



Trends and Patterns of Crime against Scheduled Tribes in States of Northern and Western Regions of India

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Abstract

The paper discusses trends and patterns of crime against scheduled tribes in states of northern and western regions of India. It has been found that the highest crime against scheduled tribe(s) occurred in Rajasthan, followed by Maharashtra and Gujrat. There are no incidences of crime against scheduled tribe(s) in Haryana. Incidences and victims of simple hurt, grievous hurt murder, assault on tribal women and attempts to commit murder are highest in Rajasthan, followed by Maharashtra and Gujrat. Incidences and number of victims of sexual harassment is highest in Maharashtra, followed by Rajasthan and Gujrat. Rajasthan has the highest incidences and victims of stalking, followed by Maharashtra and Gujrat. Incidences of assault of children of scheduled tribes is highest in Maharashtra, followed by Rajasthan and Gujrat. There are no incidences of kidnapping for ransom in any state of the region. Incidences of kidnapping and abduction of women to compel her for marriage is highest in Rajasthan, followed by Gujrat and Maharashtra. There are no incidences of procurement of minor girls of scheduled tribes in any state of the region. Incidences of rape of women are higher in Rajasthan and Maharashtra. Rajasthan has the highest incidences of robbery, followed by Maharashtra and Gujrat. Therefore, the government of the concerned states should implement proper policies to minimise such crimes against scheduled tribes.

Introduction

Scheduled tribes are the most disadvantaged socio-economic groups in India. During the British period, they were also known as the Depressed Classes. They are recognised in the Constitution of India. They are also called as Adivasis (Gandee, 2020). The complete list of castes and tribes was made by The Constitution (Scheduled Tribes) Order, 1950. The Constitution provides a three-pronged strategy to improve STs, including protective arrangements, affirmative action, and development (Madhok, 2013). The National Commission for Scheduled Tribes is constituted under Article 338A to effectively implement the safeguards built into the Constitution and other legislation. According to the 2011 census, they constituted about 8.6 per cent of the national population. They have reservation status, preference for promotion, guaranteeing political representation, free and stipended education, scholarships etc. (Guha, 2019).

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The Indian Constitution guarantees definite safeguards for Scheduled Tribes. India has the largest and most diverse tribal population. Article 366 (25) and Article 342 of our Constitution discussed the status of scheduled tribes. Although the scheduled tribe population is spread throughout India, their number is negligible in Puducherry, Goa, Delhi, Chandigarh, Punjab and Haryana. Madhya Pradesh has the most significant ST population (Tiwari, 2022). Bhil, Santhal, Munda, Oraon, Gond, Ho, and Bhumij are the major tribal communities in the Chhotanagpur Plateau. Tribals in the Northern and north-eastern regions of India are generally Mongolian. Chenchus, Lambadi, Koragas, Koragas, and Kuruba are major tribes in Southern India (Prasad and Bibhar, 2020).

Literature Review

Sharma (2013) in his report, discusses extreme forms of prejudice and discrimination of scheduled tribes in India. He discussed the standards of living of scheduled tribes and the impact of crimes on their lives. Gautam (2018) in his report, discussed several campaigns to promote formal education among scheduled tribes in India. The report also evaluates laudable programmes and schemes of scheduled tribes in India. Chandrakanth and Veada (2018) discuss the atrocities faced by scheduled tribes in their paper. Tribals have a challenging life and are known as marginalised tribes in India.

Accordingly, according to Guha (2019), most scheduled tribes are still socially and economically disempowered. There is special legal protection for the scheduled tribes. They remain vulnerable in society. Gandee (2020), in his report, discussed the challenges before scheduled tribes in India. The report also analysed processes of inclusion and exclusion of scheduled tribes. Bhongale (2021), in his report, examined the political rights and crimes against scheduled tribes in India. It also evaluates the political, social and economic justice of scheduled tribes. In their report, Tiwari and Dixit (2023) discussed the patterns of crimes against scheduled tribes in India. They found that scheduled tribes are more dispersed and culturally diverse. They are still facing oppression and discrimination. The crime rate, number of incidences of crimes, and share of such crimes in the total crime are the major determinants of crimes against scheduled tribes. In their paper, Sarkar and Keat (2024) discussed crimes against scheduled tribes in India's central and eastern regions. Madhya Pradesh, Odisha and Chhattisgarh have higher incidences of crime against women in the regions.

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

Objectives

The objectives of this paper are: (a) to study the trends and patterns of crime against scheduled tribes in states of northern and western regions of India; and (b) to identify various laws for reducing discrimination and empowerment of such tribes.



The Study Area

North India is the northern part of India. The Ministry of Home Affairs in its Northern Zonal Council Administrative division included Rajasthan, Punjab, Himachal Pradesh, Haryana and Delhi. People of this region belong of the Indo-Aryan ethno-linguistic branch. Indo-Aryan languages are the dominant languages in the region. Indo-Gangetic plain, the Thar desert, and the Himalayas dominate the region's natural beauties. Western India consists of Western states. The states in the region are Maharashtra, Gujrat, and Goa. Kokani, Gujarati and Marathi are widely spoken languages in the region. Hinduism is the main region in the northern and central regions of India (Tiwari and Shubham, 2023),

Methods and Materials

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

Results and Discussion

Scheduled tribes are socio-economically isolated, geographically secluded and marginalised groups in India. There are seven major tribes in Himachal Pradesh. Kinnara, Gujjar, and Gaddi tribes constituted nearly 82 per cent of the scheduled tribe's population in the state. There are twelve notified scheduled tribes in Rajasthan. The state's five thousand six hundred ninety-seven villages are under the scheduled area. Mina is the largest tribe. Bhil are the oldest people in the state. There are five major tribes in Uttarakhand: Bhutia, Buksa tribe, Raji tribe, Tharu tribe, and Jaunsari tribe. In Uttar Pradesh, 16 tribes are listed as scheduled tribes. Sonbhadra district has the largest ST population. Gowdas, Dhangars, Velips and Kunbis are the major tribes in Goa. There are thirty-one notified scheduled tribes in Gujrat. There are 45 tribes recognised as scheduled tribes in Maharashtra.

Table 1 describes the population of scheduled tribes in states of northern and western regions of India. It has been found that Maharashtra has the highest scheduled tribe population, followed by Rajasthan and Gujrat. There are no scheduled tribe populations in Haryana and Punjab. Gujarat has the highest percentage of tribal population, followed by Rajasthan and Goa.

Table 1: Population of Scheduled Tribes in States of Northern and Western Regions of India

State	Total Population	Scheduled Tribe Population	Scheduled Tribes (%)
Haryana	25,351,462	0	0
Himachal	6,864,602	391,968	5.71
Punjab	27,743,338	0	0
Rajasthan	68,548,437	9,240,329	13.48
Uttarakhand	10,086,292	292,502	2.90
Uttar Pradesh	199,812,341	1,138,930	0.57
Goa	1,458,545	148,917	10.21
Gujrat	60,439,692	8,914,854	14.75
Maharashtra	112,374,333	10,507,000	9.35

Source: Census Report 2011.

Table 2: Crime/ against Scheduled Tribe(s) in States of Northern and Western Regions of India - 2020-2022

State	2020	2021	2022	Actual Population of STs (in Lakhs) (2011)	Rate of Total Crime against STs (2022)	Charge sheeting Rate (2022)
Delhi	1	5	0	0.0	-	100.0
Haryana	0	0	0	0.0	-	-
Himachal	3	7	4	3.9	1.0	100.0
Punjab	4	0	0	0.0	-	0.0
Rajasthan	1878	2121	2521	92.4	27.3	44.3
Uttarakhand	13	6	1	2.9	0.3	100.0
Uttar Pradesh	3	4	5	11.3	0.4	80.0
Goa	2	5	1	1.5	0.7	100.0
Gujrat	291	341	330	89.2	3.7	96.0
Maharashtra	663	628	742	105.1	7.1	90.9

Source: Crime in India 2022 report, p.637, National Crime Record Bureau, Govt.of India.

Table 2 discusses crime against scheduled tribe(s) during 2020-2022. The highest crime against scheduled tribe(s) occurred in Rajasthan, followed by Maharashtra, Gujrat, Uttarakhand, Himachal Pradesh, Uttar Pradesh, Goa, Delhi and Punjab. There have been no incidences of crime against scheduled tribe(s) in Haryana. Rajasthan also have the highest rate of total crime against STs followed by Maharashtra and Gujrat.

Table 3: Murder and Attempt to Commit Murder Crime against Scheduled Tribes in States of Northern and Western Regions of India

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
Delhi	0	0	-	0	0	-	0	0	-
Haryana	0	0	-	0	0	-	0	0	-
Himachal	0	0	-	0	0	-	0	0	-
Punjab	0	0	-	0	0	-	0	0	-
Rajasthan	2498	2680	27.0	40	40	0.4	50	50	0.5
Uttarakhand	1	1	0.3	0	0	0.0	0	0	0.0
Uttar Pradesh	5	5	0.4	0	0	0.0	0	0	0.0
Goa	1	1	0.7	0	0	0.0	0	0	0.0
Gujrat	322	362	3.6	12	12	0.1	9	14	0.1
Maharashtra	688	764	6.5	26	26	0.2	19	21	0.2

Source: Crime in India 2022 report, p.638, National Crime Record Bureau, Govt.of India. Note: R=Crime Rate per lakh population; V= No. of Victims, and I= No. of Incidences/Cases.

Table 3 depicts the murder and attempt to murder scheduled tribes in states of northern and western regions of India. It has found that incidences, victims and crime rates per lakh population against scheduled tribes are highest in Rajasthan, followed by Maharashtra and Gujrat. Uttar Pradesh, Uttarakhand and Goa have very low crime rate per lakh population against scheduled tribes. There are no incidences or victims in Delhi, Haryana, Himachal Pradesh, or Punjab. Incidences and victims of murder and attempt to murder scheduled tribes are also highest in Rajasthan, followed by Maharashtra and Gujrat.

Table 4 represents simple hurt and grievous hurt cases against scheduled tribes in India's northern and western regions. It has found that incidences, victims and crime rate per lakh population of simple hurt against scheduled tribes is highest in Rajasthan, followed by Maharashtra and Gujrat. There are no cases of simple hurt against scheduled tribes in Delhi, Haryana, Himachal Pradesh, Punjab, Uttarakhand, Uttar Pradesh and Goa. The incidences, victims and crime rate per lakh population of grievous hurt against scheduled tribes is highest in Maharashtra, followed by Gujrat and Rajasthan. There are no such cases in Delhi, Haryana, Himachal Pradesh, Punjab, Uttarakhand, Uttar Pradesh and Goa. There are no cases of grievous hurt against scheduled tribes in Delhi, Haryana, Himachal Pradesh, Punjab, Uttarakhand, Uttar Pradesh and Goa.

Table 4: Simple Hurt and Grievous Hurt Crime against Scheduled Tribes in States of Northern and Western Regions of India

State	SC/ST (Prevention of Atrocities) Act r/w IPC								
	Simple Hurt (Secs. 323 r/w 324, 327, 328, 330, 332 353 IPC)			Grievous Hurt					
	I	V	R	Grievous Hurt (Sec. 325 & 326 IPC) (Total)			Grievous Hurt		
I				V	R	I	V	R	
Delhi	0	0	-	0	0	-	0	0	-
Haryana	0	0	-	0	0	-	0	0	-
Himachal	0	0	0.0	0	0	0.0	0	0	0.0
Punjab	0	0	-	0	0	-	0	0	-
Rajasthan	608	609	6.6	5	5	0.1	5	5	0.1
Uttarakhand	0	0	0.0	0	0	0.0	0	0	0.0
Uttar Pradesh	0	0	0.0	0	0	0.0	0	0	0.0
Goa	0	0	0.0	0	0	0.0	0	0	0.0
Gujrat	20	21	0.2	21	29	0.2	21	29	0.2
Maharashtra	52	58	0.5	34	47	0.3	34	47	0.3

Source: Crime in India 2022 report, p.639, National Crime Record Bureau, Govt.of India. Note: R=Crime Rate per lakh population; V= No. of Victims, and I= No. of Incidences/Cases.

Table 5: Assault on Women Crime against Scheduled Tribes in States of Northern and Western Regions of India

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	
Delhi	0	0	-	0	0	-	0	0	-
Haryana	0	0	-	0	0	-	0	0	-
Himachal	0	0	0.0	0	0	0.0	0	0	0.0
Punjab	0	0	-	0	0	-	0	0	-
Rajasthan	198	200	2.1	190	192	2.1	155	157	1.7
Uttarakhand	0	0	0.0	0	0	0.0	0	0	0.0
Uttar Pradesh	0	0	0.0	0	0	0.0	0	0	0.0
Goa	0	0	0.0	0	0	0.0	0	0	0.0
Gujrat	17	18	0.2	12	12	0.1	5	5	0.1
Maharashtra	163	163	1.6	128	128	1.2	74	74	0.7

Source: Crime in India 2022 report, p.641, National Crime Record Bureau, Govt.of India. Note: R=Crime Rate per lakh population; V= No. of Victims, and I= No. of Incidences/Cases.

Table 5 illustrates the crime of assault on women against scheduled tribes in states of northern and western regions of India. It has found that assaults on tribal women both adults and children, are highest in Rajasthan, followed by Maharashtra and Gujrat. Assault on tribal women above 18 years are also highest in Rajasthan, followed by Maharashtra and Gujrat. No such cases exist in Goa, Uttar Pradesh, Uttarakhand, Punjab, Himachal Pradesh and Delhi.

Table 6: Sexual Harassment and Voyeurism Crimes against Scheduled Tribes in States of Northern and Western Regions of India

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
Delhi	0	0	-	0	0	-	0	0	-
Haryana	0	0	-	0	0	-	0	0	-
Himachal	0	0	0.0	0	0	0.0	0	0	0.0
Punjab	0	0	-	0	0	-	0	0	-
Rajasthan	11	11	0.1	14	15	0.2	1	1	0.1
Uttarakhand	0	0	0.0	0	0	0.0	0	0	0.0
Uttar Pradesh	0	0	0.0	0	0	0.0	0	0	0.0
Goa	0	0	0.0	0	0	0.0	0	0	0.0
Gujrat	4	4	0.0	1	1	0.0	0	0	0.0
Maharashtra	42	42	0.4	5	5	0.0	0	0	0.0

Source: Crime in India 2022 report, p.642, National Crime Record Bureau, Govt.of India. Note: R=Crime Rate per lakh population; V= No. of Victims, and I= No. of Incidences/Cases.

Table 6 discusses the sexual harassment and voyeurism cases against scheduled tribes in the northern and western regions of India. It has found that incidences and number of victims of sexual harassment is highest in Maharashtra, followed by Rajasthan and Gujrat. Sexual harassment incidences in Maharashtra is more than three times and ten times higher than the incidences respectively in Rajasthan and Gujrat. Incidences and number of victims of assault or use of criminal force on women with intent to disrobe is highest in Rajasthan, followed by Maharashtra and Gujrat. There are no incidences of sexual harassment and assault or use of criminal force on women with intent to disrobe in Delhi, Haryana, Himachal Pradesh, Punjab, Uttarakhand, Uttar

Pradesh and Goa—only one incidence of Voyeurism against scheduled tribes registered in Rajasthan.

Table 7: Stalking, Assault of Children, and Insult to the Modesty of Women Crimes against Scheduled Tribes in States of Northern and Western Regions of India

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
Delhi	0	0	-	0	0	-	0	0	-
Haryana	0	0	-	0	0	-	0	0	-
Himachal	0	0	-	0	0	-	0	0	-
Punjab	0	0	-	0	0	-	0	0	-
Rajasthan	9	9	0.1	8	8	0.1	2	2	0.2
Uttarakhand	0	0	0.0	0	0	0.0	0	0	0.0
Uttar Pradesh	0	0	0.0	0	0	0.0	0	0	0.0
Goa	0	0	0.0	0	0	0.0	0	0	0.0
Gujrat	2	2	0.0	5	6	0.1	1	1	0.0
Maharashtra	7	7	0.1	35	35	0.3	3	3	0.0

Source: Crime in India 2022 report, p.643, National Crime Record Bureau, Govt.of India. Note: R=Crime Rate per lakh population; V= No. of Victims, and I= No. of Incidences/Cases.

Table-7 discussed stalking, assault of children, and insult to the modesty of women against scheduled tribes in states of northern and western regions of India. It found that Rajasthan has the highest incidences and victims of stalking followed by Maharashtra and Gujrat. Incidences of assault of children of scheduled tribes is highest in Maharashtra followed by Rajasthan and Gujrat. Incidences of insult to modesty of women is highest in Maharashtra followed by Rajasthan and Gujrat. There are no cases of stalking, assault of children, and insult to the modesty of women against scheduled tribes in Delhi, Haryana, Himachal Pradesh, Punjab, Uttarakhand, Uttar Pradesh and Goa.

Table 8: Kidnapping, Abduction, and Missing Children Deemed as Kidnapped Crimes against Scheduled Tribes in States of Northern and Western Regions of India

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, 367,368,369 IPC)								
	I	V	R	I	V	R	I	V	R
Delhi	0	0	-	0	0	-	0	0	-
Haryana	0	0	-	0	0	-	0	0	-
Himachal	0	0	0.0	0	0	0.0	0	0	0.0
Punjab	0	0	-	0	0	-	0	0	-
Rajasthan	46	47	0.5	19	19	0.2	7	7	0.1
Uttarakhand	0	0	0.0	0	0	0.0	0	0	0.0
Uttar Pradesh	0	0	0.0	0	0	0.0	0	0	0.0
Goa	0	0	0.0	0	0	0.0	0	0	0.0
Gujrat	12	13	0.1	4	4	0.0	1	1	0.0
Maharashtra	14	14	0.1	10	10	0.1	4	4	0.0

Source: Crime in India 2022 report, p.644, National Crime Record Bureau, Govt.of India. Note: R=Crime Rate per lakh population; V= No. of Victims, and I= No. of Incidences/Cases.

Table 8 discusses cases of kidnapping, abduction, and missing children of scheduled tribes in the northern and western regions of India. It has been found that kidnapping and abduction incidences are highest in Rajasthan, followed by Maharashtra and Gujrat. Incidences of missing children deemed as kidnapped is also highest in Rajasthan, followed by Maharashtra and Gujrat. There are no incidences of kidnapping, abduction, and missing children deemed as kidnapped of scheduled tribes in Goa, Punjab, Uttar Pradesh, Uttarakhand, Himachal Pradesh, Haryana and Delhi.

Table 9: Kidnapping for Ransom, Abduction, and Procurement of Minor Girls Crimes against Scheduled Tribes in States of Northern and Western Regions of India

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



Delhi	0	0	-	0	0	-	0	0	-
Haryana	0	0	-	0	0	-	0	0	-
Himachal	0	0	-	0	0	-	0	0	-
Punjab	0	0	-	0	0	-	0	0	-
Rajasthan	0	0	0.0	8	8	0.1	0	0	0.0
Uttarakhand	0	0	0.0	0	0	0.0	0	0	0.0
Uttar Pradesh	0	0	0.0	0	0	0.0	0	0	0.0
Goa	0	0	0.0	0	0	0.0	0	0	0.0
Gujrat	0	0	0.0	6	6	0.1	0	0	0.0
Maharashtra	0	0	0.0	2	2	0.0	0	0	0.0

Source: Crime in India 2022 report, p.646, National Crime Record Bureau, Govt.of India. Note: R=Crime Rate per lakh population; V= No. of Victims, and I= No. of Incidences/Cases.

Table-9 discussed kidnapping for ransom, abduction, and procurement of minor girls of scheduled tribes in states of northern and western regions of India. It has found that there are no incidences of kidnapping for ransom in any states. Incidences of kidnapping and abduction of women to compel her for marriage is highest in Rajasthan followed by Gujrat and Maharashtra. There are no incidences of kidnapping and abduction of women to compel her for marriage against scheduled tribe's in Delhi, Haryana, Himachal Pradesh, Punjab, Uttarakhand, Uttar Pradesh and Goa. There are no incidences of procurement of minor girls of scheduled tribes in any state.

Table 10: Kidnapping, Abduction, and Rape of Women Crimes against Scheduled Tribes in States of Northern and Western Regions of India

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
Delhi	0	0	-	0	0	-	0	0	-
Haryana	0	0	-	0	0	-	0	0	-
Himachal	0	0	-	0	0	-	0	0	-
Punjab	0	0	-	0	0	-	0	0	-
Rajasthan	18	19	0.2	163	163	1.8	116	116	1.1
Uttarakhand	0	0	0.0	0	0	0.0	0	0	0.0
Uttar Pradesh	0	0	0.0	0	0	0.0	0	0	0.0
Goa	0	0	0.0	0	0	0.0	0	0	0.0
Gujrat	2	3	0.0	58	58	0.7	22	22	0.2
Maharashtra	2	2	0.0	176	177	1.7	116	116	1.1

Source: Crime in India 2022 report, p.647, National Crime Record Bureau, Govt.of India. Note: R=Crime Rate per lakh population; V= No. of Victims, and I= No. of Incidences/Cases.

Table-10 discussed the cases of kidnapping, abduction, and rape of women of scheduled tribes in states of northern and western regions of India. It has found that incidences and victims of kidnapping and abduction is highest in Rajasthan followed by Gujrat and Maharashtra. Incidences of rape of women is highest in Rajasthan and Maharashtra followed by Gujrat. There are no incidences of kidnapping, abduction and rape of women in Delhi, Haryana, Himachal Pradesh, Punjab, Uttarakhand, Uttar Pradesh and Goa.

Table 11: Rape of Children, Attempt to Commit Rape, and Rioting Crimes against Scheduled Tribes in States of Northern and Western Regions of India

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
Delhi	0	0	-	0	0	-	0	0	-
Haryana	0	0	-	0	0	-	0	0	-
Himachal	0	0	-	0	0	-	0	0	-
Punjab	0	0	-	0	0	-	0	0	-
Rajasthan	17	17	0.2	9	9	0.1	5	5	0.1
Uttarakhand	0	0	0.0	0	0	0.0	0	0	0.0
Uttar Pradesh	0	0	0.0	0	0	0.0	0	0	0.0
Goa	1	1	0.7	0	0	0.0	0	0	0.0
Gujrat	36	36	0.4	0	0	0.0	15	15	0.2
Maharashtra	60	61	0.6	0	0	0.0	57	83	0.5

Source: Crime in India 2022 report, p.648, National Crime Record Bureau, Govt.of India. Note: R=Crime Rate per lakh population; V= No. of Victims, and I= No. of Incidences/Cases.

Table 11 depicts rape of children, attempt to commit rape, and rioting of scheduled tribes in states of northern and western regions of India. It has been found that incidences of rape of children is highest in Maharashtra, followed by Gujrat and Rajasthan. There are no incidences of rape of children of scheduled tribes in Uttar Pradesh, Uttarakhand, Punjab, Himachal Pradesh, Haryana and Delhi. Rajasthan has incidences of attempts to commit rape among the scheduled tribes. Maharashtra has the highest incidences of rioting, followed by the Gujrat and Rajasthan. There have been no incidences of rioting in Goa, Uttar Pradesh, Uttarakhand, Punjab, Haryana, Delhi, or Himachal Pradesh.

Table 12: Robbery and Dacoity Crimes against Scheduled Tribes in States of Northern and Western Regions of India

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
Delhi	0	0	-	0	0	-	0	0	-
Haryana	0	0	-	0	0	-	0	0	-
Himachal Pradesh	0	0	-	0	0	-	0	0	-
Punjab	0	0	-	0	0	-	0	0	-
Rajasthan	5	5	0.1	0	0	0.0	0	0	0.0
Uttarakhand	0	0	0.0	0	0	0.0	0	0	0.0
Uttar Pradesh	0	0	0.0	0	0	0.0	0	0	0.0
Goa	0	0	0.0	0	0	0.0	0	0	0.0
Gujrat	2	2	0.0	1	1	0.0	0	0	0.0
Maharashtra	4	5	0.0	0	0	0.0	0	0	0.0

Source: Crime in India 2022 report, p.649, National Crime Record Bureau, Govt.of India. Note: R=Crime Rate per lakh population; V= No. of Victims, and I= No. of Incidences/Cases.

Table-12 discussed incidences of robbery and dacoity against schedules tribes in states of northern and western regions of India. It has found that Rajasthan has the highest incidences of robbery followed by Maharashtra and Gujrat. There are no incidences of robbery and dacoity against schedules tribes in Goa, Uttar Pradesh, Uttarakhand, Punjab, Himachal Pradesh, Haryana and Delhi. Except Gujrat, no state has any incidences of dacoity. There are no incidences of dacoity with murder of scheduled tribes in any state.

Table 13: Total Crime against Scheduled Tribes in States of Northern and Western Regions of India

State	Protection of Civil Rights Act, 1955			Total Crime/Atrocities against Scheduled Tribes		
	I	V	R	I	V	R
Delhi	0	0	-	0	0	-
Haryana	0	0	-	0	0	-
Himachal Pradesh	0	0	-	4	4	0.1
Punjab	0	0	-	0	0	-
Rajasthan	0	0	-	2521	2704	27.3
Uttarakhand	0	0	0.0	1	1	0.3
Uttar Pradesh	0	0	0.0	5	5	0.4



Goa	0	0	0.0	1	1	0.7
Gujrat	0	0	0.0	330	370	3.7
Maharashtra	0	0	0.0	742	822	7.1

Source: Crime in India 2022 report, p.654, National Crime Record Bureau, Govt.of India. Note: R=Crime Rate per lakh population; V= No. of Victims, and I= No. of Incidences/Cases.

Table 13 depicts total crime against scheduled tribes in such regions of India. It found that total crime against scheduled tribes are highest in Rajasthan followed by Maharashtra, Gujrat, Uttar Pradesh, Himachal Pradesh, Uttarakhand and Goa. Total crimes in Rajasthan is seven times and three times respectively higher than Gujrat and Maharashtra. There are no incidences of crime against scheduled tribe's in Delhi, Haryana, and Punjab.

India's government passed various laws to empower the Scheduled tribes. Some of such acts are the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes (Prevention of Atrocities) Act, 1989, Protection of Civil Rights Act, 1955, The Goa Commission for Scheduled Tribes Act, 2010, Panchayats (Extension to Scheduled Areas) Act, 1996, The Uttar Pradesh Commission for the Scheduled Tribes Act, 1995, The Scheduled Tribes and Other Traditional Forest Dwellers (Recognition of Forest Rights) Act, 2006, The Rajasthan Scheduled Areas Subordinate, Ministerial and Class-IV Service Rules, 2014, and Gujarat Scheduled Tribes Act 2018. Pradhan Mantri Janjati Adivasi Nyaya Maha Abhiyan was launched on November 15, 2023 to empower the Particularly Vulnerable Tribal Groups. Ministry of Tribal Affairs was established for the socio-economic development of the Scheduled Tribes. Article 330 and Article 332 of the Constitution provide reservation of seats in legislative assemblies of the States.

Conclusion

Rajasthan (in northern region) and Maharashtra and Gujrat (in Western region) states of India have more incidences against scheduled tribes. Rajasthan has the highest crime against scheduled tribe(s) followed by Maharashtra and Gujrat. Total crimes in Rajasthan is seven times and three times respectively higher than Gujrat and Maharashtra. Incidences and victims of simple hurt, grievous hurt murder, assault on tribal women, kidnapping, abduction and attempt to commit murder are highest in Rajasthan, followed by Maharashtra and Gujrat. Rajasthan has the highest incidences and victims of stalking followed by Maharashtra and Gujrat. Incidences of assault of children and insult to the modesty of women is highest in Maharashtra, followed by Rajasthan and Gujrat.

There are no incidences of kidnapping for ransom and procurement of minor girls in any state. Incidences of kidnapping and abduction of women to compel her for marriage is highest in Rajasthan, followed by Gujrat and Maharashtra. Incidences of rape of women and rape of children is highest in Rajasthan and Maharashtra, followed



by Gujrat. Rajasthan has incidences of attempts to commit rape among the scheduled tribes. Maharashtra has the highest incidences of rioting, followed by the Gujrat and Rajasthan. Rajasthan has the highest incidences of robbery, followed by Maharashtra and Gujrat. Except for Gujrat, no state has any incidence of dacoity. There is no incidence of dacoity with the murder of scheduled tribes in any state.

The crimes against scheduled tribes is a sensitive issue of the society. Schedule tribes are the most deprived communities. The Constitution of India has provisions for the development of Scheduled Tribes. Article 46 and Article 350 allow the educational and cultural rights of tribals in India. The 6th Schedule of the Constitution has granted the following provisions to the tribal areas. Ministry of Tribal Affairs is implementing programmes for the overall development/welfare of Scheduled Tribes. The Parliament of India and various state legislatures already passed various bills to empower the scheduled tribes.

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