



A STUDY ON CRIMES AGAINST SCHEDULED TRIBES IN STATES OF EASTERN AND CENTRAL REGIONS OF INDIA

Sukanta Sarkar

(Ph.D.)

Associate Professor, Department of Economics, College of Business and Economics, Gambella University, Ethiopia, Africa, Email:sukantaeco@gmail.com, Ph: +251905188315

Thijien Tharjiath Keat

Lecturer, Department of Economics, Gambella University, Ethiopia, Africa, Email: tharjiathkeat@gmail.com, Ph: +251927560748

Abstract

The paper discussed the crimes against scheduled tribes in states of eastern and central regions of India. It has found that highest incidences of crimes are recorded in Madhya Pradesh followed by Odisha and Chhattisgarh. West Bengal has the least incidences of crimes preceded by Bihar and Jharkhand. Incidences of murder, simple hurt, grievous hurt, assault on women, sexual harassment, voyeurism, stalking, assault of children, kidnapping and abduction, rape of women, rape of children, rioting are highest in Madhya Pradesh. The incidences of attempt to commit murder, and assault or use of criminal force on women with intent to disrobe are highest in Odisha. Madhya Pradesh and Chhattisgarh has the incidences of missing children deemed as kidnapped. The incidences of attempt to commit rape is highest in West Bengal followed by Chhattisgarh. There are incidences of robbery in Odisha, Madhya Pradesh and Chhattisgarh. The incidences of Dacoity is highest in Chhattisgarh followed by Madhya Pradesh and Odisha. There are no incidences of Dacoity with murder in any state. Therefore, Governments of the concern states should strictly implement policies for reducing crimes against scheduled tribes.

Keywords: *Crime, Harassment, Rape, Scheduled Tribes, and Welfare.*

INTRODUCTION

Tribal are the most prominent communities in central and eastern India regions. Tribals are living in those regions from the ancient times. Bihar have multiple tribes. But after creation of the Jharkhand state majority of the tribes are moved in Jharkhand. West Champaran, Katihar, and Purnea districts have the highest scheduled tribe population. Sheohar, Arwal and Sheikhpura districts has the least Scheduled Tribe population (Guha, 2019). Gonds of Bastar is the most prominent tribe in Chhattisgarh. Other significant tribes in the area are the Dhurvaa, Bhatra, birhors tribes, Halbaa, Muria, BisonHorn Maria, Abhuj Maria, Pahari korwa tribes, and Pahari korwa tribes. Tribal community are contributed nearly 30 percent of total population of the state and mainly lives in Surguja and Baster regions. Dhanwar and Dhanuhar Dhanuwar are found in Bilaspur and Jangiir Champa districts of Chhattisgarh while Kisan are found Surguja region mainly in Ambikapur and Jashpur districts. Saonra and Saunra tribes are mainly found in Mahasamund and Janjgir Champa districts of the state (Gandee, 2020). Dindori, Tikamgarh, Betul, Ratlam, Khargone, Alirajpur, Jhabua, and Dhar among others are the major tribal dominated areas in Madhya Pradesh. Bhil, Gond, Baiga, Sahariya, Korku and Kol are the major tribes (Ramaiah, 2011). They together constituted nearly 90 percent tribal population of the state. Districts like Jhabua, Khargone, Barwani, and Dhar are dominated by Bhil tribe. Gond tribe is concentrated in Shahdol, Seoni, Betul, Mandla, Chhindwara and Dindori districts. More number of Baiga, Sahariya, Korku and Kol tribes lives respectively in Shahdol, Shivpuri, Khandwa and Rewa districts (Prasad and Bibhar, 2020). Rayagada, Malkangiri, Nabarangpur, Sundergarh, Mayurbhanj and Kandhamal are the major tribal dominated districts of Odisha. Tribals are also found in Kalahandi, Gajapati, Sambalpur, Keonjhar, and Balasore districts. Santal, Kondh, Gond, Oram, and Munda are the major tribes. Sizable number of scheduled tribes lives in Bardhaman, Purulia, Jalpaiguri, Medinipur, Dakshin Dinajpur, Uttar Dinajpur, Malda and Bankura districts of West Bengal. More than fifty percent tribal population in the state belongs from Santals tribe. They are also the largest tribe in Jharkhand and also found in Tripura, Assam, Bihar and Odisha (Madhok, 2013).



LITERATURE REVIEW

Dam (2007) in his report examined the significance of legal rights for cultural rights. This article addresses the fundamental right of access to justice. The article also addressed differences within the larger framework of the Indian Constitution. Prasad (2011) in his report found that decentralisation governance and legal procedure are vital for empowerment of livelihoods of tribals in India. He also inspected the reality of Constitutional provisions for empowerment of scheduled tribes in India. Sindhi (2012) in his report started that tribal development depends on living in desirable standard and educating their children. Government and non-government organisations are running many training schemes especially for the tribal population. Bhukya (2015) in her article discussed the effect of crimes on empowerment tribal women. Laws are the safeguard for tribals against any exploitations. It increases opportunities of empowerment of the tribal women's. According Laxmidhar (2015), tribals are remained economically and socially backward. Their socio-economic conditions are changing due to education, legal, political and economic empowerment.

Khadse et. al. (2017) in their report examined crime committed against scheduled tribes in the year 2015 in various states and union territories in India. It also studied crimes reported in police stations and its socio-economic impact on the victims. According Binjha (2020), crime against tribal women is the real fact in many areas of India. So empowerment of tribal women is most urgent requirement for their development and future sustainability. Lack of political participation, lack of skill and training, lack of property rights, lack of education and knowledge about new technology, low literacy rate, and male control over resources and reproductive rights are the main challenges before empowerment of tribal women's in India.

Accordingly, Sareen (2021), Government of India implemented many laws for empowerment and preventing discrimination against scheduled tribes in India. They are protected by special status in our constitution, and legislations. Many such rules are to their livelihood. Government also taken various initiatives for integrating those people with the mainstream population. Soren and Mohapatra (2022) in their report discussed the relevance of laws relating to the tribal peoples in national and international spheres. They identified that improper implementation of legislations is responsible for existence of crime against scheduled tribes in India. In the report of Dhulipalla (2022) it found that tribals are most oppressed and deprived sections of India. Majority of tribal population in India are still living in remote areas and have shortage of basic infrastructure. They are shyness of contact with outsiders. They are more geographical isolated, distinctive culture, primitive traits, and backwards. Shipra (2022) in her report examined the role of regulations for employment of tribal women in India. They are most deprived class people and oppressed since the British periods. They are still discriminated in modern society and exploited in many places.

Parakh (2022) in his report found that tribal women are more vulnerable. Tribal people are considered as under developed and backward due to their life style and socio-economic conditions. Kriti et. al. (2023) in their report discussed socio-economic status and challenges faced by tribal women in India. They found that such challenges hinder their participation in governance. Their contribution in governance is few and there should be change in society mind-sets towards patriarchal traditions. In the report of Sahal (2023) it has found that crime against women depends on legal awareness to seek support and protection. Employment, health and education opportunities are vital for socio-economic empowerment of tribal women. Pushpalatha (2023) in his report observed the association among crime rate and empowerment of tribals in multiple states of India. It has found that there is inverse relation between the two variables. Policies on empowerment of tribals reduces the crime rate in the society. Indira (2023) in her work examined empowerment of tribal women through the implementation of the 73rd Amendment. Such amendment addressed the broader cultural, social, and economic factors that hinder tribal women's empowerment.

Therefore, the majority of the reports examined above discussed the significance legislations for empowerment of scheduled tribes and very few are discussed about the crime against the scheduled tribes in India. For that reason, I have chosen such topic for critical examination and evaluation.

OBJECTIVES

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

THE STUDY AREA

Central India is a geographical part of India consist of Chhattisgarh and Madhya Pradesh states. It is part of Hindi belt. So Hindi is the popular language. Other prominent language is Chhattisgarhi. Besides these Munda-family language Korku and Indo-Aryan languages are popular among the tribal communities. Chhattisgarh was formed on 1st November 2000. Eastern India region consist of West Bengal, Jharkhand, Bihar and Odisha. Total

geographical area of the region is 418,323 km² and population is 22.6 crores (as per census 2011). Bengali, English, Hindi, Nagpuri, Urdu, Santali, Odia, Nepali and Maithili are the official languages of the regions.

METHODOLOGY

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. The paper examined number of incidences/cases, number of victims, and crime rate per lakh population from National Crime Record Bureau report of 2022. To reveal the crimes against scheduled tribes in general and the women in particular, method of qualitative analysis comprising of descriptive analysis, content and text analysis have been performed.

RESULT AND DISCUSSION

Indigenous and tribal people have their own customs, languages, cultures and institutions. They are the primitives class people having traditional ethics and practices. Their economic, cultural and social conditions distinguish them from the other peoples in the country. Globally they are spread in many countries. They are known as various names, such as hill tribes, hunter-gatherers, janajati, adivasi, first nations, aboriginal peoples, or native peoples (Tiwari and Shubham 2023).

Table 1: Scheduled Tribe population in states of Eastern and Central Region of India

State	Total Population	Schedule Tribes Population	Schedule Tribes (%)
Bihar	104,099,452	1,332,472	1.28
Chhattisgarh	25,545,198	7,821,939	30.62
Jharkhand	32,988,134	8,646,189	26.21
Madhya Pradesh	72,626,809	15,316,994	21.09
Odisha	41,974,218	9,591,108	22.85
West Bengal	91,276,115	5,294,014	5.85

Source: Census report 2011.

The table 1 discussed the status of scheduled tribe population in states of eastern and central region of India. It has found that highest number of scheduled tribe population lives in Chhattisgarh followed by Odisha and Jharkhand. On the other hand, Bihar has the least percentage of scheduled tribes in total population followed by West Bengal. There are 30 tribes have been notified as scheduled tribes in Bihar. Bhumij, Kharia, Kharwar, Ho, Munda, Oraon, and Santhal are the prominent tribes which constituted nearly 86 percent of the total population. There are 43 tribes are listed as schedule tribes in Chhattisgarh. There are 32 tribes have been notified as scheduled tribes in Jharkhand. There are 46 tribes have been notified as scheduled tribes in Madhya Pradesh. Odisha and West Bengal has respectively 62 and 40 tribes listed as Scheduled Tribes (Tiwari, 2022).

Table 2: Crime/Atrocities against Scheduled Tribe(s) - 2020-2022

State	2020	2021	2022	Actual Population of STs (in Lakhs) (2011)	Rate of Total Crime against STs (2022)	Charge sheeting Rate (2022)
Bihar	94	103	146	13.4	10.9	82.3
Chhattisgarh	502	506	516	78.2	6.6	99.8
Jharkhand	347	250	283	86.5	3.3	57.3
Madhya Pradesh	2401	2627	2979	153.2	19.4	99.8
Odisha	624	676	773	95.9	8.1	94.9
West Bengal	90	92	90	53.0	1.7	91.8

Source: Crime in India 2022 report, p.637. National Crime Record Bureau (<https://ncrc.gov.in/>) Government of India.

Table 2 discussed the crime against scheduled tribe(s). It has found that incidences of crimes are increasing in the states of eastern and central India. Highest incidences of crimes are recorded in Madhya Pradesh followed by Odisha and Chhattisgarh. On the other hand, least number of incidences are recorded in West Bengal preceded by Bihar and Jharkhand. Rate of total crime against STs is highest in Madhya Pradesh followed by Bihar and Odisha. On the other hand, least number of rate has been recorded in West Bengal preceded by Jharkhand and Chhattisgarh.

Table 3: Crime Head-wise against Scheduled Tribes in States of Eastern and Central India – Murder and Attempt to Commit Murder

State	SC/ST (Prevention of Atrocities) Act r/w IPC (Total)			SC/ST (Prevention of Atrocities) Act					
				Murder (Sec. 302 IPC)			Attempt to Commit Murder (Sec. 307 IPC)		
	I	V	R	I	V	R	I	V	R
Bihar	146	148	10.9	0	0	0.0	2	2	0.1
Chhattisgarh	510	514	6.5	13	13	0.2	7	7	0.1
Jharkhand	131	133	1.5	2	2	0.0	4	4	0.0
Madhya Pradesh	2979	3067	19.4	61	61	0.4	43	45	0.3
Odisha	773	774	8.1	16	16	0.2	60	61	0.6
West Bengal	71	122	0.3	1	1	0.0	6	9	0.1

Source: Crime in India 2022 report, p. 638, National Crime Record Bureau (<https://ncrc.gov.in/>) Government of India. Note: I= No. of Incidences/Cases, V= No. of Victims, & R=Crime Rate per lakh population.

Table 3 discussed the murder and attempt to commit murder against scheduled tribes in states of eastern and central India. It has found that incidences and victims murder (Sec. 302 IPC) is highest in Madhya Pradesh followed by Odisha and Chhattisgarh. On the other hand, least number of incidences of such crime is recorded in West Bengal preceded by Bihar and Jharkhand. There is no incidence of murder in Bihar. The incidences and victims of attempt to commit murder is highest in Odisha followed by Madhya Pradesh. On the other hand, least number of incidences of such crime is recorded in Bihar preceded by Bihar, Jharkhand and West Bengal.

Table 4: Crime Head-wise against Scheduled Tribes in States of Eastern and Central India– Simple Hurt and Grievous Hurt

State	SC/ST (Prevention of Atrocities) Act r/w IPC								
	Simple Hurt (Secs. 323 r/w 324, 327, 328, 330, 353 IPC)			Grievous Hurt					
				Grievous Hurt (Sec. 325 & 326 IPC) (Total)			Grievous Hurt		
	I	V	R	I	V	R	I	V	R
Bihar	138	139	10.3	0	0	-	0	0	-
Chhattisgarh	49	51	0.6	4	4	0.1	4	4	0.1
Jharkhand	46	47	0.5	3	3	0.0	3	3	0.0
Madhya Pradesh	1607	1651	10.5	52	55	0.3	52	55	0.3
Odisha	3	3	6.6	5	5	0.1	5	5	0.1
West Bengal	0	0	0.0	1	1	0.0	1	1	0.0

Source: Crime in India 2022 report, p.639, National Crime Record Bureau (<https://ncrc.gov.in/>) Government of India. Note: I= No. of Incidences/Cases, V= No. of Victims, & R=Crime Rate per lakh population.

Table 4 discussed the simple hurt and grievous hurt crimes against scheduled tribes in states of eastern and central India. It has found that incidences and victims of simple hurt crime are highest in Madhya Pradesh followed by Bihar and Chhattisgarh. On the other hand, incidences and victims of such crime is least in Odisha preceded by Jharkhand and Chhattisgarh. There is no incidence of simple hurt crime in West Bengal. The incidences and victims of grievous hurt crime is highest in Madhya Pradesh followed by Odisha and Chhattisgarh. On the other hand, incidences of such crime is least in West Bengal preceded by Jharkhand. There is no incidence of grievous hurt crime in Bihar.

Table 5: Crime Head-wise against Scheduled Tribes in States of Eastern and Central India – Assault on Women

State	SC/ST (Prevention of Atrocities) Act r/w IPC								
	Assault on Women with Intent to Outrage her Modesty								
	Assault on Women with Intent to Outrage her Modesty(Adults+ Children)			Assault on Women (Above 18 years)			Assault on Adult Women with Intent to Outrage her Modesty (Sec.354 IPC)		
	I	V	R	I	V	R	I	V	R
Bihar	3	4	0.2	3	4	0.2	0	0	0.0
Chhattisgarh	70	70	0.9	48	48	0.6	33	33	0.4
Jharkhand	9	9	0.1	9	9	0.1	8	8	0.1
Madhya Pradesh	314	314	2.1	251	251	1.6	170	170	1.1

Odisha	10	10	0.1	9	9	0.1	4	4	0.0
West Bengal	4	4	0.1	3	3	0.1	1	1	0.0

Source: Crime in India 2022 report, p.641, National Crime Record Bureau (<https://ncrc.gov.in/>) Government of India. Note: I= No. of Incidences/Cases, V= No. of Victims, & R=Crime Rate per lakh population.

Table 5 depicted cases of assault on women against scheduled tribes in states of eastern and central India. It has found that incidences of assault on women with intent to outrage her modesty (adults+ children) is highest in Madhya Pradesh followed by Chhattisgarh. On the other hand, incidences and victims of such crime is least in West Bengal preceded by Bihar and Jharkhand. The incidences of assault on women (above 18 years) is highest in Madhya Pradesh followed by Chhattisgarh. On the other hand, incidences and victims of such crime is least in West Bengal preceded by Bihar. The incidences of assault on adult women with intent to outrage her modesty (Sec.354 IPC) is highest in Madhya Pradesh followed by Chhattisgarh. On the other hand, incidences and victims of such crime is least in West Bengal preceded by Odisha and Jharkhand. There is no incidence of such crime in Bihar.

Table 6: Crime Head-wise against Scheduled Tribes in Eastern and Central States of India – Sexual Harassment and Voyeurism.

State	SC/ST (Prevention of Atrocities) Act r/w IPC								
	Assault on Women with Intent to Outrage her Modesty								
	Sexual Harassment (Sec. 354A IPC)			Assault or use of Criminal Force on women with intent to Disrobe (Sec.354B IPC)			Voyeurism (Sec. 354C IPC)		
	I	V	R	I	V	R	I	V	R
Bihar	1	1	0.1	2	3	0.1	0	0	0.0
Chhattisgarh	10	10	0.1	0	0	0.0	0	0	0.0
Jharkhand	1	1	0.0	0	0	0.0	0	0	0.0
Madhya Pradesh	54	54	0.4	1	1	0.0	3	3	0.0
Odisha	2	2	0.0	3	3	0.0	0	0	0.0
West Bengal	1	1	0.0	1	1	0.0	0	0	0.0

Source: Crime in India 2022 report, p. 642, National Crime Record Bureau (<https://ncrc.gov.in/>) Government of India. Note: I= No. of Incidences/Cases, V= No. of Victims, and R=Crime Rate per lakh population.

Table 6 discussed the sexual harassment, assault or use of criminal force on women with intent to disrobe and voyeurism against scheduled tribes in eastern and central states of India. It has found that the incidences of sexual harassment (Sec. 354A IPC) is highest in Madhya Pradesh followed by Chhattisgarh. The least number of incidences of such crime has been found in Bihar, Jharkhand and West Bengal. The incidences of assault or use of criminal force on women with intent to disrobe (Sec.354B IPC) crime is highest in Odisha followed by Bihar. The, incidences and victims of such crime is least in West Bengal and Madhya Pradesh. There is no incidence of such crime in Chhattisgarh and Jharkhand. The incidences of voyeurism (Sec. 354C IPC) has been found in Madhya Pradesh. There are no incidences of such crime in Bihar, Chhattisgarh, Jharkhand, Odisha and West Bengal.

Table 7: Crime Head-wise against Scheduled Tribes in Eastern and Central States of India – Stalking, Assault of Children, and Insult to the Modesty of Women

State	SC/ST (Prevention of Atrocities) Act r/w IPC								
	Assault on Women with Intent to Outrage her Modesty						Insult to the Modesty of Women (Sec. 509 IPC)		
	Stalking (Sec. 354D IPC)			Assault of Children POCSO Act 8&10 or POCSO Act (Sec. 8&10 r/w 354 IPC)					
	I	V	R	I	V	R	I	V	R
Bihar	0	0	0.0	0	0	0.0	0	0	0.0
Chhattisgarh	5	5	0.1	22	22	0.3	2	2	0.0
Jharkhand	0	0	0.0	0	0	0.0	0	0	0.0
Madhya Pradesh	21	21	0.1	63	63	0.4	2	2	0.0
Odisha	0	0	0.0	1	1	0.0	0	0	0.0
West Bengal	0	0	0.0	1	1	0.0	0	0	0.0

Source: Crime in India 2022 report, p. 643, National Crime Record Bureau (<https://ncrc.gov.in/>) Government of India. Note: I= No. of Incidences/Cases, V= No. of Victims, & R=Crime Rate per lakh population.

Table 7 discussed the stalking, assault of children, and insult to modesty of women against scheduled tribes in eastern and central states of India. It has found that incidences of stalking (Sec. 354D IPC) is highest in Madhya Pradesh followed by Chhattisgarh. There is no incidence of such crime in Bihar, Odisha, Jharkhand and West Bengal. The incidences of assault of children is highest in Madhya Pradesh followed by Chhattisgarh. Least number of incidence of such crime has been found in West Bengal and Odisha. There is no incidence of such crime in Bihar. Incidences of insult to the modesty of women (Sec. 509 IPC) has found in Chhattisgarh and Madhya Pradesh. There is no incidence of such crime in Bihar, Jharkhand, Odisha and West Bengal.

Table 8: Crime Head-wise against Scheduled Tribes in Eastern and Central States of India – Kidnapping, Abduction, and Missing Children Deemed as Kidnapped

State	SC/ST (Prevention of Atrocities) Act r/w IPC								
	Kidnapping and Abduction			Kidnapping and Abduction (Sec. 363 IPC)			Missing Children Deemed as Kidnapped		
	Other Kidnapping & Abduction (Sec.365,366B, 367,368 IPC)								
	I	V	R	I	V	R	I	V	R
Bihar	1	1	0.1	1	1	0.1	0	0	0.1
Chhattisgarh	7	7	0.1	3	3	0.0	1	1	0.0
Jharkhand	0	0	0.0	0	0	0.0	0	0	0.0
Madhya Pradesh	43	43	0.3	26	26	0.2	7	7	0.0
Odisha	1	1	0.0	1	1	0.0	0	0	0.0
West Bengal	0	0	0.0	0	0	0.0	0	0	0.0

Source: Crime in India 2022 report, p.644, National Crime Record Bureau (<https://ncrc.gov.in/>) Government of India. Note: I= No. of Incidences/Cases, V= No. of Victims, & R=Crime Rate per lakh population.

Table 8 discussed kidnapping, abduction, and missing children deemed as kidnapped crimes against scheduled tribes in eastern and central states of India. It has found that incidences of kidnapping and abduction are highest in Madhya Pradesh followed by Chhattisgarh. The least number of incidence of such crime has been found in Bihar and Odisha. There is no incidence of such crime in Jharkhand and West Bengal. Madhya Pradesh and Chhattisgarh has the incidences of missing children deemed as kidnapped. There is no incidence of such crime in Bihar, Jharkhand, Odisha and West Bengal.

Table 9: Crime Head-wise against Scheduled Tribes in Eastern and Central States of India – Kidnapping, Abduction, and Procurement of Minor Girls

State	SC/ST (Prevention of Atrocities) Act r/w IPC								
	Kidnapping and Abduction								
	Kidnapping for Ransom (Sec. 364A IPC)			Kidnapping and Abduction of Women to compel her for marriage (Sec.366 IPC)			Procurement of Minor Girls (Sec. 366A IPC)		
	I	V	R	I	V	R	I	V	R
Bihar	0	0	0.0	0	0	0.0	0	0	0.0
Chhattisgarh	0	0	0.0	2	2	0.0	0	0	0.0
Jharkhand	0	0	0.0	0	0	0.0	0	0	0.0
Madhya Pradesh	0	0	0.0	9	9	0.1	3	3	0.0
Odisha	0	0	0.0	0	0	0.0	0	0	0.0
West Bengal	0	0	0.0	0	0	0.0	0	0	0.0

Source: Crime in India 2022 report, p.646, National Crime Record Bureau (<https://ncrc.gov.in/>) Government of India. Note: I= No. of Incidences/Cases, V= No. of Victims, & R=Crime Rate per lakh population.

Table 9 discussed the crimes of kidnapping, abduction, and procurement of minor girls against scheduled tribes in eastern and central states of India. It has found that there is no incidence of kidnapping for ransom (Sec. 364A IPC) in any state. The incidences of kidnapping and abduction of women to compel her for marriage (Sec.366 IPC) is highest in Madhya Pradesh followed by Chhattisgarh. There is no incidence of such crime in West Bengal, Odisha, Jharkhand and Bihar. Except Madhya Pradesh, there is no incidence of procurement of minor girls in the regions.

Table 10: Crime Head-wise against Scheduled Tribes in Eastern and Central States of India – Kidnapping, Abduction, Rape and Rape of Women

State	SC/ST (Prevention of Atrocities) Act r/w IPC								
	Kidnapping and Abduction			Rape (Sec. 376 IPC) (Total)			Rape of Women (Sec. 376 IPC) (Above 18 yrs.)		
	Other Kidnapping & Abduction (Sec.365,366B, 367,368,369 IPC)								
	I	V	R	I	V	R	I	V	R
Bihar	0	0	0.0	1	1	0.1	0	0	0.0
Chhattisgarh	2	2	0.0	212	212	2.7	90	90	1.2
Jharkhand	0	0	0.0	9	10	0.1	7	8	0.1
Madhya Pradesh	5	5	0.0	359	366	2.3	203	210	1.3
Odisha	0	0	0.0	131	131	1.4	123	123	1.3
West Bengal	0	0	0.0	6	6	0.1	3	3	0.1

Source: Crime in India 2022 report, p. 647, National Crime Record Bureau (<https://ncrc.gov.in/>) Government of India. Note: I= No. of Incidences/Cases, V= No. of Victims, & R=Crime Rate per lakh population.

Table 10 described the kidnapping, abduction, rape and rape of women against scheduled tribes in eastern and central states of India. It has found that highest number of rape incidence has been reported in Madhya Pradesh followed by Chhattisgarh and Odisha. On the other hand, least number of incidences of such crime occurred in Bihar preceded by West Bengal and Jharkhand. The highest incidences of rape of women (above 18 years) is recorded in Madhya Pradesh followed by Odisha and Chhattisgarh. On the other hand, least number of incidences of such crime occurred in West Bengal preceded by Jharkhand. There is no incidence of such crime in Bihar.

Table 11: Crime Head-wise against Scheduled Tribes in Eastern and Central States of India – Rape of Children, Attempt to Commit Rape, and Rioting

State	SC/ST (Prevention of Atrocities) Act r/w IPC								
	Rape of Children (Sec. 4 & 6 Of POCSO Act or POCSO 4&6r/w 376 IPC) (Below 18 yrs.)			Attempt to Commit Rape (Sec. 376/511 IPC)			Rioting (Sec. 147-151 IPC)		
	I	V	R	I	V	R	I	V	R
Bihar	1	1	0.1	0	0	0.0	0	0	0.0
Chhattisgarh	122	122	1.6	1	1	0.0	16	16	0.2
Jharkhand	2	2	0.0	0	0	0.0	3	3	0.0
Madhya Pradesh	156	156	1.0	0	0	0.0	17	18	0.1
Odisha	8	8	0.1	0	0	0.0	2	2	0.0
West Bengal	3	3	0.1	3	3	0.1	0	0	0.0

Source: Crime in India 2022 report, p.648, National Crime Record Bureau (<https://ncrc.gov.in/>) Government of India. Note: I= No. of Incidences/Cases, V= No. of Victims, & R=Crime Rate per lakh population.

Table 11 discussed the rape of children, attempt to commit rape, and rioting crimes against scheduled tribes in eastern and central states of India. It has found that incidences of rape of children is highest in Madhya Pradesh followed by Chhattisgarh. On the other hand, least number of incidences of such crime occurred in Bihar preceded by Jharkhand and West Bengal. The incidences of attempt to commit rape is highest in West Bengal followed by Chhattisgarh. There is no incidence of such crime in Bihar, Jharkhand, Madhya Pradesh and Odisha. The incidences and victims of rioting is highest in Madhya Pradesh followed by Chhattisgarh and Jharkhand. There is no incidence of such crime in Bihar and West Bengal.

Table 12: Crime Head-wise against Scheduled Tribes in Eastern and Central States of India – Robbery, Dacoity and Dacoity with Murder

State	SC/ST (Prevention of Atrocities) Act r/w IPC								
	Robbery (Sec. 392 to 394, 397 & 398 IPC)			Dacoity (Sec. 395, 396, 397 & 398 IPC)					
				Dacoity (Sec. 395, 396, 397 & 398 IPC) (Total)			Dacoity with Murder (Sec. 396 IPC)		
	I	V	R	I	V	R	I	V	R
Bihar	0	0	0.0	0	0	0.0	0	0	0.0
Chhattisgarh	1	1	0.0	3	3	0.0	0	0	0.0

Jharkhand	0	0	0.0	0	0	0.0	0	0	0.0
Madhya Pradesh	1	1	0.0	1	1	0.0	0	0	0.0
Odisha	1	1	0.0	1	1	0.0	0	0	0.0
West Bengal	0	0	0.0	0	0	0.0	0	0	0.0

Source: Crime in India 2022 report, National Crime Record Bureau (<https://ncrc.gov.in/>) Government of India.
Note: I= No. of Incidences/Cases, V= No. of Victims, & R=Crime Rate per lakh population.

Table 12 represented the robbery, dacoity and dacoity with murder cases against scheduled tribes in eastern and central states of India. It has found that there are incidences of robbery in Odisha, Madhya Pradesh and Chhattisgarh. There are no incidences of such crime in Bihar, Jharkhand and West Bengal. The incidences of Dacoity is highest in Chhattisgarh followed by Madhya Pradesh and Odisha. There are no incidences of such crime in Bihar, Jharkhand and West Bengal. There are no incidences of Dacoity with murder in any state.

Table 13: Total Crime/Atrocities against Scheduled Tribes in Eastern and Central states of India

State	Protection of Civil Rights Act, 1955			Total Crime/Atrocities against Scheduled Tribes		
	I	V	R	I	V	R
Bihar	0	0	0.0	146	146	10.9
Chhattisgarh	0	0	0.0	516	520	6.6
Jharkhand	0	0	0.0	283	285	3.3
Madhya Pradesh	0	0	0.0	2979	3067	19.4
Odisha	0	0	0.0	773	774	8.1
West Bengal	0	0	0.0	90	145	1.7

Source: Crime in India 2022 report, National Crime Record Bureau (<https://ncrc.gov.in/>) Government of India.
Note: I= No. of Incidences/Cases, V= No. of Victims, & R=Crime Rate per lakh population.

Table 13 described the total crime/atrocities against scheduled tribes in eastern and central states of India. It has found that highest number of total crime/atrocities against scheduled tribes has been recorded in Madhya Pradesh followed by Odisha and Chhattisgarh. On the other hand, the least number of total crimes recorded by West Bengal followed by Bihar and Jharkhand.

Government of India passed various Acts for empowerment and welfare of Scheduled Tribes. The Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes (Prevention of Atrocities) Act, 1989, Protection of Civil Rights Act, 1955, Panchayats (Extension to Scheduled Areas) Act, 1996, and The Scheduled Tribes and Other Traditional Forest Dwellers (Recognition of Forest Rights) Act, 2006 was passed for empowerment of the tribals. Pradhan Mantri Janjati Adivasi Nyaya Maha Abhiyan was launched in November 15, 2023 for development of Particularly Vulnerable Tribal Groups. Department of Tribal welfare has been set up by state governments for empowerment of Scheduled Tribes. Schedule Caste and Schedule Tribe (Prevention of atrocities) Act, 1989 was introduced to curb racial discrimination incidences. Ministry of Tribal Affairs was set up in 1999 for socio-economic development of the Scheduled Tribes. There is special provision in Constitution of India for welfare of such deprived communities:

CONCLUSION

Madhya Pradesh, Odisha, and Chhattisgarh states have higher incidences of crimes in the east and central regions of India. West Bengal and Bihar has comparatively low incidences of crimes. Incidences of murder, simple hurt, grievous hurt, assault on women, sexual harassment, voyeurism, stalking, assault of children, kidnapping and abduction, rape of women, rape of children, and rioting are highest in Madhya Pradesh. The incidences of attempt to commit murder, and assault or use of criminal force on women with intent to disrobe are highest in Odisha. Madhya Pradesh and Chhattisgarh has the incidences of missing children deemed as kidnapped. The incidences of attempt to commit rape is highest in West Bengal followed by Chhattisgarh. There are incidences of robbery in Odisha, Madhya Pradesh and Chhattisgarh. The incidences of Dacoity is highest in Chhattisgarh followed by Madhya Pradesh and Odisha. There are no incidences of Dacoity with murder in any state.

Various poverty alleviation programmes has been introduced for economic upliftment of scheduled tribes. Government of India already passed various laws for reducing crimes and discrimination against scheduled tribes, but it still exists. There are many incidences of discrimination against scheduled tribes in states of India. There should be more awareness and implementation of laws. Strict implementation of reservation of seats, formulation of proper welfare schemes and proper looking into reservation are essential for improve of their socio-economic conditions.



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