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## FOREWORD

It is a matter of immense pleasure for me to bring out the 23<sup>rd</sup> edition of 'Finger Prints in India' for the year 2019. The publication had started in the year 1997.

This publication contains details of the important cases solved by the Central Finger Print Bureau (CFPB) as well as State Finger Print Bureaux (SFPBx) through the use of Finger print Science. It also carries information on transactional activities of SFPBx such as number of visits to scene of crimes, number of chance prints lifted from those sites, number of convicts fingerprints enrolled, number of search slips process to ascertain their criminal history, number of document cases examined, experts opinion given in the Court of Law, etc.

It is a matter of satisfaction to note that Finger Print staff of various Bureaux have visited 59,039 scenes of crimes (SOC) and developed chance prints in 33,699 cases. Out of these cases, 39,025 chance prints were found fit for comparison. It is pertinent to note that FP Experts of Andhra Pradesh have identified the culprits in 512 cases by matching the developed 11,235 chance prints with the database. Whereas the next best performing State, Kerala have identified the culprits in 402 cases by matching the developed 1809 chance prints with the database. In search slip tracing, Gujarat topped the list by providing trace information in 69,636 cases followed by Tamil Nadu 11, 524 and Delhi in 8,517 cases. The State Finger print Bureaux also examined and gave opinion regarding impersonation on 1896 document cases.

During this year, substantial work has been completed in implementation of National Automated Finger print Identification System (NAFIS). Under this project, 1381 workstations have been provided to the Districts, Commissionerates, State finger print Bureaux and CFPB. Moreover, Finger print enrolment device (FED), Flat Bed Scanner, Single Digit Live scanner, Web Cam were also supplied to these offices to make them self-sufficient. Various Changes

proposed by FP Experts to accommodate Indian conditions were incorporated in NAFIS software and system is made operational at NCRB Hqrs. Few workstations of Haryana, Rajasthan and Delhi have been connected to NAFIS and some functionalities like Fingerprint enrolment using FED & flatbed scanner, search slip processing and chance print processing etc have been tested. The implementation of NAFIS will greatly reduce the time and efforts as there will be no need to send the physical Finger Print slips to SFPB/CFPB and the IO would be able to get the results online instantly. A mobile app is also being rolled out as a part of NAFIS which will enable the police personnel posted at check posts to verify the antecedents of accused persons at the spot. After Go-live of the project pan India, I am sure the fingerprint science will regain its rightful place in police investigations and sufficient strength of FP staff will also hopefully be posted in different states and union territories.

NCRB is also making efforts for bringing new Act by repealing the existing Identification of Prisoners Act 1920, so as to empower police officers/Jail officers to capture advance biometrics of any arrested person. This will increase the database size drastically since requirement of one year rigorous imprisonment is proposed to be removed in the new Act.

Further, the XX All India Conference of Directors of Finger Print Bureaux of States/UTs was organized on 17<sup>th</sup> & 18<sup>th</sup> October 2019, at NCRB Auditorium. A total of 76 delegates from various Finger Print Bureaux of the States/UTs, CFSL-CBI, CFPB/NCRB, Colleges and Universities participated in this two day event and deliberated on important issues related to Finger Prints.

I take this opportunity to compliment Central Finger Print Bureau team for their efforts in bringing out this publication. I am sure that the present edition of this annual report will be found useful by all stake holders. Suggestions, if any, are welcome.

  
28/08  
(Ram Phal Pawar)

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