



INDIAN POLICE FOUNDATION

New Delhi, India

(A Division of the Police Foundation & Institute, India)

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Dr. P. M. Nair

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Edelweisse Group

Mr. Sanjoy Hazarika

Author & Senior Journalist

International Director, CHRI

Ms. Satwant Atwal Trivedi

Joint Secretary, NATGRID

Govt of India

Press note dated 8th May, 2020

Indian Police Foundation is launching Covid-19 Situational Awareness Dashboard & Repository of Pandemic Law Enforcement Resources.

COVID-19 has added a new dimension to Police work and it has also drastically exacerbated existing policing challenges. Indian Police has been on the frontlines fighting the battle against the covid-19 pandemic -- protecting our health workers and enforcing lockdowns while also ensuring the smooth flow of essential services and supply chains. Police forces across the country have been acclaimed for their extensive humanitarian work, reaching food and medicines to the needy and coming to the aid of citizens in distress. At the same time, law enforcement during pandemics is fraught with infection risks to police personnel, as they come in close contact with countless number of people during the course of their daily duties.

For the Indian police, infection control within the forces would be crucial for their operational continuity. As of today, as many as 1344 police personnel have been tested positive and 14 have succumbed to the virus, while more than two thousand are on quarantine. This data show that an increasing number of police personnel are taken out of operational duties every day, seriously impacting the service readiness and operational continuity of the forces. This is the reason why even several days before the lockdown was announced, the IPF had begun a campaign on safety precautions to be followed by police personnel to limit infections.

In a rapidly changing and inherently unpredictable world, with no past operational templates to fall back upon, police leaders are required to continuously watch out for evolving risks, learnings and resources from national and international experience. Being data driven and using data analytics can be the only tool for a well informed decision making. On the health of the Police force depends the health of the nation today. Keeping these in mind and as a professional think tank, Indian Police Foundation is launching a COVID-19 situational awareness dashboard.

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The dashboard has been conceptualized as a repository of resources and good practices in pandemic law enforcement as well as related initiatives, experiences and suggestions from the frontline. These resources are expected to be of use to the police department and police officials, as well as others interested in the subject. Situational Awareness at a dynamic and real time level will make assessment and planning more connected to the ground. The data base / repository can be used for research purposes at any point in time.

The dashboard was launched by the IPF Chairman Shri Prakash Singh at 1600 hrs on 8th May 2020 through video conferencing. Several dignitaries, members of the IPF including Prof Abhay Karandikar, Director IIT Kanpur, Shri Atul Karwar Director NPA, ADGP Kerala Dr. B, Sandhya, Addl DGPs / other senior officers from State & Central Police Forces etc. The dashboard can be accessed at <https://www.policefoundationindia.org/covid-19-resources> or through the IPF website: <https://www.policefoundationindia.org/>

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