VISION 2030
KERALA POLICE

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From the desk of
Chief Minister of Kerala

VISION 2030 KERALA POLICE

PINARAYI VIJAYAN
Hon'ble Chief Minister of Kerala

"

Kerala Police is one of the fastest evolved police forces in the country. It is the most community oriented, service-oriented police force fully dedicated to the safety and security of each member of the community.

Our Philosophy is manifested in legalized community policing system in the state, which has brought in great satisfaction in the minds of the people of Kerala.

The Police with a vision has to evolve with change of time. Once the vision is clear, the goals and objectives are codified, it will be easy for the policy makers and police hierarchy to work in a time bound manner and realize the objectives, which will help the people

"

1-04-2021
Thiruvananthapuram

Pinarayi Vijayan
Chief Minister Of Kerala

Preface

Kerala Police are proud to present its vision statement through this book titled "Vision 2030". The content of this book is a declaration of the aspirations, strategies and long-term goals of the Kerala Police for the decade 2021–2030.

VISION 2030
KERALA POLICE

LOKNATH BEHERA IPS
DGP/State Police Chief

Generally, all organizations need a vision statement which, by setting lofty and yet realistic targets, motivates the various stakeholders, including the employees, to achieve greater heights and perfection in performance. Also, such a vision statement is expected to identify potential handicaps, limitations and even risks and is also expected to help all the stakeholders to understand how best they can optimize their efforts for maximum delivery. The Kerala Police are no exception.

As an organisation, the Kerala Police carry out their duties based on the legal instruments like the Kerala Police Manual, the Kerala Police Act, 2011 etc. With all diligence, the Kerala Police are committed to such legal instruments. Such legal instruments help us, the Kerala Police officers, to respond to, and hence integrate, the often mutually conflicting pressures and demands of the modern, vibrant democracy, and help us to stick to our constitutional obligations to maintain the supremacy of law.

It is felt that the Police force in Kerala, as in the rest of the country, will face huge challenges in the coming decade. These challenges pertain to a variety of complex matters such as heightened aspirations of the people; their greater political participation; awareness and activism in society; the communal environment in the state; the spectre of fundamentalism and radical philosophies; the threat of terrorism; the concerns of coastal security; the risk of left-wing extremism; security of the women, children and the elderly; increased relevance of the female wing of the Police force; the menace of cybercrime; the issue of migrant labour; increased mobility of criminals; the issues related to first-time offenders; issues concerning tourists; the problems of traffic management and road accidents; issues related to forests; issues related to natural and man-made disasters; and finally (and also importantly), management of law & order and public safety.

As the state is poised to step into the third decade of the 21st century, the Kerala Police, being fully alive to the challenges that lie ahead, is all set and determined to duly attend to the clarion 'call of duty'. **The nation and the state expect each Police officer to do all that he or she can and all that he or she must, and more importantly, do it better than before.** The Police here are determined to deliver more than what is expected of them. This vision statement is expected to help the Police officers here to achieve both greater heights and better perfection in performance and also to deliver with increased determination.

Thiruvananthapuram
01-04-2021

Acknowledgement

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Objective of this Vision Statement

The Vision Statement of a department is not a summary of what the department is, or what resources it has, or what it has been doing. Also, it is neither an Annual Report of the department nor some sort of a Status Report. It is not a document announcing its technological or organisational modernisation plans either.

A Vision Statement must assiduously seek to avoid the trite, the commonplace and the obvious. All those things are already there in the public domain in some way or the other.
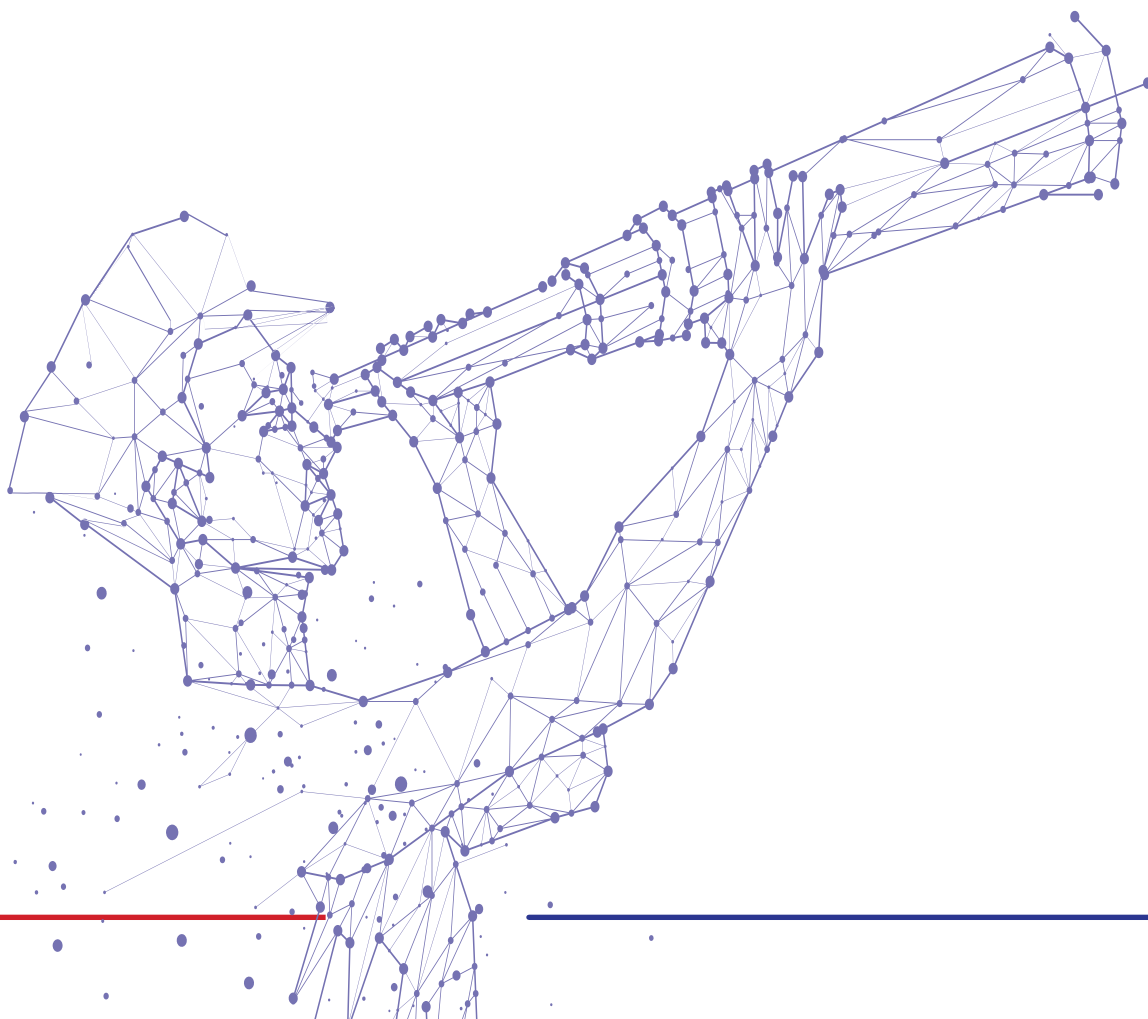
This Vision Statement of Kerala Police go beyond a routine SWOT analysis and stir the imagination by bringing up a range of critical issues, interesting possibilities, the best case or worst case scenarios, if any, and other complexities with the objective of energizing all concerned into action.

Values and Guiding Principles of Kerala Police

Providing professional policing to the people is the obligation of the State. We, the Kerala Police Force, are committed to the principle that while being responsive to the popular will, we will also uphold the rule of law above anything. **We believe in "Salus populi suprema lexesto" (The welfare of the people shall be the supreme law) and also in "Fiat justitia, ruatcaelum" (Justice shall be done, even though heavens might fall).**

By working based on the Kerala Police Act 2011, a landmark act in the history of Indian Jurisprudence, the Kerala Police maintain a professional, trained, skilled, disciplined and dedicated Police system to protect the integrity and security of the state and also to ensure the rule of law with due transparency by giving due regard to life, property, freedom, dignity, and human rights of every person in accordance with the provisions of the Constitution of India.

The Police here protect the integrity of Indian Union and maintain the internal security of the nation, while protecting the life, liberty, property and dignity of every person. Needless to say, the task of implementing the above in a highly pluralistic and rights-aware society, with its demands and pulls, is highly challenging and does require careful planning and consideration.

For us, Policing with a human face is an abiding commitment because the citizenry deserves such a commitment as a matter of right. Accomplishing such a commitment demands a highly professional, trained, skilled, disciplined and dedicated Police service. At the same time, it is necessary to empower the Police with sufficient institutionalized authority to enable them to efficiently discharge their duties. Also, it is necessary that the Police are subject to disciplinary control with the objective of ensuring that they do not abuse the lawful authority vested in them. Simultaneously, it is necessary that the Police are protected from unwarranted influences to enable them to function impartially as required by the Constitution. Kerala Police have struck a balance amongst all such complex and divergent demands. In short, the Police force need to be seen and need to function as both an institution of power and authority to ensure justice as well as an organisation of common humanitarian assistance and well being.

Our watchwords for the third decade of the millennium are:

Quick and reliable responsiveness

Professionalism

Efficiency of performance

Procedural transparency

Solidarity with people
(or Janamaithri, as we, the Kerala Police Officers, use)

Up-to-date technological backup

We cannot guarantee that we shall, on our own, make the state a crime-free place; however, we do promise that we shall, in all our endeavours related to detection and prevention of crime and maintenance of law and order, be professionally committed, competent and efficient. Also, we promise delivery of our service without fear of or favour to anybody in as open a manner as is permissible by law and by matters of national interest & security.

Unique Characteristics of Kerala from the perspective of the Police

Kerala is endowed with a culturally-rich, human and social environment. Its unique model of development is as much an outcome of its geography as of its history. Over the past two decades, Kerala economy has grown at a rate of over 6.3 percent. Not only did economic growth soar, but the poverty rate also fell from over 45 per cent to less than 10 per cent during this period. Today, Kerala is one of the most eligible aspirants to achieving developed economy status among Indian states. Amongst all other states of India, Kerala occupies a unique position and its special features have an important bearing on the challenges being faced or likely to be faced by the Police department in the next decade.

While volumes could be written about the state of Kerala, we present in this Vision Statement, a very brief account of the unique characteristics of Kerala that have a bearing on the functioning of the Kerala Police. Such situations are often not found in other states and certainly not to the degree in which they are found in Kerala.

They could be summed up as follows:

• High literacy rate, consequent greater social awareness, and also greater exposure to the state of the world;

• Very high level of political participation amongst the people, greater awareness and activism, and consequent political rivalries across various sections;

• Population-wise, a very strong, near-proportionate representation of all the three major religious communities in the state;

• Rising trends of fundamentalist thoughts and radical philosophies amongst different communities;

• The ever-present possibility of susceptible persons coming under the influence of terrorists or anti-national elements both from within India or from outside

• A 660 km long coast line with over 27,700 fishing and other vessels operating in the waters, making infiltration by subterfuge rather easy and thus making coastal security an important issue;

• Vestiges of the once-rampant left-wing extremism, finding supportive ground in isolated pockets and people of the state, with chances of Kerala forests being used as temporary sanctuaries;

• Large non-resident Keralite / Malayalee population, both in other states of India as well as outside India (especially and possibly the largest ethnic Indian group living in the Middle East and in certain western countries) which brings in outside ideological influences to the state;

• The job-motivated emigration of the young population, coupled with comparatively excellent healthcare in the state, resulting in a higher percentage of aged people, often living alone;

• High remittances by the Keralite migrant workforce resulting in higher standards of living, thereby acting as incentive for offences against property;
• The IT revolution ushering in a large number of high-tech companies and technocrats with consequent effects on the consumer market as well as on real estate.

• Widespread use of electronic gadgetry, computers and mobiles, with a direct impact on cybercrime of various hues;

• Large, rapidly increasing, migrant population creating workforce in the state very different from other states, for whom character and antecedent verification is obviously difficult;

• Large percentage of working women, often staying alone, and away from their homes, spouses, children and other family members, making safety of women an important issue;

• Increasing urbanization leading to a blurred urban-rural divide, resulting in almost a continuum which, when coupled with the excellent transportation facilities in the state, increases the area of operation and mobility of criminals and the possibility of their slipping off to unexpected parts;

• A sub-culture of a rather high level of consumption of alcohol amongst the people with social and criminal consequences; a significant increase in the population using narcotic substances and drugs.

• A vastly expanded services sector (like home delivery of articles, catering, home nursing etc), a significant part of which is still in the unorganized sector;

• Being a popular tourist destination, the presence of a large number of tourists (of both Indian and foreign origin) at any given point of time, requiring special attention of the Police;

• A fragile ecosystem and abundant forest wealth of the state lending itself to possibility of forest-related offences by unscrupulous elements;

• Very high vehicular density on its land-starved and rather narrow roads resulting in a large number of road accidents thereby complicating traffic management;

• Significant achievements in material conditions of living, reflected in the usual indicators of social development comparable to those of many developed countries, even though the state's per capita income remains low in comparison to them, leading to inherent contradictions; and finally.

• The presence of a mix of the modern and the traditional elements in every walk of life which result in situations like, for example, Techno parks exist alongside fish markets, spice trade centres, temples, churches or mosques.

On account of the unique characteristics of the state of Kerala, mentioned above, its Police service face many unique challenges which many other states of the country are not likely to face. Here, we discuss the current position of such challenges; how, in our reckoning, they are likely to develop in the years to come, and how we propose to respond to them. Altogether, we discuss our visions related to the various challenges in front of us.

OUR VISIONS RELATED TO RESPONDING TO HEIGHTENED ASPIRATIONS OF PEOPLE

High literacy, consequent social awareness and greater exposure to the world, for example, make the overall aspirations of the people in Kerala higher than what we find in other states of the country. People, rightfully so, expect a level of service delivery from the Police which ought to be comparable to what they believe exist (or have noticed) abroad. As the state marches ahead with development in the decade, aspirations of the people would also keep pace with it. We are committed to maintaining and improving upon our overall delivery of service. We are acutely aware that crime statistics are not always a true indicator of the quality of Policing. Above all, our perpetual endeavour is to become a Police service which inspires confidence even in the weakest of the weak; someone to whom the people look forward to bring them succour. Our Police stations have to become true "Service Delivery Centres". In order to make them true service delivery centres, we plan for setting up of better systems in front-line Police stations to provide better and fairer treatment and other services to the visitors. Also, we plan for developing customised web / mobile apps and procure the related gadgets for improving Public–Police relationships, for providing Police service to the public and also for creating the various Police databases.

OUR VISIONS RELATED TO RESPONDING TO EXCESSIVE POLITICAL PARTICIPATION AND ACTIVISM IN THE SOCIETY

The unique history of social and political developments in the state since its inception has had an important role to play in shaping the environment in which the Kerala Police functions. Greater political participation, awareness and activism of the people of the state means that the 'colonial' model of policing would simply become first counter-productive and then dysfunctional in Kerala. The 'colonial' model sought to perpetuate the paradigm of the 'ruler' and the 'ruled', in which the Police were identified closely with the 'rulers'. In effect, Police became the 'coercive arm' of the state. Kerala Police had already abandoned this model, long time ago. In fact, removing the vestiges of the 'colonial' model of policing was foremost in the designing of the Kerala Police Act, 2011. For Kerala

Police, the citizens are not people who always need to be 'controlled' by the Police. We do enforce the law but it does not mean that we have any intrinsic distrust of the people; nor do we view the citizens essentially as potential offenders.

Even then, Kerala Police are very much alive to the phenomenon of politically-motivated violence and other crimes. We are committed to being truly professional, answerable to the law, and holding the interests of the state and the society paramount.

OUR VISIONS RELATED TO ENSURING GREATER PARTICIPATION OF THE PEOPLE

While Kerala Police already have several schemes involving citizens and students in the business of policing, we plan to make them more interactive and more meaningful, subject to our limited resources. With this in mind, we plan to take all the stakeholders on board for more effective delivery. We ensure is that the people

should no longer remain just 'passive recipients' of the services rendered by the Police but are expected to get actively involved in the business of Police, in a responsible and accountable manner.

Even then, on every day, we may not be able to address all the service demands with the same priority. We intend to inform the people that, in the larger interests of the society, the utilisation of the Police resources are subject to triage or priority which, for example, means that, on any day, the Police are forced to prioritize the topics that they are suppose to address and are forced to allot more time and resources to those topics which appear at the top of the list.

We try to follow Democratic Policing. Democratic Policing aims to enhance the democratic status of the state by ensuring that Police Officers are responsive to public needs and priorities. A main feature of Democratic Policing is transparent Police Operations and a mutual sense of understanding and trust between the Public and Police services.

To enhance the co-operation with the public, Kerala Police have successfully implemented several Social Policing Schemes such as Janamaithri Suraksha Project (or Community Policing), Student Police Cadet, School Protection Group (SPG), Children and Police (CAP) etc.

1. The Janamaithri Suraksha Project:

Kerala is the first state to provide legal basis to Community Policing. Kerala Police Act 2011 provides provisions for Community Policing in their regular policing activities. Initiated on an experimental basis, the project has subsequently been

extended to all the Police Stations in the state. Janamaithri Suraksha Samithis (or Community Protection Groups) of Local Police Stations and also at the district-level facilitate consultative and Democratic Policing in Kerala.

The project has already received several national and international accolades.

The Kerala Police are committed to continue this system by fine-tuning it with the objective of meeting the upcoming public demands. And, we plan for strengthening the existing Community Policing System in all Police Stations in the State in collaboration with local self-government bodies also.

School Protection Group combines the efforts of the parents and teachers association and selected students under the watchful eyes of the SHO concerned to protect the schools from so called bad activities like selling of drugs, antisocial activities, fights and aggressions etc.

4. Children and Police (CAP):

The CAP platform is a platform of Kerala Police, for initiating and coordinating the various child-centred projects to ensure care, protection and development of children. The CAP House is envisioned as a State Level Resource Centre of Kerala Police to provide a conducive and nurturing environment for the Children of Kerala by ensuring strengthened implementation of its child-related initiatives.

One of the initiatives of CAP is the "Child Friendly Police Stations having Child Friendly Spaces". This initiative envisages the transformation of Police Stations as abodes of justice to provide effective, timely, and friendly services to children and their parents and guardians. The mission of 'Child Friendly Police Station' is to create an invisible wall of protection around every child through the active partnership of parents, teachers, relevant stake holders and society at large.

The concept of Child Friendly Police Stations has already been first piloted in ten Police Stations across Kerala by organising various capacity development programmes in collaboration with the UNICEF and also with the Women & Child Development department of the State Government. Around 5000 Police personnel have already been trained to develop child-friendly Police attitudes and skills. Subsequent to its success, the project has already been further extended to 110 Police Stations. Now, all these Police Stations offer child-friendly spaces. Every child-friendly Police Station is expected to operate on an affection – driven partnership model by strengthening co-ordination between

2. The Student Police Cadet (SPC) programme:

Focus on children is an essential component in the process of establishing greater trust between the Public and the Police. The Student Police Cadet (SPC) programme is a two-year intensive training project to develop responsible citizens. The training programme aims at inculcating respect for the law, self-discipline, civic sense, empathy for vulnerable sections of society and resistance to social evils in each cadet who is enrolled for the programme, brought on through a strong partnership between schools, teachers, Police and parents. The

programme is currently operational in 803 schools across the state with around 62,000 students studying in these schools are Student Police Cadets also.

After independent assessments of the programme, the State Institute of Educational Management and Training and also the multi-national giant KPMG reported that the SPC project has not only had a deeply positive impact on students, teachers, parents and Police personnel but has also helped the students and their parents to closely know that Kerala Police officers are responsive to public needs and priorities.

The Kerala Police are committed to widen the SPC network by including more schools in the network. Also, Kerala Police are committed to enhance the training programmes of the Student Police Cadets and keep such programmes at a state-of-the-art level.

3. School Protection Group (SPG):

The SPG programme is another social initiative of the Kerala Police. This is a collaborative programme between the Local Police and the school authorities for providing an invisible wall of protection around the schools in the state. . The

Government/Non-Government agencies responsible for the care and protection of children and civil society. We plan to extend the CAP project to all the Police stations in the state.

Moreover, we plan step up our ongoing efforts of helping the Local Self-Government bodies in all their activities related to the economically and socially weaker sections of the Society.

Some relevant Indicators:

• The effect of such programmes on the crime rate of state
• Number of houses visited by the Janamaithri Beat Officers
• Number of Janamaithri Suraksha Samithi meetings convened at Police station and also at the district level
• Number of cadets trained through SPC programme per year
• Number of schools to which the SPC programme is extended in every year
• Number of higher educational institutions to which the SPC programme is extended in every year
• Participation of parents, teachers and Police personnel in the implementation of SPC programme
• Independent evaluations and the related indexes of all Community Policing schemes and their sustainability and progress in achieving objectives
• Number of Police stations having child friendly space

OUR VISIONS RELATED TO COMMUNAL ENVIRONMENT IN THE STATE

The indications so far are that the so-called community-backed militant incidents in the state are not as much on account of any intrinsic hostility or animosity amongst the communities but more on account of their attempts to assert 'power' at local or state level. In other words, we have not been able to find out any fault lines integral to the body politic of the state in so far communal issues are concerned. We expect the situation in this regard to remain approximately at the same level in the times to come.

Moreover, as mentioned earlier, Kerala Police do not regard people as potential troublemakers. With this in mind, the Kerala Police plan to strive for a consultative and restorative role, rather than a merely punitive role in respect of communal incidents. We shall uphold the tenet that prevention is better than cure. In the event of any communal outbreak of violence or destruction, appropriate strong action will be taken without fear and favour. The RRRF Battalion will have a separate specialised wing to deal with communal violence.

OUR VISIONS RELATED TO THE SPECTRE OF FUNDAMENTALISM AND RADICALISATION

Generally speaking, the spectre of fundamentalism and radical philosophies, capable of rending the social fabric of even ancient nations apart, looms large on the horizon. Given the utmost ease with which such thoughts can now be spread over the Internet and the social media, the trends in this regard in the state is almost same as the trends elsewhere in the country and the world.

Left-wing extremism has existed in Kerala since the 1970s. Such extremism had assumed a radical, virulent and bloody form but was properly contained by the Kerala Police through vigorous Police actions. However, such an extremist movement has shown great resilience in Central India. During the last several decades, the extremists have already killed a large number of officers of the various state Police units and also of paramilitary forces. Even then, the extremists in the Central India are under Police surveillance. The Kerala Police are ever vigilant over the possibility of such extremists from elsewhere taking temporary shelters in the forests of Kerala till the Police pressure in the areas in which they are operating outside the state subsides. Many such incidents of them taking temporary shelters, mainly in the forests of Wayanad, Palakkad and

Malappuram districts, have already been reported. Such reports cause serious concerns for the state Police. Such threats of extremism demand enhanced intelligence, operations, area dominance and exploratory patrols in the jungles. Besides, they demand that we work in close cooperation with the forest department too. The Kerala Police intend to develop special-purpose units with specialized skills for unsupported stay in jungles and also for engaging in combats. Moreover, we plan for procuring better commando gadgets & other pieces of security equipment, sophisticated weapons for commando operations and also for implementing better logistics systems in the various Police stations in the areas that are affected by left-wing extremism. It would be unrealistic to expect that the people of the state would be able to keep themselves marooned from the influence of tumultuous events taking place in the country and elsewhere in the world. People in the state can also get influenced by the fundamentalist groups and can thus get radicalised because the fundamentalists and ideological extremists of any dispensation appeal to the sentiments of susceptible people, not their reason. We reckon that the above has a direct bearing on the internal security of the state.
Needless to say, those who are already subverted will indeed face legal actions. However, those who are potentially vulnerable or are in the process of getting

indoctrinated are best handled by seeking a remedial reversal of the process. We handle such influences in some innovative ways besides the conventional methods. Even by continuing the intelligence collection on subversion and subverted elements, we counter such subversive influence exactly where it strikes a chord in the hearts of the vulnerable people and take actions to de-radicalise such vulnerable people. This can be made clearer thus: Kerala Police have already adopted and successfully implemented a comprehensive approach in which the community itself has to play an important role in the act of early spotting of vulnerable people by noticing behavioural changes in them. The Police then give counselling to such vulnerable people with the help of progressive religious leaders and also community leaders and not just with the help of rational lectures by the Police or any other Government agency. In this way, several hundreds of such vulnerable or already radicalised people have already been identified and were already given counselling. Almost 95% of them were later found leading "normal" life.

In short, in this decade too, we plan to move ahead with our de-radicalisation and counter-radicalisation projects. And, families and society will be roped in by the Police for assistance in tackling these issues.

Some relevant Indicators:

- Number of incidents of LWE
- Availability of specially trained Police force
- Availability of the necessary weaponry and training infrastructure
- Availability of intelligence inputs
- Availability of Counter Intelligence Mechanisms
- Presence of a fully sanctioned SOG in Kerala Police

OUR VISIONS RELATED TO COMBATING ORGANISED CRIME

Organised Crimes reported in Kerala include drug abuse, human trafficking, gold smuggling, currency smuggling, money laundering, Hawala transactions, illegal liquor transactions & illegal sand mining. The key elements of the strategy to address such organized crimes include mechanisms

- To keep such crimes within reasonable bounds
- To keep such criminal elements under relentless law-enforcement
- To obviate or at least reduce the large possibilities of such unattached criminal networks
- To strengthen the Intelligence setup

- To strengthen the Kerala State Anti Narcotic Special Force (KANSAF) and its district counter parts (DANSAF)
- To setup Special Investigation Units with strong technological backup in the State Crime Branch
- To robustly and continuously monitor the social media with the objective of preventing the social media from abuses by such criminals
- To suggest stronger laws to prevent such crimes

Some relevant Indicators:

- Detection rate
- Disposal rate
- Conviction rate (as a factor related to successful prosecution)
- Availability of modern forensic test facilities

OUR VISIONS RELATED TO RESPONDING TO THE THREAT OF TERRORISM

Terrorism assumes a special significance in the context of Kerala because the people of the state have greater opportunities to interact with subverted elements and possible 'recruiters' of terrorist groups in the course of their frequent visits abroad. This trend is likely to intensify in the coming decade. Kerala Police are very much alive to the possibility of those who go abroad getting initiated into subversive ideologies and tactics and then subverting others in one-to-one interactions when they come back home. Countering the threat from such elements requires a comprehensive approach. While checking on one-to-one interactions is difficult, group interactions can indeed be checked. We intend to intensively monitor social media for this purpose.

The spectre of terrorism is intimately related to the issue of coastal security which has been discussed below. Kerala Police plan to prepare itself extensively and elaborately for acquiring the capability to take on armed terrorists on its own in case a terrorist strike does take place here. For this, we propose to raise a well-equipped and highly-trained Special Force, capable of undertaking operations on its own in urbanized areas, rural areas,

jungles or mountainous terrains. Given the high density of population as well as built-up structures in the state, a primary concern of this Special Force would be to keep collateral damage to a minimum. We plan for better facilities for training to tackle left-wing extremism, terrorist incidents & the related disaster management.

OUR VISIONS RELATED TO THE CONCERNS OF COASTAL SECURITY

After 26/11 Mumbai attacks, Kerala Police are acutely aware of the concerns of coastal security. The state has a rather long coastline of 660 km. This is dotted with numerous jetties and boat landing centres. We do appreciate that it is difficult to keep all of them under round-the-clock surveillance or monitor every single vessel and person making ingress or egress. Then more than 27,700 registered vessels operate in the coastal waters of Kerala alongside a large number of un-registered vessels. There can be possibilities of sneaking in of an alien vessel, disguised as an Indian vessel commandeering an Indian vessel coming in.

A comprehensive Coastal Security Scheme was introduced in India in 2008. This scheme focuses on policing the Indian coastline and protecting the coastline against infiltration, intrusion and other illegal activities. Needless to say, the Kerala Police too are stakeholders in this scheme by working in tandem with the various Central and other State agencies. Thus, the Coastal Police, Indian Navy, Coast Guard and Fisheries Department and the State Police jointly function to ensure the coastal security of the nation. The Ministry of Home Affairs sanctioned 24 Coastal Police Stations in the state on three phases of Coastal Security Scheme out of which 18 are now operational. A full-fledged coastal Police Headquarters at Cochin is under construction. In addition, the law and order Police Stations located on the coast will be given some marine capability by giving them a small safe motorized boat, which can go up to 2 km into the sea, so that nearby coastal areas can be patrolled effectively.

Since it is almost impossible to keep a watch on individual vessels, the Kerala Police propose to obtain technology-intensive solutions for coastal security. In addition, the various "Kadalora Jagratha Samithis" (in other words, committees of people living in coastal areas) are already operational and do function in close liaison with the Police to pass on valuable intelligence to the Police, such committees also act as the "Security Eyes" throughout coast. All these systems will be further strengthened.

All these do not mean that the coastal Police in Kerala are full-fledged and completely operational. There are still some infrastructural needs that must be met as part of the state action plan. Some of these needs are listed below.

• To make coastal security an identifiably separate unit of Kerala Police
• To create Coastal Police State Control Room with appropriate manpower and state of the art equipment and technology
• To implement monitoring of entry and exit points through ANPR and Face Recognition System at Borders and Landing Points
• To develop a mechanism for comprehensive annual maintenance of boats of Coastal Police
• To start a Coastal Security School in Kerala Police for imparting training to coastal security personnel and also for making them practically exposed to the situations in the sea, all with the support of the Navy and Coast Guard.
• To develop Security Check Posts, in collaboration with local communities, at landings in order to prevent infiltration-related threats from extremists, terrorists, and smugglers through the sea.
• To acquire electronic devices, satellite service, Google mapping data etc. for strengthening the surveillance of the entire coast line
• To increase the mobility of coastal Police by inducting high speed automated boats capable of cruising through the sea
• To induct the basic marine support systems (including small boats) in the other Police stations

Some relevant Indicators:

• Availability of skilled Coastal Police Wardens
• Availability of different types of equipment to perform basic coastal Police duties
• Frequency of Police patrolling along the coast and also in the sea
• Ability to handle the sea-related disasters and crisis
• Ability to mobilize the support of other relevant stake holders such as Navy, Coast Guard etc.
• Flow of information and cooperation from fishermen folk
• Availability of a robust intelligence acquisition mechanism

OUR VISIONS RELATED TO SECURITY OF THE WOMEN AND THE ELDERLY

The safety of children, women and the elderly is an important matter of concern not only for the society at large but also for the Kerala Police, for multiple reasons. Firstly, because of a large number of males working abroad, more than a quarter of Kerala's households are headed by women without a grown up male member. Secondly, the state has a very large number of working women, many of whom are forced to live away from their homes leaving their children at the mercy of others. Thirdly, thanks to the relatively good health care services in the state, many elderly people are alive and residing in the state and many of them are living alone. Moreover, with their grown-up children having opted to settle abroad, many elderly people are left to live alone. All such people can be crime targets also.

All these things make the safety of women, children and the elderly an important matter of concern for the society in general and the Police in particular (as the Police are also in charge of certain social services like the Janamaithri project). By all accounts, the number of such women and the elderly is likely to only increase in future. Kerala Police are committed to shoulder this responsibility in a big way. While the conventional systems are very much in place, we propose to lay special emphasis on an innovative implementation of the Nationwide Emergency Response System, Pink patrols (or patrolling of women Police officers), Pink beats (or beats of the women Police officers), Hot line connects between elders with Police stations etc.

Moreover, we plan for introducing better systems for ensuring that Police stations are friendly towards the differently-abled, transgenders, children, women, elderly etc and also for making all the Police stations in the state better Child- Friendly and Disabled-Friendly before 2025. Finally, we plan for further strengthening the existing Senior Citizen Help Desk in all Police Stations.

Some relevant Indicators:

• Availability of facilities (in the Police stations) which are child – friendly, disabled – friendly, women – friendly and senior – citizen – friendly (Target: In 100% Police stations during the next 5 years)

• Reduction in crime against women (Target: 10% reduction in two years; 20% in 5 years; 50% in 10 years)
• Identification and Policing of black spots of crimes against women.
• Availability of Conflict Resolution Centres for improving the response of Police to incidents of domestic violence
• Availability of a separate space in all Police Stations where women can report their problems
• Availability of counselling in all Police stations on all days.

OUR VISIONS RELATED TO MAINSTREAMING WOMEN POLICE

Presently, women in Kerala Police comprise 7.62 % of the total strength. While this percentage is comparable well with the national average of 6.11%, it still falls way short of the already declared national objective of raising it to 33%. However, the Kerala Police are meticulously planning to achieve the declared national objective by systematically raising it to 33%. Hitherto, the subordinate ranks of the women Police personnel in Kerala have been used primarily for 'handling' women members of the public in the course of law and order management; and for other statutory duties such as prisoner escort

involving accused and criminals. The underlying presumption and the overwhelming consideration in using them for such purposes was to uphold the dignity of women at the receiving end and also to preclude the possibility of allegations of misbehaviour or molestation of women at the hands of male Police personnel.
We believe that the security scenario of the country and the state, particularly as it has developed over the past decade necessitates that women in Police involve themselves in all aspects of policing also. Inclusion of other duties will necessarily throw up complex challenges.

Kerala Police plan to accord women in the Police more meaningful roles in the future. All

law-and-order Police Stations and other Police stations, mainly Railway Police Stations, ATS Police Station, Traffic Police Stations etc. will have adequate women Police officials. The Women Police Battalion of the Kerala Police is already functional. Moreover, the mixed Women Police Battalion, namely KAP 6th Bn., will have both men and women Police officials in it. A new IR Bn. will also be formed with both men and women manning it. Apart from the already available women commando unit as part of the Special Operations Group, another group, namely, Avenger Commandos, which has already been formed, will also have a women section. Every Cyber Cell and every Cyber Crime Police Stations will have women Police officers posted in them.

We believe that the empowerment of women must not be reduced to a manufactured symbolism of some 'traditional' or supposedly 'womanly' duties. Women Police personnel shall be empowered truly by enlarging the scope of the duties performed by them.

In line with this and for any kind of

Police response, Kerala Police strongly supported and have already implemented the concept of mixed teams, years ago, for three reasons: Firstly, it provides valuable professional experience to the new women Police personnel. Secondly, it boosts their self-esteem. Thirdly, it is only fair that any Police officer, whether

male or female, shoulder the responsibility of Policing, equally. The concept of mixed teams will strongly continue in the years to come.

We plan to hold self-defence training programmes not only for women in Police but also for women at large.

OUR VISIONS RELATED TO THE ISSUE OF MIGRANT LABOURERS

With increasing standards of living in the state and a large number of men and women working abroad, the state has been witnessing a shortage of manual labourers. This gap has been filled by migrant labour from other states. A problem with migrant labour is that they are almost completely in the unorganized sector (or their ingress, recruitment, appointments, employment conditions etc are all mostly disorganised and undocumented).

Also, these migrant labourers may only be involved in short term unskilled work that does not require any documentation of personal details. Such a disorganisation makes it very difficult to access their personal details of origin, status and background. Other states are often slow and poorly responsive to such information requests from Kerala Police. Although the Kerala Police do not impute the migrant labourers with any inherent criminal proclivity, it is alive to the fact that the measure of anonymity and vagueness of identity that accrues naturally to a migrant labourer might provoke the susceptible amongst them to cross the line. Kerala Police are also alive to the public outrage that ensues following the involvement of any migrant labourer in any heinous crime. The problem lends itself well to conventional Police methods (like making the labour contractor responsible, etc.). We propose to devise means to establish better liaison with other states for eliciting prompt responses from them. ICJS Platform will be increasingly used.

OUR VISIONS RELATED TO INCREASED MOBILITY OF CRIMINALS AND THE PHENOMENON OF FIRST–TIME OFFENDERS

Increasing urbanization in the state has resulted in a blurred urban – rural divide — it is a continuum now. This, coupled with the excellent transportation facilities in the state has resulted in much greater mobility of criminals. It is absolutely easy for criminals to exit even the state itself, in a matter of minutes to within a couple of hours depending on his location.

The traditional methods of crime detection have depended heavily on the concept of a habitual or compulsive offender who was expected to confine his activities to a limited area and moreover, was almost compelled to adopt the same technique most of the time, thereby making himself / herself open to conventional terms like 'modus operandi'. The entire system of finger print analysis depends on the concept that the criminal would be a repeat offender whose finger prints obtained earlier would help the Police to nab him on subsequent occasions. This whole concept collapses for first offenders, that is, those who are committing crime for the first time and do not have any finger print record with the Police. Such offenders can get out of the state rapidly and disappear into far off states. There are reasons to believe that many criminals now belong to this category and this category is likely to take over the 'old' category.

Both these phenomena pose new and difficult challenges for the Police. Kerala Police plan to rely more and more on sophisticated forensic tools and techniques to deal with such cases.

OUR VISIONS RELATED TO SAFE AND SECURE TOURISM

The southern Indian state of Kerala is a popular tourist destination. Located along the Arabian Sea, the state enjoys unique geographical features that attract tourists. Based on the feedbacks from the tourists, many major tourist-favoured spots have already been located and maintained in the various parts of Kerala.

Fondly referred to as "God's Own Country", Kerala was selected by the National Geographic Traveller as one of the 50 destinations of a lifetime and one of the thirteen paradises in the world. As a result all of these, around 1,57,65,390 tourists visited Kerala during 2017, marking an increase of 10.94% against the previous year. Kerala earned around Rs. 8392.11 crores of foreign exchange in 2017, marking an increase of 8.29 % against the previous year. Because of all these, if tourists become victims of offences, it has a direct bearing on the revenue as well as the reputation of the state as a safe tourist destination.

As such, issues concerning tourists are important to Kerala Police because a lot is at stake here. For the sustenance of this bustling and important industry that majorly contributes to the state's economy, the Kerala Police are bound to prevent such illegal activities, provide security and safety to the tourists and also to specially maintain law and order in the various tourism locations in the state.

Kerala Police had created a special Tourist Police with a distinctive uniform long-time ago for 24x7 surveillance of the tourist spots. We plan to establish Special Police Stations cum Assistance Centres in all tourist spots and also to impart better linguistic skills to these (mostly bilingual or rarely trilingual) Police officers with the objective of making them effective in their communication with the tourists. Additionally we propose to induct Tourist Police Wardens for each tourist destination in addition to starting Tourist Police Facilitation Centres. The ultimate aim of the Tourism Police is to strengthen their band with officers and wardens who can provide safe and secure tourism and also who can translate from and to major Indian and foreign languages and also to provide facilities for the tourists to articulate their complaints in languages of their choice.

Some relevant Indicators:

• Number of criminal complaints by tourists
• Satisfaction index of the tourists (Regular Surveys)
• The number of incoming tourists.

OUR VISIONS RELATED TO TRAFFIC MANAGEMENT & ROAD ACCIDENTS

Recent official estimates reveal that there are over 8.6 lakh vehicles running on its roads. They include nearly 64,000 vehicles meant either for public transport or for transporting goods, about 6.04 lakh motorcycles and about 1.89 lakhs cars.

The causes for road accidents include road-related causes etc. The remedial measures include stringent video-recorded driving tests, continuing education in proper driving habits, effective actions on drunken-driving, CCTV coverage of vulnerable spots, speed radar checks, removal of improperly placed roadside hoardings, more vehicles mounted withcameras with instant recording and live streaming facilities, more control rooms for receiving and processing such streamed video images etc.

Remedial measures for reducing traffic accidents are classified as given in the table below.

Remedial measures for reducing traffic accidents	
Cause	**Remedial measure**
Road-Related Causes	• Location wise accident analysis • 'Black spot' specific enforcement • Networking for rectifying the shortfalls in road engineering • Strengthening 'Highway Jagratha Samithis' (People's Participation) • Addressing the problem of improperly placed roadside hoardings
Driver/Driving Related Causes	• Stringent enforcement of motor vehicle laws. • Effective and continuing education in proper driving habits • Networking for Stringent video-recorded driving tests to ensure qualified drivers; Night driving tests on the road. • CCTV coverage replete with warnings • Speed radar checks replete with warnings • Strict enforcement of fines for not using helmets and other protective measures such as seat belts • Monitoring the behavior and fitness of drivers of school vehicles • Monitoring of unfit vehicles including for transportation of children • Alco – buses for checking drunken driving.

We plan to induct a more sophisticated Integrated Traffic Management System (ITMS) and also to enhance our Highway Policing Systems such as Highway Beacons, Cheetah Patrols etc.

Some relevant Indicators:

• Number of accidents, injuries, deaths, timing of deaths, gender and age distribution of injuries and deaths

• Safety performance indicators with reference to select risk factors of speeding viz. alcohol, and helmet use.

• Reduction in road accidents per year (Target: 10 % reduction every year ahead)

• Pendency of traffic-related cases under investigation (Target: below 5% per annum)

• Availability of Traffic Education Parks in all major cities/towns

• Availability of an Integrated Traffic Management System that administers traffic and surveillance cameras throughout state including along national highways

Because of various factors related the geography, traffic engineering, difficulty in acquiring land for road-widening etc., the development of road infrastructure in the state seems to be in slow pace. Because of all these, the vehicle density (that means, the number of vehicles per square km) has increased abnormally. For example, the traffic density in terms of PCU (Passenger Car Unit) at peak hour at some of the black spots in the state easily crosses 3500 which is much higher than that in most other states in the country.

Alarmingly, 2979 persons died in Kerala in 2020 in road accidents. This high death-toll can have a direct connection with the lack of traffic SAFETY awareness as well as sense of accountability among the residents in the state and also with lack of cameras at the traffic-hotspots. These connections can be made clearer thus: In a survey conducted in some large cities in Kerala, about 47% respondents accepted that they often avoid wearing a helmet while riding two-wheelers. About 87% respondents accepted that they often avoid wearing helmet while being pillion-riders. About 65% respondents accepted that they often avoid wearing seat-belt while driving a car. Only 25% respondents are aware that children too should be made to wear helmet while travelling on two-wheelers.

Again, this high death-toll can have a direct connection with the lack of extensive camera-surveillance. Interestingly, 54% respondents of the survey felt that they often ensure that they follow traffic rules in areas that are under camera surveillance. Although several traffic hotspots in the state are under camera surveillance, it is expected that more such hotspots will be identified and put under camera surveillance.

61% respondents of the survey felt that more cameras will evidentially prove involvement, leading on to successful prosecution in traffic offences and thus result in more punishments. It will also prevent shady attempts to extricate/disentangle. So, traffic management with the objective of reducing the incidence of road accidents is a multi-dimensional problem and the Kerala Police intend to tackle it in a holistic manner under the State Security Action Plan.

OUR VISIONS RELATED TO RESPONDING TO FOREST RELATED OFFENCES

Nearly 28.9% area of the state is covered with forests, making it rich in forest wealth and biodiversity. The State has 6 National Parks, 12 Wild life Sanctuaries, 2 Bird Sanctuary and 2 Tiger Reserves. At present, the some forest areas in the state are vulnerable to crimes. Kerala Police have always been in close co-operation with the Forest Department to protect its wildlife as well as forest produce. This co-operation, as has already been mentioned in connection with the threat of left-wing extremism, will be strengthened in future. A Wildlife Crime Investigation Wing will be opened in Police.

OUR VISIONS RELATED TO RESPONDING TO DISASTERS

In this part, we discuss the possibility of disasters, their consequences, and what the Police can and intend to do, pre facto and post facto.

The state is susceptible to natural disasters of various kinds like the tsunami, floods during monsoon, landslides etc. In addition, the state is susceptible to several types of man-made disasters too like the train accidents, boat tragedies, industrial accidents, fire accidents, aircraft accidents etc. Disasters cause sudden and overwhelming destructions, extensive deaths, serious injuries, economic crisis etc.

We believe that modern disaster management is much more than emergency response and relief. It is based on the principle that we, with our technological progress and knowledge, can indeed do something about lessening the potential for substantial loss of life and property. Our disaster management strategy involves adoption and implementation of policies and measures addressing the four phases of a disaster: planning and preparation, response, recovery, and mitigation. In order to implement these four phases, we plan to enhance our skill-set by enhancing our technological strength and with the help of specially trained citizens like disaster management wardens, disaster relief wardens, civil

defence volunteers etc. Besides, we intend to formulate better plans to mitigate, as far as possible, the carnage and damage which inevitably follow a disaster and to restore normalcy as soon as possible.

Some relevant Indicators:

- Promptness in response and also providing rescue and relief operations
- Efficiency to respond, to rescue, and also to provide relief during disasters
- Fatalities & injuries during distress
- Availability of training facilities on Disaster Management

OUR VISIONS RELATED TO LAW & ORDER AND PUBLIC ORDER MANAGEMENT

Law & Order and Public Order Management have been consanguineous with the Police for historical reasons. We do not expect any radical change in the Law & Order or public order scenario in the next decade of the millennium. Our basic objective is that maintenance of Law & Order and public order should be at minimum loss of lives and property.

Knowing the fact that immediate and substantial increase in Police station strength is not possible as desired, due to financial implications, each Panchayath will have either a physical Police station or a Virtual Smart Police station, which can deliver services to the people living in that panchayath. Similarly in the cities and towns, each ward will have an interactive smart Police kiosk for public to interact directly with the Police to get various services.

Among the Indian states and union territories, Kerala has been (and still is) continuously at the first rank in the maintenance of Law & Order and Public Order Management (Public Affairs Index, State's report by India Today and 2021 assessment by India Today) for several years now. No major religion-centred crime incident has been reported in Kerala during the last several years. This may well be due to the prompt action on and meticulous investigation of even petty crimes. The figures in the table below would help the readers to get the crime trends in Kerala during the past four decades.

Year	Murder	Burglary	Total IPC	Total Special & Local Laws
1980	500	4,540	47,641	3,444
1990	554	4,800	68,698	6,951
2000	465	4,321	99,033	23,529
2010	363	2,682	1,48,313	2,25,458
2017	305	2,380	2,35,846	4,17,654
2018	292	2,389	1,86,958	3,25,209
2019	323	2,293	1,75,810	2,77,273
2020 (provisional)	303	1,663	1,56,955	3,98,061

Source: Crime in India data collected from DCRBx

The table reveals that, over the recent years there has been a tremendous decline in grave crimes reported in the state. At the same time, there is huge increase in the registration of offences under Indian Penal Code (IPC) and Special and Local Laws (SLL). Although the table does not reveal, the number of IPC cases per lakh of population is more than five times that of large states such as Uttar Pradesh. In other words, the Kerala Police register a huge number of written complaints as petitions, conduct enquiries and achieve dispute resolution and thus achieve overall crime prevention. The Kerala Police will continue this strategy during the upcoming decade too. In addition, for better public-order management, we plan

1. For deploying better vehicles to Police Stations including better special purpose Vehicles like BP Vehicles, Water Cannons and All-Terrain Vehicles etc.

2. For establishing full-fledged techno driven Command and Control Rooms in all Police Districts with Video Conferencing facility up to Police Station level

3. For establishing better CCTV systems with remote monitoring in all Police Stations

4. For deploying more GPS Devices and Mobile Data Terminals in all Police Vehicles

Some relevant Indicators:

- Number of lives lost in the various law and order violation situations.
- Quantum of different types of public and private assets damaged.
- Conviction rate (as a mark of successful prosecution)
- Availability of necessary protective gears for use as and when necessary
- Availability of mini Control Rooms in Police stations for facilitating 24x7 monitoring.
- Control Room based prompt and Smart Policing
- Sense of safety and security among the public

OUR VISIONS RELATED TO THE THREAT OF CYBER CRIME

Kerala, having a very widespread use of computers, mobiles and electronic gadgets is naturally prone to cybercrime. Kerala has the highest mobile penetration with more than 45.09 million connections for a population of 33 million (as on June 2020) and with internet connections in more than one-third of the households. Out of the 78.35 lakh households, 39.17 lakh have at least one family member who knows how to operate a computer.

The rate of cyber-crime is on the rise, exponentially, in the state, thanks to the onset of digital economy, the spread of digital administration, the wide popularity of social media and also the availability of the different digital means of communication. According to Police records, the state witnesses at least one cybercrime in every two hours. Cybercrime can become extremely dangerous when it happens in the domains of abuse of Air Traffic Control Systems and Health Care Systems. Data and Information security of both Government and Private firms are also a great concern.

Victims of cybercrime are found amongst all sections of the society but women and adolescents are particularly prone to be victims of the threat. Responding to this, the state already has a specialized unit for investigation of cybercrime. A most unique contribution of the Kerala Police to the business of fighting cybercrimes is the concept of Cyber Dome. This is an excellent example of no-cost PPP (Public-Private Partnership). Since the threat of cybercrimes is likely to increase in the future, we intend to expand and enrich the Cyber Dome initiative. We will have Cyber Cells in all the Police Stations, which will have adequate strength and will have skilled officials. The cyber crime Police stations will be made more efficient, skilled and will be given more manpower. Ultimately a separate and distinct "Cyber Crime Investigation Division – CCID" will be formed in the State to handle the cyber crimes effectively. Moreover, we plan for establishing a Social Media Analytical Centre (like the COSMOS in New Delhi).

Some relevant Indicators:

- Availability of facilities for prompt and scientific response to cyber crimes.
- Availability of cyber forensic capabilities in all Police Stations.
- Availability of Cyber Forensic Labs in all Regional Forensic Labs& District Forensic Labs
- Availability of technically-strong District Cyber Cells& District Cyber Crime Police Stations.
- Availability of Cyber Forensic Vans
- Availability of State Cyber Forensic Lab
- Capacity of a State Cyber Task Force and District Cyber Task Force with the latest know-how to deal with cyber related issues
- Increased awareness among all in the society on safe and effective use of cyber space
- Increased effectiveness of Cyber Domes
- Cyber Crime & Cyber Security handling through co-operation (or Public-Private-Participation mode)

OUR VISIONS RELATED TO INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY FOR POLICING

Information and Communication Technology has always been advancing fast. As a result, its impacts on the various other fields too have been advancing fast. The field of Policing is no exception.

Technology for policing has several dimensions such as:

(1)   Technology for Law & Order

(2)   Technology for Crime Investigation

(3)   Technology for Forensics

(4)   Technology for Intelligence

(5)   Technology for Community Policing

(6)   Technology for Pink Policing

(7)   Technology for Crime Records Bureau

Modern technology products have been (and still are) available in all these areas of policing and have undoubtedly helped the Kerala Police to step-up their Policing skill-set, especially during the just ended decade of 2011-2020. These products include modern computers in all the Police stations in Kerala, the online communication facilities there, the various Policing Apps in use, social media platforms etc.

During the next one decade, such existing technology products will give way to better and advanced ones and, accordingly, can be expected to put Kerala Police in an advantageous situation (where they will benefit more from these newer technologies) and, at the same time, in a demanding situation (where they will be forced to step-up their basic skills to adapt to these newer technologies) also.

Technology for crime and criminal information management (like information collection, preservation, processing and reporting for better decision-making) can be one of the key areas where Kerala Police will have to invest more during 2021-2030. These include AI-based technologies, Big Data Repository technologies, cyber surveillance technologies etc.

AI-based technologies are expected to become more useful for the Policemen to cleverly, easily and automatically collect data, preserve the collected data, process the data to produce useful information and report the information for better prediction and decision-making. During all these processes, modern technology products such as better flexible displays, dual-screen laptops, faster primary and secondary storage devices etc. are all expected to become available and handy to them. Better technologies for state-owned central Big Data Repositories of CCTV footages of the individual state-owned CCTV systems (and sometimes, even private-owned CCTV systems also) across the state are also expected to get implemented for the benefit of both crime investigators and jail authorities of the country.

Technological tools which are based on Data Science and which enable Big-data and algorithm-driven policing are expected to become a part of the Kerala Police. Such an expectation is because such a kind of Police surveillance in the cyber space has the capacity to predict future crimes and also to generate a virtual "most-wanted" list of those who commit crimes and, thus, to remain beneficial to the society (although modern surveillance through Data Science, Big-data and algorithm-driven policing has already been projected as a threat to personal security, privacy and constitutional rights of citizens).

Another major change that is expected in the Kerala Police is that there will be a significant need for every Police Officer to develop basic digital skills for the new age of policing with the objective of identifying and processing the cyber elements in the various crimes. Also, there will be need for raising cyber experts from the efficient women Police officers in the state. In addition, there will be a significant need to recruit and incorporate into the Kerala Police, a band of qualified Cyber Security & Forensics engineers to assist crime investigation and surveillance. These specialized techies are to be recruited by and incorporated into the current Police system in the state through special recruitment-drives with the objective of strengthening the cyber policing units. And, there will be a significant need for both the

existing officers and the newly recruited techies to be trained to handle cyber evidence not only by following the cyber forensic standards but also by following the legal standards like Section 65B of the Indian Evidence Act. Technology for Policing (especially for community policing) during 2021–30 is expected to be adapted by the Police in tune with the changes happening in the cyber social media also. As the various governments across the world are gearing up to regulate the platform-monopolies of the GAAF (Google, Amazon, Apple, Facebook) in their countries for better social and civic safety and security, the Police too will have to adapt skill-set to implement such government regulations. For example, the Police will have to gear up to effectively implement the regulations like the Information Technology (Guidelines for Intermediary and Digital Media Ethics Code) Rules, 2021.

OUR VISION ON SCIENTIFIC INVESTIGATION

Presently, scientific investigation relies on the knowledge of the Police personnel on the field, as well as on the availability of Scientific Officers (Forensic Experts) either in the districts or at the state centres. We plan to introduce a Scientific Investigation Model where a

Scientific Unit is available at the beck and call of every Police Station in tune with the "clue team" of the Hyderabad City Police. Every such team will have Police Officers who are sufficiently skilled to forensically assist crime investigators. By 2022, we plan to create such teams in every Police Station in the state. In addition, we plan

1. For introducing Digital Mobile Radio Communication system across the state in a phased manner by covering 3 districts in every year.

2. For establishing Forensic Science Laboratories in all the districts

3. For establishing a DNA Lab and Cyber Forensic Stations in all Forensic Science Laboratories and also for setting up Mobile Forensic Labs (in special-purpose vehicles) for all Sub Divisions

4. For upgrading Automated Finger Print Identification System with Dossier Centres at Police Stations

OUR VISION ON POLICE TRAINING

The Kerala Police already have fairly good academic facilities for Police training in the Kerala Police Academy (KEPA) and also in the Police Training College. However, we plan to make the existing training systems better

1. By introducing Soft Skill Development in the Police training Syllabi
2. By introducing better e-learning systems (with 24x7 learning facilities) and more smart-classrooms in all Kerala Police Training institutions.
3. By establishing two more Police Training Colleges; one in north Kerala and the other in one of the southern districts.
4. By commencing of Police Training Centres in all districts some of which are proposed to be specialised training centres namely Traffic Training School, Police

Telecom Training Centre, Coastal Security Training School, Training Centre for Operations in Water Bodies, Commando Training Centre (in South Zone), High Altitude Training Centre, Police Training Colleges (one in north Kerala and the other in one of the southern districts), Training & Research Centre for Community Policing, Police Technology Centre etc.

Also, through regular training, we plan for bringing in a paradigm change in the way subordinates are treated in the hierarchy of the Police and also for creating a better atmosphere of respect and trust within.

OUR VISIONS RELATED TO THE POLICE-RELATED RESEARCH

This decade is expected to see that a Police Research Centre is set up in the state with specific aims and objectives and does get effectively incorporated into the Kerala Police. Firstly, it is expected to build an effective bridge between the Officers of the Kerala Police and the researchers in the related fields (for eg. Law & Order, Investigation, Intelligence, Forensics, Management etc.) working across the world. Secondly, the centre is expected to co-ordinate and/or carry-out research in the various fields related to Policing with the ultimate objective of scientifically upgrading Policing activities in Kerala with an international perspective. Thirdly, the Research Centre is expected to publish journal and books and also to encourage the Veteran Police Officers to share their career-related experiences through scholarly research papers, articles and books for the benefit of their younger colleagues. This Research Centre is expected to become a venue for carrying out research on Cyber Policing and also for raising cyber experts from the efficient women Police officers in the country.

Also, this Research Centre is expected to bring in better technology for better monitoring, for efficient feedback collection and also for updating the existing performance standards and benchmarks at par with the international standards.

OUR VISION ON HOW TO OVERCOME THE VARIOUS FACTORS THAT LIMIT OUR PROFESSIONAL GROWTH DURING 2021–30

Just as any other Police force, Kerala Police too suffer from various limitations. These limitations stand in the way of efficient service delivery to the citizens. Such limitations have various factors which are either internal or external.

Internal factors are those that arise largely from sub-cultural and historical continuities of the various Police sub-systems in the state. Such factors include non-updated recruitment policies, outdated management policies, manpower deployment strategies etc. which often result in lack of state-of-the-art systems to quickly and effectively deploy the existing material and manpower resources of the Police, insufficient cyber-skilled Police officers, insufficient victim support systems (including systems for psychological counselling, de-radicalisation etc.), lack of proper systems for the public to know the status of their complaints / service requests etc.

External factors are those that arise from the ecosystem in which the Police operate. Such factors include budgetary, legal and other government constraints, non-awareness of the public about the proper manner and method of obtaining Police services etc.

Many such limitations and ways to overcome such limitations have already been discussed in the previous pages of this vision document. A few more such ways are mentioned below.

1. A Comprehensive Resource Audit:

Section 6 of the Kerala Police Act, 2011 mandates that Government shall, subject to the resources available, ensure that every Police Station has adequate manpower and infrastructure facilities to provide basic Police services to all who need the same. It also requires that the State Police Chief shall arrange to review every year the adequacy of facilities available in every Police

Station in the State and to take steps to establish facilities which confirm to proper standards. We have always conducted such reviews in the past. However, we plan to be stricter on such matters by assessing the existing gaps between the available resources and the requirements, annually, in the month of January, first by the District Police Chiefs and then by the State Police Chief.

2. Criminal Justice Reforms Commission:

Most legislative changes / Law Commissions examine the Criminal Justice System from a legalistic point of view, and do not engage effectively with the multiple stakeholders (like the Police) in the system. A Criminal Justice Reforms Commission, which would set out the object of the criminal justice process, and tailor the working of the crimial justice actors to the object, is needed to bring in a paradigm change in the Criminal Justice Service Delivery. Since Criminal Law and Criminal Procedure are in the concurrent list, the State Government would be well within its rights to examine the existing criminal procedure. Therefore a Criminal Justice Reforms Commission has already been proposed to be constituted for 10 years (2021-2030) as a permanent commission.

3. Auditing of People Friendly Measures:

The various community policing strategies and people-friendly measures of Kerala Police have already been widely appreciated by the public. In order to achieve better community policing and people-friendliness, we plan to conduct regular audits of the related schemes and study their impacts.

4. Victim Support Systems:

The criminal justice system is only, recently, veering around to the view that the victims are the central element of the Criminal Justice System. With such a view, it is important that the Police too are empowered and the Police systems too are re-designed with the objective of implementing the necessary support systems for the victims of the various crimes to receive psychological counselling, insurance support etc. (just as

some advanced democracies offer in crimes related to real-estate properties or if the stolen property could not be recovered from the criminals)

5. Process Re-engineering of Police Processes:

Most of the existing Police processes are manpower intensive. In this age of technology, it is essential that such processes in the Kerala Police are properly re-engineered with the objective of re-deploying the excess manpower to other useful and creative pursuits. Outsourcing of some routine, non-confidential activities will also be considered. For all these, an in-house committee will be constituted & its recommendations will be considered for implementation.

All the above do form part of our Vision Statement.

With such a Vision, we plan to achieve the entire objectives mentioned above through the recent Kerala State Security Plan of Action (KSSPA). This plan envisions a state where people live and work in safety and security within a peaceful and non-violent ecosystem. The main goal set by the KSSPA is a Responsive, Accountable, Democratic Police System which provides people with different backgrounds the scope and ability to seek timely and appropriate redress for the issues that threaten societal justice, safety and security of the community. The KSSPA is based on curtail cardinal values, namely zero tolerance for crimes and violence against person or property, acceptance of a pluralistic democracy, respect for the rule of law, and respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms. Within this framework, KSSPA takes an approach which seems best in the best interests of the public/community.

Our Resolution

As the state is poised to step into the third decade of the 21st century, Kerala Police, being fully alive to the challenges that lie ahead and also being one of the most socially progressive Police Services in the country, are all set and determined to answer the 'Call of Duty'.

We Resolve

- To deliver more than what is expected of us

- To pro-actively respond to the dynamic changes of the next decade as they unfold before the nation and the state.

- To capitalize on our inherent strength of being people-friendly and also on our famous sensitivity to human rights as is evident from our motto
  मृदु भावे दृढः कृत्ये
  ("മൃദുഭാവേ ദൃഢഃകൃത്യേ" or
  "Soft in temperament, firm in action").

Epilogue

Needless to say, we, the Kerala Police Officers, were the

1st

in the country to show that the internet facility can be provided to all Police stations, 4-wheelers can be provided to all Police Stations, Women Helpdesks can be set in all Police Stations etc.

We will continue to remain, innovatively, and accelerate our pace with an amended Kerala Police Act. We will be in our new Police uniform.

During 2021-30, we will have several new units like Cyber Operations Division, Intelligence Operations Division, Technical Intelligence Division, Cyber Forensic Centre with Research and Development facilities, Cyber Security Centre, Cyber Forensic Laboratories in all districts and also in a few Sub-Divisions. Also, we will have Counter Intelligence Division, Special Intelligence Bureau, QRT-cum-SWAT teams in each district.

Also we will have IT Network connectivity with all stakeholder departments like Courts, Prosecution, Prison, Hospitals, Forensic Laboratories, Labs of Chemical Examiners, Medical Colleges, etc.
Our State Investigation Centre will have branches in every district for conducting professional investigation of important cases.

We will have a new Cadre of Analysts to do Crime and Intelligence Analysis. Also, we will have Professional Profilers.

Our upcoming Police Research Centre will take the contemporary and innovative professional, sociological, ecological and technological issues relating to the Police and keep advising the State Police Chief on bringing in changes, introducing new methodologies, etc., with the help of a "Think-Tank".

Our upcoming Police Technology Centre will keep all the Police technology (except Medical Forensic Science) under one roof and will host activities relating to CCTNS, ICJS, Digital Communication, Tele-communication, Cyber Security, Network Security, Data Management, Information & Communication Technology etc.

This book "Vision-2030", as mentioned in the introduction, is not a book of predictions but a document of our visions. We will work hard and abreast with such a vision and try to meet all the objectives mentioned in this book.

Shri. Loknath Behera IPS
DGP & State Police Chief

VISION 2030
KERALA POLICE