CHAPTER 37
CRIME STATISTICS

37.1 Crime Statistics is an important and essential input for assessing quality of life and the human rights situation in the society. Crime Statistics broadly reflects the status of operations of Criminal Justice System in a Country. Crime Statistics includes data on Offences - Breaches of the law Offenders - Those who commit offences Victims - Those who are offended against In India Crime statistics are generated on the basis of crime records maintained by different law enforcing agencies like the Police, the Judiciary at different level of administrative/legal jurisdiction under the federal system of India. These statistics are normally readily available and are generally used for assessing how crime is being dealt with by law enforcement agencies, However, these statistics being based on those **cases which are generally reported to the law enforcement agencies** and recorded through all stages of actions on the cases reported. As such 'Crime Statistics' in India gives an **incomplete picture** of crime situations in the country. However, the deficiency is not particular to India, as some studies have shown that even data collected by British Crime Statistics provides a picture of 30% of the actual crime in that country.

37.2 **Source of Crime Statistics:** 37.2.1 **National Crime Records Bureau (NCRB)** is the nodal agency at the centre to collect, compile and disseminate the information related with crime. “Crime in India”, an annual compilation of NCRB, is being published since 1953. For this publication, the information in 22 standardized formats is being collected from all the 36 States/UTs as well as from 35 mega cities.

37.3 Internationally, data on crime & drugs are maintained by **United Nations Office of Drugs and Crime (UNODC)** . UNODC collects data on crime and the operation of criminal justice systems in order to make policy-relevant information and analysis available in a timely manner to the international community. UNODC works on the development of methodology and standards for crime and criminal justice information systems and for the conduct of victimization surveys. The office also aims to enhance the cross-national comparability of data through the development of key indicators and data reporting tools. Periodic reports of UNODC on selected crime issues provide in-depth analysis on key topics of concern at the global and regional level.

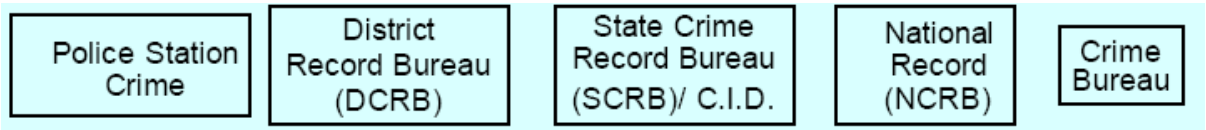
37.4 Recognizing the importance of Crime Statistics , UNODC in cooperation with United Nations Statistical Division conducted the Eleventh **United Nations survey of Crime Trends and the Operations of Criminal Justice Systems** (11^{th} **UN-CTS**) during 2007-08. The major goal of the survey was to collect the data on incidence of reported crimes and operations of criminal justice system. India has also participated in the survey. The survey results provide an overview of trends and interrelationships between various parts of the criminal justice system to promote informed decision-making in administration, nationally and internationally. The First & Second UN-CTS was conducted during 1970-80. Present CTS questionnaire pertains to 2014 .

37.5 The information maintained by UNODC includes :

- Statistics on Crime : Homicide, assaults sexual violence, robbery , kidnapping, theft burglary , drug related crime .
- Statistics on Drug Use.

- Statistics on Criminal Justice: Persons prosecuted, convicted, detained , Criminal Justice system resources etc.

37.6 Procedure for Collection of Crime Statistics: The flow of information starts from the Police stations wherein the cognizable offence is reported in the form of **First Information Report (FIR)**.FIR sets the process of Criminal Justice in motion. The information thereafter flows from District Crime Record Bureaus to State Crime Record Bureau and the same is finally consolidated by National Crime Records Bureau .



37.7 Genesis of National Crime Records Bureau : Setting up of National Crime Records Bureau was recommended by the **National Police Commission** set up in 1977 **.** Accepting the recommendations, the **Ministry of Home Affairs** constituted a Task Force in 1985 to work out the modalities for setting up of the National Crime Records Bureau (NCRB). The Government accepted the recommendations of the Task Force and constituted the NCRB with headquarters at New Delhi in January, 1986. The objectives of the Bureau are :

i. To function as a clearing house of information on crime and criminals including those operating at National and International levels so as to assists the investigators, and others in linking crimes to their perpetrators.

ii. To store, coordinate and disseminate information on inter-state and international criminals from and to respective States, national investigating agencies, courts and prosecutors in India without having to refer to the Police Station records.

iii. To collect and process crime statistics at the National level.

Major Issues :

37.8 Major issues pertaining to crime statistics include :

i. Large extent of non-reporting/ recording of crime/ offences at different levels of administration, particularly with reference to non-cognizable offences having social implications

ii. Inadequate coverage of crime heads – under-coverage due to non-reporting for identified reasons.

iii. Reliability – systemic biases, errors due to overlaps between different sections of IPC, outreach to vulnerable (women, children and backward communities).

iv. Timeliness – rationalization of data flow.

v. Identification of new types of crime/ offences for collection of statistics thereon.

37.9 The above issues were discussed by Committee on Crime Statistics constituted in October, 2010 by the Ministry of Statistics & Programme Implementation. Crime is a state subject and state governments might be sensitive to the number of cases

reported in their domains. States with better reporting systems or more empowered and educated public might record higher rates of crime. Further, in lot of cases the offended person may not report the crime out of social considerations or out of the fear of consequences eg. crime against women, children etc . Hence the comparisons across the states and across categories of crime must always be done with caution .

Terms & Definitions : 37.10 The Criminal Procedure Code (Cr.P.C) India classifies all the crimes into two categories :

- **Cognizable Crime : Sec. 2 (C) Cr PC**
- **Non Cognizable Crime: Sec 2 (I) Cr PC**

(I) Cognizable Crime : A cognizable offence or case is defined as the one which an officer in-charge of a police station may investigate without the order of a magistrate and effect arrest without warrant. Cognizable crimes are broadly categorised as those falling either under the `Indian Penal Code (IPC)' or under the `Special and Local Laws (SLL)'

(II) Non Cognizable Crime : Non-Cognizable crimes are defined as those which can not be investigated by police without the order of a competent magistrate. Police do not initiate investigation in non-cognizable crimes except with magisterial permission.

(III) Broad classification of crimes under the Indian penal code (IPC) :
i) **Crimes against body**: Murder, Attempt to commit murder, Culpable homicide not amounting to murder,Kidnapping & Abduction, Hurt,Causing death by negligence;
ii) **Crimes against property**: Dacoity, Preparation and assembly to commit Dacoity, Robbery, Burglary and Theft;
iii) **Crimes against public order**: Riots and Arson;
iv) **Economic crimes**: Criminal breach of trust, Cheating & Counterfeiting;
v) **Crimes against women**: Rape, Dowry death, Cruelty by husband or his relatives, Assault on women with intent to outrage her modesty, Insult to the modesty of women and Importation of girl from foreign country;
vi) **Crimes against children**: Child rape, Kidnapping & abduction of children, Procuration of minor girls, Selling and buying of girls for prostitution, Abetment of suicide, Exposure and Abandonment, Infanticide and foeticide;
vii) Other IPC crimes.

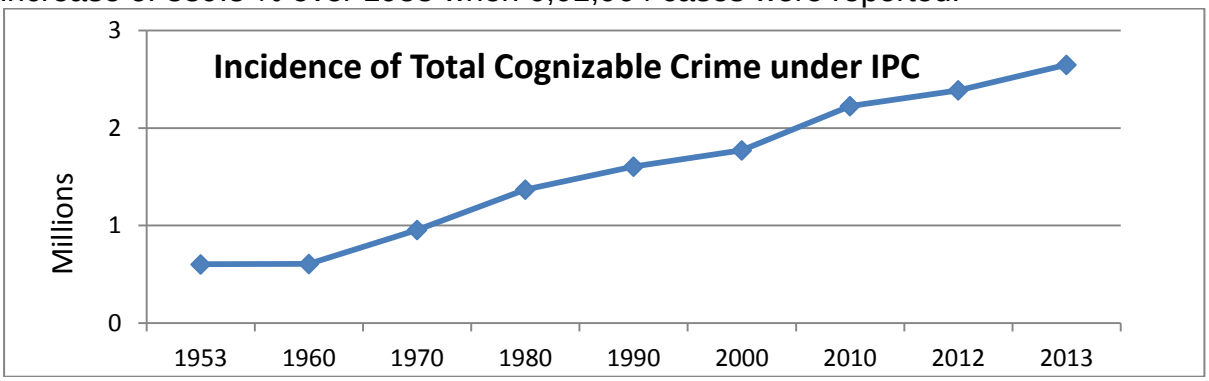
(IV)Crimes under the Special and Local Laws (SLL)
i) Arms Act, 1959; ii) Narcotic Drugs & Psychotropic Substances Act, 1985;
iii) Gambling Act, 1867; iv) Excise Act, 1944; v) Prohibition Act;
vi) Explosives & Explosive Substances Act, 1884 & 1908;
vii) Immoral Traffic (Prevention) Act, 1956; viii) Indian Railways Act, 1989;
ix) The Foreigners Act, 1946; x) Protection of Civil Rights Act, 1955;
xi) Passport Act, 1967; xii) Essential Commodities Act, 1955;
xiii) Antiquities & Art Treasures Act, 1972; xiv) Dowry Prohibition Act, 1961;
xv) Prohibition of Child Marriage Act 2006;
xvi) Indecent Representation of Women (Prohibition) Act, 1986;
xvii) Copyright Act, 1957; xiii) Commission of Sati Prevention Act, 1987;
xix) SC/ST (Prevention of Atrocities) Act, 1989; xx) Forest Act, 1927;

xxi) Other crimes (not specified above) under Special and Local Laws including Cyber Laws under Information Technology Act (IT), 2000.

(V) Incidence of Crime : Number of crime reported under Indian Penal Code(IPC) or Special & Local Laws(SLL).

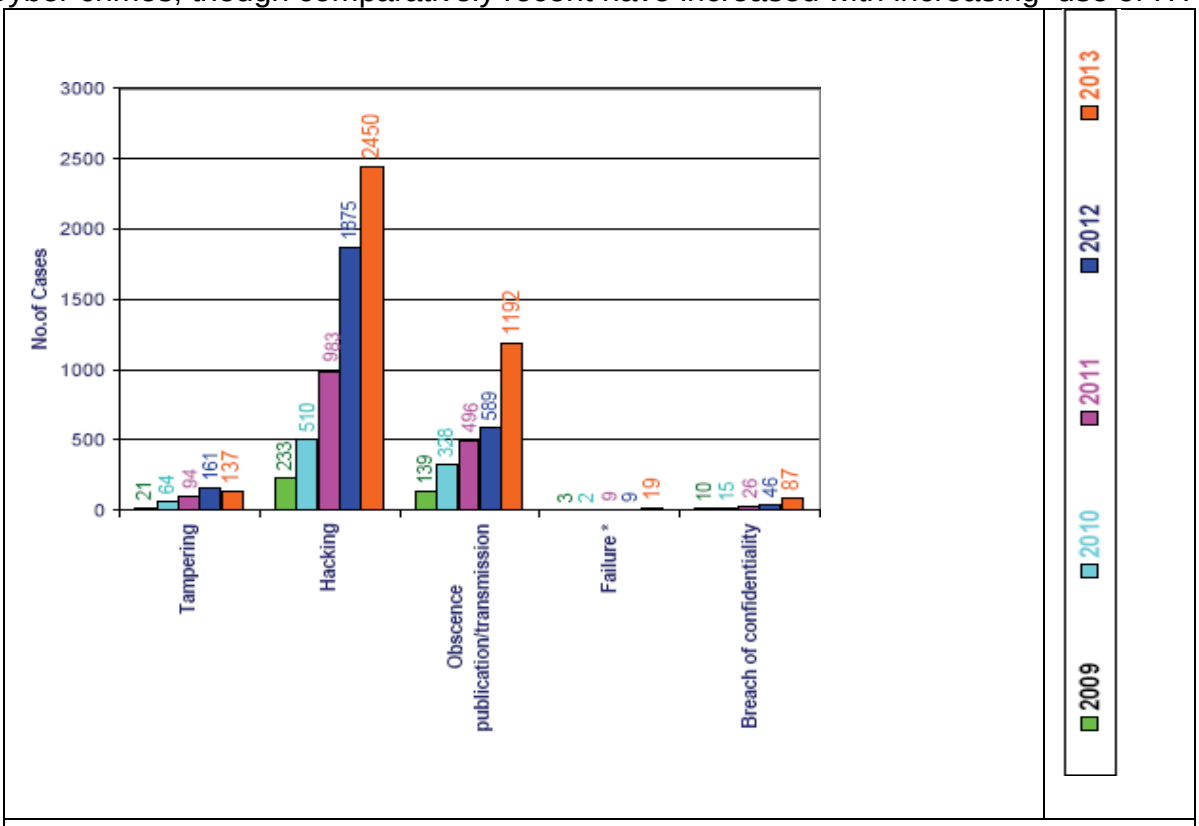
(VI) Rate of Crime : Number of crime reported per lakh person in the target Population .

Past Trends: 37.11 As per the number of cases reported, the total cognizable crime under **IPC** in general has been showing a rising trend except for the years 1954, 1955, 1963, 1968, 1969, 1975, 1976, 1979, 1982, 1993 and 2003, in which the declining trend was observed. The total during 2013 was 26,47,722 recording an increase of 339.8 % over 1953 when 6,01,964 cases were reported.



37.12 Under **SLLs** 10-year and 5-year trend analysis shows, 5.7% increase from the 2003 level and 2.6% decrease over the average of last 5 years (2008 – 2012).

Cyber crimes, though comparatively recent have increased with increasing use of IT.



Cyber Crime Cases Registred under IT Act during 2009-2013

Trends of some major crime heads (IPC) over years 1953-2013

Riots	Incidence	20,529	72,126	251.3
	Year	1953	2013	
Burglary/House Breaking	Incidence	1,47,379	1,04,401	-29.2
	Year	1953	2013	
Robbery	Incidence	8,407	31,927	279.8
	Year	1953	2013	
Dacoity	Incidence	5,579	4,539	-18.6
	Year	1953	2013	
Kidnapping & Abduction	Incidence	5,261	65,461	1144.3
	Year	1953	2013	
Rape	Incidence	2,487	33,707	1255.3
	Year	1971*	2013	
Murder	Incidence	9,802	33,201	238.7
	Year	1953	2013	
Total Cog. Crimes under IPC	Incidence	6,01,964	26,47,722	339.8
	Year	1953	2013	% Change in 2013 over 1953

Head wise categorization of crime reveals that among major heads, **Dacoity** and **Burglary / House breaking** have being showing a **declining trend** over a period of 60 years**.** Burglary / House breaking has declined by 29.2% (from 1,47,379 in 1953 to 1,04,401 in 2013) and Dacoity has declined by 18.6% (from 5,579 in 1953 to 4,539 in 2013).

Growth in cases of **Rape and Kidnapping & Abduction** on the other hand, has outpaced the average growth of all cognizable crime under IPC (333.8 %) since 1953 with 1255.3 and 1144.3 % increase respectively. **Murder** has **increased** by 238.7 % (from 9,802 in 1953 to 33,201 in 2013); **Robbery** by 279.8% (from 8,407 in 1953 to 31,927 in 2013) and Riots by 251.3% (from 20,529 in 1953 to 72,126 in2013)

The IPC crime rate has increased by 34.1% during the decade 2003-2013 from 160.7 in the year 2003 to 215.5 in the year 2013. It has increased by 14.7% during the year 2013 as compared with quinquennial average (during 2008-2012).

NCRB started collecting data on Rape since 1971 only.

Cognizable crimes registered during 2009-2013

YEAR	Number of cases			Ratio (IPC: SLL)	Rate per (1,00,000 population)
	IPC	SLL	Total		
2009	21,21,345	45,53,872	66,75,217	1:2.15	570.8
2010	22,24,831	45,25,917	67,50,748	1:2.03	569.3
2011	23,25,575	39,27,154	62,52,729	1:1.69	516.7
2012	23,87,188	36,54,371	60,41,559	1:1.53	497.9
2013	26,47,722	39,92,656	66,40,378	1:1.51	540.4

37.13 Crime Statistics India - 2013 : A total of 26,47,722 cases registered under various sections of IPC crimes were reported in the country during the year 2013 against 23,87,188 in the year 2012 recording an increase of 10.9% . The IPC crime rate at 215.5 during 2013 witnessed an increase of 9.6% from the previous year . A total of 39,92,656 SLL crimes were reported in the country during the year 2013 showing an increase of 9.3% over the year 2012 (36,54,371cases). The rate of crime under SLLs has also shown an increase of 7.9% as compared to the year 2012 (301.2). The rate of total cognizable crimes (IPC + SLL) was reported as 540.4 in the year 2013 showing a decrease of 5.3% over the year 2009 and an increase of 8.5% over 2012.

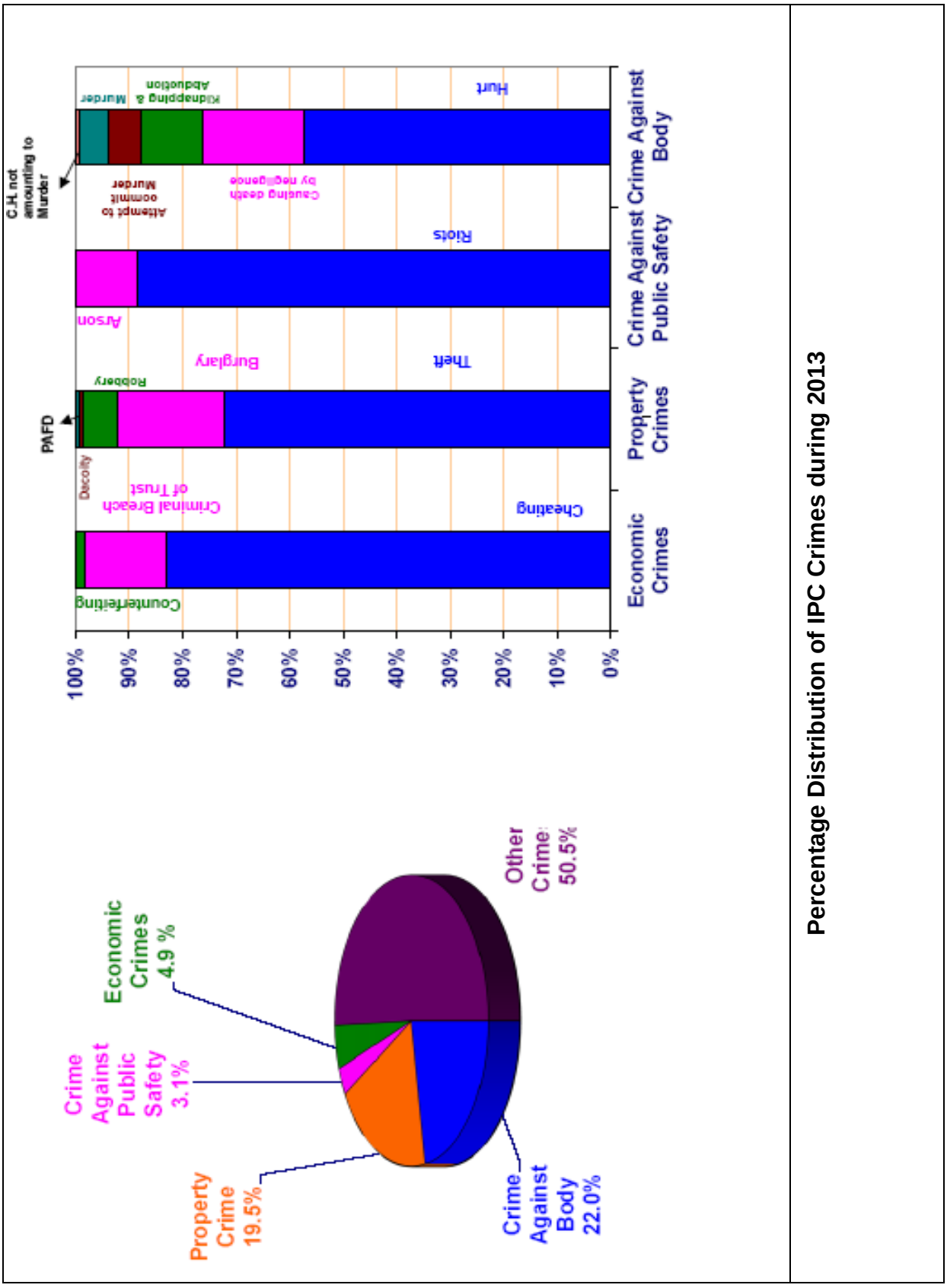
37.14 During 2013, highest rate of crime (including IPC and SLLs) was reported in case of crime against women (52.2) followed by property crimes (42.0). Rate of crime against children increased significantly from 8.9 in 2012 to 13.2 in 2013 and that against SC's from 16.7 to 19.6, highlighting the continued need of protecting the vulnerable section of the society.

37.15 A total of 4,356 cyber crime cases were registered under IT Act during the year 2013 as compared to 2,876 cases during the previous year (2012), thus showing an increase of 51.5% in 2013 over 2012. 15.6% of total such cases (681 out of 4,356 cases) were reported from Maharashtra followed by Andhra Pradesh (635 cases), Karnataka (513 cases), Uttar Pradesh (372 cases) and Kerala (349 cases).

SL. No.	CRIME HEADS	CASES REPORTED	% TO TOTAL IPC CRIMES	RATE OF CRIME	CHARGE-SHEETING RATE	CONVICTION RATE
	A) VIOLENT CRIMES					
1	MURDER	33201	1.3	2.7	87.1	36.5
2	ATTEMPT TO COMMIT MURDER	35417	1.3	2.9	91.1	26.6
3	C.H. NOT AMOUNTING MURDER	3380	0.1	0.3	89.2	34.2
4	RAPE *	33707	1.3	5.7	95.4	27.1
5	KIDNAPPING & ABDUCTION	65461	2.5	5.3	66.3	21.3
6	DACOITY	4539	0.2	0.4	79.6	19.7
7	PREPARATION & ASSEMBLY FOR DACOITY	3159	0.1	0.3	97.5	21.1
8	ROBBERY	31927	1.2	2.6	67.5	29.8
9	RIOTS	72126	2.7	5.9	90.4	16.9
10	ARSON	9357	0.4	0.8	64.2	16.2
11	DOWRY DEATHS *	8083	0.3	1.4	94.0	32.3
	TOTAL VIOLENT CRIMES	300357	11.3	24.4	83.3	25.4
	B) CRIME AGAINST WOMEN (IPC+SLL) *					
1	KIDNAPPING & ABDUCTION OF WOMEN & GIRLS	51881	2.0	8.8	68.4	21.1
2	ASSAULT ON WOMAN WITH INTENT TO OUTRAGE HER MODESTY	70739	2.7	11.9	95.8	25.7
3	INSULT TO THE MODESTY OF WOMEN	12589	0.5	2.1	96.1	32.0
4	CRUELTY BY HUSBAND OR HIS RELATIVES	118866	4.5	20.1	92.3	16.0
5	IMPORTATION OF GIRLS FROM FOREIGN COUNTRIES	31	0.0	0.0	37.1	19.2
	TOTAL CRIME AGAINST WOMEN (IPC+SLL)	309546	11.7	52.2	90.5	22.4
	C) ECONOMIC CRIMES					
1	CRIMINAL BREACH OF TRUST	19627	0.7	1.6	71.8	23.5
2	CHEATING	107330	4.1	8.7	69.8	24.3
3	COUNTERFEITING	2349	0.1	0.2	61.2	37.8
	TOTAL ECONOMIC CRIMES	129306	4.9	10.5	69.9	24.4
	D) PROPERTY CRIMES					
1	BURGLARY	104401	3.9	8.5	42.6	31.5
2	THEFT	372622	14.1	30.3	38.2	33.5
	TOTAL PROPERTY CRIMES	516648	19.5	42.0	40.1	32.4
	E) CRIMES AGAINST SCs*					
	TOTAL CRIME AGAINST SCs	39408	1.5	19.6	89.9	23.8
	F) CRIMES AGAINST STs*					
	TOTAL CRIME AGAINST STs	6793	0.3	6.5	94.2	16.4
	G) TOTAL CRIME AGAINST CHILDREN*					
	TOTAL CRIME AGAINST CHILDREN	58224	2.2	13.2	83.4	30.9
	H) COGNIZABLE CRIMES UNDER IPC					
	TOTAL COGNIZABLE CRIMES UNDER IPC	2647722			79.5	40.2
	I) COGNIZABLE CRIMES UNDER SLL					
	TOTAL COGNIZABLE CRIMES UNDER SLL	3992656			94.3	90.9
	J) COGNIZABLE CRIMES UNDER IPC + SLL					
	TOTAL COGNIZABLE CRIMES UNDER IPC + SLL	6640378			88.7	76.6

Source : Crime In India ,2013 NCRB

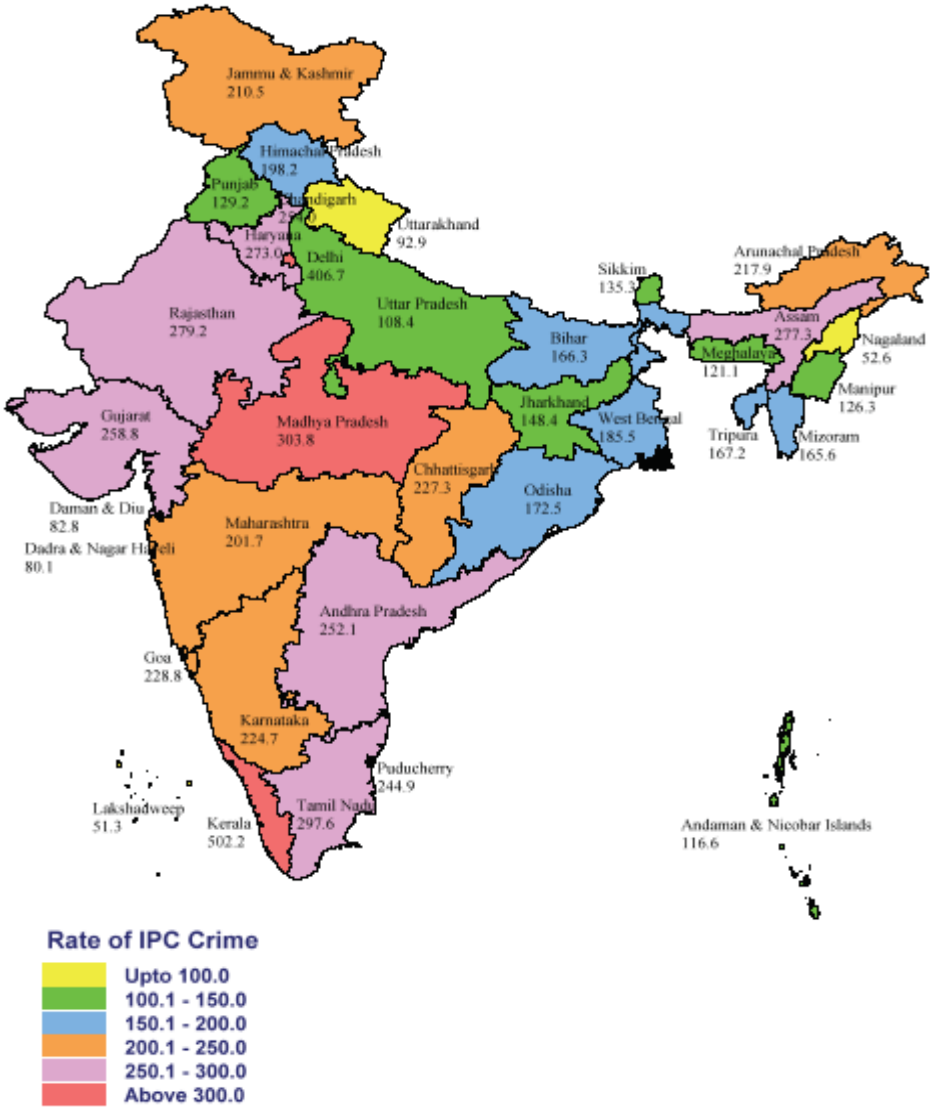
A4 & A11 are part of crime against women also, A6,A7 & A8 are part of property crimes also.



37.16 **Statewise Incidence & Rate of Crime :** During 2013 , Maharashtra has reported highest percentage share of total IPC cases reported (8.9%) followed by Madhya Pradesh & Uttar Pradesh (8.6% each), Andhra Pradesh (8.2%),Tamil Nadu (7.7%) and

Rajasthan(7.4%) whereas Kerala continues to report the highest crime rate (502.2) for IPC crimes followed by Madhya Pradesh (303.8), Tamil Nadu (297.6) and Rajasthan (279.2).

Rate of IPC Crime 2013 (All India 215.5)

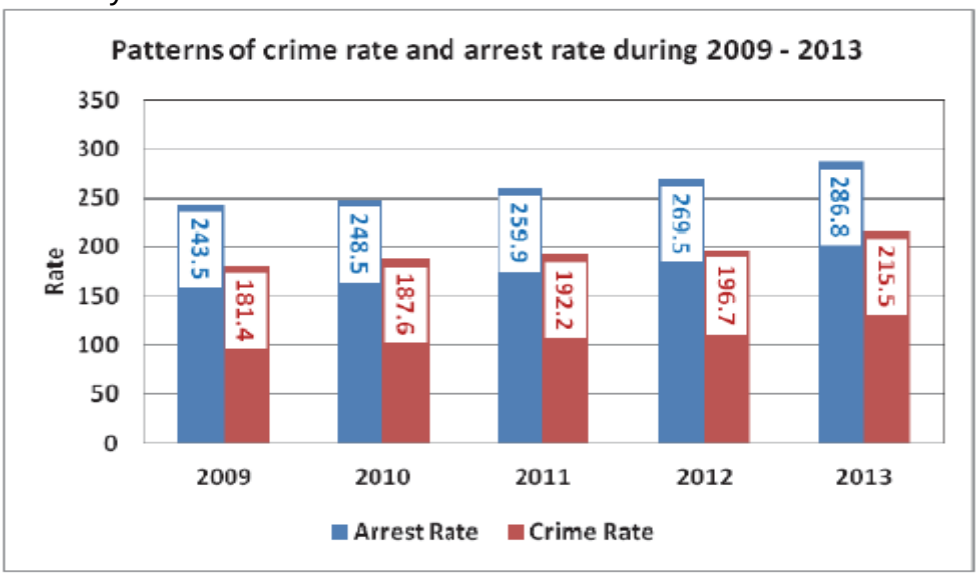


37.17 **Police Infrastructure:** As on 31.12.2013 existing (actual) police strength was 17.3 lakh against the sanctioned strength of 22.4 lakh of total police force (civil and armed combined), rendering 22.8% posts as vacant. The density of police personnel (i.e. police personnel per 100 Sq Kms) increased to 54.7 from 52.9 in the previous year and the ratio of policeman per lakh population increased to 141 from 138 in the previous year . Delhi and Chandigarh reported highest police density (in excess of 5000 policemen per 100 Sq Km).

37.18 **Arrests and Arrest Rate :** A total of 35,23,577 persons were arrested by the police under various IPC crimes during 2013 as against 32,70,016 persons in 2012 showing an increase of 7.8% whereas 44,67,963 persons were arrested under the SLL crimes during 2013 as compared to 41,50,075 persons during 2012 accounting for an increase of 7.7% .The highest increase in the arrests in case of crimes under

IPC was observed for cases of 'Assault on women with intent to outrage her modesty' 53.5% (from 56,827 in 2012 to 87,229 in 2013) followed by 'Rape' 35.3% (from 31,117 in 2012 to 42,115 in 2013). Highest decline was observed in counterfeiting 12.7% (from 2,814 in 2012 to 2,456 in 2013). The highest increase in arrests in case of crimes under SLLs was found under 'Indecent Representation of Women (P) Act' (126.3%) followed by 'Prohibition of Child Marriage Act' (66.8%), 'Dowry Prohibition Act' (40.3%) and 'Protection of Civil Rights Act' (27.5%).

37.19 In case of crimes under IPC, arrest rate (Number of arrests per case) for burglary, theft and causing death by negligence were reported to be comparatively lower than their respective crime rate to the extent that not even one person per case was arrested for these crimes .The pattern of crime rate and arrest rate under IPC during last five years is charted below



37.20 **Disposal of persons arrested by Police:** A total of 43,54,868 persons were either under custody or on bail during the year 2013 in connection with crimes pertaining to IPC. For 34,94,804 cases, registered under various sections of IPC offences, under investigation by police, Police could file charge sheets against 32,45,123 persons (74.5% of total arrestees). Out of the total persons who were under arrest, 4.6% of arrested persons (2,01,589) were either released or freed by police before trial and 20.9% persons (9,08,156) remained under custody or on bail at the end of the year as police investigation could not be completed in their cases.

37.21 In case of crimes under SLLs a total of 47,75,484 persons including those from the previous years were either in custody or on bail at the beginning of the year and their cases were under disposal with police during the year 2013. Police could charge-sheet 41,96, 833 persons of the total arrested persons, which accounted for 87.9% of the total arrestees and whose cases were under investigation during this period. The percentage of persons released before trial and persons under investigation at the end of year 2013 were observed as 5.3% and 6.8% respectively.

37.22 **Disposal of persons arrested by Courts:** In crimes under IPC, as many as 1,76, 60,316 persons (including those from previous years) were awaiting trials in various criminal courts in the country during 2013 , an increase of 4.4% over the last

year (1,69,23,430). The disposal of such arrested persons was pending to an extent of 85.0% (1,50,18, 970 out of 1,76,60,316 persons) at the end of the year.

37.23 A total of 1,09,88,709 persons (as against 1,01,66,413 in the year 2012) were facing trial in various criminal courts for the offences committed under various SLL crimes, registering an increase of 8.1% over 2012. Trials were completed against 37, 31,355 persons of the total arrested persons, out of which 32,74,385 persons were convicted for these offences. The conviction percentage in SLL cases during 2013 was 87.8%. The pendency for trial was lower (65.5%) during 2013 as compared to 2012 (66.8%).

References:

- Website of United Nations Office of Drugs and Crime (UNODC)
- Crime in India 2013, National Crime Records Bureau, Ministry of Home Affairs & other information available on the website of National Crime Records Bureau.