

ABSTRACT

Title of Research Paper : Stress in the Operation of Criminal Prevention
and Suppression of Patrol Police in Metropolitan
Police Division 9

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The study was aimed at finding out (1) the work stress in crime prevention and suppression of patrol police and (2) the factors contributing to their work stress. The dependent variable was the work stress of the patrol police and the independent variables was the general background variable of the sample and other related factors. Copies of a questionnaire were distributed to the patrol police to fill out. The sample group consisted of 300 patrol policemen : 30 from each of the 10 police station under the Metropolitan Division 9. They were selected by accidental random sampling.

The findings were summed up below.

As a whole, the work stress of the patrol police was found to be normal. They experienced slightly more mental stress than physical stress. When individual patrol policemen' work stress was considered, about 12.7 percent experienced high work stress. The most often found physical stress was insomnia or the inability to sleep soundly and stomach problems. The most often mental stress found to be at a high level was depression.

The factors found to significantly contribute to their work stress were age, status, having children to be taken care of, number of household members, salary, special assignments, struggle to make ends meet, land and house ownership, and work environment, especially the traffic congestion. Other factors also affecting their work stress were supervision, dignity of the police, the role and personal character.

Recommendations

1. The superior should not be too strict in work because this makes the subordinates become stressful.
2. The superior should listen to and pay attention to the subordinates' opinions about work.
3. The superior should be fair in promoting the subordinates. The merit system should be used for promotion and giving a double rise to any subordinate.
4. The outstanding performance of the police station should be publicized such as arrests of the criminals in important cases. This will create a good image of the police.
5. The superior should praise the police where performance is outstanding this should be done in front of their colleague and the public so that they will be proud of their job.
6. The police, especially the patrol police who have to regularly meet people in the area under the responsibility, should work with enthusiasm and honesty.
7. The work procedures should be adjusted. For example, the patrol police who man the police box should shift their duty to walking patrol police. The patrol police who use motorcycles in their work should resort to patrol cars instead. Improvement should be made in workshifts. The superior should see that the workload for an individual police is appropriate.