

Security of Commercial Markets in Delhi

At the outset we express our gratitude to you for sparing your valuable time to meet our delegation with reference to our earlier communication on the subject cited above, sent to Shri Y. S.Dadwal, Commissioner of Police. Being a responsible class of citizens, the trading community is rendering yeomen services in the development of Delhi and in time of needs, the traders have never lag behind in extending helping hand to Government and the Administration.

In the wake of recent security alerts issued by Foreign Security Agencies and which were further corroborated by Delhi Police regarding security threats to some of the Delhi Markets, we express our deep concern on the same as the commercial markets are the most soft targets of the terrorists and in event of any such unfortunate incident, the traders are the worst affected section of society, because of the fact that both their life and the business establishments remain at stake.

Though the security of the people and the city is purely under the domain of the Government and the Police, yet we feel that citizens are also under an obligation to provide best possible assistance to Police Officials for maintaining an effective security system in Delhi. Prompted by such a concept, we submit following propositions for consideration:

1. On the pattern of Bhagidari concept of Delhi Government a 'Citizen Policing and adoption of Public Private Partnership (PPP) model' for augmentation of security surveillance in commercial markets of Delhi may be adopted by Police in Delhi wherein a 'Para Police Force' comprising of retired Police & Armed Forces Personnel, Home Guards, Civil Defence Services, Scouts and Guides and representatives of Trade Associations and Resident Welfare Associations, may be constituted at each Thana level to assist the Police personnel at Thana level.

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- 2. Installation of CCTV Cameras:** A pilot project in Karol Bagh area was initiated about more than two years back wherein CCTV cameras were installed at various points which certainly yielded desired results as the crime graph in said area is

reported to be quite low in comparison to past. It is suggested that at least in important markets, CCTV system may be installed so as the experience has framed more fruitful.

- 3. Deployment of Private Guards in Market Areas:** To supplement efforts of police officials, we suggest deployment of private security guards in consultation with local police and market Associations. A policy decision may be taken in this regard.
4. The entry and exit points in each market may be manned properly and strict vigilance may be exercised at all such points.
5. Special Training Programmes may be chalked out to train traders and citizens to act as an effective Watchdog committee in markets. The thana level police officials and the office bearers of the market Associations may be prompted to take regular rounds in the market to ensure foolproof in security system.
- 6. Traffic:** Increase in number of vehicles and shortage of parking space, the traffic system is a major issue concerning Delhi people. To ensure better traffic system in Delhi, we suggest revival of Traffic Advisory Committee at zonal level.
- 7. Police Booths:** There are large number of Police Booths operating in different parts of city, which were erected with cooperation of Market Associations but it is regretted that most of the Police Booths are not even managed properly and even the utility of such police booths are not known to general public over the result people rush to Police Station even for a smallest matter. It is suggested that Police Booths may be made active instrument of Delhi Police and suitable policy may be drawn to have its optimum use. Board on Booths should be displayed to inform people about available services.
- 8. Thana Level Committee:** The Thana level committees were proved to be a strong platform of inter action between cross section of people and local police. It is suggested that Thana level Committees may be revived. Thana level committee meeting should be held monthly and quarterly meetings be held by ACP.

9. Master Plan 2021: The MPD 2021 has laid several schemes for the development of Delhi and in many such schemes role of Delhi Police seems to be very important. It is suggested that effective participation of Delhi Police may be ensured wherever under the scheme of master plan and problem faced if any. Delhi Police, may be communicated to concerned authorities for redressal.

10.Special Police Officers: To involve deserving citizen policy to enroll, SPO be revived.