



COMMUNITY POLICING PROGRAMME (SAANJH) : PUNJAB

Saanjh is a six-tier body at the head of which is the Community Affairs Division and the State Level Steering Committee that provides policy guidelines, support for capacity building and strengthens systems of planning, management, participatory and integrity mechanism. At the district level, Community Police Resource Centres and the district level committees to ensure the networking of the CPRCs with other government departments and administrative structures. It also streamlines the training of personnel at the district level and coordinates with the fifth and the sixth tier i.e. Sub-divisional Community Police Suvidha Centres (CPSC) and Police Stations Outreach Centres (PSOC) at the police station level.

The Community Police Centres (CPRC, CPSC and PSOC) are autonomous registered societies in partnership with representatives of the police, the administration and civil society. The main features of these are;

- Collectively managed by the community and the police (including government officials from departments, such as, Health, Education, Welfare and representatives from NGOs, academics, local bodies, etc.)
- Community-police collaboration from decision-making to implementation
- A pool of police and community resources

These centres i.e. at the district sub-division and police station level centres are nodal places for police-community extension services

Institutionalisation of Community Policing

Government notification.
 Creation of NGOs:
 Registration under Societies Act.
 Police-Community Ownership.
 Nodal Centre for Police-Community Schemes and Activities.
 Standardised (backbone services) Service Delivery.

Community Police Centres and Services

Community Police Resource Centres (CPRC)

- 1) Grievance Redressal Unit
- 2) Community Services cum Information Unit
 - (i) NRIs & Foreign counter
 - (ii) Crime-Prevention Counter
 - (iii) Verification and Permission counter
 - (iv) RTI counter
 - (v) Traffic Management and Information Counter
- 3) Legal Aid and Victim Relief Unit
- 4) Sensitisation and Dispute Resolution Unit
 - (a) Gender Dispute Resolution
 - (b) Economic Dispute Resolution
 - (c) Social and Political Conflict Resolution

Community Police Suvidha Centres (CPSC)

- 1) Community Services cum Information Unit
- 2) NRI & Foreign counter
- 3) Gender Dispute Resolution Unit

Police Station Outreach Centres (PSOC)

- 1) Community Services cum Information Unit
- 2) Gender Dispute and Social Conflict Resolution Unit

Relevance of Community Police Centres

Easy and dignified access of the public to police services

Improves community-police relations

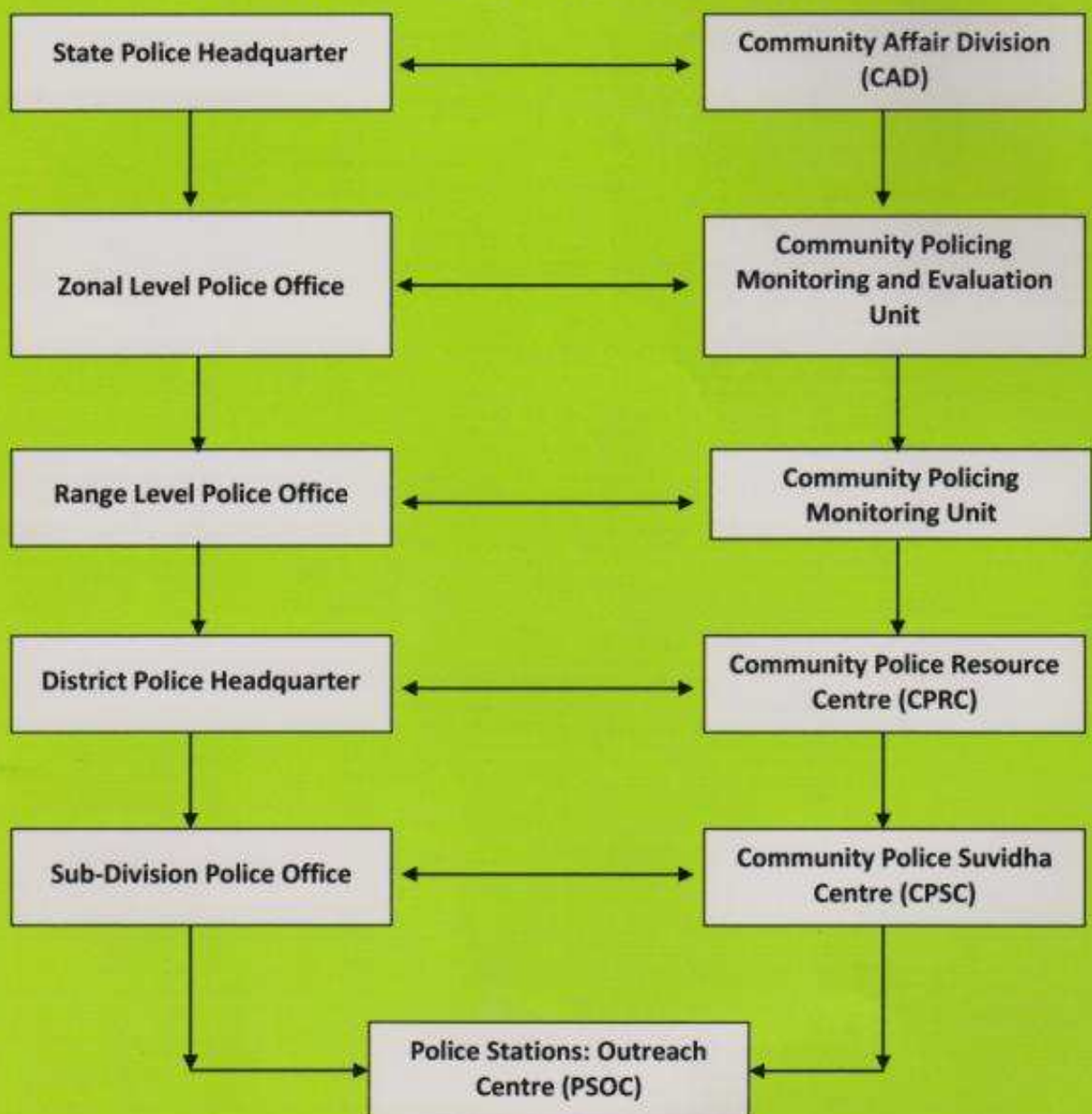
Transparency in service and dealings

Forum to address the rights of all citizens and sections of the community

Builds confidence of the people in crime management and grievance redressal

INSTITUTIONAL STRUCTURE OF SAANJH PROGRAMME

Police Organisation Structure and Community Centres



Institutional Structure of Community Policing Programme (SAANJH)

The structure of SAANJH Programme, its different administrative levels, centres established at each level, administration of these centres and the units comprising these centres and their functions are explained in the following text.

This Community Programme SAANJH has the following salient features which make it unique.

This programme is well institutionalised and mandatory given its statutory provision in The Punjab Police Act, 2007; immunised from adhocism.

Being meticulously designed, these centres cannot be "individually" reshaped or restructured.

It has 'backbone activities' leading to standardisation, but has a provision to initiate activities in response to the local requirements.

Participation of the community has been made integral at all levels from Committees to Community liaison groups at each level of its administrative unit.

These centres are registered under the Societies Act and the police and public representatives are the members of this society.

Majority of the members of community policing are ex-officio, reduces scope of political interference.

Community Policing: The Concept

An **institutionalised** effort to integrate community policing with the existing policing system.

It provides **space for police-community partnership** in crime prevention, grievance redress, victim assistance and information related to law, rules and procedures, civic rights and duties.

It has a built-in **mechanism of coordination** with civil, judicial and non-government organisations

The CPRC is a six-tier system of policing in partnership with the community, managed through committees having representatives of the civil society, specialists, NGOs, police functionaries and the civil administration.

At the State level, a Community Affairs Division (CAD) has been set up. At the district level, CPRCs and at the Sub-divisional level CPSCs. The outreach is provided at the thana/police station level.

All these tiers have forward and backward linkages. The State Level Steering Committee provides policy guidelines, support for capacity building and strengthens the system of co-ordination. All other tiers provide backbone services and evolve their own local level and need-based schemes.

Each CPRC is an **autonomous registered society** collectively managed by representatives of the community and police functionaries. It provides citizens **dignified access** to police related services and a forum to implement community oriented programmes.

Community policing implements selected activities which are designated as 'backbone activities' along with the local specific activities as per the needs of the area. Backbone activities help standardise the service to be provided in the entire country, whereas initiation of area specific activities ensures autonomy and thereby makes community policing vibrant and responsive to the cultural needs of the local population.

To maintain a focus of local specific initiatives, it would be worthwhile if the target group for each of the activities and initiatives, the aim of this activity and also the content to ascertain objectives and activity management are identified.

What community policing is not?

Community policing is not merely a single window service. In other words, it is not policing for the people.

It is also not to use community merely as an additional force, for instance, managing traffic or act as informers etc.

Community policing is also not a project or a problem solving technique.

Community policing is not an oversight and separate from regular policing and also not supportive mechanism of existing policing.

Community policing is not a co-option strategy of members of community by recruiting them as volunteers.

Community policing is not an ad-hoc basket of schemes. It reflects individual biases and their limitations.

Community policing is:

integral to policing.

an institutionalised integrative approach responsive to diversity of gender, caste, class and religions.

a partnership between police, members of community and other stakeholders for crime prevention, safety and security and delivery of justice. The partnership is neither a strategy of tactics, but an approach to policing. In other words, community policing is to do policing along with the community. It is a collaborative interactive relationship between the community and the police.

An empowerment for both the police and the community for crime prevention and delivery of justice.