

Modern weapons are the backbone of an effective police force. Police cannot perform effectively and attend to law and order functions on time without adequate modern weapons. Non availability of adequate number of modern weapons would weaken the striking capability of police force considerably.

1.1.11.2 Shortage of ammunition in police department

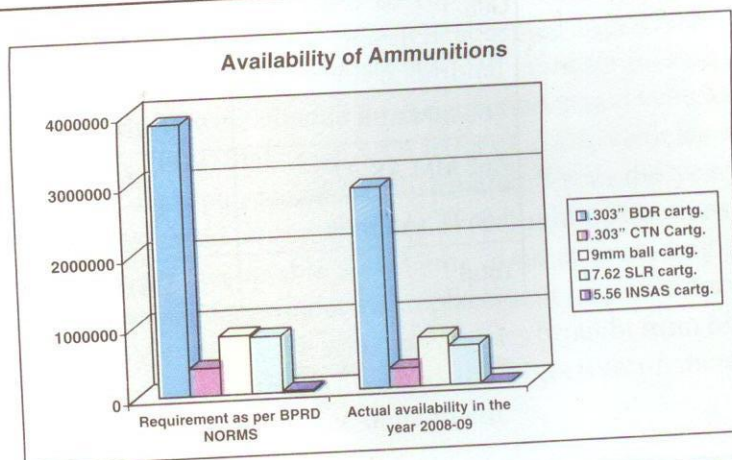
Adequate ammunition for weapons to be used as firepower, for training and regular practice is a necessary requirement. Audit observed that there were huge shortages of ammunition as shown in Table 5.

Shortage of ammunition ranged between 17 and 100 per cent

Table - 5

Shortage of ammunitions as on 31 March 2009

Type of Ammunition	Requirement as per BPR&D Norms	Actual availability in the year 2008-09	Shortage	Percentage shortage
.303" BDR cartg.	3845440	2842346	1003094	26
.303" CTN cartg.	388300	264252	124048	32
9mm ball cartg.	828648	691854	136794	17
7.62 SLR cartg.	801180	551066	250114	31
5.56 INSAS cartg.	200000	0	200000	100



The above table indicates that the shortage of ammunition ranged between 17 per cent (9mm ball cartg.) and 100 per cent (5.56 INSAS cartg.). Department replied (July 2009) that due to shortage of funds ammunitions could not be purchased. It was further stated that the first lot of INSAS rifles were received in 2008 and payment for obtaining necessary cartridges had been made to Ordnance Factory in March 2009 and deliveries were expected shortly.

However, shortage of ammunition compromised on firepower of the police force considerably. Further, as ammunition for 5.56 INSAS rifles, which are used for VVIP security and commando duties could not be purchased along with other weapons due to paucity of funds and consequently the weapons could not be put to use.

1.1.11.3 Non availability of usable gas shells

Gas shells form a very important part of armory of police force as they are used to control the mob without using firepower and causing lethal damage to public life. The life span of long/short range gas shells is three years. Three to seven years old gas shells are used for practice purpose and above seven years are treated as expired. It was seen from the records of test checked districts (2CsP/12 SsP) that eight districts¹⁰ did not have usable gas shells. Further, out of 51953 gas shells (**Appendix VI**) available with the department, 22751 (44 per cent) were three to seven years old and 17933 (35 per cent) were more than seven years old and hence had expired (March 2009). Department replied (July 2009) that though 9290 gas shells were allotted in 2007-08 and payment for the same was made in April 2008, the allotment was cancelled by BPR&D. It was also stated that out of 4000 numbers allotted in 2008-09, 2800 numbers were received and distributed to district units in April 2009 and 1200 numbers will be obtained shortly. Shortage was mainly due to inability of supplying agency (Border Security Force) to supply the gas shells.

The fact remains that in the absence of usable gas shells police was not properly equipped to meet any eventuality.

1.1.11.4 Working of Anti Terrorist Squad (ATS)

Against sanctioned strength of 64 personnel in Anti Terrorist Squad, men in position were 39 (61 per cent)

ATS was formed in 1993 to counter the increasing threat to internal security from terrorist organizations. It has a sanctioned staff of 64 police personnel. However, records revealed that there was a shortage of personnel in various cadres ranging between eight and 100 per cent (January 2009) as shown in Table 6.

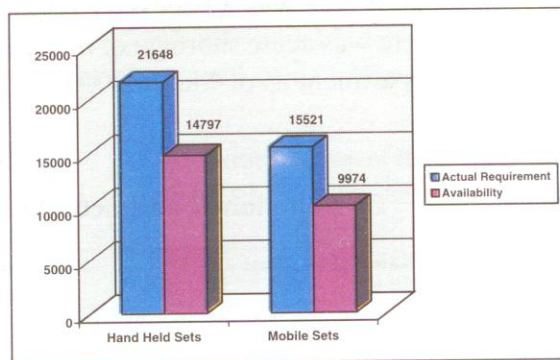
¹⁰ CP-Ahmedabad, Dahod, Godhra, Jamnagar, Kachchh-Bhuj, Porbandar, Rajkot (Rural), Surat (Rural)

- The system at State Police Headquarters at Gandhinagar had completely shut down since August 2008 due to non-functioning of Radio Frequency Modulator (RFM) card. The matter was reported (August 2008) to DCPW, New Delhi and BEL, Ghaziabad. BEL insisted upon entering into Annual Maintenance Contract before replacement of RFM card. The matter was pending (July 2009) with the GOG.

Thus, POLNET remained non-functional due to frequent failures, non response from BEL to redress system failure complaints and obsolete MART technology. Thus, the objective of integrating police communication network could not be achieved and the amount of Rs.4.47 crore paid to BEL by deducting from scheme funds by GOI proved infructuous.

1.1.12.2 Shortage of Communication Equipments

Police uses VHF hand held (HH) and mobile sets as a principal source for inter- district communication. Information provided by ADGP, Communication revealed that Gujarat police had huge shortage (32 per cent of HH sets and 36 per cent Mobile sets) as on 31 March 2009 as shown graphically below:



GOG replied (July 2009) that Hand Held and Mobile sets were used as principal source for inter district police communication. During 2001-2009 4603 VHF Mobile sets and 3351 VHF Hand Held sets were procured. It was also stated that GOG planned to convert VHF communication into secure and reliable mode as Digital Radio Trunking System.

However, the fact remains that the available equipment was far below the requirement. Shortage of communication equipment might result in lack of coordination between different units of police department and could lead to poor response at the time of requirement.

1.1.12.3 Non-operation of Global Positioning System (GPS) based Automatic Vehicle Locator System (AVLS)

Global Positioning System (GPS) based, Automatic Vehicle Locator System (AVLS) envisaged a state of art control room having the facility to monitor every patrol vehicle and effectively centralize traffic and crime monitoring duties. The system was intended to enable the control room to instruct patrolling

vehicle to reach the place of distress call quickly. An amount of Rs.20 lakh was approved under the AAP (2005-06) for purchase of software and hardware. For this system, Geographic Information System (GIS) i.e. digital maps of the cities were to be prepared. The grant of Rs.20 lakh was placed (March 2006) by DG&IGP with Survey of India (SOI), Dehra Dun for the preparation of digital maps of four cities viz. Ahmedabad, Rajkot, Surat and Vadodara. However, SOI failed to supply digital maps of the cities till date (July 2009). The Office of DG&IGP replied (July 2009) that regular followup was being made for obtaining maps of Surat, Vadodara, Ahmedabad and Rajkot from SOI.

Even after lapse of three years, the project has not taken off beyond initial payment of Rs.20 lakh to SOI. Though GOG released payment to SOI, there was no understanding as to the date by which the digital maps were to be supplied by SOI. Failure, to fix a time period for compliance has resulted in non-completion of this project which would otherwise enable the police to respond quickly in case of emergencies.

1.1.12.4 Acute Shortage of Technical Man Power in communication wing

For smooth operation of communication system, adequate, skilled and trained manpower was a necessary requirement. Scrutiny of records revealed that there was acute shortage of man power in the communication wing of police department as of March 2009 as shown in Table 8.

Table - 8

Sanctioned and actual strength in communication wing

Name of the Post	Sanctioned Strength	Actual Strength	Shortage	Percentage
Police Wireless Inspector (PWI)	32	02	30	94
Police Wireless S Inspector(PWSI)	363	204	159	44
Radio Operator(RO)	349	309	40	11
Radio Technician(RT)	101	97	4	4

The shortfall ranged between 94 per cent in case of Police Wireless Inspector and four per cent in case of Radio Technician. Department while admitting (July 2009) that for smooth operation of communication system, availability of skilled and trained manpower was a necessary requirement, stated that shortages in cadre of wireless inspectors were to be filled up through promotions. However, promotions were held up due to pending court cases and for shortages in post of police wireless sub-inspector and other cadres, recruitment process is under progress.

1.1.13 Equipment

1.1.13.1 Defective planning in purchase of pollution measuring equipments

GOI approved pollution measuring equipments (Rs.30 lakh) in the AAP for the year 2005-06 for measuring pollution emission level of the public vehicles plying on the road. DG&IGP office purchased (March 2006) pollution