

The Padmanabhaiah Committee on Police Reforms

In January 2000, the Government of India announced the setting up of another Committee on Police Reforms. The composition of this Committee was as follows:

Shri. K. Padmanabhaiah - Chairman, Ex-Union Home Secretary
Shri. Vijay Karan, IPS (Retd.) - Member
Shri M. D Sharma, IPS (Retd.) - Member
Shri. Amitabh Gupta, IPS - Member
Shri. B. B Nanda, IPS - Member -Secretary

The terms of reference of the Committee were:

- (i) To examine and specify the challenges that the police in India would face during the next millennium
- (ii) To evaluate the strength and weaknesses of the police force, as it is organised and structured today, to see if it would be able to meet those challenges
- (iii) To understand and appreciate the gap between the public's expectations and police performance, and whether this gap can be filled without making any basic changes in the structure, organisation and the attitudes of the police
- (iv) To envision a new look, cultured, people-friendly and a fighting-fit police force which is able to win the confidence and trust of the people and, at the same time, can effectively tackle the problems of organised crime, militancy and terrorism
- (v) To examine and bring out the changes which should be made in the following systems to transform our police into a most professional and competent force:

- (a) Recruitment at different levels
- (b) Training - both induction and in-service
- (c) Career planning at all levels
- (d) Accountability of the police
- (e) Redressal of public grievances
- (f) Redressal of police grievances
- (g) Police Station of the Next Millennium
- (h) Villages and city police
- (i) Techniques of investigation
- (j) Prosecution of cases
- (k) Management of traffic
- (l) Dealing with women and weaker sections of society

- (vi) To suggest measures to equip the police to adequately meet the challenges of the modern, hi-tech criminal and of cyber crime
- (vii) To recommend changes in the weaponry, communication and mobility of the police force
- (viii) To examine how the intelligence gathering machinery could be revamped, both at the Centre and within the states, and how their mutual interaction for intelligence sharing could be made faster and more reliable
- (ix) To devise methods of insulating the police from politicisation and criminalisation
- (x) To devise ways of securing public trust and cooperation in preventing and solving crime
- (xi) To examine the need to clarify some crimes as "federal crimes" and to create a Federal Law Enforcement Agency under the Ministry of Home Affairs
- (xii) The structural changes that need to be introduced for the police to function more efficiently and professionally.

As per the original Office Memorandum with which the Committee was set up, it was given only three months to complete its work. The Committee completed its report in August 2000. To see a summary of recommendations of the Committee, click

below:

- [Padmanabhaiah Committee on Police Reforms - Summary of Recommendations](#)

Amongst the terms of reference assigned to the Padmanabhaiah Committee, two are considered very important by CHRI. These are "to devise methods of insulating the police from politicisation and criminalisation" and suggest reforms to ensure "accountability of police" and "redressal of public grievances." These terms were examined by the Committee in three chapters- - Politicisation and Criminalisation of Police (chapter 9), Control over Police (chapter 10) and Accountability of Police (chapter 18). The CHRI did a critical analysis of the main points discussed in these chapters. To study our critical comments on the main points made in these chapters, click below:

- [Padmanabhaiah Committee on Police Reforms-A Critical Analysis of Some Important Recommendations](#)