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M.P. Institute of Social Science Research, Ujjain

Police in India: A Case Study of Constabulary of Jhalawar District in Rajasthan

Anupama Kaushik* and Govind Singh Kasarfa†

Police in India is not seen as friend of common public but as an oppressor. It is blamed often for corruption, misuse of power, misbehaviour, lack of work culture etc. But the lower level personnel in police force complain of long working hours, exploitation by seniors, lack of basic facilities and leisure etc. This paper tries to take a look at the problems faced by police personnel especially the constabulary through an empirical study carried out in Jhalawar district of Rajasthan.

The term 'police' is derived from the Greek word 'polics' and according to the Oxford dictionary it means a system of regulation for preservation of order and enforcement of law (Sharma, 1977, 1). It includes a body of civil servants whose duties are preservation of order, preventing and detection of crime and enforcement of laws. In a democratic - welfare state it has to perform its duties keeping welfare of citizens in mind. It enforces the rule of law so that people can live safely and go freely about their lawful business (Begum, 1996, 2-3). Its powers include the legitimised use of force (Police, 2017).

*Associate Professor, Political Science and Public Administration, Dr. Harisingh Gour University, Sagar (M.P.). E-mail: kaushikanupama@yahoo.co.in

†Constable Rajasthan Police. E-mail: govindsinghkasana@gmail.com