

Crimes Against Women in India

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"The abuse of women and girls is the most pervasive and unaddressed human Right violation on earth," **Jimmy Carter** Women play a significant role in the society. Peace, prosperity and stability of a family depend on the female part of the family. The neglect of a girl child and women has given rise to human distress. Violence against woman is one of the most wide spread violation of human rights. The 1993 UNITED NATION declaration on the elimination of violence against women provides a very broad and inclusive frame work for studying "violence against women." According to this definition.

Key Words: Violence, Women, Sexual Harassment,

Violence against women means any act of gender based violence that result in or likely to result in physical, sexual or psychological harms or suffering to women, including threats of such acts, coercion or arbitrary deprivation of liberty, whether occurring in public or private life." Gender based violence not only violates human rights, but also hampers productivity reduce human capital and undermines economic growth. Violence against women is widespread and viewed as on the cruellest social mechanism to suppress women.

Community attitudes are an essential factor in the understanding of men's violence against women. Attitudes influence social and culture norms and are an indictors of the way in which we think about the engage with issues of violence. Attitudes influence early detection informs responses to men's violence against women determines whether violence is recognised.

Violence against women can be fit into several broad categories. These include violence carried out by individuals as well as states such as was rape, sexual slavery.

The WHO in its reach on VAW, categorized, it as occurring through five stages of the life cycle.

(1) Pre birth (2) Infancy (3) Girlhood (4) Adolescence and adulthood (5) elderly.

All though history of violence against women is difficult to track.

The 1993 UN Declaration on the elimination of violence against women was the first international instrument explicitly defining and addressing violence against women, General

resolution 48/104 of 20 December 1993, Article, 7, specifically, the declaration outlines a broad variety of act and circumstance that are included in this definition, :- Physical, sexual and Psychological violence occurring in the family including battering, sexual abuse of female children in the house hold, dowry related violence, martial rape, female genital mutilation and other traditional practices harmful to women, non spousal violence and violence related to exploitation, trafficking in women and forced prostitution.

In many cases of "Violence against women" perpetrators are family members, and known persons only in grave situations such issues came to be known outside.

Crime against women is increasing day by day in India. The total reported crime against women under Indian penal code (IPC) is only 2, 95,896 in 2013.

The level of crime against women is much higher than reported figures make out to be.

This study is an attempt to analyses the trends if crimes during the period 2009 to 2013. Basically it's a period of resurgent interest in this subject. People are more awoken for these situation Courts are taking interest in these types of cases and enforce the laws against sexual harassment at work place, etc. India is a male dominated society and the basic reason for violence against women are their inferior social, economical and educational status. Society thinks that any case related with crime against women comes in the light; society thinks that it is their personal matter. From few year backs media is taking initiatives to report on rape,

molestation, assaults, and provide information about laws & measures for precautions.

Only the crimes against women are characterized as “crime against women” domestic violence has been clearly defined in the domestic violence act-2005.

States has provided many women specific legislations to protect them against discrimination.

Problems:-

Despite existence of so many laws for protection to women, crimes against women as composed to the total IPC crimes has increased from 9.2 percent in 2009 to 26.7 percent in 2013. (See Table)

Table 1
Crimes against women under IPC

SI No.	Year	Total IPC Crimes	Crime Against women (IPC case)	Percentage to total IPC Crimes
1	2009	21,21,345	2,03,804	9.2
2	2010	22,24,831	2,13,585	9.6
3	2011	23,25,575	2,19,142	9.4
4	2012	23,87,188	2,44,270	10.2
5	2013	26,47,722	2,95,896	11.2

Sources : www.ncrb.gov.in

SI. No.	Crime Head	Year 2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	Percentage variation is 2013 over 2012
1	Rape	21,397	22,172	24,206	24,923	33,707	35.2
2	Kidnapping & Abduction (Sec. 363 to 373)	25,741	29,795	35,565	38,262	51,881	35.6
3	Dowry death	8,383	8391	8,618	8233	8,083	-1.8
4	Cruelty by husband or relatives	89,546	94,041	99,135	1,06,527	1,18,866	11.6
5	Assault on women with intent to outrage her modesty	38,711	40,613	42,968	45,351	70,739	56.0
6	Insult to the modesty of women (Sec. 509 IPC)	11,009	9,961	8,570	9,173	12,589	37.2
7	Importation of girl from foreign country	48	36	80	59	31	-47.4
A	Total IPC crime against women	1,94832	2,05009	2,19,142	2,32,528	2,95,896	27.3
8	Commission of sati prevention Act, 1987	0	0	0	0	0	0.0
9	Immoral Traffic prevention Act, 1956	2,474	2,499	2,435	2,563	2579	0.6
10	Indecent representation of women Act, 1986	845	895	453	141	362	156.7
11	The dowry Prohibition Act, 1961	5,650	5,182	6,619	9,038	10,709	17.9
B	Total SLL crime against women	8,969	8,576	9,507	11,742	13,650	16.2

	Total (A+B)	2,03,804	2,13,585	2,28,649	2,49,279	3,09,546	26.7
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Sources : www.ncrvb.gov.in

Table 2 presents incidence of crimes committed against women during 2009- 2013.

An increase trend in the incidence of rape has been observed during the periods 2009-2013. These cases reported an increase of 3.6/ 2010 over 2009 and an increase of 9.2% the year 2011 over the year 2010,

Kidnapping and abduction cases have reported on increase of 35.6% during the year as compared to previous year 2012.

The cases of dowry deaths have increased by 1. 8% during the year 2013 over the previous year 28.9% of the total such cases reported in the country were reported from Uttar Pradesh alone followed by Bihar.

In the year 2013 Andhra Pradesh with 7.3% share of country's women population has reported nearly 10.6% of total crimes committed against women at All India level, by reporting 32,809 cases and Uttar Pradesh accounting for nearly 16.7% of the women population, has accounted for 10.5% of total cases of crimes against women in the country

by reporting 32,546 cases during the year 2013. The highest crime rate of 18.6 as compared to national average of 5.7.

Article 38, 39, and 46 in the constitution of India stand testimony to the commitment of the state towards its people. The strategy of the state is to secure distributive justice and allocation of resources to support programmes for social economic, and schedule caste and scheduled tribes in particular.

To uphold the constitutional mandate and safeguards of their interest, special enactments (i) protection of civil rights Act 1955 (ii) SC/ST (Prevention of Atro cities act) 1989 have been made.

Total crimes under these categories have increased by 17% in 2013 those belong to schedule caste.

These figures indicate total offences against men and women, crimes committed against sc women under the categories of rape and kidnapping & abduction and crimes against ST women (Rape) have increased.

Table-3 Crime against schedule caste

SI. No.	Crime Head	Year 2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	Percentage variation is 2013 over 2012
1	Murder	624	570	673	651	676	3.84
2	Rape	1,349	1,349	1,557	1,576	2,073	31.54
3	Kidnapping	512	511	616	490	628	28.6
4	Dacoity	44	42	36	27	45	66.67
5	Robbery	70	75	45	40	62	55.00
6	Arson	195	150	169	214	189	-11.68
7	Hurts	4410	4,376	4247	3,855	4,901	27.68
8	Protection of civil right	168	143	67	62	62	0.00
9	SC/ST Prevention Act	11,143	10,513	11,342	12,516	13,975	11.12
10	Otherrs	15,082	14,958	14,164	14,164	16,797	18.59
	Total	33,394	32,712	33,719	33,719	39,408	17.09

Sources : www.ncrb.gov.in

Table- 4 Crime Against schedule Tribes

SI. No.	Crime Head	Year 2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	Percentage variation is 2013over 2012
1	Murder	118	142	143	156	122	-21.8
2	Rape	583	654	772	729	847	16.2
3	Kidnapping	82	84	137	103	130	26.2
4	Dacoity	3	7	7	5	8	60.0
5	Robbery	24	5	9	15	7	-53.3
6	Arson	29	39	24	26	33	26.9
7	Hurts	787	941	803	816	930	14.0
8	Protection of civil right	2	5	7	2	25	1,150
9	SC/ST Prevention Act	944	1,169	1,154	1,311	1,390	6.0

10	Otherrs	3,853	2,839	2,700	2,759	3,301	19.6
	Total	5,425	5,885	5,756	5,922	6,793	14.7

Sources : www.ncrb.gov.in

A total of 2,073 cases of rape of women belonging to schedule caste were reported in the country during year 2013 as composed to 1,576 cases in the year 2012, throwing an increase of 31.5% If we talk about schedule tribes category a total of 847 cases were reported in the year 2013, as compared to 729 cases in the year 2012, thus showing an increase of 16.2% over all 68.83% increase in the crime of rapes in last five years. An increase in incidents of the crime was observed in all crime head except arson during 2013 over 2012. An increase of 66.7% 31.5%, 28.2% 27.1 and 11.1% was reported under crime heads decoity, 'rape, kidnapping & abduction, hurt and SC/ST Act respectively in the year 2013 over previous year (2012)

Crime against women in cities.

53 cities having population over 10 lakh and more have been identified ad mega cities. 53,464 cases of crime against women were reported from these 53 cities during the year

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2013 as compared to 36,622 cases in the year 2012. The rate of crime in cities at 69.7 was comparatively higher as compared to the national rate of 52.2.

Among 53 cities Delhi, has accounted for 21.4% of total such crimes, followed by Mumbai (5.5%) Bengalure (4.9%) Ahmedabad (4.6%) Kolkata (4.5%)

Measures:-

Women should know their rights. From last few years there is a persistent increase in all from of crimes against women, Government should empower to police prosecutes and other criminal justice officials. To ensure genders equitable representation in the police force and agencies of justice system. To develop codes of conduct for personal in public and private entities that prohibits violence against women.

It is the time when everyone should change the mindset against crime against women.