



CHAPTER-I

ACTIVITIES OF CFPB



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The Central Finger Print Bureau is an apex body in the country which co-ordinates, guides, monitors, and provides technical support to the State Finger Print Bureaux, as well as investigation agencies and international organizations like INTERPOL in all matters related to Finger Print Science.

The Bureau maintains the records of 10-digit Finger Print slips of persons convicted under various laws as per OM No. 115/POLICE (L)/55(8) Intelligence Bureau, Ministry of Home Affairs, Government of India, dated 19.02.1955, on the subject of ‘Establishment of CFPB and Instructions to be followed by State Bureaux and District Police Officers in sending FP Record Slips. As on **31.12.2019**, the number of digitized Finger Print slips maintained in the database is **12, 66,147** which is tantamount to over 12 million (or one crore finger impressions). State Finger Print Bureaux and INTERPOL (through CBI) regularly request CFPB to furnish the previous criminal antecedents of the arrested persons by sending the arrested persons’ Finger Prints. Similar requests are also being made to CFPB concerning Chance Prints developed at the Scene of Crime (SoC).

The Bureau imparts training in various aspects of Finger Print Science to police and non-police personnel coming from States/UTs of India. The Bureau is also mandated to conduct All India Board Examination (AIBE) annually for the accreditation of Finger Print Experts. All India Conference of Directors of Finger Print Bureaux of States/UTs is also organized by CFPB with the assistance of a State/UT which wishes to host the event. The conference provides a forum for Finger Print professionals to deliberate on recent advancements in the field of Finger Print science and other issues concerning the Finger Print fraternity of the nation. CFPB has a branch at Kolkata which is mainly organizing training courses for the North Eastern States and examining the questioned documents.

A. National Automated Finger Print Identification System (NAFIS)

National Automated Fingerprint Identification System (NAFIS) has been conceptualized on the principles of the cloud computing model where fingerprints will be digitized at the district level itself and transferred to CFPB through hardware and software provided by NCRB. The solution provider has established the Datacenter at NCRB Hqrs by installing the required number of servers, network switches, firewalls etc. The operating environment of NAFIS will be Linux Operating System with Oracle database and ALFRESCO document management system. NAFIS solution has been customized to accommodate Indian requirements and the suggestions made during the User Acceptance Test are also incorporated. A sufficient number of fingerprint matchers have been installed to accommodate 500 concurrent users and to give a result within 18 seconds. The disaster recovery center has been established at NDC, Bhubaneswar.

The digital Fingerprint slips will be stored in dedicated virtual partitions allotted to each State/UT in the Central NCRB server. Only authorized users from States/UTs can edit/modify/update the data stored in the exclusive space allotted to the States/UTs with an audit trail. They will however be able to make searches across the data of all the States/UTs for identifying inter-state criminals. Under this Project, each District has been provided with



one work station, one fingerprint enrolment device, one flatbed scanner, and two single-digit live scanners. Fingerprints of the criminals can be enrolled directly with FED provided at each District Hqrs, whereas other Police stations can send the FP slips to the District Hqrs for digitization. FP Expert stationed at the District Hqrs can perform all the fingerprint activities such as obtaining the previous criminal history of suspected/arrested persons, enhancing the quality of the chance prints lifted from the crime scene, national-level matching of chance prints lifted from the crime scene, examining the questioned documents, etc. With the help of a Bio search Mobile app delivered under this project, it is possible to verify the antecedents of the suspect persons in the field itself. Thus, NAFIS will be a game-changer as it will drastically reduce the time and efforts of the investigating agencies, because the investigator will be able to get the results online.

Around 45 lakhs of Fingerprint slips are in digital form in different State AFIS Servers which are being migrated into NAFIS. Further, infrastructure has been established at CFPB New Delhi, Lucknow and Bhopal for digitizing about 15 lakhs physical slips available in different States/UTs. When such a voluminous fingerprint data is made available in NAFIS for searching, many interstate criminals are likely to be traced resulting in solving several unsolved cases, through fingerprint matching. Moreover, Investigating Officers will be immensely benefitted because the chance prints lifted from the crime scene will be processed immediately at the District Hqrs.

A large number of countries including Interpol are maintaining the fingerprint database in NIST format and therefore NAFIS is also built as per NIST standards. States like Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka, Kerala, Maharashtra, and Telangana have recently installed the NIST compliant AFIS system, and to protect their investment, bridge software is being developed to replicate their data into NAFIS. However, all these States will also be making national searches with the equipment provided by NCRB.

NAFIS and CCTNS are being integrated for the exchange of the demographic data. Since demographic data is being entered in CCTNS when a criminal is arrested/convicted, such details need not be re-entered by FP experts and instead, all such details will be copied into NAFIS. Generally, FP experts are not conversant with typing and CCTNS integration will relieve them from the burden of data entry. Further, NAFIS will enable a unique identifier of the criminal to CCTNS, so that all crimes committed by an individual can be easily determined.

The solution provider will be training about 300 persons on the usage of NAFIS. Subsequently, CFPB officers will conduct such trainings in all the States/UTs. It is planned to conduct NAFIS training until a sufficient number of trained manpower is available for operating NAFIS workstations. Training courses are also conducted on topics like System Administration, troubleshooting. Disaster Recovery Centre has been established at NDC, Bhubaneswar which will become active, if the data center is down for any reason. Hence, NAFIS services will be available to all the users even if a disaster happens in Delhi.

B. Important Document Cases solved at CFPB, New Delhi

During the year, 2019-20, CFPB, New Delhi office gave an opinion on 90 cases received from different agencies like Post office, police agencies like CRPF, recruitment agencies like SSC, Banks, etc. Brief descriptions of some of the cases are given below:-



- I.** SSC, Prayagraj has forwarded, 31 cases of suspected impersonation during the recruitment process to the Central Finger Print Bureau, with a request to examine the questioned documents and the specimens. It was informed that they had approached CFPB after getting a summon from Allahabad High Court, with a directive to appear with a report on comparison of fingerprints. The cases pertained to the examination of questioned documents of the candidates who appeared in the written examination. In most cases, the prints were of very poor quality posing difficulty in examination with an additional pressure of time from the SSC to furnish the expert opinion on a priority basis. Despite all the odds, the experts showed full dedication displaying the best professional skills, and the impersonation in the cases was established.
- II.** CFPB had received 19 Document cases from Sr. Supdt. of Post Offices, Solapur Division, Solapur-413001. In these cases, withdrawal slips of various depositors bearing Fingerprints were received to be compared with the specimen fingerprints present on relevant claim forms and written statements of the depositors. Luckily, most of the questioned prints were of decipherable quality but the specimen prints were of extremely poor quality. The postal authorities were repeatedly contacted by post, phone, etc. and they were even offered the assistance of services of the state fingerprint experts for the purpose, but it proved to be next to difficult for acquiring the better prints. Ultimately, the highest postal authorities in the state were contacted with a request to direct the concerned authority. Finally, the specimen prints of decipherable quality were received and experts of CFPB could conclusively establish impersonation.
- III.** International Case: A case of land transaction deal was received from Bhutan. In this case, the land belonging to Mrs. Tshering Choki was already transferred to Mrs. Jigme Chodan in original documents received from Royal Govt. of Bhutan, National Law Commission, Department of Land Administration and Management (Urban Division). But Ms. Tshering Choki denied execution of the agreement and prayed for verification of the finger impression on the land agreement.
On examination of the relevant documents, experts could establish that specimen prints on fingerprint slip and questioned prints on agreement form were different leading to the conclusion that the original proprietor of the land did not participate in the transaction agreement deal.
- IV.** Plenty of cases were received from CRPF Allahabad, Chhattisgarh, and other places regarding impersonation in recruitments in which most of the questioned prints happened to be of poor quality. Despite these challenges, fingerprint experts utilizing their professional expertise and competence did their job with repeated checks, cross-checks, and photography. Experts, with sheer diligence, perseverance, and skill could finally furnish their opinion.

C. Important Document Cases Solved at CFPB, Kolkata

During the year 2019, a total of 36 numbers of document cases have been received in this office from different Ld. Courts, CBI, nationalized Banks, Railways, Post Offices, LIC, etc., out of which 23 cases have been examined and opinion of the experts have been furnished thereon.



I. Document Case No. 28/2019:

A notable case was received from the Branch Head, Punjab National Bank, BO Barachatti, Gaya. In this case, the accused had withdrawn a total sum of Rs. 1, 55,000/- fraudulently on different dates from Savings account No. 1205000100143160 in the name of Munna Prasad Gupta by producing withdrawal slip and affixing his finger impressions. All the withdrawal slips along with the specimen finger impressions of the original account holder, i.e. Munna Prasad Gupta have been forwarded to this office by the Bank authority for the examination of disputed finger impressions and furnishing expert's opinion thereon.

On being examined, it was detected that the finger impressions appeared in the withdrawal slips were different from the specimen finger impressions of the original Account Holder i.e. Munna Prasad Gupta.

II. Document Case No.07/2019:

A case had been received for the examination of the Fingerprints in the land deed, to be compared with the finger impressions that appeared in the records (Register) maintained at Registration Directorate, Kolkata. from the Ld. Chief Judicial Magistrate, Sultanpur (U.P) vide FIR No. 85/2016 U/s 419, 420, 506 IPC, Police Station Kotwali Lambhua, Sultanpur. In this case, Smt. Prabhawati Devi intended to sell her one plot (land) in Sultanpur, Uttar Pradesh. In the due course of this dealing, the Land Deed bearing finger impressions of Smt. Prabhawati Devi has been forwarded to the Registration Directorate (Registrar of Insurance, 5, Govt. Place North, Kolkata-1) where all the records of the land were maintained.

All the related documents have been received by this office from Ld. OM, Sultanpur (U.P.) for examination whether the finger impressions appeared in the Land Deed are the same with the finger impressions that appeared in the records (Register) maintained at Registration Directorate, Kolkata. After a thorough examination, it was found that the finger impressions in the name of Smt. Prabhawati Devi that appeared in the Land Deed was different from the finger impressions that appeared in the Register maintained at Registration Directorate, Kolkata.

D. Amendments in Identification of Prisoners Act 1920

CFPB requested all States/UTs to offer their views about the amendments required in the Identification of Prisoners Act 1920. Representatives of few neighboring states like Haryana, Delhi, and Uttar Pradesh along with BPR&D were invited to NCRB for meetings and a lot of deliberations were held in this regard. Information about modern biometrics was collected and a detailed proposal was prepared to highlight all the clauses that require amendment. The comprehensive justification was also worked out and the same was sent to MHA for approval. Meetings were held at MHA and the file was forwarded to the legal department. The Act, if amended would include more number of arrestees/convicts leading to a significant increase in the national database. The key amendments proposed were: Change of title to 'Identification of Arrested and Suspected Persons' Act; inclusion of biometrics such as Palm Impressions, Voice samples, Iris Scan, DNA typing, etc. ; Removal of mandatory one-year rigorous imprisonment clause; powers for Magistrate to order for taking measurements of juveniles.



E. XX All India Conference of Directors of Finger Print Bureaux held at, National Crime Records Bureau (NCRB), New Delhi.

The XX All India Conference of Directors of Finger Print Bureaux of States/UTs was organized on 17th& 18th October 2019 at the National Crime Records Bureau (NCRB), New Delhi. Hon’ble Minister of State Shri. G. Krishna Reddy inaugurated the conference and emphasized the importance of Fingerprint Science in the criminal investigation. The conference was attended by 78 delegates from various Finger Print Bureaux of the States/UTs, CFSL-CBI, NIA, FSL, postgraduate and research students from Colleges and Universities offering Forensic Science and Criminology course. A team of officers from the Central Finger Print Bureau / NCRB played a significant role in making this event a huge success.



Pic.No.1: Chief Guest Hon’ble Minister of State (Home) Shri G. Krishan Reddy and other dignitaries inaugurating the Conference.



Pic.No.2: Release of “Finger Prints in India 2018” by the Chief Guest.

In the inaugural function Smt. Punya Salila Srivastava, IAS, Joint Secretary, Ministry of Home Affairs, emphasized the importance of the National Automated Finger Print Identification System (NAFIS) and how it helps in the police investigation. Shri Ram Phal Pawar, IPS, Director, NCRB, and other senior dignitaries and delegates graced this occasion.



Pic.No.3: Hon’ble Chief Guest, presented Khan Bahadur Aziz-ul Haque trophy and Cash prize for AIBE-2018 first rank holder, Rejani Raj V. R., Finger Print Searcher, Kerala.



Pic.No.4: Chief Guest and other dignitaries in the Valediction Ceremony.

Chief Guest for the valediction ceremony, Smt. Archana Ramasundram, a retired Indian police officer and former first woman chief of Sashastra Seema Bal (SSB), expressed with pleasure that XX All India Conference of Directors of Finger Print Bureaux was a special occasion and she considered fingerprint a very serious and important tool for criminal justice system.



Pic.No.5: Group photographs of Delegates at XX All India Conference of Directors of Finger Print Bureaux of States/UTs with Chief Guest Hon'ble Shri G. Krishan Reddy, MoS (Home), Smt. Punya Salila Shrivastava, IAS, Joint Secretary (WS), Sh Ram Phal Pawar, IPS, Director, NCRB and senior officers of NCRB

F. Meeting on NABL

On the recommendations of the XIX All India Conference of Directors of Finger Print Bureaux, held at Dr. MCR-HRD Institute of Telangana, Hyderabad on 21-22 June, 2018, to work out the modalities for accreditation of State FPBx and to identify parameters for selection of best Finger Print Bureau, a committee was constituted. As a result of the committee deliberations, a one-day NABL awareness program was conducted by NABL representatives at NCRB HQ on 07/01/2019 wherein 25 persons from 17 State FPBx participated along with CFPB personnel. The awareness program constituted: various lectures on the importance, pre-requisites, and the process of accreditation. All-State FPBx representatives actively participated in the discussions with an optimistic approach towards achieving NABL accreditation.



Pic. No. 6: Group photograph of CFPB Team with NABL Representatives & Participants from SFPBx

G. All India Board Examination for Finger Print Experts 2019

The Central Finger Print Bureau (CFPB), NCRB has been conducting “All India Board Examination” (AIBE) for accreditation of Finger Print Experts since 1958. This year AIBE-2019 was conducted from 16th to 18th November 2019. The examination comprised of theory, practical and viva-voce examination. A total number of 41 eligible nominations were received and 04 candidates were absent from the examination. Thus, 37 candidates have appeared in the examination but 10 candidates failed to clear the examination. So the passing percentage of AIBE 2019 was 94.5%. First Position was bagged by Sh. Sudheesh K.V., Finger Print Searcher from Kerala scoring 235.5 marks out of 250. Results are made available on NCRB website, www.ncrb.gov.in



Pic. No.07: Director NCRB along with AIBE 2019 Board Members.



Pic. No. 08: An AIBE 2019 candidate appearing in the examination.



Pic. No. 09: AIBE 2019 Board Members with CFPB/NCRB staff

H. 62nd All India Police Duty Meet (AIPDM) 2018 held from 16th to 20th July, 2019 at Lucknow, Uttar Pradesh

Scientific Aids to Investigation competition at All India Police Duty Meet is generally held in 6 disciplines namely (i) Finger Prints (ii) Crime Investigation, Criminal Laws, Rules & Procedures and Court Judgments (iii) Police Portraits (iv) Observation (v) Lifting and Packing of Exhibits and (vi) Photography. For Finger Print competition, the team from CFPB creates a mock scene of crime (SoC) with 2 or 3 objects on which latent finger impressions are provided. The nature of the objects is such as to necessitate the use of 2 or 3 different types of powders for developing the latent fingerprints. Each competitor is asked to examine and develop these latent prints within the prescribed time not exceeding 20 minutes.

62nd All India Police Duty Meet (AIPDM) 2018, was held from 16th to 20th July 2019, at Police Head Quarters (Signature Building), Lucknow, Uttar Pradesh. To evaluate Finger Print competition, Sh. Shibajee Tripathy, Dy.Suptd (FP) and Sh. Aftab Alam, Dy.Suptd (FP), were deputed as judges from CFPB, Delhi. Their team arranged the crime scene and Judges examined the developed prints during the event. In the event, candidates bearing chest number 455, 425 and 438 had secured First, Second and Third position respectively.



Pic. No. 10: CFPB officers handing over the result sheets to Sh. Mehmood Akthar, Chief Judge, Scientific Aids to Investigation (SAI), AIPDM-2018



Pic. No. 11: A scene of candidates during the Practical Finger Print Test at AIPDM 2018

I. Meeting on Manpower:

A meeting under the chairmanship of JD (CCTNS) was held on 18.02.2019, for suggesting Manpower & staffing pattern for State FPBx. Total 15 Directors and Officers from State Finger Print Bureaux attended the meeting and suggested staffing strength based on the number of PS, crime rate accordingly (Large, Medium & Small states). The committee discussed the subject in detail and arrived at the following recommendations:

- a) Each Police Sub division (SDPO) will have one Sub Inspector (FP) and one Police Constable (FP)/Multi-tasking Staff.
- b) Each Police District will have one Inspector (FP) and one Photographer in the rank of Head Constable (FP).
- c) Each Range will have one Dy SP (FP) and one Police Constable (FP)/Multi-tasking Staff.
- d) Each Zone will have one Addl. SP (FP) and one Police Constable (FP)/Multi-tasking Staff.



Pic. No. 12: Committee Meeting on Manpower Staffing pattern.
