

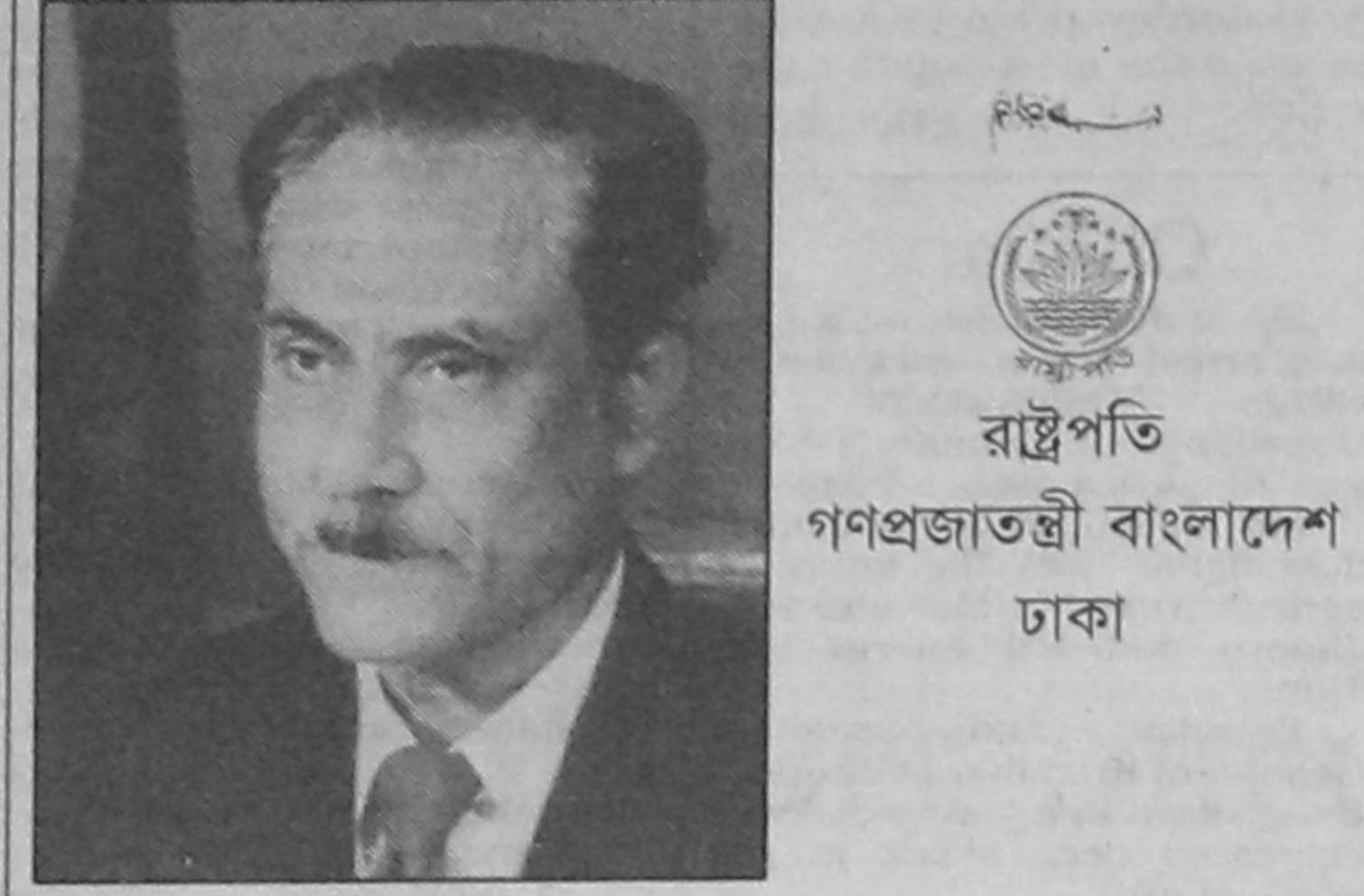
BANGLADESH POLICE

POLICE WEEK 2001

28 th JANUARY 2001

মানবতার মাঝেই আইনের মহিমা,
ভাস্তুর মাঝে নয়।

Planning & Design : Ad Empire



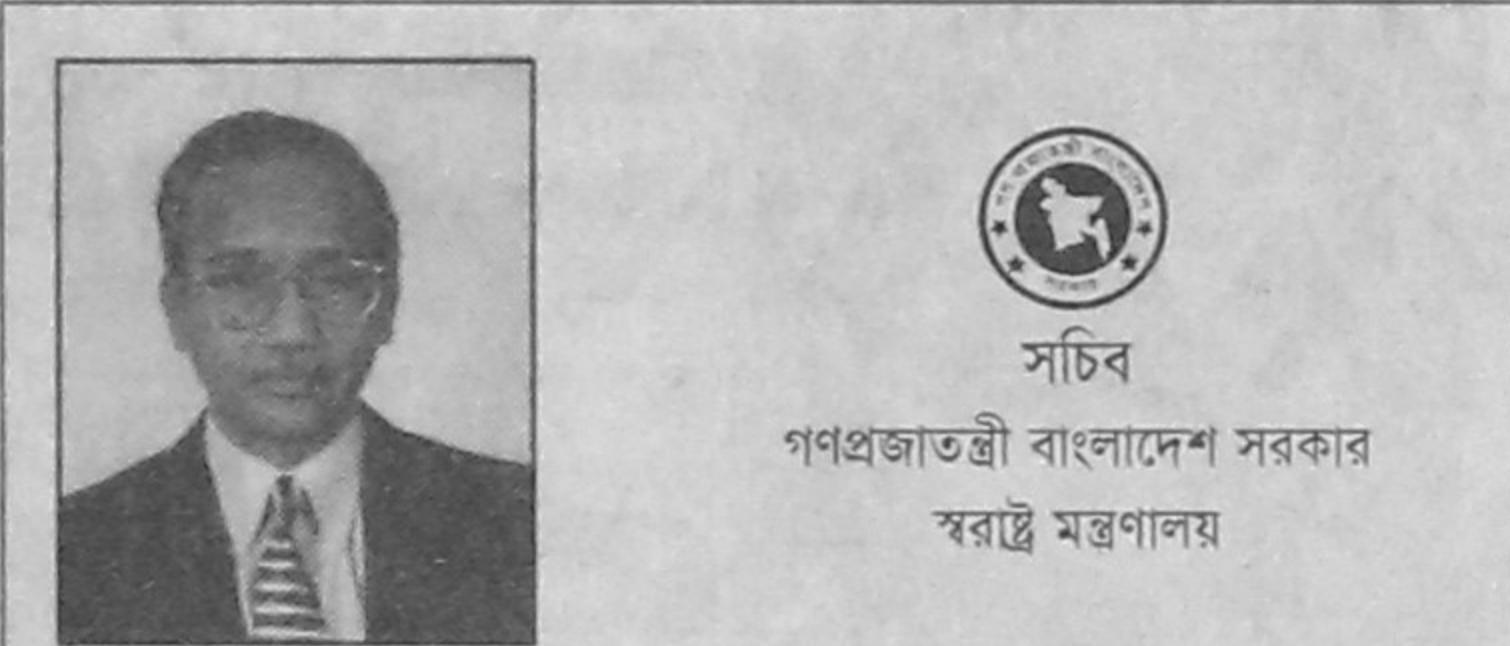
বাণী

পুলিশ সঞ্চাহ উপলক্ষে আমি বাংলাদেশ পুলিশ সার্ভিসের সকল সদস্যকে জানাই আন্তরিক অভিনন্দন।

বাংলাদেশ পুলিশের ঐতিহ্য ও অবদান প্রেরিত রয়েছে মহান স্বাধীনতা যুদ্ধের ইতিহাসে। এ যুদ্ধে বীর পুলিশ বাহিনীর সদস্যদের আত্মাগত জাতি শুদ্ধার সাথে স্মরণ করে। জনগণের জন-মালের নিরাপত্তা ও শৃঙ্খলা বিধানের প্রয়োজনে সৃষ্টি পুলিশ সার্ভিস গণতান্ত্রিক সমাজ ব্যবস্থায় অগ্রিম। চারিত্রিক দৃঢ়ত্বাত্মক উজ্জীবিত হয়ে সামাজিক শান্তি-শৃঙ্খলা বিধান ও মানবাধিকারকে সম্মত রেখে পুলিশ সদস্যদের দায়িত্ব পালন করতে হবে। সাম্প্রতিকক্ষে দেশের দক্ষিণ পশ্চিমাঞ্চলে চরমপক্ষী ও সন্তান নিখুন অভিযানে পুলিশের সাফল্য জাতিকে অনুপ্রাপ্তি করেছে। সমাজ থেকে সন্তান নির্মলে সাফল্যের ধারাবাহিকতা বৃক্ষ করে পুলিশ সদস্যকে এগাম করতে হবে যে, তারা জনগণের সেবক।

আমি পুলিশ সঞ্চাহের সার্বিক সাফল্য ও পুলিশ সার্ভিসের অব্যাহত অগ্রগতি কামনা করছি।

— সেপো মুজিবুর হাসান
বিচারপতি সাহাবদী আহমদ



বাণী

পুলিশ সঞ্চাহ-২০০১ উদয়াপনের এই উভ লংগে আমি বাংলাদেশ পুলিশ সার্ভিসের সকল সদস্যকে আন্তরিক অভিনন্দন জানাই।

দেশে আইন-শৃঙ্খলা রক্ষা ও জননিরাপত্তা বিধান করার দায়িত্ব প্রধান সচিব পুলিশ বাহিনী। যুগ পরিবর্তনের সাথে সাথে অপরাধের ক্ষেত্রেও এখন ভিন্নতর ও জটিল হয়েছে এবং অপরাধীরাও হয়েছে আগের চেয়ে সংঘবদ্ধ। এ পরিবর্তিত পরিস্থিতি মোকাবেলায় একটি আধুনিক ও গতিশীল পুলিশ বাহিনী গড়ে তোলা অপরিহার্য হয়ে পড়েছে। একবিংশ শতাব্দীর চালেশ মোকাবেলায় পুলিশ বিধানকে আধুনিকীকরণের মাধ্যমে যুগোপযোগী করে গড়ে তোলার পদক্ষেপ নেয়া হচ্ছে। গণতান্ত্রিক সমাজ ব্যবস্থায় পুলিশের কাছে জনগণের প্রত্যাশা অনেক। দেশের দক্ষিণ পশ্চিমাঞ্চলে পুলিশের সন্তান বিলোপী অভিযানের ফলে এই এলাকায় শান্তি প্রতিষ্ঠিত হওয়ায় সেখানকার জনগণ স্বত্ত্ব ফিরে পেয়েছেন। এই সন্তান বিলোপী অভিযানে জনগণের সহযোগিতা অভিযানের উদ্দেশ্যে অর্জনে বিশেষভাবে সহায় হয়েছে। গণতান্ত্রিক ও উন্নয়নশীল দেশের জন্য যোগ ও আধুনিক একটি প্রতিষ্ঠান হিসেবে বাংলাদেশ পুলিশ গড়ে উঠতে সক্ষম হবে এই কামনা।

আমি পুলিশ সঞ্চাহ-২০০১ এর সার্বিক সাফল্য কামনা করি।

এম এম রেজা

EVOLUTION OF POLICING IN THE SUB-CONTINENT: ITS IMPACT ON CONTEMPORARY POLICING IN BANGLADESH

M. Azizul Huq
Inspector General of Police (Retd.)

Bangladesh Police has a long and glorious tradition behind it. In fact, Police is as old as the civilization itself and police is considered as one of the oldest profession in the world. History tells us that towards the middle of the first century B.C. during the time of Augustus of the Roman Empire police system grew as an institution in the city state of Rome. Subsequently in the lands of his unworthy successors it became an instrument of Tyranny and the police system witnessed many upheavals. It disappeared and reappeared again in the 5th Century A.D. during the reign of Charlemagne. The growth of a systematic and well-organized police force was however, gradual and came through a process of evolution. In the mid 18th century England and in fact the entire European nations witnessed the Industrial Revolution and in the wake of industrialisation there was a sudden rise in crime and violence. It was then felt the necessity of having a well-organized well-equipped and well-trained civil force established by the state for maintaining peace and order in the society, prevention and detection of crimes. Various experiments were made which met with little success. At long last Sir Robert Peel, passed a Bill in the British Parliament in 1829 creating the first Civilian Force. London Metropolitan Police. Prior to that policing was a military, para-military or a mix of both the functions. Creation of Civilian Police force was therefore, initially resisted and looked down with suspicion by the Londoners. It was thought to be an infringement of their freedom and liberties. Gradually, the smartly dressed members of L.M.P. by their efficiency in controlling crimes and social disorder caught imagination of the English people and other European countries. were quick to adopt the L.M.P. model. The N.Y City police was established in 1833.

Indian sub-Continent

In Ancient India there was some sort of loosely organised policing done by 'Sthaniyas' in villages and 'Nagrikas' in cities. But these were local arrangements and no uniform system was in existence. In 'Kautilyas', 'Arthashastra', however, there is mention of 'espionage' network developed by the Hindu emperors. Spies were engaged not only to watch over criminals and social out-laws even 'kings', ministers', high public officials were kept within the espionage network and all sorts of temptations were used to test the loyalty and integrity of public officials. Various methods of torture were used to obtain confession and this system continued without substantial change till the Muslim period.

Muslim Period

During the sultanate period and official 'Muhtasib' was responsible for police administration, he was the chief of police as well as Suptd. of public works. In the cities his powers were delegated to 'kotwals'. Spies were unfiied by 'Muhtasib' to collect information. Sher Shah, the great Pathan Ruler, in mid 16th Century evolved an effective civil and criminal administration system which was further consolidated during the time of Akbar, the great Mugal. During the Mugal period the chief of police in city areas used to be the 'kotwals' assisted by 'Horsemen' and 'Bardarkazars' who used to carry out patrol in cities for crime prevention and detection. 'kotwals' was a very important Magisterial powers too. He appointed leading personalities as 'wardens' who were responsible for maintaining peace and order in their jurisdiction. The rural areas were looked after by 'Thanadars' (O.C.) a small administrative unit of every 'Sarker' (later known as district).

British Rule Since 1757

With the decline of the Mugal Empire in 18th Century the indigenous police system could not cope with the increasing social disorder, crimes, violence and hence collapsed. The East India Co., which acquired the 'Diwan' of Bengal in 1765 ad became the 'de facto' ruler of Bengal skillfully avoided criminal administration and kept the existing policing system unchanged. However, Lord Cornwallis, took first effective steps to improve the existing system. In 1793 the districts of Bengal were divided into a number of police jurisdictions named 'Thanas' each under jurisdiction of a 'daroga' (O.C.).

This Thandari system was the introduction of a hierarchical system in policing. Police admin. was directly placed under control and supervision of European Magistrates. This being the main objective the prevention and detection of crime was of secondary importance. For the first time police officers were brought under the payroll of the Govt. this was a 'turning point'. The Thandari system continued with little changes from time to time but remained the main foundation of the present policing.

After 1857

The patriotic uprising of 1857 (Sepoy Mutiny) revealed the weakness of the policing system. Need for reform was urgently felt. Success of L.M.P. (1829) inspired the British Rulers to have an ancient and modern police system in this sub-Continent. In 1860 Govt. of India appointed a Commission to enquire into the entire gamut of police admin. and to recommend measures for the creation of an economic & perfect police! Result Act V. of 1861 laying foundation of an organised police force which is still in force in India, Pakistan, Bangladesh. silent features of the Act-

1. Unitary in character having centralized command and control instead of local police, IGP the chief, responsible for efficiency and economy to the Govt.

2. Admin. of police throughout the district vested in the SP subject to general control and direction of the D.M.

3. District rank structure defined.

4. Role and responsibilities of police: defined under Section-23 and 31 of Act.

5. Superintendent with Govt. while admn. with IGP.

Reform Commissions/ Committees Since police was organised under Act V of 1861 the need for reform was felt by successive Govts. who instituted several Commissions/committees which produced little result.

a. Lord Curzon formed a commission in 1902 with Sir Andrew Fraser, President.

b. B.G. Committee in 1937.

c. Shahabuddin Report, 1953.

d. Hatch-Bornwell Report 1956.

e. Justice Constantine Report 1960-61.

f. Mitha Report 1969.

g. Police Commission Report of Justice Amirul Rahman Khan 1988-89.

Impact on contemporary policing in Bangladesh

With the emergence of Bangladesh as an independent and sovereign state on 16 Dec. 1971 we have inherited a policed system based on Act V of 1861 (mentioned earlier) which has perhaps withstood the test of time. The Act regulates the organisational structure, discipline, recruitment, charter of duties etc. of the police force although the police work has substantially grown in volume and increased in complexities and subtleties. Bangladesh inherited a police system devised by the British rulers as an effective administrative apparatus apparently for maintaining peace and order in their colony but with the ultimate objective of collection of Revenue for British monarch by using co-ercive method and for protecting and perpetuating the British Raj by suppressing the political dissenters, frequently by applying force and extra-legal methods. Further, Act V of 1861 has to be viewed in the backdrop of Popular uprising of 1857, which is often dubbed by some historians as 'Sepoy Mutiny'. The framers of this Act had in the back of their mind the necessary of raising an

efficient force for perpetuating the British rule. This is obvious from section 4 of the Act which reads, "the administration of the police throughout the local jurisdiction of the Magistrate shall, under the general control and direction of such Magistrate be vested in a District Suptd. of Police". District Magistrate in the Colonial period, mostly of European origin, was considered the absolute and sole representative of the British crown and the entire administration including the police apparatus was geared to protect the Crown's interest. The D.M. was, so to say, the demigod in the district and the entire administration was run according to his sweet will. None of the subordinates, including the police, dared to disobey his wishes because he was the fountain head of all administrative powers and used to write the ACRs of all dept. heads in the district. The D.M. of the present day in the name of "Co-ordination" enjoys such vast privileges although there has been some erosions of his authority over other dept. in the Post-Liberation period. In other words, it was not the people but the State or the Govt. whose interest was foremost for the entire bureaucracy including police. Such "colonial hangover" still haunts many members of a national Police Force of an Independent & sovereign state. Some of them continue to behave like masters instead of friends of the people they serve. People still are afraid of police and want to maintain a reasonable distance without getting involved with them as far as possible. The genesis of the present ill of the dept. and its low and unsavoury public image can be traced back to this historical fact.

Unrestricted power of arrest to any Police Officer given under section 54 Cr. P.C. enacted in 1898 is one of the reasons for the unfavourable police image. This power of arrest by any police Officer without warrant of arrest issued by a magistrate is often abused or misused violating human rights as enshrined in our constitution (article 35/5) and in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights. Police torture, brutalities, custodial deaths and other malpractices which have become the subject of public criticism and condemnation is due mainly to wide police powers given by the British Rulers with the object of creating fear and awe in public mind. Human rights activists, Amnesty International, intellectuals, press and social reformers have recently become very critical about this unrestricted power of arrest under section 54 Cr. P.C.

It is an emphasis to say that police reforms are over due and should find the highest priority in the Govt's agenda. Unfortunately, number of Police Reforms Commissions were set up since 1902, by successive Govts. the last one being in 1988-89. Such Commission Reports hardly received any serious consideration of the them Govts. and their recommendations were hardly implemented barring a few exception. As a result, no substantial qualitative improvement has taken place in policing as far as the common people are concerned who are supposed to be their main clientele. No doubt, their numerical strength has increased manifold over the years, their logistic, infrastructural and technical support has improved considerably though not commensurate with the complexities, volume and nature of duties they have to perform in a completely changed social context. It hardly needs any emphasis that reform must come from within and the 'neo-Colonial' mind set of the rank and file of the police must undergo radical change to fulfil the expectations of the people. Proper training, motivation, accountability, transparency, change of the age-old Rules, Regulations; which may have some salutary effects in reforming the police and salvaging the present low image. The essential pre-requisite for good Governance is a highly efficient, non-partisan and dedicated police force which is an asset for any democratic society.

Police reforms in the post-independence period have been slow and gradual. In 1972, the first Police Reforms Commission was formed by the then Prime Minister Ziaur Rahman. The commission recommended a number of changes in the police system. The recommendations were partially implemented. In 1974, the second Police Reforms Commission was formed by the then Prime Minister Ershad. The recommendations were partially implemented. In 1988, the third Police Reforms Commission was formed by the then Prime Minister Begum Khaleda Zia. The recommendations were partially implemented. In 1990, the fourth Police Reforms Commission was formed by the then Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina. The recommendations were partially implemented. In 1992, the fifth Police Reforms Commission was formed by the then Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina. The recommendations were partially implemented. In 1994, the sixth Police Reforms Commission was formed by the then Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina. The recommendations were partially implemented. In 1996, the seventh Police Reforms Commission was formed by the then Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina. The recommendations were partially implemented. In 1998, the eighth Police Reforms Commission was formed by the then Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina. The recommendations were partially implemented. In 2000, the ninth Police Reforms Commission was formed by the then Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina. The recommendations were partially implemented. In 2002, the tenth Police Reforms Commission was formed by the then Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina. The recommendations were partially implemented. In 2004, the eleventh Police Reforms Commission was formed by the then Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina. The recommendations were partially implemented. In 2006, the twelfth Police Reforms Commission was formed by the then Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina. The recommendations were partially implemented. In 2008, the thirteenth Police Reforms Commission was formed by the then Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina. The recommendations were partially implemented. In 2010, the fourteenth Police Reforms Commission was formed by the then Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina. The recommendations were partially implemented. In 2012, the fifteenth Police Reforms Commission was formed by the then Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina. The recommendations were partially implemented. In 2014, the sixteenth Police Reforms Commission was formed by the then Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina. The recommendations were partially implemented. In 2016, the seventeenth Police Reforms Commission was formed by the then Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina. The recommendations were partially implemented. In 2018, the eighteenth Police Reforms Commission was formed by the then Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina. The recommendations were partially implemented. In 2020, the nineteenth Police Reforms Commission was formed by the then Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina. The recommendations were partially implemented. In 2022, the twentieth Police Reforms Commission was formed by the then Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina. The recommendations were partially implemented. In 2024, the twenty-first Police Reforms Commission was formed by the then Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina. The recommendations were partially implemented. In 2026, the twenty-second Police Reforms Commission was formed by the then Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina. The recommendations were partially implemented. In 2028, the twenty-third Police Reforms Commission was formed by the then Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina. The recommendations were partially implemented. In 2030, the twenty-fourth Police Reforms Commission was formed by the then Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina. The recommendations were partially implemented. In 2032, the twenty-fifth Police Reforms Commission was formed by the then Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina. The recommendations were partially implemented. In 2034, the twenty-sixth Police Reforms Commission was formed by the then Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina. The recommendations were partially implemented. In 2036, the twenty-seventh Police Reforms Commission was formed by the then Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina. The recommendations were partially implemented. In 2038, the twenty-eighth Police Reforms Commission was formed by the then Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina. The recommendations were partially implemented. In 2040, the twenty-ninth Police Reforms Commission was formed by the then Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina. The recommendations were partially implemented. In 2042, the thirtieth Police Reforms Commission was formed by the then Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina. The recommendations were partially implemented. In 2044, the thirty-first Police Reforms Commission was formed by the then Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina. The recommendations were partially implemented. In 2046, the thirty-second Police Reforms Commission was formed by the then Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina. The recommendations were partially implemented. In 2048, the thirty-third Police Reforms Commission was formed by the then Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina. The recommendations were partially implemented. In 2050, the thirty-fourth Police Reforms Commission was formed by the then Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina. The recommendations were partially implemented. In 2052, the thirty-fifth Police Reforms Commission was formed by the then Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina. The recommendations were partially implemented. In 2054, the thirty-sixth Police Reforms Commission was formed by the then Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina. The recommendations were partially implemented. In 2056, the thirty-seventh Police Reforms Commission was formed by the then Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina. The recommendations were partially implemented. In 2058, the thirty-eighth Police Reforms Commission was formed by the then Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina. The recommendations were partially implemented. In 2060, the thirty-ninth Police Reforms Commission was formed by the then Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina. The recommendations were partially implemented. In 2062, the fortieth Police Reforms Commission was formed by the then Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina. The recommendations were partially implemented. In 2064, the fortieth Police Reforms Commission was formed by the then Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina. The recommendations were partially implemented. In 2066, the fortieth Police Reforms Commission was formed by the then Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina. The recommendations were partially implemented. In 2068, the fortieth Police Reforms Commission was formed by the then Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina. The recommendations were partially implemented. In 2070, the fortieth Police Reforms Commission was formed by the then Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina. The recommendations were partially implemented. In 2072, the fortieth Police Reforms Commission was formed by the then Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina. The recommendations were partially implemented. In 2074, the fortieth Police Reforms Commission was formed by the then Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina. The recommendations were partially implemented. In 2076, the fortieth Police Reforms Commission was formed by the then Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina. The recommendations were partially implemented. In 2078, the fortieth Police Reforms Commission was formed by the then Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina. The recommendations were partially implemented. In 2080, the fortieth Police Reforms Commission was formed by the then Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina. The recommendations were partially implemented. In 2082, the fortieth Police Reforms Commission was formed by the then Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina. The recommendations were partially implemented. In 2084, the fortieth Police Reforms Commission was formed by the then Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina. The recommendations were partially implemented. In 2086, the fortieth Police Reforms Commission was formed by the then Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina. The recommendations were partially implemented. In 2088, the fortieth Police Reforms Commission was formed by the then Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina. The recommendations were partially implemented. In 209