CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

Theft is simply called the action or crime of stealing. In Britannica, theft is said as a general term covering variety of specific types of stealing, including the crimes of larceny, robbery and burglary. Further it is defined as the physical removal of an object that is capable of being stolen without the consent of the owner and with the intension of depriving the owner of it permanently. Cambridge English dictionary defines theft as dishonestly taking something that belongs to someone else and keeping. With this information we can acquire idea of theft but in order to get the full knowledge, one must know about its legal idea, how it is varied, how the system considers it, its consequence and lastly, how our government deals with it. [1]

The chapter XVII (378-382) of Indian penal code, 1860 deals with the offences against property. Section 378 of IPC has provided a proper legal definition of theft, as the act of taking any movable property out of the possession of any person without that person's consent, moves that property in order to such taking, is said to commit theft. IPC 379 deals with the punishment of theft. It says that, whoever commits theft shall be punished with imprisonment of either description for a term which may extend to three years, or with fine, or with both. Section 380 IPC says, whoever commits theft in any building, tent or vessel, which building, tent or vessel is used as a human dwelling, or used for the custody of property, shall be punished with imprisonment of either description for a term which may extend to seven years, and shall also be liable to fine. Section 381 says whoever, being a clerk or servant, or being employed in the capacity of a clerk or servant, commits theft in respect of any property of the possession of its master or employer, shall be punished with imprisonment of either description for a term which may extend to seven years, and shall also be liable to fine. Section 382 says that whoever commits theft, having made preparation for causing death, or hurt, or restraint, or fear of

death, or of hurt, or of restraint, to any person, in order to the committing of such theft, or in order to the effecting of his escape after the committing of such theft or in order to the retaining of property taken by such theft, shall be punished with rigorous imprisonment for a term extend to ten years, and shall also be liable to fine. [2]

Theft is differentiated into many types, based on the modus operandi, corpus delete, mainour, time of the crime etc.Some of the general categories are:[3]

- Larceny
- Robbery
- Burglary
- Motor theft
- Snatching
- Dacoity
- Shoplifting

According to the IPC section of Indian Constitution, there are no specially described types of theft. So there is no legally specified classification for theft. It is all based on the IPC sections which are being implemented in the particular case. For example, if the theft was done inside a building, Section 445, House Breaking will be charged and that only implies illegal entering and if any property was stolen, then Section 378 will also be included. If the same crime occurred at night, then Section 446 will also be charged and together we can conclude it as House Breaking by Night. Furthermore, if any kind of assault was involved, instead of Section 378, Section 390, Robbery will be charged. If number of accused was more than five, then above all, Section 391, Dacoity will be charged. Therefore we cannot really say types of theft based on law, we can simply verbally distinguish it for the sake of ease. Also based on the rate of occurrence of some kinds of theft on particular regions, the police force of that region may distinguish theft as those will be the most happening cases in that particular area. This is only for their ease of

working and communication within the police department of the region and is not legally required. [4]

Kollam is one of the 14 districts of the state of Kerala in India, which was formerly known as Quilon [anglicized name], Desinganadu and Tarsish. Kerala Police, in its present form, dates back to 1956 when the state itself was created in the course of reorganization of the states following the independence of India in 1947.Kerala Police Department; themselves maintain some objectives for their duty;

- Prevention of Law Infringement.
- Prevention of Civil Errors.
- Ensure Safety and Reduce Disorders.
- Reduce Crime and the Fear of Crime.
- Contribute to Delivery of Justice, which Secures and Maintains Public Confidence in the Rule of Law.[6]

For the purpose of maintenance of law & order and traffic management, the state of Kerala is divided into two Police Zones, North and South Zones.Each Zones are further divided into four Police Ranges, namely ThiruvananthapuramRange, Ernakulam Range, Thrissur Range and Kannur Range.Each Range consists of 3-5 police districts, each headed by a District Police Chief, usually in the rank of a Superintendent of Police.Totally there are 19 police districts in Kerala. Kollam being a Revenue Districtis divided into two Police Districts: Kollam City and Kollam Rural.[7]

Kollam City Police falls under Kollam City Range which comes under South Zone. The force is now headed by the Superintendent of Police of IPS cadre designated as District Police Chief, Narayanan. T IPS, from 17 January 2020. The

Kollam City Police is divided into 3 subdivisions, under an Assistant Commissioner of Police [ACP]: Karunagappally, Kollam and Chathannoor. [8]Each subdivision is divided into circles, headed by the Circle Inspector of Police. Each circle is divided into a number of Police Stations, headed by a Sub-Inspector of Police. [9]

Police stations are Kollam East Police Station, Pallithottam Police Station, Vanitha Police Station, Kollam West Police Station, Anchalummoodu Police Station, Sakthikulangara Police Station, Traffic Police Station, Eravipuram Police Station, Kilikolloor Police Station, Kottiyam Police Station, Kannanalloor Police Station, Chathannoor Police Station, Paravoor Police Station, Paripally Police Station, Karunagappally Police Station, Oachira Police Station, Chavara Police Station and Chavara Thekkumbhagom Police Station.[10]

Kollam City Police have initiated many practices like Child Help Line, Women Help Desk, Senior Citizen Help Desk, and Janamaithri Police. Special units like District Special Branch, District Head Quarter, District Crime Records Bureau, District Crime Branch, Narcotic Cell, Armed Reserve, Highway Police, Dog Squad, Women Cell and Cyber Cell are helps to maintain the law and order, crime prevention and crime investigation in the police district. Other initiatives like Janamaithri Suraksha, Clean Campus Safe Campus, Student Police Cadet, Safe Kollam Project and Pink Police Patrol are also part of the force.[11]

Kollam Rural Police District was formed as per the Government Order no 32/2011/Home dated 05.02.2011 and came into force on 28 February 2011. This district was formed by bifurcating Kollam District into Kollam City Police and Kollam Rural Police. Kollam Rural Police Office was inaugurated by the then Honorable Minister for Home, Vigilance and Tourism, Shri. Kodiyery Balakrishnan on 28 February 2020.The Police District is sub divided into two sub divisions, nine Circles and eighteen Police Stations. Kottarakara and Punalur are the two subdivisions. [12]

Police stations are Anchal Police Station, Chadayamangalam Police Station, Achankovil Police Station, East Kallada Police Station, Ezhukone Police Station, Kadakkal Police Station, Kottarakara Police Station, Kulathupuzha Police Station, Kundara Police Station, Kunnicod Police Station, Pathanapuram Police Station, Pooyapally Police Station, Punalur Police Station, Puthoor Police Station, Sasthamcotta Police Station, Sooranadu Police Station, Thenmala Police Station and Yeroor Police Station.[13]

Kollam Rural Police have also initiated some innovative practices like Petition Adalath, Janamaithri Suraksha, Clean Campus Safe Campus, Student Police Cadet, and Women Desk in police stations, Senior Citizen Help Desk. Specialized wings like District Special Branch, District Crime Records Bureau, District Crime Branch, Highway Police, Women Cell, Cyber Cell and District Control Room are also there for the assistance of the force.[14]

Whenever the Police officer comes to know about the occurrence of a crime, initially FIS or First Information Statement is documented. Later on the complaint and further information, FIR or First Information Report is reported. After that the investigation starts with the examination of the crime scene, evidence collection, packing and sealing of evidences and sending it to the concerned laboratories, along with the Forwarding Note and the Chain of Custody. These evidences and information gathered from the crime scene are clearly recorded as Scene Mahazar as they are the proof of existence of the case. Then witnesses are questioned and written statements are recorded. Along with that, the case diary is recorded on each day of the investigation. Later, based on the results from the laboratories, investigation is proceeded with suspect matching, recovery of items etc. Then the final report is submitted to the court if culprit is identified and if culprit is not identified, UN report is submitted to the court.

Generally it is the Police Officer who identifies the culprits by carefully analyzing the crime scene and the case details. They have pointed out the factors or indicators which helps them to identify the suspects as well as culprits.

- While transporting the mainour or travelling under suspicious conditions.
- While selling the mainour under suspicious conditions.
- CCTV footages from the crime scene or nearby areas may have caught the crime or the images of the culprits.
- Analyzing the call data records.
- By checking the list of culprits released recently or around that time from jail on bail or parole, who are related to similar crimes.
- When it comes to Temple theft, only some culprits involve in such crimes and they will only take notes from the money box in temple.
- Some regular culprits will only do to specific thefts; they won't go for any other theft.
- Local people like neighbors, shopkeepers and auto drivers are very helpful in collecting details about the culprits.
- Another way is by analyzing the modus operandi of the crime, the officers can check for culprits with same or similar modus operandi within their jurisdiction that matches this particular crime.

As every other investigation, the officers will check for evidences and clues for the culprit in the scene of crime. Mainly they will focus on CCTV footages, modus operandi of the crime, location of the culprits, similar crimes in other police stations and fingerprints. Cyber cell also plays very important role in such investigations. Hair is also important evidence found in most theft cases. There are mainly 3 types of culprits in theft cases:

- Regular Culprits: They do theft as their job. Once they were caught for theft, eventually they will go to jail, after the sentence or on bail or on parole, they comes out and again go for another theft. This cycle continues and they are easily identified by their modus operandi. Motive is for lavish life.

- Occasional /Seasonal Culprits: These people do theft only during a particular time. In Kollam, these types of culprits are generally caught during temple or church festival time, Onam, monsoon. Their motive is generally very interesting, as whenever they get a chance they will steal and also the chance

  of catching them and evidences against them will be very low as they will steal generally in crowd.
- One Time Culprits: Such kind of culprits are people who are accidently forced to do theft due to unfavorable conditions in their life like for debt, for daughter's or sister's marriage, for medical treatments etc.
- Juvenile Culprits: The rate of juvenile culprits has increased over the years in Kollam, majorly boys. The reason is mainly for lavish life and drugs. Most motor thefts are done by this group of culprit.

This project is conducted to study the types of theft that occurred over the last five years (2015-2019) in Kollam district, Kerala, India along with the statistical analysis of these types of theft over the specified years.

CHAPTER II

LITERATURE REVIEW

In the Journal of Quantitative Criminology, Sergio J. Rey .et.al, in 2012, published Exploratory Space-Time Analysis of Burglary Patterns. This paper introduces two new methods for the exploratory analysis of the special and temporal dynamics of residential burglary patterns. The first is a conditional spatial Markov chain which considers the extent to which a location's probability of experiencing a residential burglary in a future period is related to the prevalence of residential burglaries in its surrounding neighborhood in an initial period. The second measure extends this conditional perspective to examine the joint evolution of residential burglary in allocation and its surrounding neighborhood. These methods are applied to a case study of residential burglary patterns in Mesa, Arizona over the period October 2005 through December 2009.

M.R.D'orsogna .et.al, in2008,published the Statistical Study of Model of Criminal Behavior in world scientific.com and it states that motivated empirical observations of spatio-temporal clusters of a wide variety of urban settings, it presented a model to study the emergence, dynamics, and steady-state properties of crime hotspots. It focuses on a two dimensional lattice model for residential burglary, where each site is characterized by a dynamic attractiveness variable and where each criminal is represented as a random walker.

Steven and Melissa Deller, in 2012, published the Spatial Heterogeneity, Social Capital, and Rural Larceny and Burglary, states that the role of social capital in explaining patters of rural larceny and burglary crime rates. They found consistent evidence that higher levels of social capital tend to be associated with lower levels of rural property crime rate and there is significant spatial heterogeneity in the underlying data –generating process. This suggests that relying on global estimates

from classical statistical methods such as least squares may lead to erroneous policy recommendations at the local level.

As per the Crime in India 2013 published by the National Crime Records Bureau in 2013 in India from 2004 to 2013 the average rate of theft was 26 thefts per 100,000 people with a minimum of 24 thefts per 100,000 people in 2004 and a maximum of 29 thefts per 100,000 people in 2013. The average value for India during that period was 2 robberies per 100,000 people in 2004 and a maximum of 3 robberies per 100,000 people in 2012.

According to Data.gov in, in 2013, in Kerala, there are 64 cases reported in which properties stolen for about 64 lakhs rupees worth in dacoity case. In robbery cases, around 4 crores worth properties were stolen in 722 reported cases. 2791 burglary cases and 3762 theft cases were reported in the region in 2013.

Ryan J. Bunting.et.al, in 2017, published the Spatial Patterns of Larceny and Aggravated Assault in Miami- Dade County, 2007-2015, states that the combination of crime mapping and geospatial analysis method has enabled law enforcement agencies to develop more proactive methods of targeting crime-prone neighborhood based on spatial patterns, such as hot stops and spatial proximity to specific points of interest. In this article it is investigated that the spatial and temporal patterns of the neighborhood crimes of aggravated assault and larceny in 297 census tracts in Miami-Dade County from2007 to 2015.

Jared Romeo Dmello, in 2017, published the Dacoity in India: Investigating Thievery and Banditry in the British Raj's Jewel, states that despite the continued anti banditry efforts, the problem of dacoity persists in India today. Although it has a long history in the sub continent, relatively little quantitative work has been done on the topic. Using official crime data published by the Government of India and information in the census of India, the study seeks to evaluate the impact of state level factors on the prevalence of dacoit crimes in India using multilevel modeling.

B. Chandra .et.al, in 2007, published the Adaptive Query Interface for Mining Crime Data which states law enforcement agencies are looked upon not only to control crime but also to analyze the crime so that the future occurrence is similar incidence can be overcome. There is need for user interactive interfaces based on current technologies to meet and fulfill the new emerging responsibilities and task of the police. The paper proposes adaptive query interface o assist police activities and is used to extract useful information, find crime hotspots and predict crime trends for the crime hotspots based on crime data using data mining technique.

Simha F. Landau, in 1993, published the Seasonality of the Violent Crime: The Case of Robbery and Homicide in Israel, states the relationship between season of the year and criminal behavior is a classical topic in criminological research. However, much of the research in this field is a theoretical and the findings are inconsistent and contradictory. The present study investigated the seasonality of homicide and robbery in Israel from 1977 to 1985. The authors' analysis was informed by the routine activity approach, which views crime as a function of three main elements: motivated offenders, suitable targets and absence of guardians. Based on this approach and on the differences between homicide and robbery, the authors hypothesized that robbery would show a seasonal trend and would peak during the winter due to the increase in the cost of living and the facilitating environmental conditions during these months.

Brendon O' Flaherty et.al, in 2008, published the Racial Stereotypes and Robbery Project states that data on the incidence of robbery reveal certain striking racial disparities. African – Americans are more likely to be victims, arrestees and prisoners than members of other demographic group, and while black-on-white robberies are very common, white-on –black robberies are extremelyrare. The disparities for robbery are also much greater than those for other crimes ofacquisition. They develop a model of robbery that attempts to address these and stylized facts. Robberies are typically interactions between strangers that involvea sequence of rapid decisions with severely limited information.

CHAPTER III

AIM AND OBJECTIVES

Aim

To study about the types of theft in Kollam district in Kerala and to analyze the statistical data of these crimes over the last 5 years.

Objectives

- To determine the different types of theft occurring in the area over the last 5 years.
- To determine the rate of occurrence of each type of theft crime.
- To identify the various modus operandi of these crimes.
- To determine the presence of any serial theft and criminal gangs involved in these crimes.
- To determine the factors affected the investigation over the last five years.

CHAPTER IV

MATERIALS AND METHODOLOGY

Materials

Statistical data of theft of last five years (2015-2019) from DCRB Kollam City and DCRB Kollam Rural.

Methodology

Records related to theft are collected from the District Crime Records Bureau. All the relevant information regarding the types of theft is collected from the local police stations. The data regarding the types of theft in the region of Kollam district is separately extracted from the collected information. Data about various modus operandis, culprits, investigational methods, factors affected the investigation over the years are individually studied from case files and collected from experienced police officials. The data is analyzed for determining the rate of each type of theft. The known data is converted into graphical form.

CHAPTER V

DISCUSSION AND OBSERVATION

Discussion

The Kollam Police force has came across many interesting thefts over the years and has solved most of them very intellectually. The project has concentrated on how thefts are seen, dealt and changed in Kollam district by the Police Force.

TYPES OF THEFT IN KOLLAM

Based on the frequency of theft in the concerned area, theft is of mainly five types:

- House breaking by night.
- House breaking by day.
- Robbery
- Dacoity
- Ordinary theft.

Ordinary thefts are usually very common in the area and come under normal theft (IPC 378) like:

a) Motor theft

b) Snatching

c) Jewelry theft

d) Cattle theft

e) Electronic theft

f) Temple theft

g) Pick pocketing

Etc.

HOUSE BREAKING BY NIGHT

Under IPC Section 446,House Breaking by Night says that, whoever commits house breaking after sunset and before sunrise is said to commit house breaking by night. It is one of the most common crimes in Kollam and is very seriously taken by the police. Modus operandi at the scene of crime is main factor for investigation in such type of crimes. For example, in one such house breaking by night case reported in Kottarakara Police Station, the culprit broke in the house where the owner was away, ate food present in the refrigerator and stole the valuables, even slept on the sofa and left before sunrise.

Crime number: 1630/19

Section of law: IPC 457,461,380

Location: Sanker's Junction, Kadappakada, Kollam

Jurisdiction: Kollam East Police Station

Date of occurrence:28 September 2019

Complainer: Rajesh Reghunathan

As per the FIR reported on 29 September 2019, someone broke into the complainer's mobile shop between 28 September 2019 night 7 pm and 29 September 2019 morning 7.30 am, by breaking the two locks on the sliding door of the shop. The culprit took an amount of 6000 rupees, 8 mobile phones, 200 rupees worth coins and several BSNL recharge coupons and left the scene through the entry way. The case is on hold in the station as finger prints collected were unrecognized and investigation based on the modus operandi didn't have any result till date. The case was reported as UN Report on 31 December 2019.

<u>HOUSE BREAKING BY DAY</u>

It comes under IPC 445, with normal house breaking section. As it is happening during day time, it is very less in number compared to house breaking by night. This type of crime is in least occurrence in the Kollam area.

<u>ROBBERY</u>

Robbery as per IPC Section 390, states that, theft is robbery if, in order to the committing of the theft, or in committing the theft, or in carrying away or attempting to carry away property obtained by the theft, the offender, for that end, voluntarily causes or attempts to cause to any person death or hurt or wrongful restraint, or fear of instant death or of instant death, or of instant wrongful restraint. Robbery is the one of the common crime in Kollam area. It is simply the taking away of property by hurting the victim. Section 392 IPC deals with the punishment for robbery, Section 393 IPC says about the attempt to commit robbery and 394 IPC deals with voluntarily causing hurt in committing robbery.[15]

As per the details collected, usually people with former criminal involvement are generally involved in robbery crimes. Sometimes the harm caused to the victim can be very large which can lead to any impairment and sometimes to death also. If death of the victim is involved, then section for murder is also charged.

Crime number: 119/2012

Section of law: IPC 394, 302

Jurisdiction: Kollam East Police Station

Victim: Unknown male (60 years)

Culprit: Motta Navas

Date of occurrence: 20June 2012

Location: Railway Over Bridge, Kollam Railway Station

As reported on 21 June 2012, an unidentified male was found injured near the over bridge, Kollam Railway Station on 20 June 2012. He was declared dead on the next day evening by the neurosurgeon that was treating him on Thiruvananthapuram medical college. Based on the postmortem report, the ante mortem injuries and modus operandi of the crime scene were found similar to another robbery case reported in the same police station few months ago. The investigation team traced out the culprit, who was a local man, Navas (Motta Navas) with no family or home. He killed the victim, who was sleeping on road side, by hitting him on the head with stone, in order to rob him. He showed several antisocial natures in his behavior and discovered to be related to another similar 6 cases. Later he was sent to undergo a polygraph test and a medical team assigned submitted a report on his mental status which said he is having Anti-social Personality Disorder. Currently he is in mental asylum as the postmortem report analysis and mental status report, the Medical Board is of the opinion that his Anti-social Personality Disorder in the background of a troubled childhood and probable Psychosis fueled by alcohol and ganja addiction is likely to make him vulnerable for repeated criminal behavior of similar nature in future.

DACOITY

Under Section 391 IPC, when five or more persons conjointly commit or attempt to commit a robbery, or where the whole number of persons conjointly committing or attempting to commit a robbery, and persons present and aiding such commission or attempt, amount to five or more, every person so committing, attempting or aiding, is said to commit dacoity. Section 395 says about the

punishment for robbery and 396 charges for dacoity with murder. Later on from IPC 397 to 400 and 402, are involved with dacoity charges.[16]

It is the least occurring crime in Kollam area. As per the definition, it is done by gang of people, usually a criminal gang. Then it is found out that there are no native criminal gangs in the district of Kollam. On further study, the few dacoity cases reported are done by criminal gangs from other states, especially Tamil Nadu, like Mottamala from Madras and another gang from Thirupparakundam in Virutha Nagar. The involvement of such other state gangs is strongly suspected when the survived victims gave the statement regarding the language the gang used during the crime. Sometimes fluency and slang of the language the culprits used are also taken into consideration to rule out the doubt of involvement of natives who knew that particular language used it to escape from any suspicion in the investigation and misdirect it to other state criminal gangs. Another factor helps in this crime is the presence of suspected other state people in the surroundings around the past days of the reported crime.

ORDINARY THEFT

This category is a group of all normal theft cases that is occurring mainly outside a house, building or apartment. Within that, motor theft, jewelry theft, snatching, pick pocketing, temple theft, electronic theft, cattle theft are grouped. In Kollam City, bike theft is the most common motor theft reported. It is very high as the jurisdiction consists of mainly town areas than villages and also more populated. Temple theft is also very common. Cattle theft is very rare. Jewelry theft is most commonly occurring in vehicles, especially buses. In such cases women are the most amounts of culprits, sometimes Tamil Nadu natives. Pick pocketing is also mostly occurring in public transports. Electronic theft involves mainour like mobile phones, computer systems from offices and schools, laptops etc.

OTHERS

❖ Burglary is not a generally used word in the Police force as it is not legally defined in IPC. It is just illegal entry into someone's area and it doesn't involve any weapon or harm.

❖ Serial theft is just a term used to convey that the particular crime had occurred in a chain manner. It can be any type of theft. In Kollam area, one such infamous serial theft case reported was that, an ATM theft case,which was reported as the culprit gang identified a draw back in the ATM system of Federal Bank as when they ask to withdraw an amount of 10,000 rupees and when the money comes out,they take only Rs.9000,leaving the above 1000 rupee note to go back into the ATM machine and the drawback was that, when that 1000 rupee note goes back into the machine, the machine considered the whole amount asked was not withdrawn and thus the bank balance of the particular account didn't show the shortage of the taken 9000 rupees. A gang of men from Himachal Pradesh was behind this and they had already withdrawn lakhs of rupees like that from the ATMs of Federal Bank all over India. But they were caught by the Kollam Police from Delhi on the reported case in Kollam.

MODUS OPERANDI

Modus operandi or the way in which the crime have occurred or prosecuted, is one of the main thing which helps the investigating team. Each culprit will show their own style in proceeding with the particular crime and it serves as a personality trait in the crime scene and thus the police officers can identify the culprit easily with the help of the modus operandi. Some of the major modus operandi seen in Kollam area are discussed below:

- Some culprit breaks into the building only through the back door, while some will break in through front door.
- Breaking into inside through door is also of many types:
  ➢ By breaking the locks of the door with blunt objects.

- By pulling out the screw of the box of the Box and Strike Plate type of locks, so that the bolt will come outside and hence the door can be opened.

Fig 1: Lock breaking

> By cutting out below wooden plate of wooden door.

Fig 2: Door breaking (Type I)

Fig 3: Close up view of door breaking

➢ By drilling holes in the door near the locking area of the door in order to manually open the door from inside by putting the hand through the door.

Fig 4: Door breaking (Type II)

➢ By burning the door to a small extend so as to create a hole to get inside.

Fig 5: Door burning

Fig 6: Door burning; a close up view

- Another way to get inside a building is by fake or duplicate keys, forgotten keys.
- Another way is to get inside a building is by digging or drilling out holes on the walls in order to get inside. Earlier this type was very common in bank theft cases, today this technique is used to get inside other buildings also.

Fig 7: Theft by digging holes in the walls

Fig 8: Hole on the wall; a view from outside the house

- Removing the clay tiles (common type) from the roof and entering the building from the top is one of the traditional methods of breaking into a house.
- Some culprits break in through windows by removing or deforming the grills of the window.

Fig 9: Break in through window grills

- After getting inside the houses, some will directly go for stealing and get outside as fast as possible. Some doesn't follow this routine and show of some uncommon behaviors.
  - ➢ Some culprits will eat food items from the kitchen; some will even cook small food items (omelets) and have it,then steal.
  - ➢ After having the food inside the building,some will steal the valuables and take a small nap inside the building and then get outside.
  - ➢ Some will destroy the interiors after stealing.
- Some culprits will only go to houses with only women and rape them and get away with valuables.
- Some will opt only houses where family is away.
- Some theft gangs will come in drama vans, during festival seasons, so as to not to get into suspicion and do theft.
- Some will choose the house to steal at the time itself whereas some will choose the house before itself and come in preparation.
- Another major modus operandi seen in snatching and robbery cases happening outside the building. The culprits will be covering their faces in most cases.

  - ➢ Most common way of chain snatching is by two people coming in two wheeler and go through lonely roads where they spot a lady victim. Then they come towards her and snatch the valuable by slowing down and get away.
  - ➢ Some will stop near ladies by acting to ask for direction and snatch valuables.
  - ➢ In some case at night time, the lady member in the robbery team, will request for lift from lonely roadsides and when a vehicle stops ,rest members comes from behind and rob away the travelers, sometimes including the vehicle.
  - ➢ Sometimes the culprit will tie a thin wire across lonely roads and cause accidents and rob away the travelers.

- In ATM robbery cases the culprit will use technologies or identifies the drawback of the system or software (as described in the above case study in the other types of theft), or enter the ATM with customers inside and threaten or harm them to take away the cash.

- When it comes to temple theft cases,as said above, some culprits will go only for temples to steal. They won't go to any other places to steal.

- In jewelry theft in buses, many ladies are involved. They will come in a small group and get into a bus and select one target and create a fake crowd inside the bus,one member will get beside the target and steal the jewelry without the target's knowledge and immediately passes to the members nearby as a chain and the last member of the chain will get down in next stop. Even though the victim finds out about the item being stolen, no further use will be there in checking the whole travelers as the member with the item will have gone by then.

- Some local culprits will steal smaller items like banana from banana plantation, rubber sheets, tapioca etc.

- Some local culprits have signature styles, like in Kottarakara jurisdiction, one regular culprit named Spider Jayaraj, can climb walls without any ladder.

FACTORS AFFECTED THE INVESTIGATION OVER THE LAST FIVE YEARS.

Over the years there are many implementations happened in investigational area. Forensic science being the most important factor that had helped the crime solving more efficient and fast. There are also other factors which had affected the investigation:

- Cyber cell have given many contributions to the investigations.

- Implementation of CCTV cameras in houses, buildings and shops has helped a lot in investigations.

- Introduction of Janamaithri police gave an opportunity for the police to become friendlier with the public and it helped to reduce unwanted fear about police in

public. More importantly, whenever a crime happens, the public will share their doubts with the police officers and inform them about any potential crime. Another fact is that people have helped police in catching culprits by chasing them out or passing information about the location or arrival of wanted culprits or being as spy for police and thus becoming a part of the investigation.

- Night patrolling has helped in the prevention of night time thefts.

- Shadow police have also become a crucial part of investigation and their sneaky investigation nature has helped in many investigations including cases extending to other states.

- Earlier whenever a crime happens, the investigation was done in an extensive level, i.e. all the culprits in the jurisdiction will come upon the suspect list. But this practice has stopped today and only selective investigation based on modus operandi and clues is conducted.

Observation

<u>STATISTICAL ANALYSIS OF TYPES OF THEFT IN KOLLAM DISTRICT OVER THE LAST 5 YEARS.</u>

KOLLAM CITY:
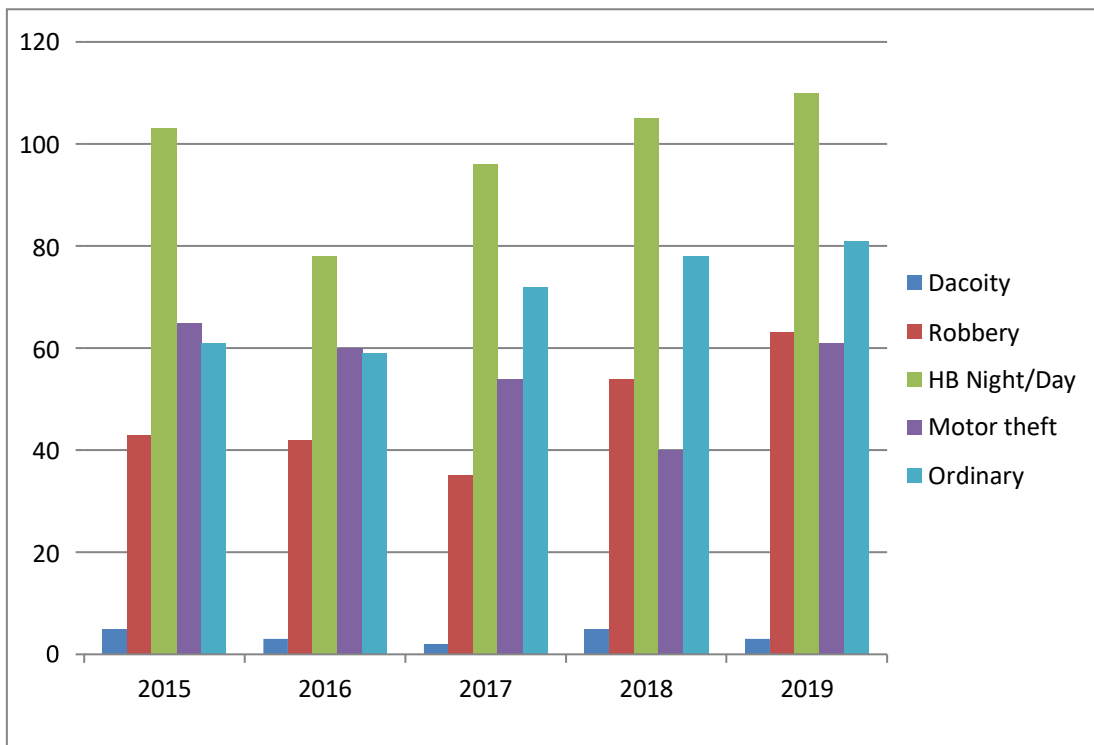
Graph 1: Theft rate in Kollam city

❖ House breaking crimes have gradually increased by years and reached a maximum of 110 in 2019.

❖ Dacoity is present in very small number with a maximum of 5 in 2015 and 2018.

❖ Robbery has taken a high rise with 63 in 2019 from 43 in 2015.

❖ Motor theft is specifically shown in this, though it is a part of ordinary theft because of its individually high rate.

❖ Amount of women culprits are increasing.

❖ Majority of motor theft cases are done by youngsters.

KOLLAM RURAL:
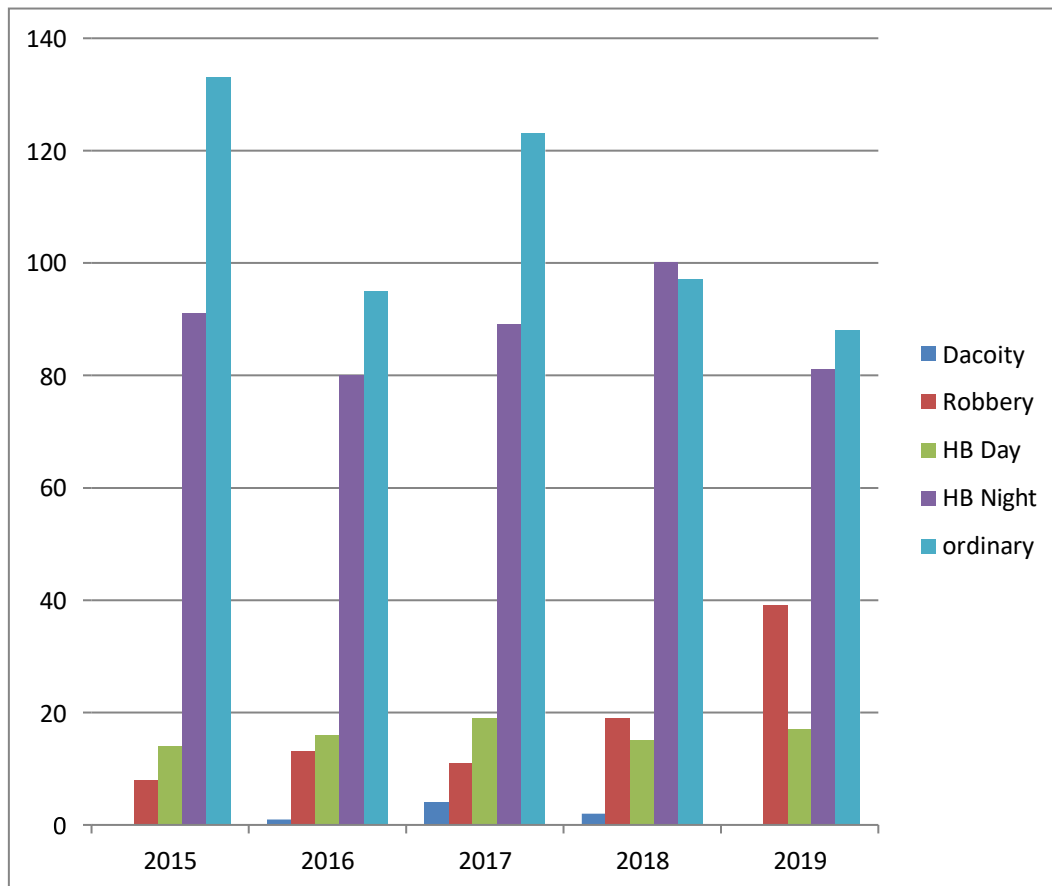
Graph 2: Theft rate in Kollam rural

❖ Ordinary theft rate has decreased from 133 in 2015 to 88 in 2019.

❖ Dacoity is very rare as it is reported in 2016 with a number of 1, 4 in 2017 and 2 in 2018.

❖ House breaking Night has been going in a fluctuating manner over the years.

❖ Robbery has increased to a rate of 39 in 2019 from 8 in 2015.

❖ House breaking day is almost going in a same manner over the years.

❖ Kundara and Kottarakara jurisdiction is having the highest theft rate over the last 5 years.

CHAPTER V

RESULT AND CONCLUSION

Result

It was found that there are some types of theft which are endemic to Kollam district and various types of modus operandis were seen in those crimes.

Factors affecting the investigations have given a good impact on them and introduced investigational methods have given a boost for investigation by easily eliminating innocents from the start.

In both Kollam city and Kollam rural, the rate of dacoity is very less, whereas house breaking thefts and ordinary thefts are large in number, though with decreasing and increasing rate.

Conclusion

With the advancement in scientific and logical aspects, the investigational ways have improved with the increasing crime rate.Introduction and development of technological aspects have also contributed to this advancement in law and justice system.

This project have pointed out the theft and its associated facts that will help the forensic investigators especially criminologists in identifying and understanding the criminological behaviors of criminals in solving related crimes.

CHAPTER VI

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