

Foreword

The literature dealing in depth with the subject of habitual offenders and the law is extremely scarce. One can count only one or two studies like D.J. West, *The Habitual Prisoner*, and Norval Morris, *The Habitual Criminal*, even in the West. Hardly any study on the subject exists in our own country. The Indian Law Institute decided to undertake such a study in view of the importance of the subject and to supply the great need for such a work. The study not only critically examines the law on the subject but also studies the operational aspects of the habitual offenders' Acts in a few selected areas in the country. This could be possible because of the response to our questionnaire by the police authorities and their valuable cooperation.

The study was prepared by Shri D.C. Pandey, Associate Research Professor, Indian Law Institute. The draft was scrutinised by Shri P.M. Bakshi, presently part-time member of the Law Commission of India. Thanks are due to him for his work. It was further revised by the undersigned. We are thankful to Shri D.C. Pandey for preparing the study.

S.N. Jain
Director

