Evidence Based Policing

What is the issue?

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- The quality of service that people get at grass roots from the police is disatisfying.
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- There is a need to transform the police from a traditional outfit into a modern force to upgrade delivery of its service.
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What are the issues with Indian police force?

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- Political interference.
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- Lack of professionalism.
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- Lack of audit by dedicated committee.
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- Lack of infrastructure investment
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- Lack of community support.
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- No counter cyber-attack skills
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How to professionalise the police department?

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- Brainstorming problems of maintaining public order and combating conventional crime.
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- Making plans to acquire a fresh mind-set to cope with the needs of a society

under attack.
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- Improvising the manpower and use of new technology.
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- Implementation of scientific approaches like evidence based policing in every day policing activities.
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What is evidence based policing (EBP)?

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- Evidence-based policing was a movement launched in the U.S and the U.K.,
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- It emphasizes the value of statistical analysis and empirical research.
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- When left alone to practice individually, officers often act upon their own perception of the facts, which often turn out to be wrong.
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- EBP rectifies this by stressing to work based on statistics, changing practices and measuring the success of those changes with risk-adjusted outcomes.
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- e.g One strategy is identifying ‘hot spots’ of crime and spotting problematic individuals in a community.
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- The Prediction task requires an analysis of events which are either crimes by themselves or border on crimes defined by law.
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- There are certain geographic areas in each police jurisdiction which report more incidents than others.
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- EBP goes beyond statistics and pinpoints the time and opportunities presented to a potential offender.
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- Monitoring behavioural patterns of a class of individuals who had come to the adverse notice of law enforcement is a logical way to predict whether they will again lapse into crime.

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Source: The Hindu

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