Intelligence-Led Policing and Crime Prevention in Nigeria: An Assessment of Crime Prevention Strategies in Imo State, Nigeria.

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Abstract

The Nigeria Police, like any other police force has the arduous task of protecting lives and property of citizens. Intelligence –Led Policing is presently being advocated as the policing model which uses intelligence gathering, Information and Communication highway and modern day gadgets and equipment in the fight against crime and criminality. This study attempts to discover the level of awareness, implementation and outcome of ILP strategies among law enforcement agencies, especially the Nigeria Police Force, in Imo state. Two theoretical underpinnings: the Rational Choice and Routine Activity Theories were adopted for the research. The research adopted the Survey research design using the direct interview method as its major source of primary data. Key informants were identified which included the police officers directly involved in crime management in the state. Findings include that most of the criminal investigation officers in Imo state had sound and deep theoretical knowledge of ILP principles and strategies. The study also found that implementation of ILP strategies had positive impact on crime prevention. The study also identified major impediments to the implementation of ILP strategies to include poor and inadequate technical knowhow and equipment, lack of funding and improper physical environmental planning. The study recommends that government should encourage and boost the co-operation amongst the several security agencies by strengthening the Joint Task Force (JTF) teams in the state and also encourage positive engagement between the police and the communities where they work.

Keywords: Intelligence-Led Policing ILP, Crime prevention, Law Enforcement Agencies, Criminal Networks, Crime Mapping

Introduction

The fight against crime has been a difficult one for the Nigeria Police Force especially with the increasing wave of violent crimes across the nation. It has been argued that the police must move from the reactive to proactive policing if they intend to make any reasonable impact in the protection of lives and lives and property which is the focal point of their duty. Intelligence-Led Policing, has been identified as major tool for effective policing globally and has also been introduced in Nigeria.

Intelligence-led policing is a proactive, data-driven business model that uses criminal intelligence and objective analysis to guide police operations and resource allocation, focusing resources on high-risk offenders, crime hotspots, and repeat victims rather than solely reacting to incidents. (Saba I. 2021)

It has emerged as a modern and effective law enforcement strategy that prioritizes data-driven decision-making, predictive policing, and intelligence gathering (Chukwu, 2020). ILP involves collecting, analyzing, and utilizing intelligence to anticipate and prevent criminal activities before they happen (Musa & Ibrahim, 2019). In developed countries, ILP has been widely adopted to combat organized crime, terrorism, and drug-related offenses by leveraging technology, surveillance systems, and intelligence-sharing frameworks (Uche & Adegbite, 2021).

Despite the global success of ILP, its implementation in Nigeria faces several challenges, including inadequate intelligence infrastructure, poor inter-agency collaboration,

corruption, and a lack of advanced technological tools for data analysis (Obi, 2022). These challenges have made it difficult for security agencies to proactively address crime in many parts of Nigeria, including Imo State, which has experienced a rise in criminal activities in recent years (Ogu & Nnamdi, 2023). Imo state has experienced a meteoric rise in violent crimes between 2015 and 2026 with kidnap for ransom and armed robbery becoming an almost daily occurrence in the state. Reports indicate that traditional policing approaches have struggled to control violent crimes, as criminals exploit gaps in intelligence gathering and security coordination (Okafor, 2021). The inability of law enforcement agencies to effectively predict and disrupt criminal networks has further worsened the security situation, making it necessary to adopt ILP strategies that enhance crime detection and prevention (Ikechukwu, 2022). By shifting from reactive policing to intelligence-driven operations, security agencies can proactively tackle crime, improve public safety, and restore confidence in law enforcement institutions (Akinyemi & Usman, 2023).

Given the security challenges in Nigeria and the prevalence of violent crimes in Imo state, it is crucial to assess the role of and applicability of ILP in crime control and prevention in the state. This study seeks to evaluate the effectiveness of ILP strategies, identify the barriers to their implementation, and recommend solutions for improving intelligence-based policing in Nigeria. While research on ILP in Nigeria remains limited, this study will provide valuable insights into how intelligence-led strategies can be optimized to strengthen national security efforts. This study used the direct interview approach. Key informants were interviewed and they were the Divisional Crime Officers and one non-commissioned investigation officer of ten Divisional Police Commands of the Local Government Areas of Imo state. The ten stations selected represented the ten federal constituencies of Imo state. A Divisional Police Command was selected randomly from each federal constituency. The researcher developed a structured interview questions which guided discussions with the identified officers in the local governments.

The study is aimed at: (a) assessing the level of awareness and understanding of Intelligence-Led Policing (ILP) among law enforcement officers in Imo state, (b) examine the extent to which ILP strategies are implemented by security agencies within the state., (c) evaluate the effectiveness of ILP in crime prevention in Imo state and (d) identify the major challenges hindering the implementation of ILP strategies

Review of Literature

Principles of ILP

ILP is built on a structured framework that emphasizes intelligence collection, analysis, and application. The core framework of ILP is built on the following key principles:

- Intelligence as the Foundation:
  Decisions are based on the systematic collection, evaluation, collation and analysis of data rather than guess work, intuition or public pressure. (Saba I. (2021)
- **Proactive Crime Prevention**
  ILP aims to prevent crime before it occurs by utilizing intelligence from various sources, including informants, surveillance, and digital data analysis (Ratcliffe, 2020). Police departments use predictive models to identify crime hotspots and target high-risk individuals.
- **Data-Driven Decision Making**
  Intelligence-Led Policing relies on real-time data collection, AI-powered analytics, and pattern recognition to guide law enforcement strategies (Carter & Carter, 2019). Crime data is analyzed to establish trends, predict future criminal activities, and determine the best strategies for crime reduction.
- **Focus on High-Risk Offenders and Locations**
  ILP emphasizes the identification of repeat offenders, criminal networks, and high-crime zones. Law enforcement resources are directed toward areas and individuals that pose the most significant security threats (Maguire, 2021).

- **Integration of Criminal Intelligence into Policing Strategies**
  Intelligence collection methods include human intelligence (HUMINT), signals intelligence (SIGINT), and cyber intelligence (CYBINT). These sources provide law enforcement with the necessary information to disrupt criminal networks before they act (Braga *et al*., 2020).
- **Collaboration and Information Sharing**
  Effective ILP implementation requires collaboration between police agencies, intelligence organizations, private security firms, and community members. Multi-agency cooperation enhances intelligence gathering and crime prevention efforts (Taylor, 2019).
- **Use of Predictive Analytics and Surveillance Technologies**
  ILP incorporates AI-driven predictive analytics, facial recognition, license plate recognition (LPR), and social media monitoring to track criminal behavior. These tools help police departments anticipate criminal activities and respond proactively (Meijer & Wessels, 2019).
- **Accountability and Performance Measurement**
  ILP ensures that law enforcement agencies assess their effectiveness based on crime reduction metrics, intelligence accuracy, and operational efficiency. Performance indicators include crime clearance rates, reductions in violent crime, and successful intelligence-led operations (Maguire, 2021).

Historical Development of Intelligence-Led Policing: Origin and Evolution of ILP

Intelligence-Led Policing (ILP) emerged in the 1990s as a response to increasing crime rates, resource constraints, and the need for a more strategic approach to law enforcement. It was first introduced in the United Kingdom by the Kent Police following the failure of traditional reactive policing methods in addressing organized crime (Ratcliffe, 2020). The National Criminal Intelligence Service (NCIS) played a crucial role in formalizing ILP by emphasizing intelligence gathering, risk assessment, and targeted crime prevention strategies (Taylor, 2019). Over the years, ILP has evolved into a global policing framework, incorporating advancements in technology, big data analytics, and predictive policing models to enhance security operations (Carter & Carter, 2019).

Adoption of ILP in Different Countries

The adoption of ILP has varied across countries, with developed nations integrating sophisticated intelligence systems into their law enforcement agencies. In the United States, the post-9/11 era saw a significant shift toward ILP, with the establishment of fusion centers and intelligence-sharing networks to combat terrorism and transnational crime (Braga *et al*., 2020). Australia also adopted ILP to tackle organized crime, drug trafficking, and cybercrime, with agencies such as the Australian Federal Police incorporating data-driven crime prevention models (Meijer & Wessels, 2019). In Europe, ILP has been instrumental in counterterrorism operations, with countries like the Netherlands and Germany integrating artificial intelligence and predictive analytics into policing strategies (Maguire, 2021).

Emergence of ILP in Nigeria

In Nigeria, the adoption of ILP has been slow due to infrastructural challenges, inadequate intelligence-sharing mechanisms, and a lack of advanced policing technology. However, in recent years, security agencies have begun integrating intelligence-based approaches to combat rising insecurity, including terrorism, kidnapping, and cybercrime (Ogundele, 2022). The Nigerian Police Force (NPF) has established crime databases, surveillance systems, and special intelligence units such as the Force Intelligence Bureau (FIB) to improve intelligence-led operations (Okoro, 2021). Additionally, collaborations with international organizations and the introduction of digital policing initiatives, such as the Crime and Criminal Tracking Network & System (CCTNS), have enhanced intelligence-sharing capabilities across various security agencies in Nigeria (Taylor, 2019). Some of the

major ILP initiatives introduced by the Nigeria Police include, Crime and Criminal Tracking Network and Systems (CCTNS), National Identity Management System (NIMS), Community Policing Initiatives and deployment of drones and surveillance technologies.

Theoretical Framework

In analyzing the application and impact of Intelligence-Led Policing (ILP) in reducing crime in Imo State, this study adopts two primary theoretical lenses: the Rational Choice Theory (RCT) and the Routine Activity Theory (RAT). These theories provide a conceptual foundation for understanding how ILP functions as a strategic and proactive policing model that focuses on crime prevention, offender targeting, and optimal resource deployment. The choice of these theories is based on their compatibility with the principles of ILP and their relevance to the Nigerian socio-criminal context.

Rational Choice Theory (RCT)

The Rational Choice Theory, advanced by Clarke and Cornish (2018), proposes that individuals engage in criminal behavior after carefully evaluating the potential benefits and consequences of their actions. According to this theory, crime is not random or purely emotional, but rather a result of deliberate decisions by individuals who consider factors such as the likelihood of apprehension, the severity of potential punishment, and the personal gain to be derived from the crime.

ILP supports this theory by prioritizing intelligence as a means of deterring potential offenders through increased surveillance, timely interventions, and targeted policing. By making crime riskier and more difficult to commit, ILP discourages individuals from engaging in criminal activity. For instance, through predictive policing and crime mapping, security agencies can monitor known offenders and high-crime zones, thereby reducing the opportunity for successful criminal acts (Ratcliffe, 2020).

Moreover, ILP aims to increase the certainty of apprehension, which is a key deterrent in Rational Choice Theory. According to Braga *et al*. (2021), when law enforcement uses accurate intelligence to disrupt criminal networks, the rational offender is less likely to proceed with criminal intentions due to heightened risk perception.

Routine Activity Theory (RAT)

Routine Activity Theory, formulated by Cohen and Felson (2019), is grounded in the belief that crime occurs when three essential components converge: a motivated offender, a suitable target, and the absence of a capable guardian. Unlike other theories that focus on the motivations behind criminal behavior, RAT focuses on the environmental and situational factors that facilitate or hinder crime.

ILP is inherently structured to respond to the framework of RAT by enhancing the capability of guardianship through informed patrols, surveillance technologies, and intelligence sharing among stakeholders. For instance, by identifying vulnerable communities or potential targets (such as ATM points, isolated roads, or poorly lit areas), law enforcement can proactively increase police presence and improve security measures (Felson, 2020). In Imo state where issues such as cultism, kidnapping, and armed robbery are rampant, ILP can assist in deploying resources where guardianship is traditionally weak or absent.

Moreover, RAT underscores the importance of time and place in crime analysis. ILP uses crime pattern analysis and trend monitoring to anticipate when and where crimes are most likely to occur. By aligning patrol schedules and officer deployment with these findings, police effectiveness can be improved (Ekblom, 2021).

Methodology

This study adopted the survey design research method. Data collection was done using qualitative methods through direct interviews. This study used the direct interview approach. Key informants were interviewed and they were the Divisional Crime Officers and one non-commissioned investigation officer of ten Divisional Police Commands of the Local

Government Areas of Imo state. The ten stations selected represented the ten federal constituencies of Imo state. A Divisional Police Command was selected randomly from each federal constituency. The researcher developed a structured interview questions which guided discussions with the identified officers in the local governments.Their responses were recorded manually by the interviewer since they did not allow the researcher to use any electronic device for fear of being personally identified. Their responses formed the basic findings of this study.

The Role of Intelligence-Led Policing (ILP) in Modern Law Enforcement

Crime Prevention and Reduction

Intelligence-Led Policing (ILP) plays a crucial role in crime prevention and reduction by shifting the focus from reactive policing to proactive crime control strategies. Law enforcement agencies use crime mapping, predictive analytics, and intelligence gathering to identify high-crime areas and potential offenders before crimes occur (Ratcliffe, 2020). For instance, predictive policing models help authorities deploy officers strategically, reducing the likelihood of criminal activities such as robbery, burglary, and violent offenses (Braga *et al*., 2021). By analyzing crime trends and offender behaviors, ILP allows for early intervention and targeted strategies that disrupt criminal activities, ultimately leading to a significant reduction in crime rates (Carter & Carter, 2019). Virtually all the police officers interviewed agreed that they had been tutored on different types of ILP strategies. They also agreed that ILP is the way to go with regard to modern day policing. The Divisional Police Officers exhibited a greater grasp of the concepts and principles of ILP. They agreed that most of the recent successes recorded by the police in terms of crime prevention and detection are attributable to ILP strategies.

Targeting Organized Crime

One of the primary applications of ILP is in combating organized crime, including drug trafficking, human trafficking, cybercrime, and terrorism. ILP enables law enforcement agencies to dismantle criminal networks through the collection and analysis of intelligence from informants, surveillance operations, and digital forensic investigations (Maguire, 2021). In countries such as the United States and the United Kingdom, ILP has been instrumental in countering gang-related crimes and financial fraud by leveraging inter-agency intelligence-sharing mechanisms (Taylor, 2019). In Nigeria, the use of ILP in targeting organized crime has improved with the establishment of specialized crime units like the Economic and Financial Crimes Commission (EFCC), the Department of State Services (DSS) the Immigration Services, National Drug Law Enforcement Agency (NDLEA) and more recently the National Agency for the Prohibition of Trafficking in Persons (NAPTIP). These agencies of government rely on intelligence-driven operations to apprehend high-profile criminals (Ogundele, 2022). The Police in Imo state are not left out. The All the Divisional Police Officers interviewed attested to the fact that data received from several other government agencies have helped to ease their work of policing. They acknowledged the increasing drug market in Imo state and the role the NDLEA has played in ensuring that the syndicates are arrested.

Enhancing Public Safety

ILP contributes significantly to enhancing public safety by enabling law enforcement agencies to anticipate and prevent security threats. By using real-time intelligence and surveillance technologies, security forces can respond swiftly to potential dangers, such as terrorist attacks and violent protests (Meijer & Wessels, 2019). Additionally, ILP promotes community-oriented policing, where law enforcement collaborates with local communities to gather valuable information and foster trust (Braga *et al*., 2021). In many cities worldwide, police departments use ILP frameworks to ensure safe public events, improve emergency response times, and protect critical infrastructure from security breaches (Taylor, 2019). In Nigeria, the integration of ILP with digital policing initiatives, such as CCTV surveillance and biometric identification systems, has enhanced public safety efforts in urban centers (Okoro, 2021). However, it must be noted that there is scarcity of public CCTV equipment in the

state. Even biometrics verification equipment are lacking in almost all the Divisional Police stations that were visited. Persons that required such biometrics were usually taken to the state capital or to correctional centres were such equipment could be assessed. According to a DCO, the absence of such machinery always mitigated their efficiency because some criminals who are on the wanted list at other locations may not be easily identified.

Effective Resource Allocation

Intelligence-led strategies improve resource allocation within law enforcement agencies by prioritizing high-risk crime areas and optimizing the deployment of officers and investigative resources. Instead of relying on traditional random patrols, ILP enables data-driven decision-making, ensuring that law enforcement resources are directed to areas with the highest security concerns (Carter & Carter, 2019). This approach not only improves the efficiency of police operations but also reduces costs associated with ineffective policing methods (Maguire, 2021). In Nigeria, the adoption of ILP in security planning has led to better coordination between agencies such as the Nigerian Police Force (NPF), the Nigerian Security and Civil Defence Corps (NSCDC), and other law enforcement bodies in addressing security challenges (Ogundele, 2022).

Efficiency of the Policing Role.

In Nigeria, the policing role encounters several interference especially political interference and corruption. The availability of ILP equipment strengthens the investigation process and reduces undue political pressure and corruption. For instance, once a fingerprint is taken, it remains so no matter the pressure. Pictures and footages remain facts and facts are sacred.

Challenges of Implementing Intelligence-Led Policing (ILP) in Nigeria

Lack of Advanced Technology

One of the major challenges facing the implementation of Intelligence-Led Policing (ILP) in Nigeria is the lack of advanced technology. ILP relies heavily on digital surveillance systems, crime mapping software, predictive analytics, and forensic tools to analyze criminal activities effectively (Ratcliffe, 2020). However, many law enforcement agencies in Nigeria still rely on outdated record-keeping methods, making it difficult to track crime patterns or use intelligence to prevent crimes (Okoro, 2021). The absence of a centralized crime database and modern surveillance infrastructure hampers the effectiveness of ILP, leaving security agencies with limited capabilities in intelligence gathering and analysis (Ogundele, 2022). Unlike developed nations where law enforcement agencies use Artificial Intelligence (AI) and big data analytics to predict and prevent crime, Nigeria struggles with inadequate ICT infrastructure, limiting the full adoption of ILP (Meijer & Wessels, 2019). In Imo state, almost all the divisional Police stations were still using manual recording and the outdated statement sheets. There were no finger print machines in any of the stations visited except the Police Headquarters in Owerri. The absence of advanced technological knowhow and equipment, makes ILP implementation and operations difficult in Imo state.

Corruption and Political Interference

Corruption within the Nigerian law enforcement system poses a significant barrier to the effective implementation of ILP. Many police officers and government officials engage in unethical practices, such as bribery, extortion, and shielding criminal activities in exchange for financial gain (Alemika, 2020). This weakens intelligence-sharing mechanisms, as officers may be reluctant to report high-profile criminals due to political pressure or personal interests (Braga *et al*., 2021). Political interference further undermines ILP, as some government officials manipulate intelligence reports for personal or political advantage rather than national security (Taylor, 2019). The inability of law enforcement agencies to operate independently due to political influence reduces public trust in the police force and weakens efforts to use intelligence for crime prevention (Carter & Carter, 2019). In six out of the ten Local government areas visited, the police alluded to some undue influence of some highly placed individuals who were in total control of

police activities. Their words, according an Investigation Police Officer, was law and no arrests can be successfully made without getting clearance from those individuals.

Poor Training of Law Enforcement Officers

The successful implementation of ILP requires specialized training in intelligence gathering, data analysis, and strategic policing. However, many law enforcement officers in Nigeria lack adequate training in intelligence-driven policing strategies (Maguire, 2021). Most officers are trained in traditional policing methods, which focus on reactive rather than proactive crime control (Ratcliffe, 2020). Additionally, there is limited exposure to forensic investigations, cybercrime detection, and counter-terrorism intelligence, making it difficult for officers to utilize intelligence effectively in crime prevention (Ogundele, 2022). In contrast to countries like the United States and the United Kingdom, where police officers undergo continuous intelligence-led training, Nigerian law enforcement agencies rarely provide such specialized programs due to financial and institutional constraints (Okoro, 2021). In Imo state police command, the trainings are more theoretical than practical. Even when the equipment is available for training, it is usually provided for demonstration purposes because they are hardly put to use in the field.

Inadequate Funding and Resource

The lack of adequate funding remains a major hindrance to the effective implementation of ILP in Nigeria. ILP requires significant investment in surveillance equipment, crime databases, forensic laboratories, and officer training programs (Braga *et al*., 2021). However, the Nigerian government allocates limited resources to the police force, resulting in poor working conditions, low salaries, and insufficient operational tools (Alemika, 2020). Many police stations lack basic crime analysis software, modern communication gadgets, and reliable transportation, making it difficult to implement intelligence-driven operations (Ogundele, 2022). Of all the Divisional Police headquarters visited, none had more than one functional vehicle. The absence of operational vehicles made nonsense of most of the intelligence reports and early warning signals they received. This lack of functional operational vehicles also forced them to make use of private vehicles which were put at the cost of the complainant. In Owerri urban for instance, before a police truck is sent to any location, the complainant is expected to pay for the cost of hiring and fuelling the vehicle. This results to low response rate and leads to reactive policing methods. At some times, complainants or victims take their fate in their hands because of the exorbitant cost odf police intervention. Additionally, the poor welfare of police officers leads to low morale, making them susceptible to bribery and inefficiency in intelligence handling (Taylor, 2019). Without adequate financial support, ILP cannot function effectively in Nigeria, leaving law enforcement agencies to rely on outdated and ineffective policing strategies.

Trust and Accountability Deficit

Trust and accountability deficit has continued to play a debilitating role in the implementation of ILP strategies amongst law enforcement agencies. To the average Nigerian, the Police officer is of the most untrustworthy persons to deal with. Even among the government agencies, there is usually a suspicion about the uprightness of men of the police force. This lack of trust makes it difficult for the law enforcement agencies to share data real time. The implication is that crime that would have been averted if information was shared real time, is allowed to occur only for the police to embark on reactive actions that end up not yielding the required results.

Physical Environmental Factors

One of the major approaches to crime prevention is Crime Prevention through Environmental Design. Owerri, the Imo state capital, has not fared well in this regard. Developing areas are not well planned. The town planning units of the Ministry of Lands needs to be properly staffed. The idea of natives selling their lands to prospective investors who in turn commence building without authorization should be discouraged. In several developing areas, the streets are not named, the streets are not planned such that developers usually encroach into the

roads thereby creating difficulties in catching offenders and criminals who are on the run.
Findings from this research will contribute to policy recommendations that can guide law enforcement agencies in adopting intelligence-driven practices, ultimately enhancing crime prevention and public safety in Nigeria. By examining the successes and challenges of ILP in Imo state, this study will offer practical solutions for integrating intelligence-led strategies into Nigeria's policing framework to combat crime effectively.

Conclusion

This study was carried out with the aim of (a) assessing the level of awareness and understanding of Intelligence-Led Policing (ILP) among law enforcement officers in Imo state, (b) examine the extent to which ILP strategies are implemented by security agencies within the state., (c) evaluate the effectiveness of ILP in crime prevention in Imo state and (d) identify the major challenges hindering the implementation of ILP strategies. The survey research design was adopted and the research used the direct interview survey design to elicit information from key informants. The key informants included Divisional Crime Officers of ten randomly selected Divisional Police Commands representing the ten federal constituencies of Imo state.

The study discovered that the officers both senior and junior that were interviewed de4monstrated deep theoretical understanding of the key principles of ILP. The study also revealed that there was very low implementation of the key ILP principles due largely to poor technological advancement and total lack of adequate equipment. There were also deficits in operational equipment that was supposed to facilitate the implementation of the ILP key principles. The study also found out the implementation of key ILP principles was all that was needed for an effective policing of our environments. The study also identified key challenges to the implementation of ILP to include: inadequate advanced technology, corruption and political interference, improper or poor training of the officers expected to implement the ILP principles, inadequate funding and resources, trust and accountability deficit and physical environmental factors.

Finally, the study discovered that the police officers were mentally and psychologically prepared to implement ILP strategies in their fight against crime if the right equipment and welfare are put in place. The study also identified implementation gaps and trust deficits in the entire ILP process. These gaps will of course require multi-stakeholder approach involving training, community engagement, policy reforms and reasonable investment in modern policing hard and software. The study further concluded that ILP remains the way to go if the law enforcement agencies really want to prevent crime and move from reactive to proactive policing.

Recommendations

Based on the findings of this study, the following recommendations are made especially for governments at all levels whose primary responsibility is the protection of lives and property of her citizens.

Provide Modern Tools for Intelligence Work

The government should buy modern tools like CCTV cameras, GPS tracking devices, and crime-mapping software. These tools will help security agents find out where crimes are likely to happen and take action quickly.

Protect and Encourage Informants

People who give information about criminals should be protected. The police should make it possible for people to report crime secretly. Giving small rewards or recognition/incentives to informants can also encourage more people to speak up.

Provide More Training for Security Officers

Many security officers are not trained well in how to use intelligence to prevent crime. The government and security agencies should organize regular training programs to teach officers how to collect and use information to stop crime before it happens. Community security

groups should also be included in these trainings.

Increase Government Support and Funding

Lack of funds poses a great threat to the implementation of ILP key strategies. The government should provide more financial support to the police and other security agencies so they can get the tools and equipment they need, such as vehicles, radios, computers, and cameras. This will help them respond quickly to security threats. The situation where the police will rely on complainants to provide transportation before responding to distress calls is to say the least absurd.

Build Trust and Accountability between the People and Security Agents

Several slogans of the law enforcement agencies have been found to be false by the citizens. They are always told the police is your friend, bail is free etc but experience has shown that you trust these maxims at your peril. There is need for reorientation of our police officers such that they should understand that they are part and parcel of the society. The police should engage the communities meaningfully and maintain some level of integrity that can boost the trust level.

Encourage Cooperation between Security Agencies

Different security groups should work together instead of working alone. The police, civil defense, and local vigilantes should share information and plan joint operations to stop crime more effectively. The already joint patrol teams should be fortified to encourage more cooperation between the various law enforcement agencies.

Greater Attention to Town Planning:

As noted before, poor urban and peri-urban town planning mitigates effective policing and crime mapping. Our towns should be properly planned for ease of policing. The streets should be properly marked and efforts must be made to ensure that all developers adhere strictly to standards.

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