

Republic of Serbia
MINISTRY OF INTERNAL AFFAIRS
Public Security Sector - Department for Analytic

**INFORMATION
ON SECURITY SITUATION ON THE TERRITORY
OF THE REPUBLIC OF SERBIA
FROM JANUARY THROUGH TO JUNE 2002**

In Belgrade, July 2002

**SURVEY OF THE BASIC INDICATORS ON THE STATE OF PUBLIC SECURITY ON THE
TERRITORY OF REPUBLIC OF SERBIA FOR THE PERIOD JANUARY - JUNE 2001 / 2002**

**/ Data on the Kosovo and Metohija territory are not presented in this survey*

	I-VI 2001	I-VI 2002	Difference
TYPE OF CRIME			
<i>Total number of criminal acts</i>	57684	48626	-9058
<i>Financial crime</i>	6381	7320	939
<i>General crime</i>	51303	41306	-9997
Committed by unknown suspects	40214	30909	-9305
Number of disposed-off cases	20721	16407	-4314
% of the cases solved	51.53	53.08	
Structure of severe crimes			
<i>Murder</i>	108	84	-24
<i>Attempted murder</i>	91	110	19
<i>Major theft</i>	19961	15060	-4901
<i>Armed robbery</i>	74	62	-12
<i>Robbery</i>	1582	1553	-29
<i>Severe cases of armed robberies and robberies</i>	127	165	38
<i>Extortion</i>	132	130	-2
<i>Vehicle theft</i>	3867	2331	-1536
<i>Confiscated narcotics (in kg)</i>	158.789	401.857	243.068
<i>Art.33 Law on arms and ammunition</i>	1046	1032	-14
<i>Abuse of authority in business</i>	632	842	210
<i>Illegal trafficking</i>	580	780	200
<i>Tax evasion</i>	86	146	60
<i>Abuse of authority</i>	1883	1594	-289
<i>Forgery of official documents</i>	1304	1252	-52
<i>Embezzlmen</i>	295	309	14
<i>Offering and taking bribery</i>	86	124	38
<i>Art 114 and 115 Law on Foreign Exchange Operations</i>	191	62	-129
FIELD OF PUBLIC LAW AND ORDER			
<i>Total number of offences</i>	20760	26120	5360
STRUCTURE			
<i>Art 6 par 1 Arguments and quarrels</i>	570	731	161
<i>Art.6 par.2 Endangering the safety of individuals</i>	1500	1800	300
<i>Art 6 par 3 Provocing and taking part in fights</i>	13960	16232	2272
<i>Total number of public gatherings</i>	21178	22919	1741
FIELD OF TRAFFIC SAFETY			
<i>Total number of traffic accidents</i>	27609	22151	-5458
<i>Total number of TA with injured people</i>	6883	4797	-2086
<i>Casualties</i>	578	321	-257
<i>Injured</i>	9021	6126	-2895
<i>Number of traffic safety offences</i>	227972	339903	111931
FIELD OF FIRE PREVENTION			
<i>Total number of fires and explosions</i>	1912	2626	714
<i>Fires on public property</i>	426	758	332
<i>Fires on private property</i>	1470	1859	389
<i>Number of casualties</i>	42	49	7
<i>Number of injured persons</i>	84	72	-12
BORDER POLICE ISSUES			
<i>Border crossings - the international traffic</i>	6671432	7671205	999773
<i>Border crossings - border and extraordinary traffic</i>	6717705	6399961	-317744

SURVEY
OF CRIMINAL ACTS AGAINST LIFE AND BODY, DIGNITY AND MORAL
AND AGAINST PROPERTY COMMITTED ON THE TERRITORY OF THE REPUBLIC OF SERBIA
IN THE PERIOD JANUARY - JUNE 2001/2002

**/ Data on the Kosovo and Metohija territory are not presented in this survey*

	I - VI 2001	I - VI 2002
Total number of criminal acts	57684	48626
Commercial crime	6381	7320
General crime	51303	41306
Committed by unknown suspects	40214	30909
No. of disposed-off cases	20721	16407
% of solved cases	51.53	53.08
STRUCTURE OF SEVERE CRIMINAL ACTS		
Murder	108	84
Committed by unknown suspects	59	39
No. of disposed-off cases	36	25
% of solved cases	61.02	64.10
Attempted murder	91	110
Committed by unknown suspects	45	46
No. of disposed-off cases	29	37
% of solved cases	64.44	80.43
Rape	63	47
Committed by unknown suspects	37	30
No. of disposed-off cases	30	27
% of solved cases	81.08	90.00
Attempted rape	16	31
Committed by unknown suspects	8	18
No. of disposed-off cases	6	12
% of solved cases	75.00	66.67
Theft	11055	7628
Committed by unknown suspects	10423	7083
No. of disposed-off cases	6564	4513
% of solved cases	62.98	63.72
Major thefts	19961	15060
Committed by unknown suspects	19442	14634
No. of disposed-off cases	9032	6448
% of solved cases	46.46	44.06
Armed robbery	74	62
Committed by unknown suspects	68	55
No. of disposed-off cases	20	33
% of solved cases	29.41	60.00
Robbery	1582	1553
Committed by unknown suspects	1548	1509
No. of disposed-off cases	516	469
% of solved cases	33.33	31.08
Severe cases of armed robberies And robberies	127	165
Committed by unknown suspects	121	159
No. of disposed-off cases	52	70
% of solved cases	42.98	44.03
Extortion	132	130
Committed by unknown suspects	89	85
No. of disposed-off cases	79	78
% of solved cases	88.76	91.76
Kidnapping	17	25
Committed by unknown suspects	11	16
No. of disposed-off cases	7	12
% of solved cases	63.64	75.00

INFORMATION
ON SECURITY SITUATION ON THE TERRITORY OF THE REPUBLIC OF
SERBIA
FROM JANUARY THROUGH TO JUNE 2002

A) Achieving strategic goals

- Through out the period of the last six months in 2002 The Ministry of Internal Affairs of the Republic of Serbia has performed duties and tasks stemming from its competencies defined by the Law, acting in improved, although still complex security environment. The activities of this Ministry have been aiming at accomplishing strategic task defined following establishment of the new administration and the tasks given by the Government of the Republic of Serbia, which marked 2002 as the year dedicated to suppression of crime and corruption, as well as aiming at carrying out the tasks stemming from the current security situation. The creation of an *Action Plan of the Ministry of Internal Affairs of the Republic of Serbia for the period from May to October 2002* is based on the assessments of the situation, trends and the achievements of the Ministry through out the first four months of the current year, as well as on a prediction on further security developments, and it presents in details the way forward towards full implementation of all strategic tasks, as defined.

Having defined the above mentioned strategic tasks, the Ministry reiterated its main commitments and priorities, those being to protect and improve security of the Republic of Serbia and to ensure full individual safety of the citizens and their property, while strictly complying with relevant legal provisions, having professional and correct attitude towards the citizens, and upholding ethics pertaining to the members of the Ministry. In parallel, the Ministry has launched the overall reform process, which represents the strategic goal of the institution.

Maximizing its human and technical resources, the Ministry of Internal Affairs has been working towards accomplishing its strategic goals and achieved the following results:

- The processes of **decriminalization** and **de-politicization** of the Ministry have successfully been continued. In the area of human resources reform within the Ministry, 402 new appointees have so far (until June 30 2002) assumed their management positions (16 Heads of Directorates, 9 Deputy Heads of Directorates, 6 Assistant Heads of Directorates, 27 Chiefs of Secretariats, 1 Deputy Chief of Secretariat, 7 Assistant Chiefs of Secretariat, 79 Chiefs of Departments of Internal Affairs, 104 Chiefs of Police Stations, 77 Heads of Departments, 19 Chiefs of Sections, and 53 other managers). The Principal of the Police High School has been appointed, as well. It is important to take note of the appointment of a Deputy Minister, a Secretary of the Ministry and an Assistant Minister for Education, which was done upon the decision taken by the Government of the Republic of Serbia.

According to the Job Classification, the Ministry of Internal Affairs of the Republic of Serbia has identified 51,008 positions, out of which 34,055, or

66.79%, are filled in, at the same time in 2001 it was 69.89%). Out of the total number of employees there are 3,917 with full executive power and authority, 19,699 Uniform Police Officers, 2,385 executing specific duties, 3,045 Fire Fighter, and 5,009 others. In the HQ of the Ministry there are 4,042 employees, which makes 60.90% of the total number of positions defined by the job classification. In the field organizational units of the Ministry there are 30,013 employees, or 67.62%, out of the total number of positions defined by the job classification.

Personnel changes at the managerial level in the Ministry HQ, as well as in all regional organizational units serves to denounce speculations heard in the public that the changes at the managerial level effected within the Ministry were of formal and not of substantial nature.

- The most urgent **organizational changes** have been carried out, consequently, the Directorate for Suppression of the Organized Crime and Gandarmerie have been established. The Special Police Units of temporary formation have been transformed into the Gandarmerie units of permanent formation, composed of professional and well trained members of the Ministry of Internal Affairs. The establishment of the Gandarmerie units and Multi Ethnic Police Element for the Municipalities of Bujanovac, Presevo and Medvedja have created a precondition for the Police Officers to return to their permanent duty stations, and, consequently contributed to the enhancement of overall safety of the citizens in the Republic of Serbia and to intensified institution of the Community Policing approach and introduction of the area Patrol Police Officers. The Special Operations Police Unit ceased to be organizational component of the State Security Sector, and was tasked to act as a Rescue Unit for the benefit of the citizens and other possible beneficiaries. The two Helicopter Units (Public Security, and State Security) joined into a unified Helicopter Unit and its operations have been rationalized. The two VIP and Installation Protection Units were transformed into one unit, as well. The position of the Inspector General has been introduced for both the Public and State Security Sectors. Three Bureaus have been established within the Cabinet of the Minister, namely: Bureau for Cooperation with Foreign Police and Security Services, Bureau for Public Relations and Media, and Bureau for Complaints and Grievances. The said organizational changes have introduced more profound upcoming reorganization of the Ministry of Internal Affairs, which are to commence upon the amendment of the legislation governing internal affairs.
- In parallel with de-politicization and decriminalization of the Service, personnel and organizational reforms, the Ministry entered the implementation stage of one of the priorities - **suppression of organized crime and corruption**. The results achieved in that respect are positive and verify the commitment of the Serbian state to vigorously fight all types of crime, and organized crime and its stakeholders in particular.
- **The "gray" oil market has been eliminated to the great extent** and reduced to the minimum in the last decade. *The legal circulation of cigarettes makes more than 50% of the total trade in cigarettes* in the Republic of Serbia. The information have been provided by the Federal Customs Authorities and the

Yugoslav Tobacco Fund. It should be noted that the achievements in this area rise from increased efforts invested by the Ministry's operational groups tasked to fight "Tobacco Mafia", as well as from efficient and exceptionally successful cooperation with the Federal Customs Authorities and other relevant state institutions and agencies.

- **The Teams of CID inspectors have intensively investigating the major murder and abduction cases**, and several of them are in the final stage. As far as the police part of the job is concerned, some of these cases have been closed. However, there is not enough evidence to substantiate initiation of criminal proceedings.
- **The Ministry has initiated the reform process** as a part of an overall reform of the society. Having done that, the Ministry would like to create the Force, which would, within the legal framework, embrace human rights and democratic principles and apply those principles in fighting crime and protecting the citizens and their property. At the session on 11 April 2002, *the Government of the Republic of Serbia approved the Information on the Reform Process* in the Ministry, which shall serve as bases for future activities. That decision verified and marked the end of the first stage of the reform. Throughout the reform process the Ministry has so far benefited from extensive assistance provided by distinguished experts from the international community, and the most active have been the experts from the OSCE, the Council of Europe, Danish Center for Human Rights, Stability Pact for South East Europe. The assistance have also been provided by domestic experts members of the Think Tank of the Ministry of Internal Affairs, which is the stakeholder of the Police Reform Project. The Ministry is currently engaged in de-politicization, decriminalization, peaceful resolution of the crisis in the municipalities in South Serbia, and the Multiethnic Police Project, which should create a sound base for further activities in the reform process.
- In the area of police legislation, several draft laws have been prepared (or are already submitted for adoption), namely **Draft Law on Prevention of Violence and Hooliganism at Sports Events, and Draft Law on Physical and Technical Protection**, as well as a great number of decrees and rule books. In the final draft phase are three strategic laws of reformist provenance, and those are: **Law on Internal Affairs (or Law on Police), Law on Security-Information Directorate (Agency), Law on Suppression of Organized Crime**. These draft laws would be submitted to the Government for further procedures. The exceptionally well organized Work Shop, held on April 19 and 20, 2002, in Vrnjacka Banja, contributed greatly to the expert discussions on the draft versions of these laws; distinguished local and international representatives participated at the Work Shop.

- All the tasks stipulated in the state Program for Resolution of the crisis in South Serbia were dealt with successfully, and the security situation in the areas of the municipalities Bujanovac, Presevo and Medvedja was stabilized. That is also indicated by correlation between the number of committed terrorist attacks and armed provocations before and after the peace operation.¹ Simultaneously, the

¹ Decreasing number of terrorist acts committed in the period following the implementation of the Peace Plan could also support this statement. In the first six months in 2002, there were 136 terrorist acts per month, at average, whereas that number was reduced to 37 attacks, intrusions and provocations per month, for the period January - June 2002. Majority of the acts have been armed provocations by Albanian extremists executed from the territory of the Autonomous Region of Kosovo and Metohija targeting the Ground Safety Zone, which is covering the areas within the municipalities of Presevo, Medvedja and Bujanovac. While withdrawing from the region, Albanian terrorist left behind planted antitank and antipersonnel mines, which have been detected in the course of the relaxation of the ground operation. From 1 January to 30 June 2002, Albanian terrorists committed total of 224 attacks, intrusions, and provocations, out of which 26 were committed against citizens (10 Serbs and Montenegrins, 16 Albanians), 106 against the members and installations of the Ministry of Internal Affairs, and 89 against the members of the Yugoslav Army. In these attacks Albanian terrorists injured 6 persons (1 Serb, 3 Albanians, and 2 members of the Army of Yugoslavia).

² From 1 January to 30 June 2002, Albanian terrorists committed 155 attacks (143 against Serbs and Montenegrins, 4 against Albanians, 8 against members of other nationalities). In these attacks Albanians killed 7 persons (5 Serbs and Montenegrins, 2 Albanians), wounded 22 persons (20 Serbs and Montenegrins, 2 members of other nationalities).

Multiethnic Police Project has been implemented in cooperation with the OSCE. The total of 278 students, including 28 female students, have successfully completed the Multiethnic Police Training Course in the Ministry's Training Center in Mitrovo Polje, on the mountain of Goc, and they are already deployed in the Departments of Internal Affairs in the municipalities of Bujanovac, Presevo, and Medvedja.

- The Ministry **is constantly monitoring the security situation in Kosovo**, which is still complex and difficult due to terrorist acts committed by Albanian terrorists, thus reinforcing the idea of the Albanian terrorism presenting the main threat to peace and stability of the whole region.² Serious measures have been introduced to prevent the spill-over of the terrorist acts committed by the Albanian separatists from Kosovo and Metohija to the Ground Safety Zone and further into the mainland of the Republic. In response to the terrorist acts committed in the USA, the preparedness of the relevant services have been maximized, and the precaution measures enhanced in order to counter all types of international terrorism. The Protocol on Police Cooperation signed by the temporary UN Mission to Kosovo, the FRY Government, and by the Government of the Republic of Serbia represents an important step forward in countering terrorism, and organized crime. That Protocol also means enhanced protection for Serbs and other non-Albanians.
 - **The work of the Ministry is demystified and regular informing of the public**, local self-government, relevant state bodies and Parliament has been organised. Detailed reports on the state of public security in the Republic were submitted to the Defense and Security Committee of the Republic Assembly on three occasions (April and November 2001 and May 2002), as well as to the Security Committee of the Assembly of the Autonomous Province of Vojvodina (in March of this year). The Assembly of the Autonomous Province of Vojvodina reviewed and adopted the document on the state of security in May 2002, and the City Council of Belgrade adopted the report of the work of the Secretariat in Belgrade in October 2001. Assemblies or executive councils of a number of local self-government units reviewed the security situation in their localities. Consistent implementation of the Instruction on informing and reporting improved internal informing within the Ministry and increased manifold the communication with citizens via the Internet web site.
 - Opening to the public resulted in *return of confidence of citizens in this Ministry*. This is witnessed by an increasing number of citizens approaching the MUP for help, and by **public opinion polls** conducted by the Centre for political research of the Institute for Social Sciences, whereby the **police holds a high fourth position** among institutions trusted by the majority of the public – 60% (behind the Yugoslav Army, the Serbian Orthodox Church and the President of FRY).
 - **A Program of modernisation of the Ministry and resolving accommodation and housing issues has been prepared** and approved by the Government on 11.04.2002, and a **Report on the reform of the system of education of personnel for law enforcement authorities** (“police schooling”) has been drafted
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with proposal of conclusions and will be submitted to the Government. A donors conference was successfully organised in Belgrade in May 2002 on which significant funds were collected, required for continuation of the process of modernisation and updating of material and technical means and equipment necessary for more efficient work of the Ministry.

- Intensive and comprehensive **co-operation with police forces** of neighbouring and other European countries has been established, including USA, Canada, Australia and a number of liaison offices have been opened. Membership in Interpol, a prerequisite for efficient work of our police in fighting organised trans-national crime and active participation in world integrative police processes. Active multilateral co-operation has been achieved, especially with OSCE, Council of Europe, UN, Stability Pact for South-Eastern Europe etc.

Results of the Ministry in the field of public security

1. Suppression of Criminality

Having in mind the indicators on the state and trends of criminality, the following is concluded:

- a) During the past six months **the overall number of criminal offences has been significantly reduced and efficiency improved in uncovering** criminal offences committed by unknown perpetrators, thus contributing to fundamental improvement of security of citizens, both personal and property. Furthermore, the overall number of criminal offences committed in the republic of Serbia continues to be less than in most of the neighbouring and other European countries. For example, in the Republic of Serbia during 2001 an average of 1,554 criminal acts were committed per 100,000 inhabitants which is by far less than in Slovenia (3,816), Austria (6,343), Hungary (4,944) or even France (6,908) and Germany (7,625).

The decrease of the overall crime in the Republic of Serbia came as a result of better organisation of the Service, as well as intensified preventive actions and better coverage of terrain – by increasing the number of patrolled districts and increasing the number of patrolmen ensured, as previously underlined, through the return of a larger number of regular police officers to their home units from engagement in the Ground Safety Zone after security tasks in this area were taken over by Gendarmerie units.

- b) **Consistent realisation of the Ministry's strategic orientation** in suppression of crime during the first six months in 2002:

- **decrease of the number of general criminal offences by 19.5% (from 51,303 to 41,3060. Concurrent increase in uncovering of economic criminal offences by 14.7%, as a result of dedicated efforts against smuggling and other serious forms of commercial crimes;**

- **High percentage of uncovered criminal offences** with unknown perpetrators, from **53.09%** (51.53% in the same period last year), which is respectable even in comparison with most police forces of developed European countries. **Constant improvement in uncovering criminal offences with unknown perpetrators** (from 49.9% in January 2002 to 54.0% in March 2002);
 - **However, with the coming into force of the Law on Criminal Procedure came the expected drop in the percentage of uncovered criminal offences with unknown perpetrators** (from 54% in March 2002 to 36.35% in April, 41.78% in May and 41.14% in June of this year);
 - **Efficient uncovering of the most serious criminal offences:** extortion (91.8%), rape (90%), serious bodily harm (89.0%), attempted murder (80.4%), kidnapping (75%), murder (64.1%) and aggravated robbery (60.0%). A number of murders committed during this period has been solved as well as from previous years (from December 2001) – triple murder committed in Zemun and the murder of Kesegi Ilona from Backi Vinogradi near Subotica, from October 2001 – murder of Stankovic Vladimir and the double attempted murder committed in Belgrade, murder of underage Biljana Tomic in Paracin for a cell phone committed in June 2002, murder of Vuckovic Goran, employee of the company producing “Zappa de Leone” committed in April 2002, etc).
- c) **Operationalizing tasks from the Program of work of the Serbian Government, which** has proclaimed 2002 as the year of struggle against crime and corruption, and tasks in implementing the action “Schools without drugs”. Intensified preventive work and introducing the so-called school policeman achieves **higher security protection of pupils** from all forms of threats. In co-operation with the Ministry of Education and Sports 138 schools have been covered with a school policeman. A further 100 schools are planned to be covered in the same manner until October 2002.

In the field of economic crime an increase in uncovering of serious and complex criminal offences causing grave material damage to society. Intensified measures were undertaken also in suppression and uncovering misuse in circulation of excise and other consumer goods, and other forms of avoidance of legal financial and trade transactions, thus depriving the society of funds.

During the past six months of 2002, 7,320 economic crimes have been uncovered and charges filed, which is 14.7% more as compared to the same period last year (6,381). Within the structure of the uncovered criminal offences the most numerous are abuse of official position – 1,594, forging official documents – 1,252, fraud – 1,226, abuse of powers in economy – 842 and illicit trade – 780. Hundred and twenty four criminal offences of accepting and offering bribes were uncovered in relation to 86 in the same period last year, as a result of increased activity in implementing the Government program of fighting corruption. Criminal charges against 4,720 persons for economic offences, of which 418 have been placed under arrest, have been filed with the relevant prosecutor’s offices.

- Intensified activities were undertaken in respect of **suppression of misuse in transactions with excise** and other consumer goods and 611 criminal charges were filed against 630 persons, 185 of which have been placed under arrest. A total of 694,057 cartons of cigarettes, cca 200 tons of petroleum products, 11,080 kg of coffee and 40,781 litres of spirits have been confiscated from these persons. A number of channels for smuggling excise goods have been cut, especially cigarettes and fuel from Bulgaria, Macedonia, Monte Negro and Kosovo and Metohija. Thus at the approaches to Prijepolje 11,750 cartons were confiscated, and near Vrbas – 8,700 cartons of various brands of illicit cigarettes. At the control point at Merdare 5,000 cartons of cigarettes obtained in Monte Negro were found hidden in a truck, whilst in Valjevo 5,100 cartons of cigarettes were confiscated from persons from Podgorica. The Secretariat for Internal Affairs in Vranje found and confiscated from a parked truck 16,540 cartons of cigarettes, as well as 10,050 cartons at Presevo border crossing. A successful operation resulted in confiscation of 7 million excise duty stamps from individuals in Subotica, intended for circulation of black market cigarettes, thus preventing avoidance of payment of sales tax in excess of 100 million dinars. In a petrol station in Stari Banovci 31 tons of engine oil were found in two tanks, for which no sales tax had been paid amounting to over 2 million dinars. In addition to the above results, the officers of this Ministry in co-operation with Federal Customs Administration officials cut two cigarettes and fuel smuggling channels at ‘Gradina’ border crossing. In the first case 18,2 tons of cigarettes were confiscated, smuggled in an articulated truck driven by a citizen of Bulgaria with documents for transport of croissants, and in the second case 26,000 litres of petrol obtained in Greece and hidden in a double tank together with Soya oil, were confiscated.
- Efficient uncovering and suppression of **manifested forms of economic crime**, in transaction of so-called “phantom companies” registered on basis of forged or stolen ID cards, with the sole aim of avoiding payment of taxes and inhibiting detection of the real actors of such transactions. Investigation of transactions of so-called “phantom companies” (650) via “Centro banka” AD Beograd – Novi Sad branch office and granting of loans used for “laundering” documentation was concluded by the end of May and criminal charges were filed against 5 responsible officers of this bank. The value of transactions performed through these companies exceeds one billion dinars. Furthermore, criminal charges were filed against a number of individuals who registered 9 “phantom companies” in the territory of the municipalities of Sombor, Apatin and Odzaci, through which transactions were undertaken in the total amount of 443,105,318 dinars and avoided payment of 77 million dinars in taxes. “Phantom companies” obtaining illicit property gain and avoiding to pay sales tax in excess of 38 million dinars were uncovered in Pirot and Cacak.
- In implementing the orientation of the Republic of Serbia Government in suppression of all forms of corruption, **interdepartmental anticorruption teams were formed** in all Secretariats of Internal Affairs, which to date filed 70 criminal charges against 128 individuals for 120 criminal offences, of which the majority is receiving a bribe (52), giving bribes and misuse of office (23 each). 102 individuals were arrested. In the structure of individuals

charged with the mentioned criminal offences the majority are MUP officials – 25, customs officers – 11, officials in public enterprises (9), employees in judicial bodies – 10, education and health workers (8 each) etc.

- In activities in **suppression of “piracy”**, relating to suppression of misuse of copyright in the film industry, computer software and music production, 147 criminal charges were filed against 150 persons for 166 committed criminal offences and a substantial quantity of video and audio equipment for video, audio and computer software recording was confiscated. In the premises of “General disc technologies” company in Belgrade a disc burner machine was found, the biggest in Europe, and in three rented warehouses and in the company itself a total of 750 thousand pirate copies of music discs were found. This case is still in progress.

In the field of **suppression of general crime** positive results were achieved, reflected in **decrease** of the overall number of these criminal offences and **increased efficiency in uncovering criminal offence with unknown perpetrators**.

- Almost 75% of general crime comprises property offences – 30,390, of which the majority are grand larceny – 49.6%, **whilst the most serious crimes in this field are, in percentages, present in small degree:** criminal offences against life and limb – 4.6% and criminal offences against dignity of person and morals – 0.4%. Traffic criminal offences participate in general crime with 6.3%. At the same time, the number of criminal offences against property has decreased by 24.8%, especially grand larceny (24.5%) and theft (31%), primarily as a result of intensified preventive activities and better operational coverage of terrain.
- **Reduced commission of the majority of serious criminal offences** such as murder (84:108), serious bodily harm (719:756), rape (47:63), aggravated theft (62:74) and robbery (1,533 : 1,582).
- **Significant results were achieved in suppression vehicle theft.** Measures and activities undertaken by this Ministry during the past six months in 2002 have reduced car theft offence from 3,867 in the first six months of 2001 to 2,331 in the same period of this year. In addition to this, during 2002 the number of these criminal offences has been constantly reduced, from 496 in January, 385 in February and 355 in May to 334 in June of 2002. 1,040 vehicles were found and returned to their owners during the reporting period, as well as 499 vehicles stolen in previous years. An average of 92 vehicles per 100,000 inhabitants are stolen in Serbia annually, which is considerably less than in Hungary (113) or Bulgaria (273). These results were achieved through planned and intensive engagement of CID officers, and of exceptional importance is the **co-operation with police forces** of neighbouring and other European countries and renewal of membership in Interpol which is expected to show results in suppression of felonies related to motor vehicles.
- Special focus was directed at uncovering and cutting **drug smuggling** channels. In the 1,050 realised actions resulted in confiscation of 10,152.59 grams of heroin, 565.2 grams of cocaine, 781.14 grams of hashish, 390,354.44 grams of marihuana,

2,094.5 ecstasy tablets and 217.76 grams of amphetamines. The cut smuggling channels indicate that marihuana is still mostly smuggled from Albania via Monte Negro and Kosovo and Metohija, heroin comes from Bulgaria and Macedonia, whilst synthetic drugs come from West European countries – where they are produced. One single drug bust resulted in confiscation of 176 kg of marihuana, obtained in Monte Negro and intended for the market in Republika Srpska, and the Secretariat in Belgrade in another single action confiscated 6 kg of heroin.

It must be kept in mind here that pursuant to incriminations specified in the Criminal Code of the FRY (Articles 245 and 246) law enforcement agencies only have jurisdiction in uncovering and prevention of illicit production, circulation and facilitating circulation of substances and preparations declared narcotics, due to the fact that under current legislation simple possession of narcotics is not punishable. This means that purchase, possession or transport of narcotics for personal use does not constitute a felony or misdemeanour, which especially inhibits the work of police agencies in suppression of drug addiction and misuse of narcotics, especially in schools, that is, with the youngest population.

- During the first six months in 2002, 795 criminal charges were filed against 1,108 persons for 1,032 criminal offences specified **in Article 33 of the Weapons Act**. 1,078 weapons were confiscated, the majority being pistols and revolvers 337 (628) and other rifles 272 (232). 129 hand grenades, 15 explosive devices, 41,891 grams of explosives and 12,416 pieces of ammunition were confiscated. An international smuggling channel has been cut, for smuggling explosives from Republika Srpska and five citizens of the federation of BiH were arrested from whom 27.9 kg of explosive was confiscated. Furthermore, 110 kg of explosives and 129 electric detonator caps, stolen from the lead and zinc mine and intended for further circulation, were confiscated from three individuals from Gornji Milanovac.
- 3,620 **forged banknotes** were uncovered and confiscated (1,277 of local currency and 2,393 of foreign currencies). During the reporting period forged euro banknotes appeared in the Republic of Serbia in denomination of 50 and 100 euro. Four groups distributing forged euros in Belgrade, Cacak, Smederevo and Jagodina were placed under arrest. A group was arrested in Belgrade which using an offset machine and personal computer printed one and a half million dollars. Circa one million dollars were uncovered and confiscated whilst half a million is still in circulation. Also, in a single action 291 forged bills in 100,000 Lira denomination were uncovered and confiscated and it was determined that these banknotes originate from Italy. A group of persons was arrested in Nis, which was forging 1,000 dinar banknotes in an improvised serigraphy printing shop. 573 forged banknotes of 1,000 dinar denomination were found in the printing shop and with the arrested individuals.
- The **stable situation in regard to public peace and order** in the Republic has been secured, although the number of these offences has increased. We have achieved better covering of the field by strengthening preventive activities taken by beat officers, patrols and operative men, and we have hindered and suppressed all public peace and order offences, especially those originating from nationalism,

by increasing overall activity, mobility and efficiency in the performance of our duties and by a timely response.

Public peace and order have also been improved by increased presence of general police officers in a security sector, because they have not been deployed in the Ground Safety Zone since February 25, 2002 when the Gandarmerie units took over the task.

- There were **26,120** registered public peace and order **offences** and the infraction proceedings have been initiated against 33,440 persons. Due to strengthened safety measures taken by police officers, **there were no violations of public peace and order to a greater extent.**

The most numerous offences were insults, acts of violence, initiating and taking part in a fight (16,232) and indecent, impudent and insolent behaviour (2,627). Juvenile offenders committed 1,340 offences or 4.0 % of the total number; there were 15,508 repeated offences or 46.3%; 6,367 offences under the influence of alcohol or 19.0%; 1,104 persons were detained in the Ministry premises for committing public peace and order offences.

- There were **22,919 public gatherings** in which 5,900,000 people participated. **In three cases there was a major violation of public peace and order** (in sports events in Belgrade on April 21, in the city of Novi Sad on May 8 and at public gatherings of some political parties in Belgrade on June 28) in which 17 police officers were wounded (one seriously) as well as 12 citizens (three seriously)¹. 77 persons were taken to a police station and out of that number, three were placed in detention. Criminal charges were raised against 20 persons, and the infraction proceedings was initiated against 53 persons.

Police officers were significantly engaged **on the protection of numerous public gatherings, stoppages of work and strikes, when workers went out to streets. They gave assistance and suppressed criminal offences and major infractions.** Police officers provided protection for public gatherings on 22,750 regular and 18,379 irregular occasions, and there were 559 cases of special protection of public gatherings, foreign and local delegations, sessions of the Assembly and other public events. In compliance with the Law on Internal Affairs, police officers gave their expert help – assistance to state bodies, enterprises and other organizations in order to provide the execution of their irrevocable decisions. Police officers contributed greatly to the suppression of crime and detection of numerous offences of arms and ammunition proliferation (924), traffic safety (27,059) and movement and stay of foreigners, the issues dealing with travel documents, border crossings and movements in the Green Line (584), the protection from fire, the transportation of dangerous and explosive devices, flammable liquids and gasses (123). Besides the above described activities, police officers performed the identification of 255,463 persons, took to a police station 75,480 persons, detained 1,918 persons, arrested 1,865 persons and traced 2,382 and 797 vehicles for which warranties had been issued, etc..

¹ General public was greatly alerted by the murder of Mr. Živorad Šiškovic who was beaten to death by supporters of the “Partizan” Club (in Belgrade, on May 11, 2002).

- **The reaffirmation of the beat policing and beat police officers** as the basis of the future policing is successfully being carried out. In keeping with that, the better covering of the existing beats and security sectors has been provided with police officers allocated to these beats/sectors. In co-operation with the Ministry of Education and Sport, 138 schools have been covered with “school police officers”, and till October this year 100 more schools will be included, which will significantly increase the safety of the pupils and the employees of the schools.
- A special attention has been paid to **the legality of work of police officers in application of coercive means**. Police officers used force in 408 cases, and out of that number only in 6 cases the use of force was not justified.
- **392 complaints were submitted against general police officers** (because of their behaviour and actions taken by them), and 43 complaints were grounded. Therefore, a disciplinary proceedings for serious misconduct has been raised against 16 police officers, and for the minor misconduct against 19 police officers. Each complaint (written or oral, signed or anonymous) has been thoroughly examined and the subsequent actions have been taken in compliance with the findings.
- There were **419 cases of making obstructions to and preventing an authorised officer** to perform his/her duties in the field of safety. These offences were committed by 510 persons. In such cases, 6 police officers were seriously injured and 24 had light bodily injuries.

3. Traffic Safety on Roads

- For the past six months of the year of 2002, the endangerment of human lives and material assets in traffic accidents has been reduced significantly.
- In this period, the traffic police, by enhancing its preventive measures and by a strict application of the provisions of the new Law on Fundamentals of Traffic Safety, achieved very good results which contributed to the reduction of endangerment of participants in traffic for about 35.0% (the number of traffic accidents with injured persons has been reduced by 30.3%, the number of deaths in traffic accidents by 44.4%, the number of injured by 32.0%). There have been 22,151 traffic accidents. Out of that number in 4,797 cases someone was injured or died – 321 deaths and 6,126 injured.
- Pursuant to the operative working plan of the Ministry, the covering and the control of compliance with traffic regulations on major roads in the Republic of Serbia has been increased, especially in transit routes during a tourist season, parts of roads, streets and cross-roads in residential areas as well as the regulation of traffic by interventions in order to improve the traffic flow.

- As for the traffic control activities, for the first six months of this year in comparison to the same period last year, the number of submitted requests for the initiation of the infraction proceedings has increased for 49.1% (339,903), while the number of pronounced penalties at the spot is similar to the last year figure.
- Besides regular detection and prevention of offences that most often cause traffic accidents, we have conducted 9 central actions of increased traffic control on all roads in the Republic and 420 local actions of selective character.
- Traffic police officers have achieved significant results in the detection and suppression of crime as a result of synchronised activities with colleagues from other lines of work.
- For the first six months of 2002, there were 4,019 supervisions of road conditions and traffic signalization and technical regulation of traffic (the increase of 16.9% in relation to the same period of the previous year). 1,304 decisions were passed (the increase of 36.12%), 1,220 reports on committed infractions were submitted and 65 reports on commercial crime. In this period, a special attention has been paid to the condition of roads, traffic signalization and technical regulation of traffic in residential areas as well as the organization of the internal control of traffic safety in companies that perform the transportation services of passengers and cargo. All this resulted in total, in all fields of work, in an increase in comparison to the same period in 2001: **the number of passed decisions on measures to be taken increased by 54.04% and detected offenses increased by 5.7%.**
- In the period examined by the report, some proposals for the amendments of the Law on Fundamentals of Traffic Safety have been drafted (the changes of fines, the initiative and proposal for the change and amendment of the Republic Law on Traffic Safety on Roads in order to change traffic fines, to prohibit the usage of mobiles while driving and to remove unlawfully stopped or parked vehicles). Besides this, the Protocol on Co-operation has been signed with the Ministry of Commerce and Local Self-government in order to increase the efficiency of the penal prosecution in the field of road traffic safety. Also, the Law is being drafted and it would regulate traffic safety on roads in a new manner and in accordance with the EU standards.
- **Border Issues, Aliens and other Administrative Affairs**
- We have created **the stable safe environment at the state border and along the Green Line.** The illegal taking out of the foreign currency from the FRY was hindered, that is DM 662,415, EUR 570,745, USD 42,298, SFR 22,850, etc. **Female police officers** have been introduced at larger border-crossings which significantly improved communication with and control of female passengers.

- By liberalization of the visa regime between Croatia and FRY and by the issuance of tourist laissez-passes at border-crossings during the tourist season for the EU countries and citizens of the USA, Canada, Switzerland, Norway, Poland, Slovakia, Czech Republic, Australia and New Zealand, and the fact that the tourist season is still on, **the number of passengers and transportation vehicles has increased.** This was also caused by a greater number of Turkish citizens who passed through the FRY. At **border-crossings for international traffic** the border was crossed by 7,671,205 (6,671,432 passengers) which is by 15.0% more than for the same period in 2001. Out of that number, 4,283,188 (3,465,415) citizens were foreign nationals which is by 23.6% more than the same period in 2001, and 458,847 (413,526) passengers have been registered in the Green Line and irregular traffic. 458,847 (413,526) passengers was registered at Belgrade Airport, which is by 11.0% more in relation to the same period last year.
- Measures dealing with **the control of entry, the legality and overall activities of foreign nationals** were taken in accordance with the Law. It was reported that 293,277 foreign nationals stayed in our country. Legal actions (462 criminal charges and 3,618 infraction proceedings) were taken against 6,410 foreigners who dealt with illegal activities. In 1,711 cases the decision on deportation was passed (with the prohibition to reenter the country for a certain period of time).
- The control of catering facilities in which citizens of Eastern European countries dealt with prostitution, have been continued.
- **In suppression of human trafficking offenses** in 2001 and the first six months of 2002, 95 owners of catering facilities were included in criminal charges as well as other persons dealing with illegal activities. In cooperation with the International Organization of Migrations (IOM) and NGOs, 19 foreign female citizens who were victims of human trafficking were placed into the safehavens for children and female victims of violence.
- Strengthened measures were taken in order to prevent illegal transferring of citizens of A/A countries and 13 of such channels were interrupted. Actions aimed at the detection of Romanian and Moldova citizens (161), Afghani citizens (71) and Turkish citizens (48) were successfully carried out.
- Comprehensive activities dealing with **administrative and other internal affairs** were taken, and **the procedure for the solving of citizens' request** has been simplified. The two shifts and working on Saturday have been introduced.

Preventive-technical and fire protection measures

- 2,626 fires and explosions were registered which is by 37.3% more in comparison to the same period from the last year (1,912). Of that number, 70.8% were fires and explosions of privately-owned facilities, 28.9% of state-owned facilities. 49 persons died in the accidents, and 72 were seriously or lightly injured. However, in about 68% of the total number of fires there were no material damage or it was of no significance.
- As regards the assessment of fire protection, it should be taken into account that approximately 47% of the total number of fires are fires in the open and on vehicles, and they are not under permanent supervision of the Ministry, in the sense that they are not covered by fire protection measures. The most usual cause of fire on vehicles is faulty electrical wiring which is the result of very old average age of the vehicles, while most of the fires in the open occur during the preparation of the soil for spring sowing, which was aggravated by weather conditions this year (drought and wind). In order to prevent further increase of the number of fires in the open, co-operation with the PE "Srbijasume" which has its own fire protection department.
- Inspection and control of fire protection in the facilities of different fire hazard categories were regularly carried out. 5730 inspections of legal entities and 28,476 facilities were done. 4,963 decisions ordering the application of 24,762 fire protection measures were issued. Due to committed misdemeanors, 1149 misdemeanor charges were filed, and due to responsibility for fires and explosions 111 criminal and 22 misdemeanor charges.
- Fire brigades successfully localised or put fires out in more than 92% cases.

B) Other areas

- **IT and communications system** were in regular operation and enabled, under difficult conditions, regular performance of all the tasks of the Ministry. A technological and organisational foundation for the Internet presentation of MUP was laid out, as well as the foundation for the Intranet using the IT and telecommunications network of MUP. A development **strategy for the telecommunications system of MUP** was drafted and it will considerably increase the efficiency of the IT and communications system.
- The analytical services of the Ministry were also engaged, and the scope and contents of their work in this period were determined by current security situation and its complexity. The statistical reporting was improved by using a new IT and graphic tools to show the current status and the results achieved by the Ministry. The tasks related to keeping and using criminal investigation records were done regularly and certificates issued to the citizens and other users. A total of more than 531,580 background checks were done and 15,951 certificates were issued.

G) Use of power and authority

Strict measures were taken against all police officers who violated the law and rules of service or acted contrary to professional code of ethics. **649 disciplinary procedures** were initiated due to 394 serious and 255 minor violations of professional

obligations and duties. Criminal charges were filed against 122 officers on account of 219 criminal offences. 27 officers were arrested. 93 officers were **suspended on** various grounds. Employment was terminated upon mutual agreement in 73 cases. Misdemeanour charges were filed against 194 officers, mainly due to violations of traffic regulations and public peace and order.

Of all disciplinary procedures at the level of the Ministry, **21** were decided with termination of employment and **223** with other disciplinary measures and sanctions.

A particular problem that the Ministry is facing in achieving its strategic goals, but also in performing regular tasks is the lack of highly qualified and specialised staff, the lack of technical equipment and storage space and other bad working conditions. Thus, of 4,728 job positions for staff with university education, only 3,312 or 70% are filled, and of job positions for staff with two-year post-secondary education 64.3%. The lack of uniform and criminal investigation officers has been felt for several years. The lack of traffic police officers is the greatest - 61.8%, followed by border police - 62.9%, general jurisdiction police officers - 64% and criminal investigation inspectors - 71.2%. In the last two years there has been a high fluctuation and drain of IT and communications staff, so that only 67.2% and 59.7% of analytical and IT job positions respectively are filled.

In the territory of Serbia, there is 2.41 police officer per 1000 citizens (full executive power and authority and Uniform Police) which is insufficient taking into account the complexity of security-related problems, and below the European average and the average in the countries of approximate size and population. In 2001, 1397 employees retired and 499 terminated their employment on other grounds, and this trend continues in 2002 (in June 110 employees retired due to health reasons). The lack of police officers in the Belgrade Secretariat is especially high - 61.69% (65.02% in the same period in 2001), and it is much lower compared to other European capitals - given the number of population, the territory and security issues within the jurisdiction of the Secretariat. Despite public announcements of job vacancies, the response in Belgrade is still unsatisfactory.

It is well known that enormous material and technical resources and facilities of the MUP were destroyed during the NATO bombing. A total of 123 facilities of various purposes and the area of 173,000 m² were destroyed, and the damage was estimated at USD 781,248,000. The value of the destroyed equipment is USD191, 106,000. The equipment currently in use is worn-out, and its replacement has not met the real needs, which requires considerable investment in all areas. Public tenders and their implementation with the assistance of the international community, who at the Donor Conference in Belgrade showed support for the reforms undertaken by Ministry, will reduce the lack of equipment and technical resources, but it will still be far from meeting the real needs of the Ministry of Interior of the Republic of Serbia and the international standards met by all modern police forces in the world.