

ROLE OF PATROLLING POLICE IN PREVENTION OF ROAD CRIMES IN FAISALABAD REGION

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ABSTRACT

Crimes are the major issues of Pakistan. The aim of the present study is to know about the role and contribution of Punjab Highway Patrolling Police in the reduction and prevention of crimes especially occurred on roads and highways. Punjab Highway Patrolling Police was propelled in June 21, 2004. The objectives of the police were prevention and detection of crimes, in case of emergency to help the commuters and Traffic management through education and enforcement and to build a soft image of police in the province of the Punjab.

The present study was carried out in Faisalabad region to explore the attitude of commuters towards Punjab Highway Patrolling Police regarding road crimes in Faisalabad Region. Therefore the universe of the research is the 49 Highways of Faisalabad Region. There are four districts (Faisalabad, Jhang, Toba Tek Singh and Chiniot) in Faisalabad Region. Eight Highways were selected through Simple Random Technique (02 Highways from each District). Convenient Sampling Technique was used for data collection of 160 respondents (40 respondents from each District). The structured questionnaire was used for collecting the necessary information. The data was analyzed through SPSS.

According to results, performance of PHP regarding traffic management and road crimes has been found satisfactory. Majority of the respondents 77.5 % thought PHP perform duty with honesty. 86.3% respondents were satisfied with PHP performance. Majority of the respondents 86.3% were disagreed that PHP had involved in corruption. 85.6 % reported that PHP had controlled the ratio of Highway crime. 12.5% of the respondents told that PHP failed to control crimes due to outdated vehicles. Majority of the respondents 88.8% reported that people feel safe to travel on Highways due to presence of PHP.

According to findings, Punjab Highway Patrolling Police has controlled the ratio of crimes and accidents. Relying on counterfactual arguments to assess the performance of PHP, an all-time patrolling component of Punjab Police, it is unquestionably a pseudonymous author of peace on security on more than 12000 Km of roads in Punjab since its inception. Sense of security infused into the won over the period of 15 years of its operations. Mostly people are satisfied with PHP performance although to some extent PHP has involved in corruption.

KEYWORDS: *Crimes, Patrolling Police, Highways, Performance*

INTRODUCTION

Secure and safe environment is essential for social and economic development of any country. Police is a law enforcement agency within the state and responsible for security and safety of public. An efficient and smart police services are essential for any State.

Law enforcement agencies are playing very important role in the security of Pakistan. The founder of Punjab Highway Patrol was Choudhry Pervez Ilahi former Chief Minister Punjab. The idea of Punjab Highway Patrolling police was given by former Inspector General of Police Punjab Syed Maud Shah on June 21, 2004. Objectives of Punjab Highway Patrolling Police were to build a Passionate, soft and better image of Police on Highways in the Punjab. Day and night patrolling on Highways, crime detection and prevention of crime like Dacoit, Highway robbery, smuggling, vehicle theft, vehicle snatching. Traffic management through education and enforcement of traffic laws, Reunion of lost children and handed over to their parents safely. Punjab Highway Patrol has introduced toll free helpline 1124 for commuters. In 2009 responsibility of traffic management was assigned to Punjab Highway Patrolling Police (PHP, 2017). Presently 352 Patrolling posts have been operationalized and working for safe Highways all over the Punjab and 49 in Faisalabad Region (District Faisalabad 22, Jhang 19, T.T. Singh 09, and Chaniot 04).

Below the Figure 1 Additional Inspector General of Police Punjab Highway is a Provincial Police Officer of this unit. Deputy Inspector General of police, SP, Headquarters and 06 Deputy Superintendents of Police are working under the supervision of Additional Inspector General of Police as executive body at Headquarters Punjab, Lahore. Senior Superintendent of Police may be deputed as Regional Police Officer, and Deputy Superintendent of Police at District Level. (Headquarter, (2017)

Map of PHP Faisalabad Region is as Under

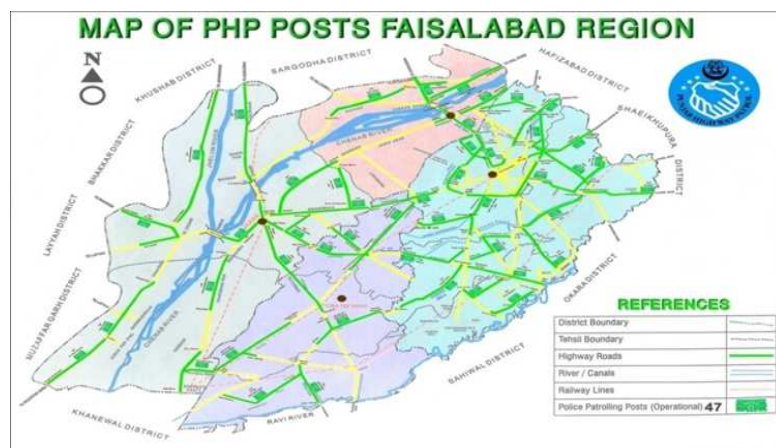


Figure 1

Below the Table 1 Headquarters, (2017) the total manpower presently working in Punjab Highway Patrol is 11197 against the sanctioned strength of 13243. There is a shortage of 2000 officials in the department. 1292 number of constables were recruited throughout Punjab during 2017 that are undergoing training programs in various training institutions. Presently 42 sub inspectors, 122 Assistant Sub Inspectors, 121 Head Constables, 969 Constables, 84 driver Constables along with 31 lady constables are working in Faisalabad Region. 60 vehicles and 26 motorcycles have been allotted to Faisalabad Region. There are 240 G-3 Rifles, 246 SMGs, 192 9MM pistols, 200 Signal Pistols, 48 tear Gas Guns in the inventory of PHP. Traffic Management equipment is provided to PHP Posts which includes accident vehicle cutter, digital movie camera, digital still camera, speed checking devices, blinkers, electric rods, road cones, accident kit, accident board and fire extinguisher. Due to effective and vigilant patrolling, arrest and elimination of criminals was made along with the recovery of huge quantity of illegal weapons. This process of disarm by PHP Force helps keep a check on the rogue elements in this society. PHP also nabbed the drug paddlers

and narcotics dealers. in the year 2017 PHP Force arrested 1387 number of drug dealers and recovered 10 KG heroin, 215 KG chakras and 43020 liters alcohol. In 2017, total number of 819610 unregistered, suspicious, fake number plates, without genuine documents and stolen motor bikes were impounded.

Patrol P. H., (2017) traffic management is another prime feature of Punjab Highway patrol. During the year 2017, the concept of accident mapping was introduced and an effective traffic management policy was devised to save precious lives by reducing road accidents. After identification of factors causing road accident, special campaigns against reckless driving, overloaded vehicles without fitness certificate and underage unlicensed drivers are launched. The results are remarkable and massive increase in the volume of traffic; we not only succeeded in reducing the number of road accident but also saved many precious lives. Traffic awareness is organized in schools, colleges, public places and bus stands across the province. Punjab Highway Patrol organized events to create awareness on obeying traffic laws, safe road crossing by pedestrians, careless driving and the risk of using mobile phones while driving. Being torch-bearing of soft policing, PHP is not seizing documents while issuing tickets on traffic violations resulting into less revenue collection. Therefore, a comprehensive accountability policy was formulated and implemented. Strict measures were taken against corruption and with continuous follow up revenue collection increased from 50 % in 2016 to 77 % in 2017. It is good to do good deeds for others. PHP Police was established to portray the soft image of police and render help to the general public on the roads with the aim to create the sense of security and comfort to the masses. With this vision, PHP Police extended help to 156053 people in 2017 as compared to 122428 people in 2016. The quality service was ensured to the commuters.

Below The Table 3 Patrol D. I., (2018) Deputy Inspector general of Police Punjab Highway Patrol has directed to all regional superintendents of police during meeting that a Police officer is supposed to be more efficient and vigilant than a common man, which is only possible when he knows better management and keeps balance between his official responsibilities and obligation towards his family. It has been observed during hearing of officials and deciding revision petition that extra stress on account of tough duty schedules, restlessness, harsh attitude of senior officers towards them and domestic problems become cause of mental unrest, irritation and resultantly they prefer to absent from duty or try to adjust them at some comparatively comfortable level. it is therefore directed a 05 days stress management course from 13 to 17 February may be arranged at all district for all PHP officials and officers.

Table 1

Crime	Before PHP	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	Oct.17
Highway Robbery	270	18	20	15	16	25	32	16	23	23	17	10	5	8	
		9	38	35	31	35	44	77	53	54	122	50	49	32	
Dacoit	206	3	5	11	11	7	13	7	6	6	3	1	0	0	
		2	10	10	17	21	35	35	22	13	15	9	3	1	
Motor Vehicle Snatching	211	5	15	14	13	15	08	5	12	9	7	2	5	2	
		11	19	12	27	27	21	34	11	27	14	14	15	4	
Grand Total	-	26	40	40	40	47	53	38	41	38	27	13	10	10	
		22	67	57	75	83	100	146	86	94	151	73	67	37	
Operational PHP Posts	-	-	181	205	207	242	276	304	310	322	338	341	341	346	350

Source: (Institutional memory of PHP Lahore Punjab)

Helps Rendered and Accidents Handled Analysis by PHP

Table 2

Region	Year	Helps Rendered	First Aid	Accident Handled (Fatal & non-Fatal)		
				No. of Accidents	Casualties	Injured
Lahore	2017	7010	414	188	137	247
	2016	18798	724	238	176	318
Gujranwala	2017	19852	464	250	133	523
	2016	24165	132	273	113	600
Faisalabad	2017	8624	1101	498	206	895
	2016	6307	1663	767	230	1425
Sargodha	2017	31009	317	217	188	317
	2016	37004	494	235	207	494
Rawalpindi	2017	5472	649	204	114	512
	2016	3439	715	290	57	561
Multan	2017	33227	2077	546	127	803
	2016	44879	1424	1123	143	1809
Bahawalpur	2017	9135	632	200	103	209
	2016	9170	662	299	125	249
DG. Khan	2017	8099	487	188	146	480
	2016	12291	809	353	164	735
Total	2017	122428	6141	2291	1154	3986
	2016	156053	6623	3578	1215	6191

Traffic Management by PHP

Table 3

Year	Chillan Ticket Issued	Paid	Unpaid	% (Paid)	Imposed	Paid	Unpaid	% (Paid)
2016	168850	87066	79214	52%	79468220	39796350	39672070	50 %
2017	164958	127689	37279	77%	71995429	55210447	16787523	77 %
Diff.	-3892	+40623	-35935	-	-7472791	+15414097	-22884547	-

Source: (Additional IG Office Lahore)

OBJECTIVES

- To explore the image of Punjab Highway Patrolling Police in society.
- To investigate the commuters opinion towards Punjab Highway Patrolling Police regarding road crimes.

MATERIALS AND METHODOLOGY

The methodological techniques and ways of analyzing the observations play a significant role in social research. Social scientists now use the sophisticated methodological tools and techniques in social research. Therefore, methodology is a frame for researcher. "The methodology is a system of explicit rules and procedures upon which research is based and against which the claims for knowledge are evaluated (Nachmias and Nachmias, 1992)". The present study was carried out in Faisalabad region to explore the attitude of commuters towards Punjab Highway Patrolling Police regarding road crimes in Faisalabad Region. Therefore the universe of the research is the 49 Highways of Faisalabad Region. There are four districts (Faisalabad, Jhang, Toba Tek Singh and Chiniot) in Faisalabad Region. Eight Highways were selected through Simple Random Technique (02 Highways from each District). Convenient Sampling Technique was used for data

collection of 160 respondents (40 respondents from each District). The structured questionnaire was used for collecting the necessary information. The data was analyzed through SPSS. Simple Percentage and Chi-square test were applied to check the central tendency and to ascertain association between independent and dependent variables. The test-statistic to use is

$$\chi^2 = \sum \frac{(\text{Observed frequencies} - \text{Expected frequencies})^2}{\text{Expected Frequencies}}$$

$$\chi^2 = \sum \frac{(O - E)^2}{E}$$

$\chi^2 = \sum$

E

O = Observed value/frequency

E = Expected Value/frequency

\sum = Total sum

RESULTS AND DISCUSSIONS

Analysis and interpretation of data are the most important steps for conducting scientific social research. Without these steps, generalization and prediction cannot be achieved which is the basic need in social research. Two hypotheses were constructed.

RESEARCH HYPOTHESIS

Following hypotheses were constructed to show the relationship between dependent and independent variables.

Hypothesis1: Higher the age of the commuters, higher will be the perception about the role of Punjab Highway Patrolling Police in reduction of road crime.

Relationship between Age of the Selected Commuters and Their Perception about the Role of Punjab Highway Patrolling Police in Reduction of Road Crime.

Below the table presents the association between age of the selected commuters and their perception about the role Punjab Highway Patrolling Police in traffic management and road crime. Chi-square value ($\chi^2 = 5.45$) shows a non-significant association between age of the selected commuters and their perception about the role Punjab Highway Patrolling Police in traffic management and road crime. Gamma value also shows a non-significant relationship between the variables. It means, all age groups had almost similar perception about the role Punjab Highway Patrolling Police in traffic management and road crime. So, the hypothesis “Higher the age of the commuters, higher will be the perception about the role Punjab Highway Patrolling Police in traffic management and road crime” is rejected.

Table 4

Age of the Selected Commuters (in Years)	Role Punjab Highway Patrolling Police in Traffic Management and Road Crime			Total
	Low	Medium	High	
Up to 30	7	10	38	55
	12.7 %	18.2 %	69.1 %	100.0 %
31-49	10	12	62	84
	11.9 %	14.3 %	73.8 %	100.0 %
50 and above	5	6	10	21
	23.8 %	28.6 %	47.6 %	100.0 %
Total	22	28	110	160
	13.8 %	17.5 %	68.8 %	100.0 %

- Chi-square = 5.4
- d.f. = 4
- P-value = .244^{NS}
- Gamma = -.137
- P-value = .326^{NS}
- NS = Non-significant

Hypothesis 2: Higher the education of the commuters, higher will be the positive perception about the role of Punjab Highway Patrolling Police in the reduction of road crime.

Relationship between Education of the Selected Commuters and Their Perception about the Role Punjab Highway Patrolling Police in Traffic Management and Road Crime

Below the table presents the association between education of the selected commuters and their perception about the role Punjab Highway Patrolling Police in traffic management and road crime. Chi-square value ($\chi^2 = 30.70$) shows a highly-significant association between education of the selected commuters and their perception about the role Punjab Highway Patrolling Police in traffic management and road crime. Gamma value also shows a positive relationship between the variables. It means, educated commuters had high level perception about the role Punjab Highway Patrolling Police in traffic management and road crime as compared to illiterate commuters. So, the hypothesis “Higher the education of the commuters, higher will be the perception about the role Punjab Highway Patrolling Police in traffic management and road crime” is accepted.

Table 5

Education of the Selected Commuters	Role Punjab Highway Patrolling Police in Traffic Management and Road Crime			Total
	Low	Medium	High	
Illiterate	7	12	10	29
	24.1 %	41.4 %	34.5 %	100.0 %
Primary-Middle	5	5	51	61
	8.2 %	8.2 %	83.6 %	100.0 %
Matric-Intermediate	5	6	41	52
	9.6 %	11.5 %	78.8 %	100.0 %
Graduation and above	5	5	8	18
	27.8 %	27.8 %	44.4 %	100.0 %
Total	22	28	110	160
	13.8 %	17.5 %	68.8 %	100.0 %

- Chi-square = 30.70
- d.f. = 6
- P-value = .000
- Gamma = .131
- = Highly-significant

CONCLUSIONS

People have positive attitude towards Punjab Highway Patrolling Police. According to findings Punjab Highway Patrolling Police has controlled the ratio of crimes and ratio of accidents and highways are secure and safe for commuters. Mostly people are satisfied with PHP performance. At some extent PHP has involved in corruption. Response in case of accidents has been observed as good. For extra ordinary results provision of new vehicles to PHP by Government and polite behavior of Police is needed. Mostly drivers drive their vehicles without driving license. Incentive for PHP should be increased. Image of police in the of public maybe increased through polite behavior, projection of good work and community policing

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