

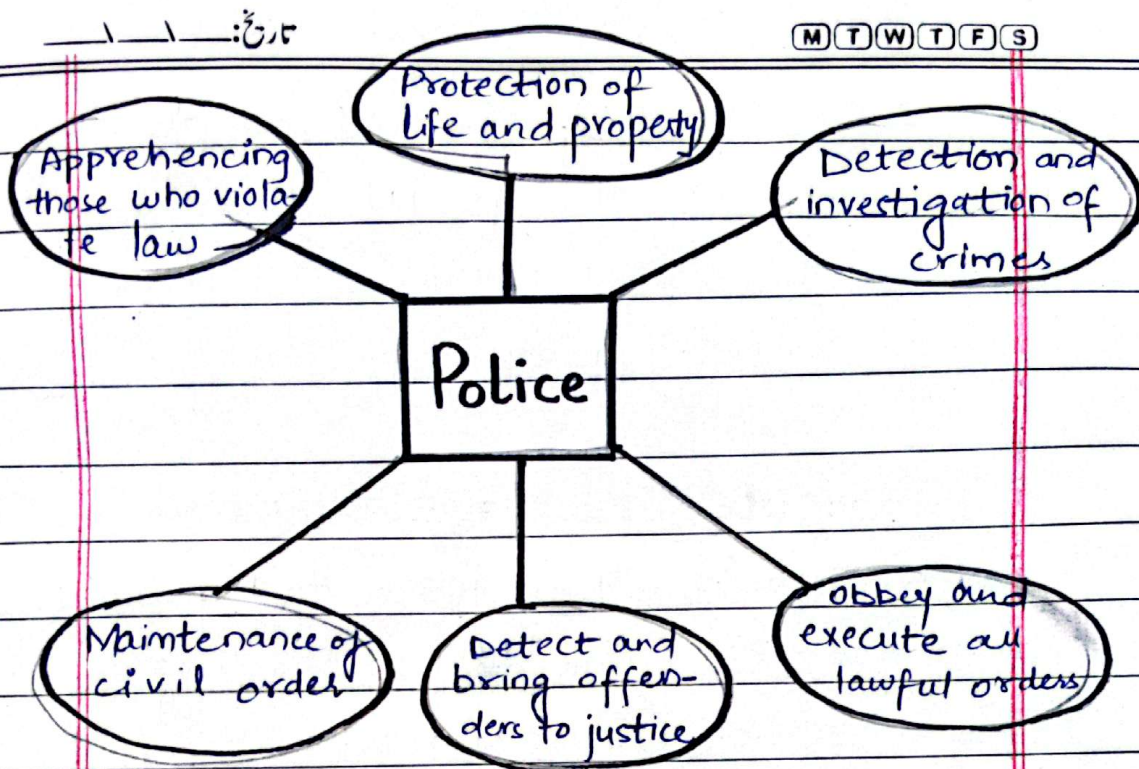
Q. What challenges are faced by police in controlling crime and maintaining law and order in the country?

1. Introduction:

Police is an important component of criminal justice system in Pakistan. This department has various duties and functions. All other components of criminal justice system; the prosecution, judiciary, probation and parole, supplement the work of police. Police plays important role in law enforcement and maintenance of civil order. However, it faces numerous challenges in controlling crime and maintaining law and order. These obstacles need to be removed in order to strengthen the institution.

2. Duties and Functions of Police:

Police performs many functions and police officers many duties which include:



Along with these, there are many other functions performed by police to maintain law and order in the country.

3- Challenges Faced by Police in Pakistan:

Police faces multiple hurdles in its way to effectively counter the crimes in the society:

1) Financial and Budgetary constraints:

The department of police is not provided adequate budget and other resources necessary to perform its offi-

cial duties. Much of the expenses are to be arranged by the officials themselves. Under these circumstances, the department cannot function effectively.

2) Acute Shortage of Manpower:

In Pakistan, the police to population ratio is quite low according to the international standards. 30% of Pakistani police is engaged in protocol duties. Thus, in the wake of growing population, the existing police force is insufficient to cater the need.

3) Massive Corruption:

Transparency International, in its Corruption Perception Index, ~~considers~~ rates police as one of the most corrupt institutions in Pakistan. It thus serves as a hindrance in maintaining effective police institution.

4) Bureaucratic Structure:

The hierarchy and functioning of police is regulated under the laws and rules

applicable to bureaucracy. Police being a professional force must be recognized on professional lines.

5) No effective accountability:

Accountability of bureaucracy in Pakistan remains weak. The career progression is based upon seniority instead of performance which is also a hurdle for effective working.

6) Political Interference:

There is a great deal of political ~~offe~~ ~~cess~~ interferences in the matters of policing. The postings in police are also politicized, due to which it cannot function as an independent and professional force.

7) Lack of Adequate remuneration:

The salary and other perks paid to the police officers are not according to the work being taken from them. Police staff in Pakistan is also

overburdened. This factor also poses a difficulty in their professionalism as they are inclined to unfair practices to fulfill their everyday needs.

8) Outdated Legal Framework:

The laws under which the criminal justice system of Pakistan is being governed are centuries old. The Pakistan Penal Code was promulgated in 1860 and police rules in 1934.

The circumstances have now changed but still the primitive laws are being followed.

4. Conclusion:

Police is an important force in the criminal justice system in Pakistan. It functions to protect the state and citizens from different crimes. However, in Pakistan it is marred with several challenges that hinder its effective functioning.