

Novel Modus Operundi in E-Rickshaw theft cases – Forensic Analysis of Drugs of Abuse used

Smt. Kavita Goyal*, Dr. Adesh Kumar, Ms. Neha Vashist, Ms. Sujata,
Dr. R.K. Sarin**

*Assistant Director, Chemistry, FSL, Delhi - Corresponding author

**Ex-Director, Forensic Science Laboratory, FSL, Delhi – Guide author

Abstract: Unemployment and easy money lures to commit crime. Novel and easy ways are emerging to commit the crime, so is the modus operundi. E- Rickshaw theft has become rampant from 5-6 years (from 2013) in Delhi- NCR because they neither required a transport registration number, nor any identity proof, nor any state permit. Hence their theft remains mostly untraced. The stupefying agents/ drugs of abuse used to commit the theft are also changing. Of about a hundred cases of such type of cases referred to FSL, Delhi, during the recent past, along with the traditionally used sedatives viz., benzodiazepines like Lorazepam, Nitrazepam, Clonazepam, etc., - barbiturates, pheniramines, carbamazepines, ketamines, benadryl, etc., which are easily available are also being used. As many drugs used for the purpose are short acting, easily metabolised and difficult to identify, a careful analysis procedure needs to be followed. Hence there is a need to ensure proper extraction, examination and identification of the drug in the meagre sample forwarded to the laboratory.

Keywords: Forensic science, drugs of abuse, benzodiazepines, barbiturates.