



CRIME SCENARIO IN THE COUNTRY

CHAPTER V

5.1 Under the Seventh Schedule to the Constitution of India, 'Police' and 'Public Order' are State subjects and, therefore, the State Governments are primarily responsible for prevention, registration, detection and investigation of crime and prosecution of the perpetrators of crime within their jurisdiction. However, Ministry of Home Affairs supplements the efforts of the State Governments by providing them financial assistance for modernization of the State Police Forces in terms of weaponry, communication, equipment,

mobility, training and other infrastructure under the Scheme of Modernization of State Police Forces.

5.2 All cognizable crimes reported and investigated by the police are broadly categorized as those falling under the Indian Penal Code (IPC) or the Special and Local Laws (SLL). A comparative statement of crimes registered during the last five years is given below:-

Crime Incidence under Indian Penal Code (IPC) and Special and Local Laws (SLL) during 2004-2008					
Year	Number of Offences			Ratio (IPC: SLL)	Rate Per (1,00,000 Population)
	IPC	SLL	Total		
2004	18,32,015	41,96,766	60,28,781	01:02.3	555.3
2005	18,22,602	32,03,735	50,26,337	01:01.8	455.8
2006	18,78,293	32,24,167	51,02,460	01:01.7	455.7
2007	19,89,673	37,43,734	57,33,407	01:01.9	504.5
2008	20,93,379	38,44,725	59,38,104	01:01.8	515.0

Trend Analysis

5.3 A total of 20,93,379 IPC crimes were reported in the country during the year 2008 against 19,89,673 in 2007 recording an increase of 5.2% in 2008. The share of IPC crimes to total cognizable crimes in percentage terms increased from 30.4% in 2004 to 36.3% in 2005 and 36.8% in 2006. It declined to 34.7% in 2007 and increased to 35.3% in 2008, thus showing a mixed trend during the five-year period 2004 - 2008. Madhya Pradesh and Maharashtra each

have accounted for about 9.9% of total IPC crimes reported in the country during the year 2008.

Crime Rate

5.4 The crime rate, defined as the number of crimes per 1,00,000 population, is generally taken as a realistic indicator of crime since it takes into account the size of population of the place. The rate of total cognizable crimes in the country which showed a decreasing trend



during 2004-2006 (from 555.3 in 2004 to 455.7 in 2006) rose to 504.5 in 2007 and further to 515.0 in 2008. The crime rate has increased by 2.1% in 2008 as compared to 2007. Puducherry (461.9) has reported the highest rate of IPC crimes during the year 2008 as compared to the National average of 181.5.

CRIME AGAINST WOMEN (CAW)

5.5 Women may be victims of any of the general crimes such as murder, robbery, cheating etc. Only the crimes which are directed specifically against women are characterized as “crimes against women”. Crime against women are broadly classified under two categories:-

(A) The Crimes under the Indian Penal Code (IPC)

- (i) Rape (Sec. 376 IPC)
- (ii) Kidnapping & Abduction for specified purposes (Sec. 363 - 373 IPC)
- (iii) Homicide for Dowry, Dowry Deaths or their attempts (Sec. 302/304-B IPC)
- (iv) Torture - both mental and physical (Sec. 498-A IPC)
- (v) Molestation (Sec. 354 IPC)
- (vi) Sexual Harassment (Sec. 509 IPC)
- (vii) Importation of girls (upto 21 years of age) (Sec. 366-B IPC)
- (viii) Cruelty by husband and relative
- (ix) Immoral Trafficking

Incidence of Crime against Women during 2004-2008							
Sl. No.	Crime Head	Year					Percentage variation in 2008 over 2007
		2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	
1	Rape	18,233	18,359	19,348	20,737	21,467	3.5
2	Kidnapping & Abduction	15,578	15,750	17,414	20,416	22,939	12.4
3	Dowry Death	7,026	6,787	7,618	8,093	8,172	1.0
4	Torture	58,121	58,319	63,128	75,930	81,344	7.1
5	Molestation	34,567	34,175	36,617	38,734	40,413	4.3
6	Sexual Harassment	10,001	9,984	9,966	10,950	12,214	11.5
7	Importation of Girls	89	149	67	61	67	9.8
8	Sati Prevention Act	0	1	0	0	1	-
9	Immoral Traffic (Prevention) Act	5,748	5,908	4,541	3,568	2,659	-25.5
10	Indecent Representation of Women (Prohibition) Act	1,378	2,917	1,562	1,200	1,025	-14.6
11	Dowry Prohibition Act	3,592	3,204	4,504	5,623	5,555	-1.2
	Total	1,54,333	1,55,553	1,64,765	1,85,312	1,95,856	5.7



(B) The Crimes under the Special & Local Laws (SLL)

5.6 The gender specific laws for which crime statistics are recorded throughout the country are: –

- (i) Immoral Traffic (Prevention) Act, 1956
- (ii) Dowry Prohibition Act, 1961
- (iii) The Child Marriage Restraint Act, 1929
- (iv) Indecent Representation of Women (Prohibition) Act, 1986
- (v) Commission of Sati (Prevention) Act, 1987

Trend Analysis–CAW

5.7 A total of 1,95,856 incidents of crime against women (both under IPC and SLL) were reported in the country during 2008 as compared to 1,85,312 during 2007 recording an increase of 5.7% during 2008. These crimes have continuously increased during 2004 - 2008 with 1,54,333 cases in 2004, 1,55,553 in 2005, 1,64,765 cases in 2006, 1,85,312 cases in 2007 and 1,95,856 cases in 2008. Andhra Pradesh, accounting for nearly 7.1% of the country's population, has accounted for 12.3% of total incidents of crime against women in the country by reporting 24,111 cases. Uttar Pradesh, with nearly 16.6% share of country's population has accounted for 12.0% of total crime against women by reporting 23,569 cases in 2008.

Crime Rate–CAW

5.8 The rate of crime has increased marginally from 16.3 during the year 2007 to 17.0 during 2008. Tripura reported the highest rate of crime against women at 40.2 during 2008.

Administrative measures taken by Ministry of Home Affairs for

combating crime against women

5.9 A detailed advisory, dated September 4, 2009 has been sent to all State Governments/UT Administrations wherein States/UTs have been advised to take comprehensive review of the effectiveness of the machinery for ensuring safety and security of women and control of crimes committed against them in the country. The Advisory is also available on Ministry of Home Affairs website, www.mha.nic.in. Some of the specific steps suggested in the advisory are as under:-

- (i) Vigorously enforce the existing legislations and ensure proper enforcement of law and convictions in crimes related to women.
- (ii) The administration and police should play a more proactive role in detection and investigation of crime against women and ensuring that there is no under reporting.
- (iii) Increasing the overall representation of women in police forces.
- (iv) Sensitizing the law enforcement machinery towards crime against women by way of well structured training and awareness programmes, meetings and seminars etc., for police personnel at all levels as well as other functionaries administering the criminal justice system.
- (v) For improving general awareness on legislations, mechanisms in place for safety and protection of women, the concerned department of the State Government must, inter-alia, take following steps:
 - a. Create awareness through print and electronic media;
 - b. Organize legal literacy and legal awareness camps;
 - c. Develop a community monitoring



- system to check cases of violence, abuse and exploitation and take necessary steps to curb the same; and
- d. Involving the Community at large in creating and spreading such awareness.
- (vi) Explore the possibility of associating NGOs working in the area of combating crime against women.
- (vii) There should be no delay whatsoever in registration of FIR in all cases of crime against women.
- (viii) All out efforts should be made to apprehend all the accused named in the FIR immediately so as to generate confidence in the victims and their family members;
- (ix) Cases should be thoroughly investigated and charge sheets against the accused persons should be filed within three months from the date of occurrence, without compromising on the quality of investigation. Speedy investigation should be conducted in heinous crimes like rape. The medical examination of rape victims should be conducted without delay.
- (x) Help-line numbers of the crime against women cells - should be exhibited prominently in hospitals/schools/colleges premises, and in other suitable places.
- (xi) Set up exclusive 'Crime Against Women and Children' desk in each police station and the Special Women police cells in the police stations and all women police thana as needed.
- (xii) The specialized Sexual Assault Treatment Units could be developed in government hospitals having a large maternity section.
- (xiii) For improving the safety conditions on road, the concerned departments of the State Government must take suitable steps to:
- a. Increase the no. of beat constables, especially on the sensitive roads;
 - b. Increase the number of police help booth/kiosks, especially in remote and lonely stretches;
 - c. Increase police patrolling, especially during the night;
 - d. Increase the number of women police officers in the mobile police vans;
 - e. Set-up telephone booths for easy access to police;
 - f. Install people friendly street lights on all roads, lonely stretches and alleys; and
 - g. Ensure street lights are properly and efficiently working on all roads, lonely stretches and alleys.
- (xiv) Special steps to be taken for security of women working in night shifts of call centers.
- (xv) Dowry related cases must be adjudicated expeditiously to avoid further harassment of the women.
- (xvi) Appointment of Dowry Prohibition Officers and notify the Rules under the Dowry Prohibition Act, 1961.
- (xvii) All police stations may be advised to display the name and other details of Protection Officers of the area appointed under the Domestic Violence Act, 2005.
- 5.10 The Bureau of Police Research and Development (CPR&D) under the Ministry of Home Affairs has been organizing various programmes and workshops to sensitize police officers at various levels in the States towards prevention of crime against all vulnerable sections of the society, including women and children.

CRIMES AGAINST CHILDREN-CAC

Incidents of Crime against Children during 2004-2008							
Sl. No.	Crime Head	Year					Percentage variation in 2008 over 2007
		2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	
1.	Murder	1,304	1,219	1,324	1,377	1,296	-5.9
2.	Infanticide	102	108	126	134	140	4.5
3.	Rape	3,542	4,026	4,721	5,045	5,446	7.9
4.	Kidnapping & Abduction	3,196	3,518	5,102	6,377	7,650	20.0
5.	Foeticide	86	86	125	96	73	-24.0
6.	Abetment of Suicide	33	43	45	26	29	11.5
7.	Exposure & Abandonment	715	933	909	923	864	-6.4
8.	Prostration of Minor Girls	205	145	231	253	224	-11.5
9.	Buying of Girls for Prostitution	21	28	35	40	30	-25.0
10.	Selling of Girls for Prostitution	19	50	123	69	49	-29.0
11.	Child Marriage Restraint Act	93	122	99	96	104	8.3
12.	Other Crimes	5,107	4,697	6,127	5,974	6,595	10.4
	Total	14,423	14,975	18,967	20,410	22,500	10.2

Trend Analysis-CAC

5.11 A total of 22,500 cases of crimes against children were reported in the country during 2008 as compared to 20,410 cases during 2007, suggesting an increase of 10.2%. Among IPC crimes, number of Kidnapping & Abduction cases increased from 6,377 in 2007 to 7,650 in 2008, registering an increase of 20.0% over 2007. Cases of Selling of Girls for Prostitution decreased by 29.0% during the year 2008 (69 to

49 cases). Madhya Pradesh, with 4,259 cases, reported 18.9% of incidence of crime against children in the country during the year 2008.

Crime Rate-CAC

5.12 The rate of crime against children has marginally increased from 1.8 in 2007 to 2.0 in 2008. The rate was highest in A & N Islands (11.3) followed by Delhi (10.7).



TRAFFICKING AGAINST HUMAN BEING (THB)

Incidents of Human Trafficking during 2004-2008							
Sl. No.	Crime Head	Year					Percentage variation in 2008 over 2007
		2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	
1.	Procuration of Minor Girls	205	145	231	253	224	-11.5
2.	Importation of Girls	89	149	67	61	67	9.8
3.	Selling of Girls for Prostitution	19	50	123	69	49	-29.0
4.	Buying of Girls for Prostitution	21	28	35	40	30	-25.0
5.	Immoral Traffic (Prev) Act	5,748	5,908	4,541	3,568	2,659	-25.5
6.	Child Marriage Restraint Act	93	122	99	96	104	8.3
	Total	6,175	6,402	5,096	4,087	3,133	-23.3

Trend Analysis-THB

5.13 The incidence of human trafficking increased in 2005 over 2004 and since 2005, the number of cases registered under various heads of human trafficking have shown a consistent declining trend. A total of 3,133 cases under different heads of human trafficking were reported during the year 2008 as compared to 4,087 during the year 2007, suggesting a decline of 23.3% in 2008 as compared to 2007. The cases registered under selling of girls for prostitution showed a decline of 29.0% in 2008 as compared to the year 2007. Incidence of importation of

girls showed an increase of 9.8% during the same period. Tamil Nadu reported 692, out of 3,133 cases of human trafficking during 2008. Karnataka and Andhra Pradesh reported 529 and 427 respectively of such cases during the year 2008.

Crime Rate-THB

5.14 The rate of crime under human trafficking was 0.6 in 2004 and 2005, 0.5 in 2006, 0.4 in 2007 and 0.3 in 2008. Thus, a declining trend in rate of crime is observed during 2004 – 2008.*

* The details on trafficking are also covered under paras 4.22 to 4.24 of Chapter-IV.

CRIME AGAINST SCHEDULED CASTES (CASC)

Incidents of Crime against Scheduled Castes during 2004-2008							
Sl. No.	Crime Head	Year					Percentage variation in 2008 over 2007
		2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	
1.	Murder	654	669	673	674	626	-7.1
2.	Rape	1,157	1,172	1,217	1,349	1,457	8.0
3.	Kidnapping & Abduction	253	258	280	332	482	45.2
4.	Dacoity	26	26	30	23	51	121.7
5.	Robbery	72	80	90	86	85	-1.2
6.	Arson	211	210	226	238	225	-5.5
7.	Hurt	3,824	3,847	3,760	3,814	4,216	10.5
8.	Protection of Civil Rights Act	364	291	405	206	248	20.4
9.	SC/ST (Prevention of Atrocities) Act	8,891	8,497	8,581	9,819	11,602	18.1
10.	Others	11,435	11,077	11,808	13,490	14,623	8.4
11.	Total	26,887	26,127	27,070	30,031	33,615	11.9

* **Protection of Civil Rights Act** is applicable in all the above cases except those at Sl. No. 9, along with IPC and other Acts.

Trend Analysis-CASC

5.15 The year 2008 has witnessed an increase of 11.9% in crime against Scheduled Castes as 30,031 cases reported in 2007 have increased to 33,615 cases in 2008. This increase was observed in all heads except Murder, Robbery and Arson. Cases of Murder in 2008 declined by 7.1% over 2007. Arson and Robbery cases showed a decline of 5.5% and 1.2% respectively in 2008 over 2007. Cases registered under Protection of Civil Rights Act showed an increase of 20.4% in

2008 over 2007. Dacoity cases reported an increase of 121.7% in 2008 over 2007. Uttar Pradesh, with 8,009 cases, reported 23.8% of incidence of crime against Scheduled Castes in the country during the year 2008.

Crime Rate-CASC

5.16 The rate of crime against Scheduled Castes increased from 2.6 in 2007 to 2.9 in 2008. Rajasthan reported the highest crime rate in 2008 which stood at 6.6.



CRIME AGAINST SCHEDULED TRIBES--(CAST)

Incidents of Crime against Scheduled Tribes during 2004-2008							
Sl. No.	Crime Head	Year					Percentage variation in 2008 over 2007
		2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	
1.	Murder	156	164	195	140	128	-8.6
2.	Rape	566	640	699	627	585	-6.7
3.	Kidnapping & Abduction	79	72	88	89	93	4.5
4.	Dacoity	40	27	12	9	14	55.5
5.	Robbery	50	49	29	21	18	-14.3
6.	Arson	33	38	46	54	49	-9.2
7.	Hurt	767	767	838	855	873	2.1
8.	Protection of Civil Rights Act	11	162	49	5	6	20
9.	SC/ST (Prevention of Atrocities) Act	1,175	1,283	1,232	1,104	1,022	-7.4
10.	Others	2,658	2,511	2,603	2,628	2,794	6.3
11.	Total	5,535	5,713	5,791	5,532	5,582	0.9

* **Protection of Civil Rights Act** is applicable in all the above cases except those at Sl. No. 9, along with IPC and other Acts.

Trend Analysis--CAST

5.17 A total of 5,582 cases against Scheduled Tribes were reported in the country during 2008 as compared to 5,532 cases in 2007 showing an increase of 0.9% in 2008 over 2007. The increase was observed in all heads except Murder, Rape, Robbery, Arson and cases under the SC/ST (Prevention of Atrocities) Act. Madhya Pradesh has reported 19.2% (1,071) followed by Rajasthan 18.6% (1,038) of the total cases in the country. Madhya Pradesh (1,071) reported the highest incidence of crime against Scheduled Tribes, reporting 19.2% of the National total of 5,582 during the year 2008.

Crime Rate--CAST

5.18 The rate of crime against Scheduled Tribes was 0.5 in 2008 which remained the same as that in 2007. Arunachal Pradesh (5.2) reported the highest rate of crime against Scheduled Tribes in the country during the year 2008.

Measures taken for combating crime against SC/ST.

5.19 The Protection of Civil Right Act, 1955 (PCR Act) and the SCs/STs (Prevention of Atrocities) Act, 1989 (POA Act) are two important Acts being administered by Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment for



safeguarding the interests of SCs/STs. These enactments have extended positive discrimination in favour of these weaker sections of the society in the field of criminal justice as they prescribe penalties that are more stringent than corresponding offences under the IPC. Government keeps a constant watch on the enforcement of the PCR Act and the POA Act and rules there-under, and keeps advising State Governments/UT Administrations to given special focus on the following:-

- Police to be more sympathetic to SCs/STs, and other weaker sections of the society, in their approach while dealing with the cases of crime against them;
- Circulations among field officers detailed guidelines indicating the scope and responsibility of the police personnel investigating the offences;
- Recruitment of sufficient number of persons belonging to SCs/STs as police personnel;
- Programmes for creating awareness among vulnerable sections of the society and legal recourse open to them;
- Evaluation of the working of the Special Courts, identification of atrocity prone areas for prevention of crime, measures to be taken for economic and social rehabilitation of victims of atrocities, the scale of relief to be revised to the families of SC/ST person killed in a case of atrocity etc.

5.20 In compliance, several State Governments have taken, inter-alia, the following steps for combating crimes against the SCs and STs:

- (i) Special Cells have been established;
- (ii) Atrocity prone/sensitive areas have been identified;
- (iii) Special Courts and Exclusive Special Courts have been designated for the purpose of providing speedy trial of offences under the Act;
- (iv) Nodal Officers have been nominated for coordinating the functioning of the

- District Magistrates and Superintendents of Police or other authorized officers; and
- (v) State level Vigilance and Monitoring Committee under the Chairmanship of the Chief Minister and District level Vigilance and Monitoring Committees have been set up.

Violent Crimes against Body

5.21 Violent crimes against body comprising murder, attempt to commit murder, culpable homicide not amounting to murder, kidnapping and abduction, hurt and death due to negligence in the year 2007 stood at 4,50,781 accounting for 22.7 percent of total IPC crimes during the year. Crimes against body showed an increase of 4.7 percent during 2007 over 2006.

Violent Crime against Property

5.22 A total of 4,03,181 violent crimes against property comprising dacoity, preparation and assembly for dacoity, robbery, burglary and theft were recorded during the year 2007 as compared to 3,92,352 crimes during 2006, showing an increase of 2.8 percent. The share of these crimes to total IPC crimes at the national level was 20.3 percent during the year.

Violent Crimes against Public Order

5.23 A total of 68,939 violent crimes against public order comprising riots and arson were reported during the year 2007 as compared to 65,121 crimes in 2006, showing an increase of 5.9 percent.

Crimes under Special and Local Laws (SLL)

5.24 A total of 37,43,734 crimes under various Special and Local Laws were reported during the year 2007 as against 32,24,167 crimes during 2006, showing an increase of 16.1 percent in 2007.
