



**National Automated Fingerprint Identification System
(NAFIS), National Crime Records Bureau**

The National Automated Fingerprint Identification System (NAFIS) is a biometric system used by law enforcement agencies and government organizations in various countries to store and manage fingerprint data. NAFIS is designed to facilitate the rapid and accurate identification of individuals by comparing their fingerprints with a database of known fingerprints. Here are some key points about NAFIS:

- **Fingerprint Storage:** NAFIS stores digital representations of fingerprints obtained from various sources, including criminal suspects, individuals applying for certain government services, and individuals in various databases.
- **Identification:** When law enforcement agencies need to identify an individual, they can submit a fingerprint sample to NAFIS. The system then compares the submitted fingerprint against the database to find potential matches.
- **Criminal Investigations:** NAFIS plays a crucial role in criminal investigations. It can help identify suspects, link crimes to specific individuals, and provide important evidence in court cases.
- **Background Checks:** NAFIS may also be used for background checks and employment verification, especially in industries where security and trustworthiness are essential, such as law enforcement and government positions.
- **Security:** The security and privacy of fingerprint data in NAFIS are typically subject to strict regulations and protocols to prevent unauthorized access and misuse of sensitive information.
- **Interoperability:** In some cases, NAFIS systems may be designed to be interoperable with other national or international fingerprint databases.

- to enhance cross-border law enforcement cooperation.

Salient features:

1. Before the implementation of NAFIS, the physical slips prepared at States and sent to CFPB for digitization and storage for facilitating inter-state search of criminals, but this was quite time consuming and did not meet the real-time expectations of State Police Organisations.

2. Previously, the process of collecting fingerprints from criminals was manual, which was time-consuming and prone to errors due to various factors such as ink quality, lack of expertise and environmental conditions.

3. There was lack of standardization among the State/UTs for the collection of Criminal Fingerprints

With NAFIS, all States/UTs are able to make national level searches from

districts/Commissionerate's/State Fingerprint Bureaux and generate real-time search results. This has proven to be great support to the investigating officers in identification of criminals including those active in multiple states and countries as well as identification of unknown dead bodies. Further, the system has also helped in consolidating the criminal fingerprint data across the country in available real-time basis for national level search. This system equips field police officers with a unique mobile application for preliminary identification of suspects on real-time basis. With the introduction of NAFIS workstations across the country, stakeholders are able to capture the fingerprints of criminals using automated tools and generate NIST compliant standardised fingerprint database.



A SMART Policing Initiative



Success Stories:

- ❖ NAFIS helped to crack multiple antecedents of a criminal and detecting a 17 year old dacoity and murder case in Delhi
- ❖ NAFIS revealed the real identity of a murder accused in MP along with his previous criminal antecedents in 14 criminal cases

- ❖ A double blind murder case was solved in MP with the help of NAFIS within two hours by swift identification, verification and validation of results
- ❖ More than 2000 cases solved so far with the help of NAFIS.
