

U.P. tops list in crimes against women

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The National Crime Records Bureau (NCRB) published the annual Crime in India Report 2018. It was published with provisional data, as five States — West Bengal, Assam, Arunachal Pradesh, Meghalaya and Sikkim — did not send clarifications sought by the NCRB despite repeated reminders. The 2017 annual crime report was published on October 21 last year, after a delay of two years.

Highlights of the Report

- According to the report, 3, 78,277 cases of crime against women were reported in the country, up from 3, 59,849 in 2017.
- Uttar Pradesh topped the list with 59,445 cases, followed by Maharashtra (35,497) and West Bengal (30,394). The conviction rate in rape-related cases stood at 27.2% even though the rate of filing chargesheet was 85.3% in such cases.
- Cruelty by husband or his relatives (31.9%) followed by assault on women with intent to outrage her modesty (27.6%) constituted the major share of crimes against women.
- A total of 50,74,634 cognizable crimes — 31,32,954 Indian Penal Code (IPC) crimes and 19,41,680 Special & Local Laws (SLL) crimes — were registered in 2018, showing an increase of 1.3% in registration of cases compared to 2017 (50,07,044 cases). The crime rate per lakh population, however, came down from 388.6 in 2017 to 383.5 in 2018.
- A total of 29,017 cases of murder were registered in

2018, showing an increase of 1.3% over 2017 (28,653 cases).

- A total of 76,851 cases of offences against public tranquility were registered in 2018, out of which rioting, 57,828 cases, accounted for 75.2% of total such cases.
- As many as 27,248 cases of cyber crimes were registered in 2018.

Suicides Report

- The NCRB also released the Accidental Death and Suicides in India 2018 report, which said that 10,349 people working in the farm sector ended their lives in 2018, accounting for 7.7 % of the total number of suicides in the country. There were 5,763 farmers/cultivators and 4,586 agricultural labourers' among those who ended their lives.
- The total number of suicides witnessed this year was 1, 34,516, an increase of 3.6% from 2017 when 1, 29,887 cases were reported. The highest number of suicide victims were daily wagers — 26,589, comprising 22.4% of such deaths.
- The majority of the suicides were reported in Maharashtra (17,972) followed by Tamil Nadu (13,896), West Bengal (13,255), Madhya Pradesh (11,775) and Karnataka (11,561).
- "West Bengal, Bihar, Odisha, Uttarakhand, Meghalaya, Goa, Chandigarh, Daman & Diu, Delhi, Lakshadweep and Puducherry reported zero suicides by farmers/cultivators as well as agricultural labourers'.

SOURCE: *The Hindu*