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To,
The Superintendent of Police,
Dakshina Kannada

Sub: Community Policing for Dakshina Kannada

Dear Sir,

Community policing as a concept has existed since many centuries having roots in ancient India. Creation of a police organization and specific powers of law enforcement, with preventive, investigative and prosecuting duties can be traced back to Kautilya.

Given the administrative difficulties that exist and co-exist, and given the difficult geography being a costal belt, Dakshina Kannada remains vulnerable to all kinds of illegal un-democratic alternatives.

At this juncture, I would like to propose to you to set up a Community policing unit / committee who can regulate and inform and work with the Police and District Administration. Below are some of my thoughts.

Community Policing – Innovative implementation for Dakshina Kannada District

To identify a team of 15- 20 Commuting policing members who are in touch with the police stations and report directly to the SP, Dakshina Kannada District.

This group will identify community problems through different interactions and prioritize them with its relevance to society. The SP will issue an identity card which contains the seal of the SP, KSP.

The detailed name list of community policing members can be on public domain. A Few activities to take up:

Problems Resolving: The primary initiative was to resolve conflicts or problems by organizing consultation meetings with area committee members, government agencies, and the Municipal Corporation. Several local problems have been solved through effective intra and inter agency consultations.

Interface with Pressure Groups:

The police interacted with various pressure groups like doctors, lawyers, student wings to build good contact and establish good rapport.

Establish Area Grievance Redressal: a grievance re-dressal area can be selected by community police members and they can sit there on certain days as per their convenience.

Regular visit of school children: Organize visits to police stations to remove the fear of Police and to add in a component of transparency, to build more awareness and better understanding of the police.

Spot Touring: Spot tour with Police officials when community policing members are available.

Unarmed training: Unarmed training to be taught to community police members who in turn will educate others on unarmed training. Rifle shooting also to be taught. Drug Awareness Programmes, Friendship Football Tournaments, Health checks to police and others.

To participate in Disaster risk Reduction drills and to conduct the same.

Surprise Visits: Community police members can conduct surprise visits to Police stations, and other public spots as and when they feel the need to.

Disaster Management: To conduct Drills in disasters and to train citizens.

Walkie Talkie: As per Discretion of the SP, certain members can be given walkie talkie to co-ordinate movements and suspicious elements.

Organize Conference: Organize a yearly conference with the Public and with specialist to interact and identify problem issues and explore options for public good.

Thanking you,

Dr Edmond Fernandes