

CCTVs in police stations

Timeline

3 April 2018

The Supreme Court in *Shafhi Mohammad vs State of Himachal Pradesh* orders the Ministry of Home Affairs to create a Central Oversight Body to oversee plan of action for crime scene videography.

9 May 2018

MHA constitutes COB and directs states/UTs to implement effective use of photography and videography at the crime scene and to furnish action taken report.

16 July 2020

SC issues notice to MHA on the question of audio-video recordings by police at the crime scene and installation of CCTVs in police stations.

16 September 2020

SC impleads all states/UTs to find out exact position of CCTV cameras qua each police station and for the constitution of oversight committees.

2 December 2020

In *Paramvir Singh Saini vs. Baljit Singh and Others* the SC orders all states/UTs to file complete and detailed compliance affidavits within 6 weeks (i.e. by 13 January 2021) and orders the constitution of a state and district level oversight committee (SLOC) and (DLOC).

By 24 November 2020

14 states filed incomplete compliance affidavits and action taken reports as per SC's *Shafhi Mohammad vs State of Himachal Pradesh* directions.



Supreme Court: “Install CCTVs in all Police Stations”

Findings of RTI study on compliance of Supreme Court's directions on installation of CCTVs in all police stations in the country

Key findings

Only Arunachal Pradesh and Andaman & Nicobar Islands reported having a storage capacity of 18 months in all installed CCTVs.

→ 7 states/UTs¹ reported having audio and video capacity in all installed CCTVs

→ 8 states/UTs² reported having night vision facility in all installed CCTVs

→ 17 states/UTs³: Number of states/UTs that made budget allocation towards CCTVs

→ 20 states/UTs⁴: Number of states/UTs that formed District Level Oversight Committees (DLOCs)

→ 23 states/UTs⁵: Number of states/UTs that formed State Level Oversight Committees (SLOCs)

Following on earlier judgements⁶ and the 239th Law Commission's recommendation⁷ the Supreme Court, in *Paramvir Singh Saini vs Baljit Singh*,⁸ ordered the installation of CCTV cameras in all police stations.

1 Andaman & Nicobar Islands, Arunachal Pradesh, Ladakh, Madhya Pradesh, Tripura, Karnataka, Goa.

2 Andaman & Nicobar Islands, Arunachal Pradesh, Kerala, Ladakh, Tripura, Karnataka, Delhi, Goa.

3 Tamil Nadu, Rajasthan, Bihar, Jammu & Kashmir, Tripura, Sikkim, Delhi, Mizoram, Assam, Maharashtra, Kerala, Madhya Pradesh, Arunachal Pradesh, Puducherry, Karnataka.

4 Andaman & Nicobar Islands, Arunachal Pradesh, Assam, Jammu & Kashmir, Kerala, Ladakh, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Mizoram, Rajasthan, Tamil Nadu, Tripura, Andhra Pradesh, Himachal Pradesh, Telangana, Uttarakhand, Chandigarh, Karnataka, Jharkhand, West Bengal.

5 Karnataka, Jharkhand, West Bengal, Puducherry, Chhattisgarh, DNH & DD, Uttar Pradesh, Andaman & Nicobar Islands, Arunachal Pradesh, Assam, Jammu & Kashmir, Kerala, Ladakh, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Mizoram, Rajasthan, Tamil Nadu, Tripura, Andhra Pradesh, Himachal Pradesh, Telangana, Uttarakhand.

6 *Shafhi Mohammad vs State of Himachal Pradesh* (2018). Available at: https://main.sci.gov.in/supremecourt/2017/6212/6212_2017_Judgement_30-Jan-2018.pdf

7 239th Law Commission of India, 2012. Available at: <https://indiankanoon.org/doc/39463074/>

8 *Paramvir Singh Saini v Baljit Singh* (2020). https://main.sci.gov.in/supremecourt/2020/13346/13346_2020_33_1501_24909_Judgement_02-Dec-2020.pdf

The Court required audio-visual and night-vision cameras with 12 to 18 months' storage capacity to be installed in fourteen places, including entry points, lock-ups, corridors, inside inspector and sub-inspector rooms, and the backs of all police stations: all jurisdictions to report status in six weeks from the date of order (i.e. by 13 January 2021). The judgement further laid down specific norms to be complied with like setting up of:

1. State Level Oversight Committee comprising:

- (i) Secretary/Additional Secretary, Finance Department
- (ii) The Director General/Inspector General of Police; and
- (iii) The Chairperson/member of the State Women's Commission.

2. District Level Oversight Committee comprising:

- (i) The Divisional Commissioner/ Commissioner of Divisions/ Regional Commissioner/ Revenue Commissioner Division of the District (by whatever name called)
- (ii) The District Magistrate of the District
- (iii) A Superintendent of Police of that District
- (iv) A mayor of a municipality within the District/ a Head of the Zilla Panchayat in rural areas.

On 2 December 2020, in the *Paramvir Singh Saini vs Baljit Singh* judgement the Supreme Court again asked for detailed information on cameras and their placement in police stations. It also inquired whether oversight committees—state level oversight committee (SLOC) and district level oversight committee (DLOC)—were set up.

In April 2022, in order to monitor the compliance of the Supreme Court's directions, the India Justice Report team filed applications seeking pertinent information under the **Right to Information Act, 2005 to all 36 states and UTs**. Information about the number, placement and technical capacity of CCTVs inside police stations and the constitution of SLOCs and DLOCs was requested. Until 31 August 2022, a total of 426 responses had been received. All 36 jurisdictions barring Manipur responded, but with varying degrees of incompleteness. Certain states like Haryana, Odisha and Punjab responded, but provided no information. In states like Himachal Pradesh, Jammu & Kashmir and Telangana RTIs were forwarded by the DGP's office to PIOs in various district police headquarters. Illustratively, in Himachal Pradesh the RTIs were sent further down the administrative chain to sub-divisions and police stations. The responses from such states correspond to only those districts, sub-divisions and police stations that responded to the RTIs. Responses from 58 police stations have been included from across the country. Only Arunachal Pradesh provided all information at the state headquarters.



Figure 18: CCTV in police stations: a compliance report

The grid attempts to show compliance of specific norms laid out by the Supreme Court in the *Paramvir Singh Saini vs Baljit Singh* and others in 2020. It is based on RTIs responses from DGPs and Chief Secretaries of 36 states and Union Territories. In several cases RTI replies were received from districts and those have been indicated as well.

Yes Information not provided

	State Level Oversight Committee	District Level Oversight Committee Constituted	Budget allocated for 2021-22	Responses received from
A&N Islands	Yes	Yes	Yes	Police HQ: 1; Districts: 3/3
Andhra Pradesh	Yes	Yes	NP	Home dept: 1; Districts: 26/26
Arunachal Pradesh	Yes	Yes	Yes	Police HQ: 1; Districts: 27/27
Assam	Yes	Yes	Yes	Police HQ: 1; Districts: 14/31
Bihar	NP	NP	Yes	DIGP; Districts: 38/38
Chandigarh	NR	Yes	NP	SP Chandigarh; 1/1
Chhattisgarh	Yes	NP	NP	HQ: 1
Delhi	NP	NP	Yes ²	PIO logistics and provisional; Districts: 14/15
DNH & DD	Yes	NP	NP	PIO home dept
Goa	NP	NP	NP	Sub Divisions: 6/8; Districts: 2/2
Gujarat	NP	NP	NP	Home Dept: 1; Districts:33/33
Haryana	NP	NP	NP	HQ: 1; Districts: 22/22
Himachal Pradesh	Yes	Yes	NP	HQ: 1; Districts: 12/12
Jammu and Kashmir	Yes	Yes	Yes	HQ: 1; Districts: 19/20
Jharkhand	Yes ¹	Yes ¹	NP	Districts: 5/24
Karnataka	Yes ¹	Yes ¹	Yes	Home dept: 1; Districts: 31/31
Kerala	Yes	Yes	Yes	Home dept: 1; Districts: 14/14
Ladakh	Yes	Yes	Yes	Home dept: 1; Districts: 2/2
Lakshadweep	NP	NP	NP	0
Madhya Pradesh	Yes	Yes	Yes	PHQ: 1; Districts: 50/50
Maharashtra	Yes	Yes	Yes	HQ: 1; Districts: 35/35
Manipur	NP	NP	NP	0
Meghalaya	NP	NP	NP	Addl.DGP: 1; Home dept: 1; Districts: 1/12
Mizoram	Yes	Yes	Yes	Home dept: 1; Districts: 11/11
Nagaland	NP	NP	NP	DGP Police: 1; Districts: 12/16
Odisha	NP	NP	NP	DSP: 1; Districts: 30/30
Puducherry	Yes	NP	Yes	PHQ: 1
Punjab	NP	NP	NP	0
Rajasthan	Yes	Yes	Yes	Police SCRB: 2; Asst commissioner Jaipur: 1; Districts: 1/33
Sikkim	NP	NP	Yes	PHQ-1; Secretariat finance dept: 1; Districts:6/6
Tamil Nadu	Yes	Yes	Yes	Police HQ planning: 1; Districts: 38/38
Telangana	Yes	Yes	NP	Home dept: 1; Districts: 24/33
Tripura	Yes	Yes	Yes	Home dept: 1; District Magistrate: 1; Districts: 8/8
Uttar Pradesh	Yes	NP	NP	Home dept: 1; Districts: 75/75
Uttarakhand	Yes	Yes	NP	Home dept: 1; DGP office: 1; Districts: 13/13
West Bengal	Yes ¹	Yes ¹	NP	Police directorate: 1; Asst. IGP: 1; Districts: 23/23

Abbreviations: NP: Not provided, NR: Not required.

Notes: 1. Information not from RTI, but from compliance affidavits procured by IJR team. 2. Expenditure of Rs 9.68 crore incurred. 3. Under process. 4. In East Khasi Hills. 5. As per responses from districts (2,959 on 21.1.2021). 6. Will be ensured.

Figure 18: CCTV in police stations: a compliance report

The grid attempts to show compliance of specific norms laid out by the Supreme Court in the *Paramvir Singh Saini vs Baljit Singh* and others in 2020. It is based on RTIs responses from DGPs and Chief Secretaries of 36 states and Union Territories. In several cases RTI replies were received from districts and those have been indicated as well.

	CCTV information, as per RTI responses				DoPO 2022 data		
	Total CCTV cameras	CCTV cameras with audio and video	CCTV cameras with night vision	Storage capacity by number of cameras	Police stations with at least one CCTV	Total police stations	Police stations with at least one CCTV
A&N Islands	527	527	527	527: 18 months	24	24	24
Andhra Pradesh	NP	NP	NP	NP	NP	1,027	599
Arunachal Pradesh	1,485	1,485	1,485	1,485: 18 months	99	107	99
Assam	299	63	112	103: below 12 months	125	329	329
Bihar	11,081	NP	NP	NP	952	1,056	957
Chandigarh	510 ¹	115 (video only)	0	66: 40-45 days; 16: 15-20, 33: about 30 days	17	18	17
Chhattisgarh	1,772	NP ³	NP ³	NP ³	443	456	443
Delhi	1,941	NP	1,941	1,941: 12 months	197	225	197
DNH & DD	18	NA ⁶	NA ⁶	DNH: 25 days; Daman: 30 days; Diu: Nil	7	8	8
Goa	259	259	259	236: 18 months; 23: below 12 months	17	44	44
Gujarat	7,354	NP	NP	NP	NP	745	622
Haryana	NP ³	NP	NP	NP	NP	397	381
Himachal Pradesh	1,530	711	838	525: 18 months; 298: 12 months; 223: below 12 months	NP	151	136
Jammu and Kashmir	306	NP	55	112: below 12 months	112	250	51
Jharkhand	169	4 (video only), 8 (audio only)	69	8: 12 months; 62: below 12 months	113	564	126
Karnataka	4,176 ¹	4,176 ¹	4,176 ¹	4,176: one year ¹	1049*	1,055	1,052
Kerala	1,936	1,936 (video only)	1,936	15-20 days to 45 days	523	564	538
Ladakh	56	56	56	56: 12-18 months	7	7	7
Lakshadweep	NP	NP	NP	NP	NP	16	0
Madhya Pradesh	3,436	3,436	3,436	3,436: below 12 months	NP	1,159	859
Maharashtra	6,363	NP	NP	NP	1113	1,168	663
Manipur	0	NP	NP	NP	NP	84	0
Meghalaya	44 ⁴	6	27	27: 12 months; 4: below 12 months; 6: 1 month	14	76	25
Mizoram	465	430	430	430: 12 months; 35: below 12 months	40	44	40
Nagaland	70	36 (video only)	58	41: below 12 months; 1: 2 months	66 replied, 43 have CCTVs	86	28
Odisha	NP	NP	NP	NP	NP	643	584
Puducherry	0	NP	NP	NP	0	55	0
Punjab	NP	NP	NP	NP	NP	431	425
Rajasthan	33	NP	NP	NP	NP	917	1
Sikkim	317	23	325	145: 18 months; 75: 12 months; 41: below 12 months; 64: NP	29	30	13
Tamil Nadu	8,748	All cameras in 1,327 PS	All cameras in 1,578 PS	1,578 PS: below 12 months	1,578	2,292	1,578
Telangana	3,849 ⁵	NP	NP	NP	567	843	842
Tripura	308	308	308	308: above 1 month	72	82	73
Uttar Pradesh	NP	NP	NP	NP	NP	1,783	1,533
Uttarakhand	960	632	632	632: 12 months	160	162	159
West Bengal	2,623	NP	No night vision	12 months	NP	637	637

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