

**Historical context:** In 1792, Lord Cornwallis, the then Governor General of India took police administration from the hands of '*Zamindars*', and established a police force responsible to the agents of the British East India Company. The Districts were divided into several parts and over each part a police officer known as '*Daroga*' was placed, which is now equivalent to a 'Thana' or 'Police Station' being headed by an Officer-in-Charge. Earlier the '*Daroga*' was accountable to the District Judge, but in 1808, the post of Superintendent of Police was created, which is still prevalent. At present, there are 23 districts including 18 Revenue Districts, the Police District of *Jhargram*, 4 Government Railway Police (GRP) Districts, 4 Police Commissionerates ( Howrah Town, Barrackpore, Bidhannagar and Asansol-Durgapur ), 8 Ranges (Each headed by an officer of the rank of Deputy Inspector General of Police) and 4 Zones(Each headed by an officer of the rank of Inspector General of Police) in West Bengal.