

DELHI POLICE FIRST TO WIDEN FORENSIC PROBE

Relevant for: Developmental Issues | Topic: Important Aspects of Governance, Transparency & Accountability including Right to Information and Citizen Charter

The Delhi Police have become the first police force in the country to make collection of forensic evidence mandatory in crimes punishable with a sentence of more than six years in prison.

The Delhi Police, under the administrative control of the Union Home Ministry, issued the order on Tuesday, hours after Home Minister Amit Shah visited their headquarters.

Delhi Police Commissioner Sanjay Arora issued a “standard order” to all police units that said, “In order to take conviction rate higher and integrating the criminal justice system with forensic science investigation, it is decided to use forensic tools mandatorily in all cases where punishment provided is more than six years.”

It said that the order was meant for setting out guidelines for the use of forensic tools in offences attracting punishment of more than six years by all investigating officers of the Delhi Police.

Vans to be deployed

The order said that the Delhi Police have mobile crime team van in each district and in addition, one forensic mobile van will be allotted to each district to provide scientific and forensic assistance on the spot to investigation officers, whenever need rises. These vehicles shall be fully equipped with scientific tools and enough forensic assistants shall be detailed in each such van, the order said.

“These forensic mobile vans shall not be under the administrative control of the police but shall be an independent entity responsible to the court of law. However, they shall visit the scene of crime whenever called by the station house officer or any other investigating agency of the Delhi Police,” the order stated.

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