

8. Security Unit

The Security unit of the Delhi Police has been entrusted with the onerous responsibility of planning and executing the security arrangements for the President of India, the Vice President of India, the Prime Minister of India, Foreign Heads of States and Government, Members of the Union Cabinet, Judges of the Supreme Court and High Court, apart from important Indians and visiting foreign dignitaries and a large number of persons provided special security cover in view of specific threats from terrorists and organized criminals. Besides this, the unit is also responsible for the security of important venues like Parliament House, Lieutenant Governor's house, Delhi High Court, Supreme court, Home Minister's residence, Vidhan Sabha, Vice President's house etc.

As on January 2018, there were 6,884 police personnel posted in the Security Unit against stated cadre-wise sanctioned strength of 7,209. However, the total sanctioned strength of all the cells within the Security Unit is only 6,256 and doesn't match with the total cadre-wise sanctioned strength, which needs to be reconciled by the Delhi Police. The Delhi Police had requested for sanction of additional 7,263 personnel in nine proposals, out of which five proposals for 1,436 personnel were recommended (September 2017) by the MHA's high-level committee. However, further action is still awaited on the matter.

The 'E-Block Security Line' was responsible to provide security cover to the entitled Protected Persons (PPs) residing in Delhi, and 'Visiting PP Cell' is responsible to provide security to the PPs who visits Delhi occasionally. As per the assessment⁵⁴ of the Delhi Police, 3896 police personnel were required for protection of all the PPs against which only 2661 were presently posted in E-Block for active⁵⁵ duty, i.e., manpower shortage of 32 per cent.

Audit observed that although there is overall shortage of manpower in comparison with the requirement, there were 12 PPs who were not residing in Delhi but 207 police personnel from E-Block were assigned permanently for their security.

Similarly, there were 15 PPs who were residing in neighbouring states⁵⁶, but were being provided round the clock security (54 police personnel) by Security

⁵⁴ In accordance with the Yellow Book

⁵⁵ Total 2864 personnel are posted in E-Block, out of which 203 are on administrative duties.

⁵⁶ Gurugram, Haryana; Noida, Uttar Pradesh and Ghaziabad, Uttar Pradesh.

Unit (E-Block Security Line). As per the norms, they were required to be provided security by the State Government concerned.

Government replied (July 2020) that they are in liaison with the neighbouring states to take over the security of PPs staying in neighbouring states, and is also withdrawing the mobile components of PPs, when they are not in Delhi. Government may continue to pursue the matter with neighbouring states, and ensure that the mobile component of security cover provided to PPs is adjusted as per the requirement.

Government may review all cases of security provided to PPs living outside Delhi for which 261 police personnel are engaged.