CHAPTER – 3
ACCIDENTAL DEATHS AND SUICIDES IN CENTRAL ARMED POLICE FORCES
(As Registered by States/UTs)

Introduction

Central Armed Police Forces (CAPF) refers to common nomenclature of seven security forces of the country. CAPF is under administrative control of Ministry of Home Affairs. CAPF consists of Border Security Force (BSF), Central Reserve Police Force (CRPF), Central Industrial Security Force (CISF), Indo-Tibetan Border Police (ITBP), Sashastra Seema Bal (SSB), Assam Rifles (AR) and National Security Guard (NSG). CAPFs play a vital role in border guarding and assisting Centre/State Governments in maintenance of internal security and in curbing other illegal/unlawful activities.

As on 1.1.2015 CAPFs have the actual strength of 9,44,557 personnel. Thus it is imperative to study and understand the causalities & suicides in these forces for preventive measures. In this context, the Bureau has started collecting data on accidental deaths and suicides in CAPFs since 2014.

Accidental Deaths of CAPF personnel

As per data received from States/UTs, a total of 193 CAPF personnel lost their lives in various accidents during 2015. The State/UT-wise information on accidental deaths of CAPF personnel during the year 2015 is presented in Table–3.1.

The cause-wise analysis of accidental deaths of CAPF personnel revealed that maximum causalities of forces have been reported due to unclassified category of ‘Unnatural Causes Other than Road/Railway Accidents’ accounting for 38.9%(75 out of 193 deaths) of total accidental deaths in CAPFs during 2015 followed by ‘Road/Railway Accidents’ (27.5%)(53 out of 193 deaths), 'Killed in Action/ Operation/ Encounter/etc.' (18.1%)(35 out of 193 deaths) and 'Natural Causes (Calamities)' (2.6%)(5 out of 193 deaths) during 2015. A total of 1 CAPF personnel was victim of 'Fratricide' during 2015 [Table–3.1].

30 Central Armed Police Forces personnel died in road/railways accidents in Uttarakhand accounting for 56.6% (30 out of 53 deaths) of total such deaths in the country during 2015.

State/UT-wise patterns of accidental deaths of CAPF personnel revealed that 33.3%, 22.7% and 16.0% of deaths due to ‘Unnatural Causes other than Road/Railway Accidents’ were reported in Gujarat (25 out of 75 deaths), Jammu & Kashmir (17 out of 75 deaths) and Chhattisgarh (12 out of 75 deaths) respectively during 2015.

Chhattisgarh alone reported 85.7% (30 out of 35 deaths) of total causalities of the forces in ‘Operations & Encounters’ in the country during 2015.

Suicides in Central Armed Policed Forces

A total of 60 CAPF personnel have committed suicides during 2015. The State/UT wise details on suicides committed by CAPF personnel during the year 2015 are presented in Table–3.2.

The cause-wise analysis of suicidal deaths of CAPF personnel reveals that 45.0% (27 out of 60 suicides) and 20.0% (12 out of 60 suicides) of suicides in CAPFs were due to ‘Family Problems’ and ‘Financial Problems/Indebtedness’ respectively. A total of 4 and 3 suicides in CAPFs were due to ‘Property Dispute’ and ‘Marriage Related Issues’ respectively. 1 suicide in CAPFs was due to ‘Service Related Matters(Mental Depression)’ in 2015.

As per State & UT wise patterns of suicides, 18 suicides were reported in Assam alone, followed by Andhra Pradesh & Chhattisgarh (6 suicides each), Delhi (5 suicides) and Gujarat & Punjab (4 suicides each) during 2015. These 5 States & one UT together accounted for 71.7% (43 out of 60) of total suicides in CAPFs in the country.

10 out of 18 suicides reported in Assam were due to ‘Family Problems’. Similarly, 3 out of 4 suicides reported in Punjab were reported due to ‘Financial Problems/ Indebtedness’. 2 such suicides were reported in Madhya Pradesh, both incidents were due to 'Marriage Related Issues' during 2015. 4 out of 6 suicides reported in Andhra Pradesh were due to ‘Property Dispute’ during 2015.

* Source: Data on Police Organisation in India, as on 1.1.2015, BPR&D
Figure – 3.1
Major Causes – wise Deaths of CAPF Personnel during 2015
(As Registered by States/UTs)

Deaths due to
Natural Clamities [5]
Deaths Due To
Road/Railway Accidents [53]
Deaths Due To Unnatural Causes (Except Road/Railway Accidents) [75]
Fratricide [1]
Killed in Action/Operation/Encounters/etc. [35]

Figure – 3.2
Major Causes – wise Suicides of CAPF Personnel during 2015
(As Registered by States/UTs)

Financial Problems/Indebtedness [12]
Family Problems [27]
Causes Not Known [9]
Marriage Related Issues [3]
Property Dispute [4]
Service Related Issues [1]