

AN EXPLORATORY STUDY ON CRIME AGAINST WOMEN IN STATES OF WESTERN AND NORTHERN REGIONS OF INDIA

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Abstract

The paper discussed the crimes against women in states of western and northern regions of India. It has found that Uttar Pradesh, Rajasthan and Maharashtra has higher incidences of crimes against women than other states in the regions. Goa, Himachal Pradesh and Uttarakhand has comparatively lower incidences of crimes against women. Uttar Pradesh has the highest incidences and victims of SLL crimes against women, followed by Maharashtra and Rajasthan. On the other hand, least incidences and victims of such crimes is reported in Goa preceded by Himachal Pradesh and Punjab. Uttar Pradesh also has the highest incidences and victims of total crime against women (IPC+SLL) followed by Maharashtra and Rajasthan. On the other hand, least incidences and victims of total crime against women (IPC+SLL) reported in Goa preceded by Himachal Pradesh and Uttarakhand. Therefore, Governments of the concern states should implement proper policies and regulations for minimizing the incidences of crime against women.

Keywords: *Crime, Empowerment, Harassment, Regulations, and Women.*

INTRODUCTION

Women are the backbone of communities and families. They provide support and care to their families. They have major role in community development. Women's empowerment is important for the sustainable development of the society. It involved ability to determine their own choices, promoting women's sense of self-worth, and change of life of the women. It promotes women's rights. Gender equality is also considering as human rights and foundation for prosperous world. Women and girls are facing significant challenges in their life. The United Nations defines violence against women as "any act of gender-based violence that results in, or is likely to result in, physical, sexual, or mental harm or suffering to women, including threats of such acts, coercion or arbitrary deprivation of liberty, whether occurring in public or in private life"

Violence against women and girls remains human rights violations and challenges before empowerment of women. It includes both physical violence and mental harassment. It is much broader and includes the sexual, emotional, psychological and financial abuse. Current or former husbands or intimate partners are also responsible for crimes against women. Gender-based violence can affect their career and future progress. Consequences of sexualised violence can include infertility and sexually transmitted diseases, trauma, depression, anxiety and panic attacks. Gender-related killings of women and girls are the most extreme violence against women. The IPC component of crimes against women has accounted for 95.8 percent of total crimes and the rest 4.2 percent were SLL crimes against women.

OBJECTIVES

The main objectives of this paper are: (a) to study the trends and patterns of crimes against women in states of western and northern regions of India, and (b) to identify various initiatives of government for mitigating such crimes.

THE STUDY AREA

Western India is a loosely defined region of India consisting of western states of Republic of India. Goa, Gujrat and Maharashtra are the states included in the region. Dadra and Nagar Haveli and Daman and Diu is the union territory. Total area in the region is 508,032 km² or 196,152 square miles. Accordingly, census 2011, total population in the region is 173,343,821, and density of population is 340/km² or 880/square miles. Mumbai is the largest city in the region. Gujrati, Konkani, Marathi, Hindi and English are the official languages in the region. Northern India is a geographical and broad cultural region comprising the northern part of India. The predominant geographical features of North India are Indo-Gangetic plain, Himalayas and sub-Himalayan best, and Thar desert.

METHODS AND MATERIALS

- **Design and Approach:** This study is descriptive in design and has utilized qualitative approach. Secondary data for the study has been collected from various govt. reports, National Crime Record Bureau website, report of international agencies, research papers, published or unpublished thesis's, articles, etc.
- **Method of Analysis:** To reveal the crimes against women in general and the girls in particular, method of qualitative analysis comprising of descriptive analysis, content and text analysis have been performed.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

Violence against women is the reality in 21st century in both developed and developing countries. It also known as gender-based violence and sexual and gender-based violence. It includes such crimes which are committed by by male against female. In majority of cases it has found that boyfriends and intimate partners are responsible for violence against women. Violence against women can be classified as sexual violence, physical violence, emotional violence, psychological violence, and economic violence.

Table 1: Crime against Women in States of Western and Northern Regions of India

State	2020	2021	2022	Rate of Total Crime against Women (2022)	Charge sheeting Rate (2022)
Haryana	13000	16658	16743	118.7	57.2
Himachal	1614	1599	1551	42.3	73.9
Punjab	4838	5662	5572	38.4	77.8
Rajasthan	34535	40738	45058	115.1	54.0
Uttarakhand	2846	3431	4337	77.0	70.8
Uttar Pradesh	49385	56083	65743	58.6	75.6
Goa	219	224	273	22.9	89.8
Gujrat	8028	7348	7731	22.9	89.8
Maharashtra	31954	39526	45331	75.1	80.6

Source: Crime in India 2022 report, Vol. 1, p.211, National Crime Record Bureau, Govt. of India.

The above table (1) discussed the crime against women in states of western and northern regions of India. It has found that except Himachal Pradesh and Gujrat, crime against women was increased during 2020-2022. Highest incidences of crime against women is registered in Uttar Pradesh followed by Rajasthan and Maharashtra. On the other hand, least incidences of crime against women is recorded in Goa preceded by Himachal Pradesh and Uttarakhand. Highest rate of total crime against women recorded in Haryana followed by Rajasthan and Maharashtra. On the other hand, least rate of rate of total crime against women recorded in Goa and Gujrat, preceded by Punjab and Himachal Pradesh. Goa and Gujrat has the highest charge sheeting rate followed by Maharashtra and Punjab. On the other hand, least charge sheeting rate is recorded in Rajasthan preceded by Haryana and Uttarkhand.

Table 2: IPC Crimes against Women (Murder with Rape/Gang Rape, Dowry Deaths and Abetment to Suicide) in States of Western and Northern Regions of India- 2022

State	Murder with Rape/Gang Rape			Dowry Deaths (Sec. 304B IPC)			Abetment to Suicide of Women (Sec. 305/306 IPC)		
	I	V	R	I	V	R	I	V	R
Haryana	8	8	0.1	234	234	1.7	202	202	1.4
Himachal	2	2	0.1	1	1	0.0	54	54	1.5
Punjab	3	3	0.0	71	71	0.5	204	207	1.4
Rajasthan	9	9	0.0	451	451	1.2	210	211	0.5
Uttarakhand	1	1	0.0	70	70	1.2	24	24	0.4
Uttar Pradesh	62	62	0.1	2138	2142	1.9	417	417	0.4
Goa	1	1	0.1	0	0	0.0	1	1	0.1
Gujrat	12	12	0.0	10	10	0.0	314	314	0.9
Maharashtra	22	22	0.0	180	184	0.3	786	834	1.3

Source: Crime in India 2022 report, Vol. 1, p.212, National Crime Record Bureau, Govt. of India. Note: R=Crime Rate per lakh population; V= No. of Victims, and I= No. of Incidences/Cases.

The above table (2) represented IPC crimes against women (murder with rape/gang rape, dowry deaths and abetment to suicide) in States of western and northern regions of India. It has found that highest incidences of murder with rape/gang rape is reported

in Uttar Pradesh followed by Maharashtra and Gujrat. On the other hand, least incidences of such crime is reported in Goa and Uttarkhand, preceded by Himachal Pradesh and Punjab. Uttar Pradesh has the highest incidences of dowry deaths followed by Rajasthan and Haryana. On the other hand, least incidence of such crime is reported in Himachal Pradesh preceded by Gujrat and Uttarakhand. There is no incidence of such crime in Goa. Maharashtra has the highest incidences and victims of abetment to suicide of women followed by Uttar Pradesh and Gujrat. On the other hand, least incidences of such crime is reported in Goa preceded by Uttarakhand and Himachal Pradesh.

Table 3: IPC-Crimes against Women (Miscarriage, Acid Attack, Attempt to Acid Attack, and Cruelty by Husband or his relatives) in States of Western and Northern Regions of India- 2022

State	Miscarriage (Sec. 313 & 314 IPC)			Acid Attack (Sec. 326A IPC)			Attempt to Acid Attack (Sec. 326B IPC)			Cruelty by Husband or his relatives (Sec. 498 A IPC)		
	I	V	R	I	V	R	I	V	R	I	V	R
Haryana	14	14	0.1	6	9	0.0	0	0	0.0	5883	5887	41.7
Himachal	0	0	0.0	0	0	0.0	0	0	0.0	196	201	5.3
Punjab	7	7	0.0	2	2	0.0	3	3	0.0	1640	1640	11.3
Rajasthan	3	3	0.0	4	4	0.0	1	1	0.0	18847	18852	48.2
Uttarakhand	7	10	0.1	1	1	0.0	0	0	0.0	954	954	16.9
Uttar Pradesh	95	95	0.1	23	25	0.0	1	1	0.0	20371	20511	18.2
Goa	0	0	0.0	0	0	0.0	0	0	0.0	6	6	0.8
Gujrat	5	5	0.0	5	5	0.0	4	4	0.0	2166	2209	6.4
Maharashtra	35	36	0.1	9	9	0.0	4	4	0.0	11367	11384	18.8

Source: Crime in India 2022 report, Vol. 1, p.213, National Crime Record Bureau, Govt. of India. Note: R=Crime Rate per lakh population; V= No. of Victims, and I= No. of Incidences/Cases.

The above table (3) discussed crimes against women (miscarriage, acid attack, attempt to acid attack, and cruelty by husband or his relatives) in states of western and northern regions of India. It has found that highest incidences of miscarriage crime are reported in Uttar Pradesh followed by Maharashtra and Haryana. On the other hand, least incidences of such crime is reported in Rajasthan and Gujrat. There is no incidence of such crime in Himachal Pradesh and Goa. The highest incidences and victims of acid attack is reported in Uttar Pradesh followed by Maharashtra and Haryana. On the other hand, least incidences of such crime is reported in Uttarakhand, preceded by Punjab and Rajasthan. There is no incidence of such crime in Himachal Pradesh and Goa. Highest incidences of attempt to acid attack is reported in Gujrat and Maharashtra, followed by Punjab. On the other hand, least incidences of such crime is reported in Rajasthan and Uttar Pradesh. There is no incidence of such crime in Haryana, Himachal Pradesh, Uttarkhand, and Goa. Uttar Pradesh has the highest incidences of cruelty by husband or his relatives, followed by Rajasthan and Maharashtra. On the other hand, least incidences of such crime is reported in Goa, preceded by Himachal Pradesh and Uttarakhand.

Table 4: IPC Crimes against Women (Kidnapping & Abduction of Women) in States of Western and Northern Regions of India- 2022

State	Kidnapping & Abduction of Women								
	Kidnapping & Abduction of Women (Total)			Kidnapping and Abduction (Sec. 363 IPC)			Kidnapping and Abduction in order to Murder (Sec.364 IPC)		
	I	V	R	I	V	R	I	V	R
Haryana	3050	3109	21.6	276	292	2.0	2	2	0.0
Himachal	326	346	8.9	180	199	4.9	1	1	0.0
Punjab	1478	1520	10.2	10	13	0.1	0	0	0.0
Rajasthan	6587	6691	16.8	3543	3543	9.2	1	1	0.0
Uttarakhand	696	778	12.4	124	132	2.2	0	0	0.0
Uttar Pradesh	14887	14960	13.3	5222	5286	4.7	29	29	0.0
Goa	60	60	7.7	47	47	6.0	0	0	0.0
Gujrat	1334	1354	4.0	573	588	1.7	1	1	0.0
Maharashtra	9297	9382	15.4	9094	9176	15.1	6	6	0.0

Source: Crime in India 2022 report, Vol. 1, p.214, National Crime Record Bureau, Govt. of India. Note: R=Crime Rate per lakh population; V= No. of Victims, and I= No. of Incidences/Cases.

The above table (4) discussed crimes against women (kidnapping & abduction of women) in States of western and northern regions of India. It has found that highest incidences and victims of kidnapping & abduction of women is reported in Uttar

Pradesh followed by Maharashtra and Rajasthan. On the other hand, least incidences and victims of such crime is reported in Goa preceded by Himachal Pradesh and Uttarakhand. The highest incidences and victims of kidnapping and abduction in order to murder is reported in Uttar Pradesh followed by Maharashtra and Haryana. On the other hand, least incidences of such crime is reported in Gujrat, Rajasthan and Himachal Pradesh. There is no incidence of such crime in Punjab, Uttarakhand, and Goa.

Table 5: IPC Crimes against Women (Kidnapping & Abduction of Women) in States of Western and Northern Regions of India- 2022

State	Kidnapping & Abduction of Women								
	Kidnapping for Ransom (Sec. 364A IPC)			Kidnapping & Abduction of Women to compel her for marriage (Sec. 366 IPC)					
				K&A of Women to compel her for marriage (Total)			a) Women (Above 18 yrs.)		
	I	V	R	I	V	R	I	V	R
Haryana	2	3	0.0	1041	1052	7.4	739	342	5.2
Himachal	0	0	0.0	130	131	3.5	15	16	0.4
Punjab	1	1	0.0	1406	1444	9.7	153	184	1.1
Rajasthan	1	1	0.0	1309	1314	3.3	852	857	2.2
Uttarakhand	1	1	0.0	14	14	0.2	5	5	0.1
Uttar Pradesh	2	2	0.0	9598	9607	8.6	5753	5761	5.1
Goa	0	0	0.0	0	0	0.0	0	0	0.0
Gujrat	2	2	0.0	711	714	2.1	80	80	0.2
Maharashtra	8	8	0.0	130	132	0.2	41	41	0.1

Source: Crime in India 2022 report, Vol. 1, p.215, National Crime Record Bureau, Govt. of India. Note: R=Crime Rate per lakh population; V= No. of Victims, and I= No. of Incidences/Cases.

The above table (5) discussed the crimes against women (kidnapping & abduction of women) in States of western and northern regions of India. It has found that highest incidences of kidnapping for ransom is reported in Maharashtra followed by Haryana, Uttar Pradesh and Gujrat. The least incidences of such crime is recorded in Punjab, Rajasthan, and Uttarakhand. There is no such crime in Himachal Pradesh and Goa. The highest incidences and victims of kidnapping & abduction of women to compel her for marriage has been reported in Uttar Pradesh followed by Punjab and Rajasthan. On the other hand, least incidences of such crime is reported in Uttarakhand followed by Himachal Pradesh and Maharashtra. There is no such crime is reported in Goa.

Table 6: IPC Crimes against Women (Kidnapping & Abduction of Women) in States of Western and Northern Regions of India- 2022

State	Kidnapping & Abduction of Women								
	K & A of Women to compel her for marriage (Sec. 366 IPC)			Procurement of Minor Girls (Sec. 366A IPC)			Importation of Girls from Foreign Country (Sec. 366B IPC)		
	b) Girls (Below 18 yrs.)								
	I	V	R	I	V	R	I	V	R
Haryana	302	310	2.1	918	921	6.5	0	0	0.0
Himachal	115	115	3.1	4	4	0.1	0	0	0.0
Punjab	1253	1260	8.6	0	0	0.0	0	0	0.0
Rajasthan	457	457	1.2	1	1	0.0	0	0	0.0
Uttarakhand	9	9	0.2	0	0	0.0	0	0	0.0
Uttar Pradesh	3845	3846	3.4	0	0	0.0	0	0	0.0
Goa	0	0	0.0	0	0	0.0	0	0	0.0
Gujrat	631	635	1.9	1	1	0.0	0	0	0.0
Maharashtra	89	91	0.1	30	30	0.0	0	0	0.0

Source: Crime in India 2022 report, Vol. 1, p.216, National Crime Record Bureau, Govt. of India. Note: R=Crime Rate per lakh population; V= No. of Victims, and I= No. of Incidences/Cases.

The above table (6) discussed the crimes against women (kidnapping & abduction of women) in States of western and northern regions of India. It has found that highest incidences of kidnapping & abduction of girls to compel her for marriage is reported in Uttar Pradesh followed by Punjab and Gujrat. On the other hand, least incidences of such crime is reported in Uttarakhand preceded by Maharashtra and Himachal Pradesh. There is no report of such crime in Goa. The highest incidences and victims of

procurement of minor girls are reported in Haryana followed by Maharashtra. On the other hand, least incidences and victims of such crime is reported in Rajasthan and Gujrat, preceded by Himachal Pradesh. There is no report of such crime in Uttarakhand, Uttar Pradesh and Goa. There are no incidences of Importation of girls from foreign country in any above states.

Table 7: IPC Crimes against Women (Kidnapping & Abduction of Women, Human Trafficking, and Selling of Minor Girls) in States of Western and Northern Regions of India- 2022

State	Kidnapping and Abduction of Women – Others (Secs.363A, 365, 367, 368, 369 IPC)			Human Trafficking (Sec. 370 & 370A IPC)			Selling of Minor Girls (Sec. 372 IPC)		
	I	V	R	I	V	R	I	V	R
Haryana	811	839	5.8	10	14	0.1	0	0	0.0
Himachal	11	11	0.3	0	0	0.0	0	0	0.0
Punjab	61	62	0.4	6	7	0.0	0	0	0.0
Rajasthan	1732	1753	4.4	5	5	0.0	0	0	0.0
Uttarakhand	557	631	9.9	2	2	0.0	0	0	0.0
Uttar Pradesh	36	36	0.0	10	17	0.0	0	0	0.0
Goa	13	13	1.7	10	10	1.3	0	0	0.0
Gujrat	46	47	0.1	5	5	0.0	0	0	0.0
Maharashtra	29	30	0.0	218	327	0.4	1	1	0.0

Source: Crime in India 2022 report, Vol. 1, p.217, National Crime Record Bureau, Govt. of India. Note: R=Crime Rate per lakh population; V= No. of Victims, and I= No. of Incidences/Cases.

The above table (7) discussed the crimes against women (kidnapping & abduction of women, human trafficking, and selling of minor girls) in States of western and northern regions of India. It has found that highest incidences of other types of kidnapping and abduction of women is reported in Rajasthan followed by Haryana and Uttarakhand. On the other hand, least incidences of such crime is reported in Himachal Pradesh preceded by Goa and Maharashtra. The highest incidences and victims of human trafficking cases are reported in Maharashtra followed by Uttar Pradesh, Haryana, and Goa. There is no incidence of such crime in Himachal Pradesh. Maharashtra is the only state having incidence of selling of minor girls.

Table 8: IPC Crimes against Women (Buying of Minor Girls and Rape) in States of Western and Northern Regions of India- 2022

State	Buying of Minor Girls (Sec. 373 IPC)			Rape (Sec.376 IPC)								
				Rape (Total)			A) Women (18 Yrs. and above)			B) Girls (Below 18 yrs.)		
	I	V	R	I	V	R	I	V	R	I	V	R
Haryana	0	0	0.0	1787	1787	12.7	1787	1787	12.7	0	0	0.0
Himachal	0	0	0.0	359	369	9.8	146	146	4.0	213	223	5.8
Punjab	0	0	0.0	517	517	3.6	517	517	3.6	0	0	0.0
Rajasthan	0	0	0.0	5399	5408	13.8	5399	5408	13.8	0	0	0.0
Uttarakhand	0	0	0.0	867	905	15.4	867	905	15.4	0	0	0.0
Uttar Pradesh	0	0	0.0	3690	3692	3.3	3232	3233	2.9	458	459	0.4
Goa	0	0	0.0	73	75	9.4	18	18	2.3	55	57	7.1
Gujrat	0	0	0.0	610	610	1.8	610	610	1.8	0	0	0.0
Maharashtra	0	0	0.0	2904	2911	4.8	2904	2911	4.8	0	0	0.0

Source: Crime in India 2022 report, Vol. 1, p.218, National Crime Record Bureau, Govt. of India. Note: R=Crime Rate per lakh population; V= No. of Victims, and I= No. of Incidences/Cases.

The above table (8) discussed the crimes against women (buying of minor girls and rape) in States of western and northern regions of India. It has found that there are no incidences of buying of minor girls in any of the above states. The highest incidences and victims of rape of women (18 years and above) has been reported in Rajasthan followed by Uttar Pradesh and Maharashtra. On the other hand, least incidences and victims of such crime is reported in Goa preceded by Himachal Pradesh and Punjab. The highest incidences and victims of rape of girls (below 18 years) has reported in Uttar Pradesh followed by Himachal Pradesh and Goa. There is no incidence of such crime in Haryana, Punjab, Rajasthan, Uttarakhand, Gujrat, and Maharashtra.

Table 9: IPC Crimes against Women (Attempt to Commit Rape) in States of Western and Northern Regions of India- 2022

State	Attempt to Commit Rape (Sec. 376/511 IPC)		
	Attempt to Commit Rape (Total)	A) Women (18 Yrs. and above)	B) Girls (Below 18 yrs.)

	I	V	R	I	V	R	I	V	R
Haryana	255	255	1.8	254	254	1.8	1	1	0.0
Himachal	9	9	0.2	5	5	0.1	4	4	0.1
Punjab	42	42	0.3	31	31	0.2	11	11	0.1
Rajasthan	1053	1053	2.7	1053	1053	2.7	0	0	0.0
Uttarakhand	18	18	0.3	18	18	0.3	0	0	0.0
Uttar Pradesh	198	201	0.2	181	184	0.2	17	17	0.0
Goa	0	0	0.0	0	0	0.0	0	0	0.0
Gujrat	2	2	0.0	0	0	0.0	2	2	0.0
Maharashtra	2	2	0.0	2	2	0.0	0	0	0.0

Source: Crime in India 2022 report, Vol. 1, p.219, National Crime Record Bureau, Govt. of India. Note: R=Crime Rate per lakh population; V= No. of Victims, and I= No. of Incidences/Cases.

The above table (9) discussed the crimes against women (attempt to commit rape) in States of western and northern regions of India. It has found that highest incidences of attempt to commit rape is reported in Rajasthan followed by Haryana and Uttar Pradesh. On the other hand, least incidences and victims of such crime is reported in Gujrat and Maharashtra, preceded by Himachal Pradesh and Uttarakhand. There is no incidence of such crime in Goa. Rajasthan has the highest incidences and victims of attempt to commit rape of women (18 years and above) followed by Haryana and Uttar Pradesh. On the other hand, least incidences of such crime is reported in Maharashtra preceded by Himachal Pradesh and Punjab. There is no incidence of such crime in Goa and Gujrat. Uttar Pradesh has the highest incidences and victims of attempt to commit rape of girls (below 18 years) followed by Punjab and Himachal Pradesh. On the other hand, least incidences of such crime is reported in Haryana preceded by Gujrat. There is no incidence of such crime in Rajasthan, Uttarakhand, Goa, and Maharashtra.

Table 10: IPC Crimes against Women (Assault on Women with Intent to Outrage her Modesty) in States of Western and Northern Regions of India- 2022

State	Assault on Women with Intent to Outrage her Modesty (Sec. 354 IPC)								
	Assault on Women with Intent to Outrage her Modesty (Total)			A) Women (18 Yrs. And above)			B) Girls (Below 18 yrs.)		
	I	V	R	I	V	R	I	V	R
Haryana	2739	2742	19.4	2739	2742	19.4	0	0	0.0
Himachal	492	494	13.4	405	406	11.0	87	88	2.4
Punjab	666	667	4.6	664	665	4.6	2	2	0.0
Rajasthan	8508	8568	21.7	8508	8568	21.7	0	0	0.0
Uttarakhand	699	699	12.4	657	657	11.7	42	42	0.7
Uttar Pradesh	10548	10663	9.4	9549	9664	8.5	999	999	0.9
Goa	87	90	11.2	76	79	9.8	11	11	1.4
Gujrat	693	705	2.1	625	634	1.9	68	71	0.2
Maharashtra	11512	11611	19.1	11512	11611	19.1	0	0	0.0

Source: Crime in India 2022 report, Vol. 1, p.220, National Crime Record Bureau, Govt. of India. Note: R=Crime Rate per lakh population; V= No. of Victims, and I= No. of Incidences/Cases.

The above table (10) discussed the crimes against women (assault on women with intent to outrage her modesty) in States of western and northern regions of India. It has found that Maharashtra has the highest incidences and victims of assault on women (18 years and above) with intent to outrage her modesty followed by Uttar Pradesh and Rajasthan. On the other hand, least incidences of such crime is reported in Goa preceded by Himachal Pradesh and Uttarakhand. Uttar Pradesh has the highest incidences and victims of assault on girls (below 18 years) with intent to outrage her modesty followed by Himachal Pradesh and Gujrat. On the other hand, least incidences of such crime is reported in Punjab preceded by Goa and Uttarakhand. There are no incidences of such crime in Maharashtra, Rajasthan and Haryana.

Table 11: IPC Crimes against Women (Insult to the Modesty of Women) in States of Western and Northern Regions of India- 2022

State	Insult to the Modesty of Women (Sec. 509 IPC)									Total IPC Crimes against Women		
	Insult to the Modesty of Women (Total)			A) Women (18 yrs. and above)			B) Girls (Below 18 yrs.)					
	I	V	R	I	V	R	I	V	R	I	V	R
Haryana	322	324	2.3	322	324	2.3	0	0	0.0	14510	14585	102.9
Himachal	77	77	2.1	76	76	2.1	1	1	0.0	1516	1553	41.3

Punjab	36	37	0.2	34	35	0.2	2	2	0.0	4675	4723	32.2
Rajasthan	83	83	0.2	83	83	0.2	0	0	0.0	41160	41339	105.2
Uttarakhand	16	16	0.3	16	16	0.3	0	0	0.0	3355	3480	59.5
Uttar Pradesh	55	55	0.0	54	54	0.0	1	1	0.0	52495	52841	46.8
Goa	30	31	3.9	30	31	3.9	0	0	0.0	268	284	34.4
Gujrat	17	17	0.1	16	16	0.0	1	1	0.0	5177	5252	15.4
Maharashtra	1317	1337	2.2	1317	1337	2.2	0	0	0.0	37654	38044	62.4

Source: Crime in India 2022 report, Vol. 1, p.221, National Crime Record Bureau, Govt. of India. Note: R=Crime Rate per lakh population; V= No. of Victims, and I= No. of Incidences/Cases.

The above table (11) discussed the crimes against women (insult to the modesty of women) in States of western and northern regions of India. It has found that highest incidences of insult to the modesty of women (18 years and above) is reported in Maharashtra followed by Haryana and Rajasthan. On the other hand, least incidences of such crime is reported in Uttarakhand and Gujrat, preceded by Goa. Highest incidences of Insult to the modesty of girls (below 18 years) is reported in Punjab followed by Himachal Pradesh, Uttar Pradesh and Gujrat. There is no incidence of such crime in Haryana, Rajasthan, Uttarakhand, Goa and Maharashtra. Uttar Pradesh has the highest incidences of total IPC crimes against women followed by Rajasthan and Maharashtra. On the hand, Goa has the least incidences of total IPC crimes against women preceded by Himachal Pradesh and Uttarakhand.

Table 12: SLL Crimes against Women (Dowry Prohibition Act, 1961 and Immoral Traffic (Prevention) Act, 1956) in States of Western and Northern Regions of India- 2022

State	Dowry Prohibition Act, 1961			Immoral Traffic (Prevention) Act, 1956 (Women Victims cases only)								
				Immoral Traffic (Prevention) Act, 1956 (Total)			A) Procuring, inducing Children for the sake of prostitution (Sec. 5)			B) Detaining a person in premises, prostitution is carried on (Sec. 6)		
	I	V	R	I	V	R	I	V	R	I	V	R
Haryana	17	17	0.1	33	33	0.2	8	8	0.1	2	2	0.0
Himachal	1	1	0.0	3	5	0.1	1	1	0.0	0	0	0.0
Punjab	4	4	0.0	10	11	0.1	1	1	0.0	2	2	0.0
Rajasthan	8	8	0.0	42	46	0.1	4	4	0.0	0	0	0.0
Uttarakhand	38	38	0.7	8	8	0.1	5	5	0.1	3	3	0.1
Uttar Pradesh	4807	4844	4.3	23	39	0.0	6	6	0.0	0	0	0.0
Goa	0	0	0.0	0	0	0.0	0	0	0.0	0	0	0.0
Gujrat	1	1	0.0	38	46	0.1	1	1	0.0	13	13	0.0
Maharashtra	28	28	0.0	65	86	0.1	25	42	0.0	10	10	0.0

Source: Crime in India 2022 report, Vol. 1, p.222, National Crime Record Bureau, Govt. of India. Note: R=Crime Rate per lakh population; V= No. of Victims, and I= No. of Incidences/Cases.

The above table (12) represented crimes against women (Dowry Prohibition Act, 1961 and Immoral Traffic (Prevention) Act, 1956) in States of western and northern regions of India. It has found that Uttar Pradesh has the highest incidences crime against women under Dowry Prohibition Act, 1961. On the other hand, least incidences of such crime is reported in Himachal Pradesh and Gujrat, preceded by Punjab and Rajasthan. There is no incidence of crime against women under Dowry Prohibition Act, 1961. The highest incidences of Procuring, inducing Children for the sake of prostitution has been reported in Maharashtra, followed by Haryana and Uttar Pradesh. On the other hand, least incidences of such crime is reported in Himachal Pradesh, Punjab and Gujrat, preceded by Rajasthan. There is no incidence of such crime in Goa. Gujrat has the highest incidences of detaining a person in premises, prostitution is carried on, followed by Maharashtra. On the other hand, least incidences of such crime is reported in Haryana and Punjab, preceded by Uttarakhand. There is no incidence of such crime in Himachal Pradesh, Rajasthan, Uttar Pradesh, and Goa.

Table 13: SLL Crimes against Women (Immoral Traffic (Prevention) Act, 1956) in States of Western and Northern Regions of India- 2022

	Immoral Traffic (Prevention) Act, 1956 (Women Victims cases only)			Protection of Women from Domestic Violence Act.
	C) Prostitution in or in the vicinity of public places (Section 7)	D) Seducing or soliciting for purpose of prostitution (Section 8)	E) Other Sections under ITP Act	

	I	V	R	I	V	R	I	V	R	I	V	R
Haryana	8	8	0.1	0	0	0.0	15	15	0.1	1	1	0.0
Himachal	0	0	0.0	0	0	0.0	2	4	0.1	2	2	0.1
Punjab	6	7	0.0	0	0	0.0	1	1	0.0	0	0	0.0
Rajasthan	17	21	0.0	8	8	0.0	5	5	0.0	1	1	0.0
Uttarakhand	0	0	0.0	0	0	0.0	0	0	0.0	0	0	0.0
Uttar Pradesh	2	2	0.0	0	0	0.0	15	31	0.0	3	3	0.0
Goa	0	0	0.0	0	0	0.0	0	0	0.0	0	0	0.0
Gujrat	13	20	0.0	4	4	0.0	7	8	0.0	1	1	0.0
Maharashtra	17	21	0.0	8	8	0.0	5	5	0.0	1	1	0.0

Source: Crime in India 2022 report, Vol. 1, p.223, National Crime Record Bureau, Govt. of India. Note: R=Crime Rate per lakh population; V= No. of Victims, and I= No. of Incidences/Cases.

The above table (13) discussed crimes against women (Immoral Traffic (Prevention) Act, 1956) in States of western and northern regions of India. It has found that Rajasthan and Maharashtra has the highest incidences and victims of prostitution in or in the vicinity of public places, followed by Gujrat. On the other hand, least incidences of such crime is reported in Uttar Pradesh preceded by Punjab and Haryana. There is no incidence of such crime in Himachal Pradesh and Goa. Rajasthan and Maharashtra has the highest incidences and victims of seducing or soliciting for purpose of prostitution, followed by Gujrat. There is no incidence of such crime in Haryana, Himachal Pradesh, Punjab, Uttarakhand, and Goa. Uttar Pradesh has the highest incidences of crimes under Protection of Women from Domestic Violence Act. followed by Himachal Pradesh. On the other hand, least incidences of such crime is reported in Haryana, Rajasthan, Gujrat and Maharashtra. There are no incidences of crimes under Protection of Women from Domestic Violence Act. in Punjab, Uttarakhand, and Goa.

Table 14: SLL Crimes against Women (Cyber Crimes/Information Technology Act.) in States of Western and Northern Regions of India- 2022

State	Cyber Crimes/Information Technology Act (Women Centric Crimes only)								
	Cyber Crimes/ Information Technology Act (Women Centric Crimes only) (Total)			A) Publishing or Transmitting of Sexually Explicit Material (Sec. 67A/67B (Girls) IT Act)			B) Other Women Centric Cyber Crimes (Ex. Blackmailing/ Defamation/Morphing/ Fake Profile)		
	I	V	R	I	V	R	I	V	R
Haryana	90	98	0.6	71	79	0.5	19	19	0.1
Himachal	24	24	0.7	21	21	0.6	3	3	0.1
Punjab	42	43	0.3	33	34	0.2	9	9	0.1
Rajasthan	166	169	0.4	136	139	0.3	30	30	0.1
Uttarakhand	114	114	2.0	21	21	0.4	93	93	1.7
Uttar Pradesh	457	463	0.4	450	455	0.4	7	8	0.0
Goa	5	5	0.6	4	4	0.5	1	1	0.1
Gujrat	53	54	0.2	43	44	0.1	10	10	0.0
Maharashtra	116	118	0.2	75	76	0.1	41	42	0.1

Source: Crime in India 2022 report, Vol. 1, p.224, National Crime Record Bureau, Govt. of India. Note: R=Crime Rate per lakh population; V= No. of Victims, and I= No. of Incidences/Cases.

The above table (14) discussed the crimes against women (cybercrimes/information technology act.) in States of western and northern regions of India. It has found that Uttar Pradesh has the highest reported incidences of crimes under cybercrimes/information technology act. (women centric crimes only) followed by Rajasthan and Maharashtra. On the other hand, least incidences of crime against women reported under the act. in Goa preceded by Himachal Pradesh and Punjab. Uttar Pradesh has the highest women crimes on Publishing or Transmitting of sexually explicit material, followed by Rajasthan and Maharashtra. On the other hand, least incidences and victims of such crimes is reported in Goa preceded by Uttarakhand and Himachal Pradesh. Uttar Pradesh also has the highest other women centric cybercrimes (ex. blackmailing/defamation/morphing/ fake profile), followed by Maharashtra and Rajasthan. On the other hand, least incidences of such crimes are reported in Goa preceded by Himachal Pradesh and Uttar Pradesh.

Table 15: SLL Crimes against Women (Protection of Children from Sexual Offences Act.) in States of Western and Northern Regions of India- 2022

State	Protection of Children from Sexual Offences Act (Girl Child Victims only)
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	Protection of Children from Sexual Offences Act (Total)			A) Child Rape (Sec 4 & 6 of POCSO Act/ Sec 376 IPC)			B) Sexual Assault of Children (Sec.8 & 10 of POCSO Act) / Sec.354 IPC		
	I	V	R	I	V	R	I	V	R
Haryana	2092	2107	14.8	1264	1272	9.0	641	642	4.5
Himachal	5	6	0.1	0	0	0.0	5	6	0.1
Punjab	841	842	5.8	630	630	4.3	193	194	1.3
Rajasthan	3679	3682	9.4	1694	1694	4.3	1357	1357	3.5
Uttarakhand	822	824	14.6	637	639	11.3	170	170	3.0
Uttar Pradesh	7955	7970	7.1	3344	3350	3.0	4359	4367	3.9
Goa	0	0	0.0	0	0	0.0	0	0	0.0
Gujrat	2461	2473	7.3	2127	2136	6.3	228	228	0.7
Maharashtra	7467	7675	12.4	4180	4258	6.9	2922	3052	4.8

Source: Crime in India 2022 report, Vol. 1, p.225, National Crime Record Bureau, Govt. of India. Note: R=Crime Rate per lakh population; V= No. of Victims, and I= No. of Incidences/Cases.

The above table (15) discussed the crimes against women (Protection of children from sexual offences act.) in States of western and northern regions of India. It has found that Uttar Pradesh has the highest incidences of crimes under Protection of Children from Sexual Offences Act. followed by Maharashtra and Rajasthan. On the other hand, least incidences of such crime is reported in Himachal Pradesh preceded by Uttarakhand and Punjab. There is no incidence of such crime in Goa. Maharashtra has the highest incidences of child rape followed by Uttar Pradesh and Gujrat. On the other hand, least incidences of such crimes is reported in Punjab preceded by Uttarakhand. There is no incidence of such crime in Himachal Pradesh and Goa. Uttar Pradesh has the highest incidences of sexual assault of children followed by Maharashtra and Rajasthan. On the other hand, least incidences of such crime is reported in Himachal Pradesh preceded by Uttarakhand and Punjab. There is no incidence of such crime in Goa.

Table 16: SLL Crimes against Women (Protection of Children from Sexual Offences Act.) in States of Western and Northern Regions of India- 2022

State	Protection of Children from Sexual Offences Act (Girl Child Victims only)								
	C) Sexual Harassment (Sec. 12 of POCSO Act) / Sec. 509 IPC)			D) Use of Child for Pornography/ Storing Child Pornography Material (Sec 14 & 15 of POCSO Act)			E) POCSO Act (Sections 17 to 22) / Other offences of POCSO Act		
	I	V	R	I	V	R	I	V	R
Haryana	166	172	1.2	1	1	0.0	19	19	0.1
Himachal	0	0	0.0	0	0	0.0	0	0	0.0
Punjab	9	9	0.1	8	8	0.1	1	1	0.0
Rajasthan	46	46	0.1	170	170	0.4	410	413	
Uttarakhand	8	8	0.1	7	7	0.1	0	0	0.0
Uttar Pradesh	87	88	0.1	2	2	0.0	159	159	0.1
Goa	0	0	0.0	0	0	0.0	0	0	0.0
Gujrat	92	95	0.3	12	12	0.0	2	2	0.0
Maharashtra	332	332	0.6	20	20	0.0	10	10	0.0

Source: Crime in India 2022 report, Vol. 1, p.226, National Crime Record Bureau, Govt. of India. Note: R=Crime Rate per lakh population; V= No. of Victims, and I= No. of Incidences/Cases.

The above table (16) discussed the crimes against women (Protection of Children from Sexual Offences Act.) in States of western and northern regions of India. It has found that Maharashtra has the highest incidences and victims of sexual harassment followed by Haryana and Gujrat. On the other hand, least incidences and victims of such crime is reported in Uttarakhand preceded by Punjab and Rajasthan. There is no incidence of such crime in Goa and Himachal Pradesh. Rajasthan has the highest incidences of use of child for pornography/ storing child pornography material, followed by Maharashtra and Gujrat. On the other hand, least incidences of such crime is reported in Haryana preceded by Uttar Pradesh and Uttarakhand. There are no incidences of such crime in Himachal Pradesh and Goa.

Table 17: Total Crime against Women (IPC+SLL) in States of Western and Northern Regions of India- 2022

State	Indecent Representation of Women (Prohibition) Act, 1986	Total SLL Crimes against Women	Total Crime against Women (IPC+SLL)
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	I	V	R	I	V	R	I	V	R
Haryana	0	0	0.0	2233	2256	15.8	16743	16841	118.7
Himachal	0	0	0.0	35	38	1.0	1551	1591	42.3
Punjab	0	0	0.0	897	900	6.2	5572	5623	38.4
Rajasthan	0	0	0.0	3898	3908	10.0	45058	45247	115.1
Uttarakhand	0	0	0.0	982	984	17.4	4337	4464	77.0
Uttar Pradesh	3	3	0.0	13248	13322	11.8	65743	66163	58.6
Goa	0	0	0.0	5	5	0.6	273	289	35.1
Gujrat	0	0	0.0	2554	2575	7.6	7731	7827	22.9
Maharashtra	0	0	0.0	7677	7908	12.7	45331	45952	75.1

Source: Crime in India 2022 report, Vol. 1, p.227, National Crime Record Bureau, Govt. of India. Note: R=Crime Rate per lakh population; V= No. of Victims, and I= No. of Incidences/Cases.

The above table (17) shown total crime against women (IPC+SLL) in States of western and northern regions of India. It has found that Uttar Pradesh has the highest incidences and victims of SLL crimes against women, followed by Maharashtra and Rajasthan. On the other hand, least incidences and victims of such crimes is reported in Goa preceded by Himachal Pradesh and Punjab. Uttar Pradesh also has the highest incidences and victims of aggregate crime against women (IPC+SLL) followed by Maharashtra and Rajasthan. On the other hand, least incidences and victims of crime against women (IPC+SLL) reported in Goa preceded by Himachal Pradesh and Uttarakhand.

Indian Penal Code contains various sections related to domestic violence, such as outraging the modesty of a woman (Section 354), dowry death (Section 304B), and cruelty by husband or relatives (Section 498A). Laws related to crime against women are The Immoral Traffic (Prevention) Act, 1956., The Dowry Prohibition Act, 1961 (28 of 1961) (Amended in 1986)., The Commission of Sati (Prevention) Act, 1987 (3 of 1988), Protection of Women from Domestic Violence Act, 2005., The Sexual Harassment of Women at Workplace (Prevention, Prohibition and Redressed) Act, 2013., The Criminal Law (Amendment) Act, 2013., and The Indecent Representation of Women (Prohibition) Act, 1986.

On 19 March 2013, the Indian Parliament passed Criminal Law (Amendment) Act, 2013, which further amends the Protection of Children from Sexual Offences Act, 2012, the Indian Evidence Act of 1872, the Code of Criminal Procedure of 1973, and Indian Penal Code. The law makes acid attacks, voyeurism, stalking and forcibly disrobing a woman explicit crimes. The law does not include rape against men, rape committed by the armed forces, or marital rape.

CONCLUSION

Uttar Pradesh has the highest incidences of dowry deaths murder with rape/gang rape, miscarriage, acid attack, cruelty by husband or his relatives, kidnapping & abduction of women, kidnapping and abduction in order to murder, kidnapping & abduction of women and girls to compel her for marriage and rape of girls (below 18 years). Maharashtra has the highest incidences and victims of abetment to suicide of women, kidnapping for ransom, human trafficking, assault on women (18 years and above), and modesty of women (18 years and above). The highest incidences and victims of procurement of minor girls are reported in Haryana. The highest incidences and victims of rape of women (18 years and above), and attempt to commit rape is reported in Rajasthan. Highest incidences of insult to the modesty of girls (below 18 years) is reported in Punjab. Highest incidences of attempt to acid attack is reported in Gujrat and Maharashtra.

Uttar Pradesh, Rajasthan and Maharashtra has higher rate of crimes against women then the other states in the regions. Goa, Himachal Pradesh and Uttarakhand has comparatively lower incidences of crimes against women. Uttar Pradesh has highest incidences and victims of SLL crimes against women, followed by Maharashtra and Rajasthan. On the other hand, least incidences and victims of such crimes is reported in Goa preceded by Himachal Pradesh and Punjab. Uttar Pradesh also has the highest incidences and victims of total crime against women (IPC+SLL) followed by Maharashtra and Rajasthan. On the other hand, least incidences and victims of total crime against women (IPC+SLL) reported in Goa preceded by Himachal Pradesh and Uttarakhand. So, incidences of crimes against women are higher in Uttar Pradesh and Rajasthan in northern region and Maharashtra in western region of India.

Crime against women is the major challenge before the government for socio-economic empowerment of the women. Government has passed various laws related to violence against women, e.g. Criminal Law (Amendment) Act, 2013, which further amends the Protection of Children from Sexual Offences Act, 2012, the Indian Evidence Act of 1872, the Code of Criminal Procedure of 1973, and Indian Penal Code. Women Commission and Department of social Justice are established for solving cases related to women. Although Government has passed and implemented various regulations and laws, but violence against women is still exist. It is also indispensable for amendments of existing British rules in our judicial system. Therefore, Government should pass new laws and modification the existing laws for reducing crimes against women in the society.

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