

# HC to govt: Train state cops to conduct scientific investigation

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**Patna:** The Patna high court on Tuesday asked the police and prosecution departments to train and sensitize their personnel for ensuring a meticulous investigation and flawless trial by the state agencies.

A division bench of Justices Ashwani Kumar Singh and Shailendra Singh, while hearing a public interest litigation (PIL) filed by lawyer Om Prakash Kumar, referred to a series of deficiencies and lacunae in police investigations and conduct of trial by the prosecutors, which have led to the acquittals of large number of criminal offenders on account of "benefit of doubt".

Reserving the judgement of the PIL, the division bench indicated that it would pass a slew of directions containing



suggestive measures for making the investigators and prosecutors of state effective to bring the real culprit to book.

The court also directed the state government to organise training workshops and programmes to sensitize the police forces about the nuances of investigations according to the provisions of criminal procedure code and Bihar Police Manuals.

The court made a long interaction with advocate general Lalit Kishore and two senior police officers - Bhrigu Srinivasan and Kamal Kishore Singh - during hearing and

pointed out a series of deficiencies and lacunae in police investigations and conduct of trial.

Justice Ashwani orally observed that the case diary, in which day to day progress of investigation is recorded, is a confidential document. "However, the copies of the case diaries are accessible to the accused persons right from the commencement of the probe," he said.

AG Kishore admitted that it is high time to sensitize police with all medico-legal methods of investigations.

The two top police officers informed the court that of 974 police stations in the state, only two are left to be computerised. Advocate Surya Nilambari, the amicus curiae appointed in this case, also submitted her list of suggestions which were recorded by the court.