphere to women, number of women in police recruitment has been increased and each Police Station is equipped with Women Helpdesk Counter. Several Women Police Station in Chhattisgarh have been established which are dedicated at the service of women. Special women patrolling vehicle keep on patrolling which are determined to stop eve-teasing and molestation at schools, colleges, public places and secure girls and women from anti-social elements. Irrespective of jurisdiction, PCR (Police Control Room) Vehicles are at continuous patrolling from 8 AM to 10 PM at places where women crowd is more and even increase number of rounds of patrolling when needed. Women cops even works in shifts during wedding and festival season for the sake of women [3].

4.2 Role of Chhattisgarh Police towards Children

According to Carl Sandburg; an American writer, who won Pulitzer Prize for writing biography of Abraham Lincoln, “A baby is God's opinion that the world should go on.” and “Children are considered to be futures of a nation.” So special care has to be taken to safeguard their age of innocence and also protect them from all social evils. Chhattisgarh Police at Surajpur has taken new initiative in this regard. With the involvement of Police Officer, and other government employees, Police Protector Forum has been established at Thana and District level to prevent Child trafficking. Chhattisgarh Police at Surajpur on receipt of information in this regard from any person takes quick action and looks for each possible places, where missing children could be found and they even patrol cross the village and collect information from Senior citizens, Panch and Sarpanch of the village and report it to Police Station-in-charge so that every clue to missing child could be traced and utilized [4].

In January 2017, it was a matter of pride for Chhattisgarh when its Police rescued 70 people which included 33 Children (20 minor boys and 13 girls) who according to Bastar Child Protection Officer Vijay Shankar Sharma, “were sold to the factory owners in Andhra Pradesh and Telangana” [5]. A lot of cases of labor transition from one state to another is being observed in Chhattisgarh State, in which several child labor are also being trafficked from one place to another especially during off agricultural season. Police of the state are vigilant during this time of the year and safeguard several children from bonded labor.

4.3 Chhattisgarh Traffic Police and their social role

Chhattisgarh Traffic Police is one of the wings of Police department of Chhattisgarh State. It plays an important role in regulation and safety of people on various means of transport. It is basically responsible for the regulation of law and order of transport on road. Apart from ensuring smooth movement and management of traffic on road, they also fulfill certain social duties, which they have towards society. One amongst them is “Fitness check in School buses for safety”. For instance as per recent news Chhattisgarh Traffic police has done check up of more than 240 buses of 24 schools in five stages.

Apart from it Chhattisgarh Police in collaboration with health department carried out eye test for bus drivers in order to find out whether they are able or unable to drive. The fire-fighting demo is also being conducted by Policemen to train bus drivers how to cease fire at circumstances when fire breaks out in bus. These all checkups and tests are being conducted prior to opening of schools so that any problems related to it could be resolved at an earliest and school buses could be safely run [6].

In regard to checking up of School buses and safety of school children travelling on bus, Supreme Court has given guidelines of 17 points. These 17 points direction are

1. "School Bus" must be written on the back and front of the Bus.
2. If it is a hired bus, "On School Duty" should be clearly indicated

3. Bus must have a First-Aid-Box.
4. The windows of Bus must be fitted with horizontal grills.
5. There must be a Fire Extinguisher in the Bus.
6. School Name and Telephone No. must be written on the Bus.
7. The doors of the Bus should be fitted with reliable locks.
8. To keep School Bags safely, there should be a space-fitted under the seats.
9. There must be an Attendant from the School in the Bus.
10. School cabs should be fit with speed governors with maximum speed limit of 40 kph.
11. The body of school cab shall be highway yellow colour with a horizontal strip in green colour of 150mm width in the middle all around the vehicle and the words 'SCHOOL CAB' must be prominently displayed on all four sides of the vehicle.
12. If age of school children is below 12 years, the number of children carried shall not exceed 1½ times the permitted seating capacity.
13. Children above 12 years shall be treated as one person.
14. The driver of a school cab must have valid licence to drive LMV-Transport Vehicles for a period of at least four years and compulsorily wear a light blue shirt, light blue trousers and black shoes. His name ID be displayed on the shirt.
15. There must be enough space provided to keep school bags inside the vehicle and the bags should not be hung outside the vehicle or placed on roof carriers.
16. The bus driver must carry a complete list of the children being ferried in the school cab, indicating the name, class, residential address, blood group and the points of stoppage, route plan, etc.
17. In case of kindergarten, if an authorized person recognized mutually by the school and parents, does not come to pick the child from the halting points and such, the child shall be taken back to the school and their parents should be called.

Another great step taken by Chhattisgarh police department is their formation of "Green Corridor". A green corridor is a special route, where all the signals between the hospital from where the patient or harvested organ is picked and the destination hospital where the patient or harvested organ is to be transplanted, are manually operated to avoid red signals. It is a life saving act done by traffic police. On August 10, 2017, Chhattisgarh traffic Police, made Green corridor for Ex-Inspector General of Police Shri Ramesh Sharma, in which he was transferred from Jawaharlal Nehru Hospital Research Centre, Sector-9, Bhilai, Chhattisgarh to Air Ambulance standing at Mana Airport, from where he was taken to Medanta Hospital Gurugram, Delhi NCR. This was for the third time that green corridor was made. It was for the first time on 27 July 2016 that Green Corridor was created from Bhilai Sector 9 to Mana Airport Raipur to safeguard Akansha; daughter of retired Navy Officer from where she was flown to Army Hospital Delhi and her life was saved. Similarly Ayush was saved by formation of Green Corridor for second time at Bhilai [7].

4.4 Chhattisgarh Police's social responsibility towards patient and destitute persons

Police apart from making way for medical assistance also is bound to have soft corner for needy people. As per paragraph 405 of CG police regulation, it is the duty of Police to provide every possible aid to the person who is not able to take care of himself because of any disease or any other reason. Also it is the duty of Police to take patient and destitute person to nearest hospital for treatment and in case if entry is prohibited, they have to make such treatment which is immediately possible in that situation [8]. Such regulations are being followed by Police community in Chhattisgarh, which expresses human concern which they have towards such needful persons. A recent incident of June 2018 is the best example in which trainee DSP Sherbahadur Singh In-charge of Dipka Police Station, helped a girl named Kanti (18 years) who was suffering from Septicemia with an amount of Rs.1,05,600 through Sangwari Police scheme [9].

4.5 Responsibility of feeding arrested prisoners

It is moral as well as humanly duty of a person to feed another hungry person if he is capable of to do so. This act of divinity is being enshrined in statue of Chhattisgarh police regulation para 807 "Food for arrested person", which says that it is the duty of Chhattisgarh Police to make arrangement for food of the prisoners arrested and kept in jail under custody. In fact it becomes a strange scene for one to see that the police who applies third degree to the dangerous criminals in investigation, feeds the same person with care and affection.

4.6 Social Role played by Chhattisgarh Police towards unclaimed dead bodies

Apart from the welfare activities done by the Police of the state towards living person, it's a matter of honor for them to serve for the dead people as well. They are the only recourse for unclaimed bodies of dead people, as Chhattisgarh Police, abiding by Para 406 of Chhattisgarh Police Regulation have the responsibility to

bury destitute passengers and unknown persons, who die at hospital or nearby road and the expenses, are being borne by the Collector of that district.

4.7 Social responsibility towards the unaccepted ones: the transgender

Human beings are basically categorized into men and women. In almost all sectors of society, policies are being framed taking concern of these two sexes only, the left behinds are the gender who neither are male nor female i.e. transgender. But this situation doesn't persist in case of Chhattisgarh Police. Since December 2017, the department has given importance and shown concern towards them. Transgender have been given golden opportunity to get recruited in police force. In recent recruitment drive for 4th battalion constable in Chhattisgarh, 10 out of 40 transgender who applied for the post have cleared physical test and will get permanent post, once they clear written test as well. This step has brought a wave of joy amongst the transgender community, who exhibit their joy expressing that "the hands which used to clap in trains and streets to beg will now safeguard the common men [10].

4.8 Special concern towards the animals

Police not only has duty towards human beings but also towards animals especially towards cattle like bull, ox, cow etc. They work for their safety and management as well. Chhattisgarh Police has always been keeping an eye over the animal smuggling gangs and have been arresting them from time to time. For instant recently three main culprits were arrested, which included one of the masterminds related to animal trafficking case of Lormi area at Jarhagaon Chhattisgarh. This is for the third time that Police from Khudia Police Station succeeded within 3 months to catch three major animal traffickers at an area between village Sargadi and Jhiria and seized 22 cattle from them [11]. Similar arrest were made near Bothlidih village under Police Station Saraipali, where 2 animal smugglers were arrested and 22 cattle were seized.

V. ACHIEVEMENTS OF CHHATTISGARH POLICE

It's the painstaking effort of Chhattisgarh Police in field of community service that Bastar police of Chhattisgarh was awarded with special recognition award in the category of Homeland Security at Pennsylvania in USA on the occasion of Annual International Association of Chiefs of Police (IACP) award ceremony. Bastar Police worked with the initiative of "Amcho Bastar Amcho Police" which helped to minimize the distance between the Police and the community [12]. Police are being sensible towards humans and are well aware of their social role.

VI. CONCLUSION

Thus Police has the same place in society which grammar has in language. Just as grammar gives proper meaning to the cluster of words, similarly police helps people to make their life meaningful, as it creates a sense of fear in the minds against wrong acts and further teaches us to serve for the benefit of the society. The prime efforts of Chhattisgarh Police has remained veiled and untold, their social duties have saved number of lives, whether that of human beings or animals. This paper unveils those incidents which rarely come to the knowledge of common men, which highlights what and how Chhattisgarh Police has played its social role in society. Although demand of time, is of Police reform but it doesn't mean that the existing system is non-functional, rather it is playing its character very well in the real tale of society, serving and taking care of the women, children, transgender, patient and destitute person, arrested prisoners and also of the human dead bodies. It would not be wrong if "**Chhattisgarh Police is termed as Lifeline of the State**".

REFERENCES

- [1] Pradeep, N. Chaitanya. "Urban Policing in India: Issues, Challenges and Initiatives." *Journal of Development Management and Communication*, vol. II, no. April-June, 2015, 2015, p. 155, https://www.researchgate.net/publication/301790412_Urban_Policing_in_India_Issues_Challenges_and_Initiatives.
- [2] *SOCIOLOGY GUIDE*. <http://www.sociologyguide.com/basic-concepts/Definition.php>. Accessed 2 July 2018.
- [3] "Chhattisgarh's First All-Women Patrolling Vehicle Launched." *The Times of India*, 23 Sept. 2016, <https://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/city/raipur/Chhattisgarhs-first-all-women-patrolling-vehicle-launched/articleshow/54488451.cms>.
- [4] Khan, Shamroj. "Police Protector Forum Established at Thana and District Level Will Help Police to Control Missing Child and Human Trafficking." *INN 24 International News Network*, 16 May 2018, <http://inn24news.in/chhattisgarh-special/6309/>.
- [5] Staff, Scroll. "Chhattisgarh: 70 People, Including 33 Children, Rescued from Being Trafficked in Bastar." *Scroll.In*, 3 Jan. 2017, <https://scroll.in/latest/824913/chhattisgarh-70-people-including-33->

- children-rescued-from-being-trafficked-in-bastar.
- [6] Simar Singh. "Lanes of Hope: How Green Corridors Help Save Lives." *NDTV*, 22 Aug. 2017, <https://sites.ndtv.com/moretogive/lanes-of-hope-how-green-corridors-help-save-lives-1131/>.
- [7] Dakshi Sahu. "Green Corridor Made for Third Time by Traffic Police to Save Ex-IG." *Patrika*, 10 Aug. 2017.
- [8] Ghanshyamsharan Bhargav. *Police Acts & Regulations*. 405, Book, 2018, p. 196.
- [9] Bhaskar News Network. "One Lakh given by Police to Help Girl Child." *DainikBhaskar.Com*, 16 June 2018, <https://www.bhaskar.com/chhatisgarh/korba/news/latest-korba-news-041503-1974687.html>.
- [10] Rashmi Tina. "Chhattisgarh Recruiting Transgender in Police Force." *The Times of India*, 6 May 2018.
- [11] "3 Animal Smugglers Arrested and 22 Cattles Seized." *Naiduniya*, 20 July 2016, <https://naidunia.jagran.com/chhattisgarh/mungeli-3-pashu-tesker-girfter-782908>.
- [12] Rashmi Drolia. "Bastar Police Bags 'Oscar' in Community Policing." *The Times of India*, 25 Oct. 2017, <https://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/city/raipur/bastar-police-bags-oscar-in-community-policing/articleshow/61226525.cms>.

Tiwari, Rahul and Anil Manjhi "Police and Social Responsibility: A Study with Special Reference to Chhattisgarh Police." *IOSR Journal Of Humanities And Social Science (IOSR-JHSS)*. vol. 23 no. 08, 2018, pp. 25-31.