

Analysis of Patrolling, In the Revenue Police System of Uttarakhand

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Abstract

Police maintain law and order in society and control lawlessness and implement the laws embodied in the constitution. Uttarakhand state has a unique police system Revenue Police, maintains the law and order situation along with land record keeping. Generally, Patrolling is a basic function of any police system to prevent and detect the crimes in the initial stage, worldwide the research shows relation of foot patrolling and a type of crime reduction in urban areas. This research paper is probing the relation of patrolling and feeling of security among residents of rural areas of Tehri and Uttarkashi district of Uttarakhand. In this paper data was collected for Ph.D. thesis in 2015-16 and analyzed in SPSS.

Keywords: Revenue Police, Patrolling, Feeling Of Security, Informal Contact.

Introduction

In Uttarakhand state, North West of India has a unique police system that performs duty of law and order, peacekeeping and all other functions related to land record keeping since the British period, even today, after establishing it as a new state on November 9, 2000. In the hilly regions of Uttarakhand the Revenue Police system (RPS) is performing continually. Gradually, the jurisdiction of the revenue police system transformed into a civil police's local area but a big region is under this RPS today. Since a long history of hilly terrain, the occurrence of crime was very low. The distant and geographical specific condition, and special rule, section 6 of Schedule District Act, 1874 which provided grounds for appointment of officers to administer civil and criminal justice as according to situations, help to originate revenue police (Adhikari 124). These factors were responsible for why the British regime had created a special police system. Today, when the democratic institutions are more capable and sophisticated to promote the values of people's rights and development, it is interesting to probe the issue of the present RPS. Is it successful or in favor of citizens' rights? Due to deprivation of resources and low salaries personnel have gone on strikes in time of interval, in this police system. In field study, with the interview schedule, qualitative and quantitative data have been collected. On this, the basic primary function of 'patrolling' of police is analyzed here, how the patrolling affected the perception of residents residing in the society and feeling of a secure environment in the surrounding.

Review of Literature

Police patrols are an important exercise to deter and prevent crimes. It gives a sense of security to citizens. It is an indispensable component of any police system. Uniform police visibility, distribution of workload, utilization of personnel and familiarization with the area are part of a good patrolling plan resulting in accountability of Police (Zhang & Brown). In an abstract of research paper author Greene JR 1987 described the decline of public order crime was observed by using foot patrolling in a medium city southeastern compared to other areas (Greene). In the perspective of urban security the police patrol is an effective crime prevention tool and many cities adopted the well structured police patrolling exercise (Samanta). In a study Police foot patrol does have a positive effect on crime reduction in relatively low-crime areas and on property crime (Andresen).

The different views on police patrolling shows, particularly targeted foot patrol can have a positive perception but random patrol, without concentration on behavior, has no crime reduction effect. Also it is found random patrol had no effect on crime, disorder or fear of crime (qtd. In The effectiveness of visible police patrol 2). In an unpublished thesis (2020) the author describes the RPS in Uttarakhand as different from other police systems in some ways. Here the station in charge performs a dual nature of duty as police and second maintaining the land records *Khasra, Khatauni, Padtal* (Rabi and Kharif season's crops inspection) and inquires about income, domicile, loan, pension certificates. In his/her visits to fields are not fixed and occasionally when there is work, they visit a circle. Only some special preventive instruction by the government during the festival season, election scene



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and during a rally can focus on police functions in a particular area (Bisht 187-188). Hence, this type of "patrolling" can be referenced as random patrolling. In 2009, at the Conference of Chief Ministers on Internal Security, then Home Minister mentioned "reactivating the beat constable system" as one of the important concerns (Jain and Gupta n.pag.). The goal of police function is the same: "maintain law and order". The Constable system refers to foot patrolling in rural areas. It makes relations with citizens leads to confidence building and people help police in crime prevention.

In the present research it is an attempt to find out the patrolling of RPS and its effect on residents, although these patrols are different and random and not the same patrolling as practice in other police systems but informal contact with citizens leads to more recognition regarding the locals in every police system.

Research Question

Do the people feel secure in the atmosphere surrounding them, while a local police officer in charge of Revenue Sub Inspector / Patwari patrol in the circle?

Why is it interesting?

The Revenue Police System is still performing with less amenities. Revenue police duties have dual nature first, maintaining law and order, and second, maintaining land records so, the visit of field or circle is random. Prior studies in patrolling in other police systems, it is found that a regular and target patrol is successful not random. Although the RPS is totally different from them, its area of work is the hill's rural, geographical and less populated villages. The perception of residents regarding the efficiency of the RPS system is an appropriate cause to probe and analyze the basic function of the revenue police system.

Recodes

1. Does your RSI (patwari) patrol in the village ? 1. Yes 2. No. 3. Don't know. (Q8) (Nominal data)
2. Do you feel a secure atmosphere in the surrounding ? 1. Agree 2. Indefinite 3. Disagree. (Q41) (Scale data)

Here in the second. The option 2 (Indefinite) = system is recoded and now it is a nominal data.

Creation of variable

Feeling of security in the atmosphere D.V.
Patrolling in the village / circle I.V.

Hypotheses

1. H1: There is a relation between feeling secure and revenue police patrolling.
H0: There is no relation between feeling secure and revenue police patrolling.

Cross tab and results

feeling of security * Q8: Does your RSI(Patwari) patrol in the village ?

Chi-Square Test**Table 1.0**

Q8: Does your RSI (Patwari) patrol in the village ?				
		Yes	No	Don't know
feeling of security	Agree	93	84	100
	Disagree	7	16	0

Crosstab of feeling of security and patrolling in village results, 93 out of 100 people are more likely to say, yes, the patwari patrol in village and people agree as they feel secure.

Chi-Square Test**Table 1.1**

	Value	Df	Asymp. Sig. (2-sided)
Pearson Chi-Square	3.335 ^a	2	0.189
Likelihood Ratio	3.053	2	0.217
Linear-by-Linear Association	0.738	1	0.390

N of Valid Cases	328		
a. 3 cells (50.0%) have expected count less than 5. The minimum expected count is 0.37.			

A chi –square test for independence indicates that there is not a significant relationship between patrolling by RSI and feeling of security in surroundings , χ^2 (n=328) = 3.335, $p= 0.189$ Chi-square is not significant.

There is no relation between patrolling in the circle by RSI (Patwari) and feeling of security in the surroundings . Null hypothesis is accepted.

Aim of the Study

The paper attempts to probe the relation of patrolling by Revenue Police and perception of residents regarding the feeling of security in rural areas of district Tehri and Uttarkashi in Uttarakhand state.

Main finding and Conclusion

There is no relation between the feeling of security in surroundings among residents and Revenue police patrolling. Although it is not to be said 'patrolling' appropriately because on performing their duties personnel Revenue Sub Inspector visit to his/her circle but this type of patrolling is not successful and it does not serve as 'feel secure' to the villagers. There is a need to define 'Patrolling' in the Revenue Police System to reduce the crimes.

There may be many factors to verify this situation as there are no uniform or dress code in this police system, modern training, dual nature of work revenue and police, deprivation of vehicles and resources, less manpower and other lacunas are responsible for this non significance. Revenue workers face difficulties to focus on one specified duty due to the nature of work. Revenue police system would perform their duties and residents confer belief on it if it is equipped with modern instruments and training . A Scheduled mapped patrolling by a policeman in uniform will make an impression on residents and strengthen the feeling of security among them.

Appendix**Frequency Table****Table 1.2 patrol in village**

		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
	Yes	309	90.9	90.9	90.9
	No	25	7.4	7.4	98.2
	Don't know	6	1.8	1.8	100.0
	Total	340	100.0	100.0	

Table 1.3 feeling of security

		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	Agree	304	89.4	92.7	92.7
	Disagree	24	7.1	7.3	100.0
	Total	328	96.5	100.0	
Missing	System	12	3.5		
Total		340	100.0		

Statistics**Table 1.4**

		Q8: Does your RSI(Patwari) patrol in the village ?	feeling of security
N	Valid	340	328
	Missing	0	12
Mean		1.11	1.07
Median		1.00	1.00
Mode		1	1
Std. Deviation		.364	.261
Variance		.133	.068
Skewness		3.554	3.293
Std. Error of Skewness		.132	.135
Kurtosis		12.764	8.899
Std. Error of Kurtosis		.264	.268
Range		2	1
Minimum		1	1
Maximum		3	2

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