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MOUNTED POLICE IN INDIA

Mounted police officers patrol a designated area on horseback, enforcing laws and providing crowd control to maintain public safety.

The oldest recorded mounted police force is the London Bow Street Horse Patrol, which was established in 1758 for patrolling the roads around the capital and performing street patrols in the capital. The idea of mounted police quickly spread to other large cities in Britain and across Europe. Mounted police units were common during the British Rule in India. These units are still used in some states of India.

There are over 2000 horses and about 2500 mounted police officers in the country. In spite of comprehensive mechanization, mounted police have their own utility. The added height and visibility that the horses give their riders allow officers to observe a wider area, but it also allows people in the wider area to see the officers, who helps deter crime and helps people to find officers when they need them. That is why they are a common sight in the streets as a visible police presence during the day and night. Mounted police officers are very effective in crowd control, it is commonly said that a mounted officer is comparable to ten or more officers on foot in such situations. Some mounted police units may also be involved in search and rescue operations as well as the pursuit of suspects due to the horses' ability to travel where vehicles cannot move.

Mounted police are not only made up of specially trained officers but also well-trained horses. The horses go through training to be taught all the cues the mounted officers use and to be exposed to things they may encounter when working in busy environments. The horses are trained to do a lot of things. They must stand still for hours at a time and move into crowds on command. They need to ignore loud noises, like fireworks and yelling. The horses must also move shoulder to shoulder or nose to tail with other horses and walk, trot, and canter as part of a team.

The horses selected for mounted police dissolve barriers and increase personal contact between the public and officers. Seldom is public attention

so magnetically drawn to police as it is to an officer on horseback. Children and adults alike enjoy seeing the horses and the riders. When mounted police patrol the city, they do not only help deter crime but the horses bring smiles to faces as well. The contact with the horses creates dialogue between the citizens and the police officers that contributes to the prevention of robbery, theft, disorder and other violence.

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USING DRONES FOR FIGHTING SMUGGLING IN JAPAN

Combating the spread of smuggling has been a pressing issue for the past three decades.

The Tokyo Central Police Department announced this week a decision to use drones equipped with nets to intercept drones flying over sensitive objects without permission.

By the middle of December of 2018, similar drones have been received by the subdivision of the metropolitan department responsible for guarding the building of the Japanese parliament, the Imperial Palace, the official residence of the Prime Minister and other important facilities in Tokyo. If suddenly someone's drone appears over the territory of an important object, a large police drone with a network will take off to intercept it. This measure will help eliminate incidents similar to what happened in April of 2018, when a drone with radioactive material landed on the roof of the office building of the Prime Minister.

In May this year test flights of police drones will begin. At first the police are talking about using only one drone while on duty by the police. Full-scale protection of important objects with the help of 10 special drones with networks will start later. Currently, police at airports and ports have a visual inspection of X-ray images to detect the smuggling of drugs and explosives. In addition to visual inspections, the finance ministry plans to use artificial intelligence. It will analyze images already in the database to help identify smuggling in X-ray images. Customs data on the entry and exit of people from Japan, as well as on the export and import of goods, will also be analyzed to determine when the probability of smuggling is high. Also the police will use drones near harbors to enhance smuggling surveillance. The unmanned aerial vehicles equipped with cameras will