



AN EVALUATIVE STUDY ON EFFECTIVENESS OF TECHNO FRIENDLY RAJASTHAN POLICE

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Abstract

Although there is a lot of potential for technology to improve policing, there is a lack of study on police technology, which raises questions about the implications of technology. This study has made an effort to assess both the success of technology in policing and the contextual elements that affect its application and effectiveness. The researcher has investigated the usage of certain technologies in policing in the state of Rajasthan based on reviews. The study's conclusions indicate that the rajasthan police use technology effectively and strategically in their abhay command centres, indicating that this has had a significant impact on policing. The abhay command center's success was largely due to its effective use of technology. This study attempts to offer suggestions for organisational efforts and training that could help police improve their access to and utilisation of technology.

Key Words: Technology, communication

INTRODUCTION

The incidences of violent activities are prevalent across the nation. Different state police are taking initiatives to prevent and combat the crime. With the advancement in technology it became tranquil to some extent. Rajasthan state police have implemented various approaches to curb the crime rate. Exercising extreme vigilance and keeping a third eye on the group of suspects by monitoring social media in addition to the intelligence system contributing in preventing crimes. The Abhay command and control center has been integrated by the Rajasthan police in Jaipur Headquarters is a best example of usage of technology driven police. Main objective of Abhay command and control center is to conduct surveillance by installing CCTV cameras at different places. It provides services such as video surveillance, call recordings and tracking vehicles. By analyzing the information activities like controlling crime, management of traffic, and identifying offenders can be overseen (Rajras, 2017). In addition, Bikaner Police has taken a new initiative with the aim of preventing incidents happening against women in the state and providing security to women. Under this, the District Police have created 'Abhay App'. Through this app, the police will provide immediate help to the aggrieved women (Patrika, 2019).

USAGE OF ABHAY COMMAND CENTRE

At present there are around 400 CCTV cameras installed in the ajmer city. These CCTVs have discreet placement that one can capture high quality images and videos to keep an eye over criminals and criminal activities to prevent crime (Dainik Bhaskar, n.d.). With the help of these CCTV cameras police personnel can keep watch on criminals or any suspicious activity round- the - clock without deploying cops (The tribune, 2022). Another important application of Abhay Command Centre is maintaining the traffic. If there is a traffic jam in the city, then the information is immediately given to the traffic police officer of the area concerned and efforts are made to ensure that the traffic is smooth on time. If necessary, traffic is also diverted (Dainik Bhaskar, n.d.)

CASE STUDIES

There have been many incidents where Abhay Command Centres had remarkably proved as an asset by proactively ensuring safety to the public.

Case 1: The Abhay Command Center of the police located at the Sirohi district headquarters stopped the incident with a 6-year-old innocent by taking timely action. When Labhu Singh, a constable posted at Abhay Command Center, saw an elderly man doing obscene acts in the camera installed there, he swung into action. He immediately informed the police patrolling team present there. After the information, the police team reached there in just 4 minutes and caught the accused. The accused was later produced in the court, from where he was sent to jail (TOI, 2022).

Case 2: Helped in identifying culprits of rape

A girl escaped from a shelter home in Jodhpur in order to meet her child and parents. As soon as she came out, she asked a young man for a lift to go to the bus stand. This young man took her to a secluded place and raped her and fled. After this, she asked for lift from another youth, this young man also raped her. With great difficulty she reached the bus stand and reached her village by catching the bus. With the help of CCTV cameras Abhay Command Centre was able to identify the perpetrators (Dainik Bhaskar, 2022.).

Case 3: 376 stolen mobile phones of worth 80 lakh rupees recovered by Abhay Command team in Ajmer

The police identified the suspected pickpockets. With CCTV footage and other technical support, 20 suspects were arrested along with 14 accused in 8 cases. From whom 156 branded mobiles were recovered. Abhay Command team recovered 220 branded missing mobiles (Dainik Bhaskar, 2022).

Case 4: Prevented arson and vandalism at various places

The youth were protesting during the implementation of Agneepath scheme. By making provocative messages viral in various social media groups, there was apprehension of vandalism and arson by youth at various places. Apart from the intelligence system, the police had not only tracked the messages being circulated in

suspicious groups of social media. Accordingly made security arrangements, the possibility of disturbance was thwarted (Patrika, 2022).

LACUNAS

- It is not only providing the best surveillance cameras that may help but handling the command and keeping an eye on its operation is also equally important. In a news article, the cases of missing motor vehicle theft FIR were not registered and are not even looked over. Even though the Abhay Command Centre is introduced there is no one bothering to check the CCTVs installed resulting in disappointment among the people (Bhaskar, n.d.).
- All in one emergency helpline number 112 was started to seek police help in emergency. It is automatically triggered by pressing the panic button of a smart or android phone twice or four times, which directly goes to the Abhay Command Center of Jaipur Commissionerate. Abhay Command Center is receiving 1.5 lakh such calls daily. The point to be noted here is that the person making this call does not know when this emergency call was received from his phone. The immature calls are now causing trouble to both the police personnels and for those who genuinely are in need. Because of the busy line they are not answered timely (Dainik Bhaskar, n.d.).

FINDINGS & DISCUSSIONS

Although installation of CCTV cameras is still in progress it should not be limited to one district or sub-division. Without being physically present in that space they are keeping an eye over suspicious activities and people. It definitely brings fear among perpetrators from committing crime. There is a probability of “crime displacement”. The efforts of police in crime prevention in one specific area may result in shifting it to other locations, methods, crime types, victims, etc. This should be considered while applying preventive methods such as installation of CCTV cameras. Another matter in question is the purpose of Abhay Command Centre cannot be fulfilled unless its operation is properly monitored by the cop. “*Justice delayed is Justice denied*” is a famous phrase that states if the relief to the injured party is not provided to them timely it is of no use. If redressal of crime should be taken seriously, something major loss can be prevented. Immature calls are one of the biggest challenges faced by the cop during an emergency response. Until now there is no appropriate

solution that cannot be found. But one can do is if they came to know that it was an immature call from them they should immediately inform them. This will help to restrict unnecessary engagement of officials.

CONCLUSION

Abhay Command Centre is a good initiative by the Rajasthan Government. Proper and timely training of police professionals who are operating it will be beneficial to it. It played a major role in prevention of crime. The CCTV cameras installed in different areas of the city are actually working as a source of target hardening. It played a great role in maintaining traffic. Major crimes are prevented with the help of Abhay Command Centres. This should be implemented by other states also and people should be made aware of it.

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