The Bureau of Police Research & Development celebrated its 49th Foundation Day today. The function was organized at the BPR&D Headquarters, Mahipalpur, New Delhi. Shri Amit Shah, Hon’ble Home Minister of India, graced the function as the Chief Guest and delivered the keynote address in the august presence of the MoS Home, Shri G. Kishan Reddy, and senior serving and retired officers of MHA, CAPFs, State Police, Academia, Members of National Police Mission, Civil Society Organizations and BPR&D officers & staff. The Chief Guest praised the work of the BPR&D in the domain of capacity building of the police forces, correctional administration and its efforts in modernization of police forces.

2. While highlighting the role of the BPR&D, the Home Minister mentioned that the IPC and the CrPC require a complete review and changes in keeping with the present day requirements. BPR&D needs to take up this job. Further, while speaking on the computerization of the State Police Forces, he said that some of the states have computerized police functioning, like Gujarat, while
others have followed. BPR&D needs to have a holistic view on computerization of the Police Forces in the country. While speaking on the National Police University (NPU), the Home Minister informed that the Ministry is going to put up the NPU Bill before the Cabinet very soon. He also mentioned that forensic science has a very significant role in investigation, prosecution and conviction of the criminal. Therefore, there is need to set up Forensic Science University so that the demand and supply gap between the forensic professionals is bridged.

3. While speaking on the Correctional Administration, he mentioned that there is need for paradigm shift in the approach of Correctional Administration. Correctional Administration and Prison Reforms should adopt reformative approach and become centres of rehabilitation. While stating the need for modernisation of the Police Forces, he said there is need to draw 10 year modernisation plan for the State Police Forces and the Bureau needs to help the States in envisioning and creating a roadmap for modernisation of the State Forces. Expressing his satisfaction over the present level of functioning of the BPR&D, he mentioned that the BPR&D has to be proactive in its role to strengthen the Police Forces and it is not possible to have good police without active involvement of the BPR&D. He also made a distinction between police reforms and reforms in policing. The deliverable through reforms has to be ultimately improved by proactive policing.
4. The Home Minister mentioned that the Bureau needs to suggest ways and means for prevention of crimes, scientific investigation and detection of criminals based on their modus operandi. While highlighting features of core policing, he emphasized the need to revive and strengthen the "Khabri System" at the “Thana” level, which primarily relies on human intelligence. He also emphasized the need for Beat System and Community Policing for making police more effective & people friendly.

5. Before his address, Home Minister unveiled the “Golden Jubilee logo” of the BPR&D and released the latest edition of the “Indian Police Journal”, the “Police Vigyan” in Hindi and “Smart Policing” book in Hindi by Dr. Prashant Chaubey who has been awarded the Govind Vallabh Pant Puraskar. Further, Home Minister also awarded Police trainers from various corners of the country with the Union Home Minister’s Medal for Excellence in Police Training.

6. On this occasion, MoS Home, Shri Kishan Reddy acknowledged the role of Police and the grave challenges like terrorism, naxalism, serious crime, law and order issues, etc., faced by them. He emphasized the need for modernization of Police Forces and in-service specialized and refresher training. Further, he stated that given the complexity of the crimes, there is need to develop domain expertise in policing and, therefore, lauded innovative measures like use of drones in different fields of policing. He mentioned that there is huge increase
in the number of cases of cyber crime and, therefore, police forces are required to equip themselves to face such crimes. He further expressed his concern over the safety and security of the women and emphasized the need to ensure complete safety of women against crimes. He also drew the attention of BPR&D towards traffic issues and urged it to find the appropriate strategy for effective management of traffic.

7. Shri VSK Kaumudi, DG BPR&D, welcomed the Chief Guest and others in the function, talked about the different projects undertaken by the Bureau like the establishment of the National Cyber Security Centre, Space Application Centre, the Student-Police Cadet Scheme which is functional in 8176 schools. DG, BPR&D also highlighted the role of BPR&D in establishing the National Police Universities, Special Training for Police in Soft Skills with the help of IGNOU, Wellness Centre with the help of Morarji Desai National Yoga Centre, Witness Protection Scheme, speedy investigation and so on.

8. In the end, Shri V H Deshmukh, ADG, BPR&D, gave the vote of thanks to the Chief Guest and distinguished members on the behalf of the BPR&D.

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