A Study of Print Media Coverage's Public Opinion Related to Human Rights Violation by Police

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Abstract

The objective of the study is to examine human rights violation by police, its print media coverage' public opinion and which factors helps to common newspaper readers. The research paper searched to print media coverage public opinion's related to human rights violation by police to Lucknow district of Uttar Pradesh. Print media has played a very important role in creating awareness, promoting the coverage of human rights violation by police. The study also exposed such as newspaper readers read coverage related to human rights violation by police, Coverage of Human Right Violation by Print Media, Satisfaction regarding Human Rights Violation Coverage made by Police, Ignorance of Human Rights Violation coverage, Impact of the Print Media coverage made by Print Media, Impact on Public Administrative System, Coverage of Human Rights Violation and Justice to Common man and Coverage of Human Rights Violation and Maintenance of Law and Order.

Keywords*: Human Rights Violation, Police, Coverage of Media, Public Opinion.*

Introduction

India, world's most crowded democracy, continues to have significant human rights problems despite making commitments to tackle some of the most common abuses. The country has a prosperous civil society, free media, and an independent judiciary. But longstanding abusive practices, corruption, and lack of accountability for perpetrators

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foster human rights violations.

The violations of human rights in large number take place in the management of law and order, by the police. Indian history of human rights violations in police custody can be traced back to British period. Even after 72 years of Independence in India, the police remains virtually a terror to the people and almost absolutely unaccountable for the violations of human rights of people in their custody. Through custodial torture, custodial deaths and other forms of human rights violation in police custody abuses, no static steps have been have taken so far for a permanent solution. Since conviction rate is considered as the index to measure the ability of an investigating police officer, every police officer would try to accomplish the maximum conviction rate to his credit by hook or crook. This will definitely help to increase the rate of police torture. It is really pathetic that the successive governments have persistently refused to investigate the abuses reported in newspaper. Nowadays custodial violence has become a part of the police culture and the incidence of custodial deaths is quite common. Though the academic world and judiciary have become conscious of the need of a study of the causes related to human rights violations by police custody from the legal standpoint which has so far received little attention. India has the second largest population of the world and police and population ratio in India is really a question of an hour and pondering issue as per as duties and responsibilities of policemen are concerned. India has total 2.12 million of police strength against 1205.87 million populations on 2011.

National Crime Record Bureau's data shows that as per the report 64 cases of Human Rights Violation by Police were reported throughout the country during 2007. 37 Policemen were charge-sheeted and none of them was convicted for these Human Rights Violations during the year. Uttar Pradesh has reported the maximum 22 cases (34.4% of such cases) followed by Gujarat 21 (32.8%). 11 cases each out of 64 cases were reported for crime head 'Illegal Detention/Arrests' and 'Atrocities on SCs/STs' (Crime in India Report 2007). This scenario has drastically changed in 2012 with a hike of police complains of human rights violation. There were 57363 complains reported of human rights violation by police across India, Uttar Pradesh has reported with 8440 such complains. Total 839 charge sheets filed of human rights violation by police across India, in U.P. 36 such cases were registered in 2012.

The 1993 Vienna World Conference on Human Rights noted that it is duty of states to promote and protect all human rights and fundamental freedoms, regardless of their political, economic and cultural systems. Human Rights issues became more prominent

both in public policy and public opinion during the 1990s. Many governments officially incorporated human rights principles in their policy frameworks, with legal implications. Many international institutions notable, United Nations agencies 'mainstreamed' human rights. The media reflected this upsurge of interest in its coverage of human rights stories (K.John Babu 2016).

The Indian Police Act, 1861 is the basic foundation of present day Police. This act provided for a uniform system of police force. Police Commission orders issued after the 1902 to 1947 based on the British left our country, change the nature of police work and the other method has no initiative. It is doubtful that the 1905 reforms on the basis of supposed a positive change in the attitude of the police. The Criminal Procedure Code, 1898, which had undergone minor changes from time to time, was later repealed and replaced by the Code of Criminal Procedure, 1973. It is, therefore, correctly said that the present day Indian Police System, in the contemporary contexts, has become old and out-dated. The Supreme Court of India has consequently issued directions to the Union and the State Governments to enact new Police Acts.

The National Police Commission (1977-81) while dealing with public order issues and the police, observed: "Increasing violence is seen as the most disturbing feature of the contemporary law and order situation in the country. Newspapers frequently report details of violent incidents involving large groups of agitators who clash with the police while articulating some issue of discontent and frustration. Police action to restore order in such situations frequently involves the use of force, including firearms on some occasions, which in turn, draws adverse public reaction and escalates tension and hostility between the public and the law enforcement agency (SARCR 2007). Under Chapter XII of the Criminal Procedure Code, the police has a statutory right to carry on investigation. Investigation generally through interviews and interrogation is most important in criminal trial. (Bhosle, S. 2003). Despite state prohibitions against torture and custodial misconduct by the police, torture is widespread in police custody, which is a major reason behind deaths in custody (AHRC Report 2004). One of the most vigilant watchdogs over the police functioning in this country is the media. The media in India enjoys a wide measure of freedom. It has enormous reach and power. Technological advances witnessed during the last few decades have revolutionized the world of communications and opened frontiers, which were hitherto unknown to the media or beyond its reach. Any violation of human rights occurring anywhere in the country can be known to the rest of the country in no time, provided the media takes it up. The media has shown great interest in reporting on human rights violations committed by police officers. What happened in Gujarat during communal

riots in the year (2002) was known to the rest of India and the world mainly through the efforts of the media. However, the known incidents of police misconduct or abuse of power are far less than those that take place but are not known. The Media coverage sometimes is inadequate and selective. Most media organizations in this country, as in other parts of the world, are either state or corporate owned.

The Police is the first visible point of contact of people. Police is the largest law enforcing agency, no doubt, a special responsibility for the protection of human rights but its role as a protector of human rights takes a beating, when the protectors themselves are accused of violating them. Police functions are mostly prohibited and regulatory in nature and this leaves an impression on the individual peoples that police interferes with the life, liberty and freedom of the people. It is the duty of the police to preserve order and prevent crime. When there is a violation of law, it is the duty of the police apprehends the offenders and produces them before the court to be dealt with the procedure established by law.

In this above view-point to shows that human rights violation by police is contemporary issues. In 2006, the Supreme Court of India in a judgment in the case of *Prakash Singh vs. Union of India* ordered Union and state governments with seven directives to begin the process of police reform. The main objectives of this set of directives were twofold, providing tenure to and streamlining the appointment/transfer processes of policemen, and increasing the accountability of the police (Pranjape 2008).

Print Media and Human Rights Violation by the Police

Although the courts and governments have the primary duty to preserve the human rights, the media too can act as a watchdog to bring to the notice of the government and the courts the excesses of human rights violation issues. The role of media against the human rights violation can be understood by the following cases:

Case-1: One case study is presented where Indian Express newspaper played vital role to expose human rights violations. For example, on October 11, 1980, the Delhi edition of the Indian express published a news item "10 under trials blame police for losing sight". It concerned a habeas corpus petition which moved in the Supreme Court on behalf of under trial prisoners in Bhagalpur Jail in Bihar who "alleged that the police deprived them of their eyesight by using acid' (D.V.R.Murthy 2016) .

Case-2: This is a news clipping in the Newspaper 'Amar Ujala' in Uttar Pradesh state that the Police personal have used abusive language against vegetable Vender, as she

refused to pay Hafta (illegal payment of money) and also beaten a neighboring vender. The victim was admitted in district hospital and discharged after treatment. Action was not taken up by guilty police personnel. The National Human Rights Commission has taken a serious view on high handedness by the police who are the public servants obligated to protect the life and properly of the citizens (Kumar, R 2016).

Research Objective

The main objective of this research paper is to study and analyze the Print Media coverage public opinion's with regard to Human Rights Violation by the Police. The paper tries to present view-point of Readers of Lucknow district who are ultimately the target newspaper readers of this opinion.

Area of the study

Lucknow District is a district located in the Uttar Pradesh state in northern India. The city of Lucknow is the district headquarters and the district is part of Lucknow Division and also is the capital of Uttar Pradesh. The City was established in 1775 as the Nawab of Awadh moved his capital from Faizabad to Lucknow and made it one of the most prosperous and glittering cities in all India. Located in what was historically known as the Awadh region, Lucknow has always been a multicultural place. Courtly mannerism, lofty gardens, poetry, music, and fine traditional cuisine patronized by the Persian-loving Shia Nawabs are well known amongst Indians and students of South Asian culture and history.

According to the 2011 census Lucknow district has a population of 4,588,455, roughly equal to the nation of Georgia or the US state of Louisiana. This gives it a ranking of 31st in India (out of a total of 640). The district has a population density of 1,815 inhabitants per square kilometre (4,700 /sq mi) .Its population growth rate over the decade 2001-2011 was 25.79%. Lucknow has a sex ratio of 906 females for every 1000 males, and a literacy rate of 79.33%.According to the 2001 census of Lucknow district had a population of 3,681,461(Census of India 2011).

The district has more than 42 police stations, as the Uttar Pradesh has the highest population in India, the number of policemen against population in U.P. in a ratio 1:1173. The sanctioned figure by the government of India is 1:552 for the same revealed by bureau of police Research and Development (BPRd) on 1 January 2012.

Review of Literature

The official data available with Two Circles.net (2014) says every second police encounter that takes place in the country is fake. Since October 1993, 2560 cases of police encounters have been brought into the notice of National Human Rights Commission (NHRC). Of them, according to the NHRC, 1224 cases have been found fake encounters. It means that roughly every second police encounter is fake in the country. The information has been accessed by eminent RTI activist Afroz Alam Sahil after several attempts. Sahil recently came into limelight for securing the autopsy report of Batla House encounter victims (*Every second police encounter in India is* fake).

The Supreme Court of India declared, in August 1993, that using jails as places of safe custody to house non-criminal mentally ill persons (NCMI) is unconstitutional. *(Raju, M.V. (2010) Human Rights Today and Tomorrow)*. There is evidence in law reports, and activist have admitted to have knowledge of the practice of hostage taking by the police where the person to be apprehended is not within reach of the police. Relatives of sought are then picked up and kept in custody till he surrenders. This appears to have happened with some regularity in Punjab but we also heard of it in Delhi and Andhra Pradesh for instance. This breach 12 of law needs further investigation and response (Raju, M.V. (2010) Human Rights Today and Tomorrow).

In custodial institutions other than prisons in protective homes 'for women, for instance, the problem of custody versus shelter has been raised. Protective homes are established under the Immoral Traffic (prevention) Act 1956 (ITPA). Since they are the only statutory institutions that can house women for = protection= as also for correction', they act as place of custody, operating within the Executive Magistracy System. Raju (M.V. (2010) Human Rights Today and Tomorrow).

Research Methodology

The present study is focused on the opinion of newspaper readers related to different wards of Lucknow district. The opinion of respondent is sought through questionnaire. The Lucknow district is taken as a Universe. Again, from Lucknow district, Lucknow city is chosen by purposive method as it is capital of Uttar Pradesh with higher literacy rate i.e. 79.33%. It has representation of people from different areas of Lucknow district also. Lucknow city has total 110 wards. For the sampling, from all 110 wards, 02 wards have been chosen by lottery method for sampling. There are 1. Shankarpurva Ward (Ward No.-31) and 2. Daliganj-Nirala Nagar (Ward No-32). In all, 300 questionnaires were distribution

to the respondents by random Sampling method for getting information pertaining to human rights violation (equally in each ward (i.e. 150+150). After filling the questionnaires, those questionnaires of respondents were rejected who said that they do not read newspapers or not know about human rights. Questionnaire filled incompletely were also rejected. Thus, following these parameters, dully filled 250 questionnaires were selected from both wards for the study.

Data Analysis- Human Rights Violation by Police and its Print Media Coverage

In order to know the opinion of the respondents pertaining to human rights violation by police, Question (1) was asked as: 'Do the police violate Human Rights?'

The responses obtained are as under in the table:

Table 1: Human Right Violation by Police

Responses	No. of Respondents	Percentage
Yes	222	88.8
No	28	11.2
Total	**250**	**100**

Above table shows that out of total respondents, 88.8% have said that the police violate the human rights. On the other hand 11.2% respondents say that police do not violate human rights. It is thus evident exposed the view that comparatively high percentage is of opinion that police violates human rights, which is a matter of concern?

In order to know from respondents that whether human rights violation committed by police are covered by print media, Question No (2) was asked as: 'Does the human rights violation made by police is covered by print media'?

The responses obtained are as under in the table:

Table 2: Coverage of Human Rights Violation by Print Media

Responses	No. of Respondents	Percentage
Yes	80	32.0
No	24	9.6
Partially	146	58.4
Total	**250**	**100**

It is clear from the above table that 32% respondents say that print media are cover the human rights violation made by police while other 9.6% respondents said that no such coverage by print media is made. There are also comparatively higher percentages i.e. 58.4% who say that human right violation made by police is partially covered by print media.

In order to know that whether the respondents are satisfied with the coverage in print media regarding violation of human rights made by police, Question No (3) was asked as: 'Are you satisfied with the coverage in Print Media regarding violation of human rights made by Police'?

The responses obtained are as under in the table:

Table 3: Satisfaction regarding Human Rights Violation Coverage made by Police

Responses	No. of Respondents	Percentage
Yes	93	37.2
No	20	8.2
Partially	137	54.8
Total	**250**	**100**

It is clear from the above table that 37.2% respondents are satisfied with the coverage in print media regarding violation of human rights made by police while 8.2% respondents expressed the view that they are not satisfied. On the other hand 54.8% respondents say that they are partially satisfied with the coverage in the print media regarding violation of human rights made by police.

In order to know about ignoring human rights violation made by police during the Print Media coverage, Question No (4) was asked as: 'Do you think Human Rights Violation by the Police is ignored during the Print Media coverage'?

The responses obtained are as under in the table:

Table 4: Ignorance of Human Rights Violation Coverage

Responses	No. of Respondents	Percentage
Yes	107	42.8
No	23	9.2
Partially	120	48.0
Total	**250**	**100**

Above the table shows that out 107 i.e. 42.8% think that human rights violation by the police is ignored during the print media coverage. On the other hand 23 i.e. 9.2% respondents think that human rights violation by the police is not ignored during the print media coverage while 120 (48%) say they such coverage is partially ignored by the print media.

In order to know there is impact on social life related to coverage of human rights violation made by police Question No. (5) was asked as: 'Do you think that Print Media coverage related to Human Rights violation made by Police has impact on social life'?

The responses obtained are as under in the table:

Table 5: Impact of the Print Media coverage made by Print Media

Responses	No. of Respondents	Percentage
Yes	137	54.8
No	30	12.0
Partially	83	33.2
Total	**250**	**100**

It is evident from the above table that 54.8% respondents are of the view that print media coverage related to human rights violation made by police has impact on social life while 12% respondents denied for any such impact. Further 33.2% respondents say print media coverage related to human rights violation made by police has partial impact on social life.

In order to know that whether there is impact of Print media coverage of human rights violation by police Question No. (6) was asked as: 'Do you think that Print Media coverage of Human Rights Violation by Police has impact on public administrative system?

The responses obtained are as under in the table:

Table 6: Impact on Public Administrative System

Responses	No. of Respondents	Percentage
Yes	203	81.2
No	47	18.8
Total	**250**	**100**

It is clear from the above table that 81.2% respondents think that print media

coverage of human rights violation by police has impact on public administrative system. On other hand 18.8% respondents said that they do not agree that print media coverage of human rights violation by police has impact on public administrative system.

In order to know that print media coverage of the provides any help in getting justice, Question No. (7) Was asked as: 'Do you think that Print Media coverage of Human Rights Violation made by Police helps in getting justice to common man'?

The responses obtained are as under in the table:

Table 7: Coverage of Human Rights Violation and Justice to Common man

Responses	No. of Respondents	Percentage
Yes	170	68.0
No	80	32.0
Total	**250**	**100**

Above table shows that 68% respondents agreed that Print media coverage of human rights violation made by police is helpful in getting justice to common while 32% respondents think that they do not think that the print media coverage of human rights violation made by police is helpful and can provide any help in getting justice.

In order to know the views regarding help of print media coverage of human rights violation made by police, Question No. (8) was asked as: 'Do you think that Print media coverage of human rights violation made by police helps in maintaining law and order'?

The responses obtained are as under in the table:

Table 8: Coverage of Human Rights Violation and Maintenance of Law and Order

Responses	No. of respondents	Percentage
Yes	122	48.8
No	28	11.2
Partially	100	40.0
Total	**250**	**100**

It is evident from the above table that 122 i.e. 48.8% respondents think that print media coverage of human rights violation made by police is helpful in maintaining law and order while other 28 i.e. 11.2% respondents think that print media coverage of human rights violation is not helpful in maintaining law and order. Remaining 100 i.e.

40% respondents say that print media coverage of human rights violation made by police is partially helpful in maintaining law and order.

Conclusion

The media in India through is active in respect of covering some human rights violation issues by police, the newspaper readers need to be educated on human rights violation by police. The print media do also play an advocacy role in this regard in dealing with human rights violation issues. Over all the study conclude that known opinion of newspaper readers of human rights violation by police. Some important conclusions are being given below.

1. When respondents were asked if the Police have violated human rights. Most of respondents accept this statement. 88.8% respondents said that Police is violated human rights while 11.2% respondents say that Police did not have violate human rights.

2. Majority of respondents said that the Print media made is covering human rights violation made by police. 58.4% respondents said that print media partially covered human rights violation made by police while 32% respondents said that print media covered human rights violation made by police. Remaining 9.6% respondents said that print media did not cover human rights violation made by police.

3. Majority of respondents are partially satisfied with the coverage in print media regarding violation of Human Rights made by police. 54.8% respondents are of the view that they are partially satisfied with the coverage in print media regarding violation of human rights made by police while 37.2% respondents are satisfied with these coverage and remaining 8.2% respondents are not satisfied with the coverage in Print Media regarding violation of human rights made by police.

4. 42.8 % respondents are of the opinion that human rights violation by police is ignored during print media coverage while 48% said that it is partially ignored. Only a small percentage i.e. 9.2 % have said that such coverage is not ignored.

5. Majority of respondents accept that print media coverage related to human rights violation made by police has impact on social life. 54.8% respondents think that print media coverage related to human rights violation made by police has impact on social life while 12% respondents said that this coverage has not impact on

6. Social life and 33.2 % respondents think that print media coverage related to human rights violation made by police has partially impact on the social life.

7. Out of total respondents, majority of the respondents that print media coverage of human rights violation by police has impact on Public Administrative System. This view is supported by 81.2% respondents. 18.8% respondents think that print media coverage of human rights violation by police has not impact on Public Administrative System.

8. Most of the respondents said that print media coverage of human rights violation made by police helps in getting justice to common man. 68% respondents think that these coverage of human rights violation help in getting justice to the common man while 32% respondents do not think that print media coverage of human rights violation made by police helps in getting justice too common.

9. Majority of respondents said that print media coverage of human rights violation made by police help in maintaining law and order. 48.8% respondents accept that coverage of human rights violation by police helps in maintaining law and order while 40% respondents partially accept this coverage helps in maintaining law and order. On the other hand 11.2% respondents think that print media coverage of human rights violation do not helped in maintaining law and order.

Suggestions

Print Media is oldest media of mass communication. It is very powerful in creating public opinion. In case of coverage related to human rights violation by Police and its coverage has its role but it can't be said satisfactory. The number of respondent said that police violate human rights. It will be a matter of study why is it happening. Some important suggestions are being given below:

1. It is highly alarming that comparatively a much high percentage i.e. 88.8 percentage was of the opinion that police violate human rights. It is, therefore, a matter of the study that why it is happening and how it could be checked?

2. It is revealed by the study that a higher percentage i.e. 54.8 percentage is not satisfied with print media coverage regarding human rights violations made by police. Thus, the print media is suggested to enhance efforts to satisfy the readers with regard to coverage related to human rights violations made by the police. It

will be also a matter of study that why such coverage is not satisfactory.

3. There is quite a good percentage of respondents who are of the view that violation of the human rights by police is ignored fully or partially by the print media while making the coverage. The reasons behind this view needed further to be studied by the researchers.

4. Just slightly more than fifty percentages expressed that the coverage related to human rights violation made by police has an impact on the social life. It is again, to be studied by the researcher that why others are not agreed with such impact.

5. Comparatively a high percentage (81.2) has an accepted that print media coverage of human rights violation made by the police has impact on the administrative system. In view of it, there exists a scope for the study that why the people think so?

6. Quite a good percentage (68.0) of the respondents responded that print media coverage of the human rights violations made by the police helps in getting justice to common man. It is an important view point which further needs to be studied by the researcher that why and how such a view-points prevails? Such a study will be useful for getting justice to more common man.

7. It is also an important aspect of the present study that a high percentage together of those who agreed fully or partially agreed that print media coverage of human rights violations made by police helps in maintaining law and order. This view point needs to be studied further that what are the reasons and justifications behind such a view point?

8. It is observed that only 32% of respondents are fully satisfied with the coverage related to human rights violations in newspapers. It is further a matter of study that why only such a low percentage (32%) is fully satisfied and why not more?

9. However, together a percentage of those who agree or partially agree that human rights violations coverage have an impact on people but it needs to be investigated that what are the reasons behind such opinion and what parameters they have taken into consideration.

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Influence of Occupation on The Outlook of Digital Wallets

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Abstract

The present study is put out to know the Impact of occupation on the Instinct in use of digital wallets on customer satisfaction and factors responsible for such risks in use of digital payments and to suggest measures for improving risk solutions. ANOVA and multiple comparisons are used for quantitative analysis to test the hypotheses and supporting of the results. The collected data of 337 users Student (N=83), Employee-private (N=112), Employee-government (N=45), Businessmen (N=41), Profession (N=31) and any other others (N=25) of digital wallets are analyzed through PASW 22.0 version. Findings show a significant variance in overall mean agreement on occupation satisfaction among the different populace. It is also observed that professional's respondents have less significant agreement on problems in use of digital wallets. The study is confined to perception of present customers as well as potential customers of digital wallet. It can be studied for wallet companies and government. Contribution of modeling to the identification, measurement and monitoring of use of digital wallets risks may also be examined at micro and macro level. The contemporaneous revision would be beneficial to the policy makers, digital wallets business, customers and researchers in this area to know the problems in use of digital wallets, levels of customers' satisfaction, risks associated with the digital wallets and to formulate the suitable strategies to overcome these risks in different occupation. Originality/ Value: The study extends the knowledge about digital wallet as a part of digital India. After demonetization use of digital payments is initiated

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