



CRIME AND ATROCITIES AGAINST WOMEN: A STUDY OF CHHATTISGARH

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ABSTRACT

India has a high rate of violence against women due to its predominately masculine culture. One of the most severe types of gender inequality is violence against women and girls (VAWG), which obstructs women's and men's equal participation in social, economic, and political realms. Gender equality and a number of other development goals are hampered by such violence. According to the data reported by the National Crime Records Bureau (NCRB), there were over 2,28,650 recorded incidences of crime against women in the year 2011, which saw an upsurge of 87% within a decade. In other words, by 2021, the number of recorded incidents had reached the figure of 4,28,278. It has also been highlighted by the 2021 Report published by NCRB, that 7.5% of the affected women in India reside in West Bengal, which accounts for 12.7% of all reported crimes against women. It also indicates, the number of gender-based violence in India risen by 15% in 2021 to that of previous year. The state with most number of reported rape cases was Rajasthan, and the one with most suicides was Maharashtra, whereas, the most unsafe major city in India is Delhi. Keeping the increase in crime against women in consideration, the author in his paper has tried to study the various patterns of crime towards women in our country; special focus is on the data reported from the state of Chhattisgarh.

I. Introduction

According to the Rigveda and other ancient texts, women in ancient India enjoyed a high status in society. The social standing of our ladies and their valiant acts from the Vedic era to the present can fill volumes. Women lost their prestige and were reduced to the background as a result of later shifts in society, politics, and the economy. Many pernicious practices and traditions entered the scene and restricted women to the confines of the home.¹ Men and women are both liberated by gender equality. However, harassment against women has emerged as a global issue that requires quick attention.

Women who face any form of exploitation or violence generally should first approach to the law enforcement authority. However, they face many challenges in approaching the authority,

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¹ A. Goel, *Violence and Protective Measures for Women Development and Empowerment* 3-4 (Deep & Deep Publications, New Delhi, 2004).

which include a reluctance to issue an FIR, conduct of investigation, delay in receiving medical reports from experts and forensic laboratory, where investigation is under progress, attitudinal and behavioural approach of police, lack of institutional and infrastructural mechanism, unwillingness of witnesses to come forward and support the prosecution, and lack of stakeholder convergence and political influence. These are only few of the bottlenecks that need to be addressed.

On the other hand, many women who face exploitation or violence generally do not come forward to report to the police often due to their own prevailing cultural, social, and economic pressures. Therefore, there is an urgent need to protect such victims during exigencies. The Constitution of India focuses on two key concepts: equality and non-discrimination, which are fundamental rights guaranteed to every citizen. Issues around gender are not merely about male and female and how they socialized, but also about the understanding of gender perspectives which include identity, labour, power and violence based on gender, as effective management of these issues will help not only in sensitizing people about curbing gender bias prevailing in the society, but also in empowering girls and women to achieve their goals. The objective behind imparting knowledge on gender sensitization is to bring about a change in people's mindset across various socio-economic strata. Inappropriate expression of masculinity, violence against women and children and gender-based discrimination are all pernicious orientation of our society today.

II. Atrocities and Women

The connotation behind the definition of "crime against women" is the intentional or unintentional physical or psychological abuse of women. According to Awadhesh,² "crimes against women" are those that are "directed specifically against women" and in which "only women are victims." Clarifying the idea of "violence" against women is also crucial. Abuse is another name for violence, which includes any physical aggressiveness or misbehaviour. It prevents women from participating fully and equally in society and has major short- and long-term health, economic, and psychological effects on them. The extent of its influence on people's lives, families, and society at large is enormous.³ Crimes do not only occur in a certain group, class, culture, or nation. Women in India are experiencing crime against them from ages not just in the modern era. The government has taken numerous legal and other steps, but the rate of crime against women has not decreased.

² A.K. Singh and J. Choudhury, *Violence against Women and Children-Issues and Concerns 1* (Serials Publications, New Delhi, 2012).

³ United Nations I.R. Iran, FAQ's, 2020.

Violence refers to a physical act with the intent or capability to injure. It may be in varied forms like sexual harassment, acid attack, rape, obscenity and pornography, domestic violence, dowry, female foeticide, genital mutilation, etc.

Domestic violence out of these is the most common spread kind of violence, which can take many different forms, including striking, kicking, biting, shoving, restraint, and item hurling. Generally speaking, it includes economic exploitation, sexual assault, abduction, killing (all instances of criminal violence), spouse battering, sexual harm, abuse of a widow and for a senior citizen (all instances of domestic violence), eve-teasing, pressuring a wife/daughter-in-law to commit foeticide, etc. (all circumstances of criminal violence).⁴ Before a girl may become the victim or the target of a crime, or even at the moment of her birth. Let's examine each period of a woman's life and then briefly talk about the threats. The nature of crimes might vary just like the stages.

Table 1. Stages of Atrocities on women

S. No	Stages	Nature of Atrocities
1.	Foeticide and infanticide	Pregnancy diagnosis techniques can result in female foeticide in situations where there is a social or cultural preference for sons.
2.	Young Girls	Compared to boys, many girls do not have access to or complete a full elementary or secondary education, and they may also experience discrimination from their parents and teachers during their formative years.
3.	Adolescence	Most of the adolescent girls suffer from sexual assault, exploitation and violence from acid attacks, rape, early marriage, online sexual abuse etc.
4.	Marriage	After being married, many women experience physical, financial, and emotional abuse at the hands of their husbands and in-laws, for example: Dowry, unable to reproduce.
5.	Maternity	Sometimes, pregnant women are not given the right medical attention or a nutritious diet. She frequently feels forced to abort a female foetus.

⁴ *Supra* note 2 at 3.

6.	Workplace	It is common for women to experience exploitation, unequal compensation for equal work, denial of promotions despite merit, and physical, financial, and psychological abuse.
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Throughout all of these stages, the woman suffers in silence, and even if she speaks up, it is muffled or stifled. She is unaware of her legal rights to oppose these crimes or the legal protections that are available to her. It's time for women to stand up and defend themselves.

Methodology

The current study is a descriptive and qualitative study that uses secondary data from the National Crime Record Bureau's compendium to develop a research logic by analysing data using simple statistical measures.

Purpose of the Research

The study's main objective is to determine the patterns of crime towards women in India. The current study studies the data of last decade in depth and will produce useful findings. The analysis is made mostly on current data for Chhattisgarh state due to the paucity of old data.

Interpretation & Analysis

Crime against women: India

According to recently revealed National Crime Record Bureau (NCRB) data, women-based violence increased in India by 15.3% in 2021, which is concerning given the country's history of gender-based violence. The frequency and overall number of women based crimes has increased, from 56.5 in 2020 to 64.5 in 2021, instances recorded per lakh of the female population rose. In India, there were 4,28,278 instances of gender-based violence registered in total in 2021, a 15.3% increase from the year before.

According to the NCRB report, the bulk of gender-based crimes were categorised as "Cruelty by the husband or his family members/relatives" (31.8%), "Assault on Women with the intention to Outrage her Modesty" (20.8%), "Kidnapping and Abduction of Women" (17.6%), and "Rape" (7.4%). More than half (23,178) of the 45,026 female suicide victims, according to the NCRB, were housewives. The survey also showed that women were more likely to commit suicide due to marital problems, notably dowry-related problems, impotence, and infertility. In 2020–21, there were 26,513 cases of domestic abuse reported by

women to the National Commission for Women, which was a steep rise of 25.09 percent from the 20,309 incidents recorded in 2019–20.⁵

Violence against women can take many different forms, including during pregnancy, early childhood, adolescence, adulthood, and old age. Violence against children, persons with disabilities, and people suffering from severe mental illness happens in a variety of places, including the home, place of employment, hospitals, prisons, governmental and non-profit facilities for the poor, and the community. Every socioeconomic and cultural class is affected by it. The World Health Organization promotes the use of national action plans as part of a global strategy to avoid violence. The rise in domestic violence cases, workplace sexual harassment, dowry-related violence, honour murders, acid attacks, and gang rapes are all serious issues.⁶

Table 2: Crime against women from 2008 to 2021

S.no	Year	Dowry Deaths	Rape	Domestic Violence
1.	2008	8,172	21,467	81,344
2.	2009	8,383	21,397	89,546
3.	2010	8,391	22,172	94,041
4.	2011	8,618	24,206	99,135
5.	2012	8,233	24,923	1,06,527
6.	2020	6,843	28,046	3,71,503
7.	2021	6,589	31,677	4,28,278

*Source: ncrb.gov.in

NCRB data shows that, there were 4.28.278 cases of womenbased crimes in 2021 compared to 3.71.503 the year before, representing a 15.3% increase.⁷ A large percentage of these incidents (31.8%) fall under the heading "Cruelty by husband or his relatives," which is followed by "Assault on women with the intent to outrage her modesty," kidnapping, abduction, and rape. The study found that Assam had the highest rate of violence towards women in 2021, despite a minor reduction over the preceding three years. The state reported about 29,000 such instances in 2021.

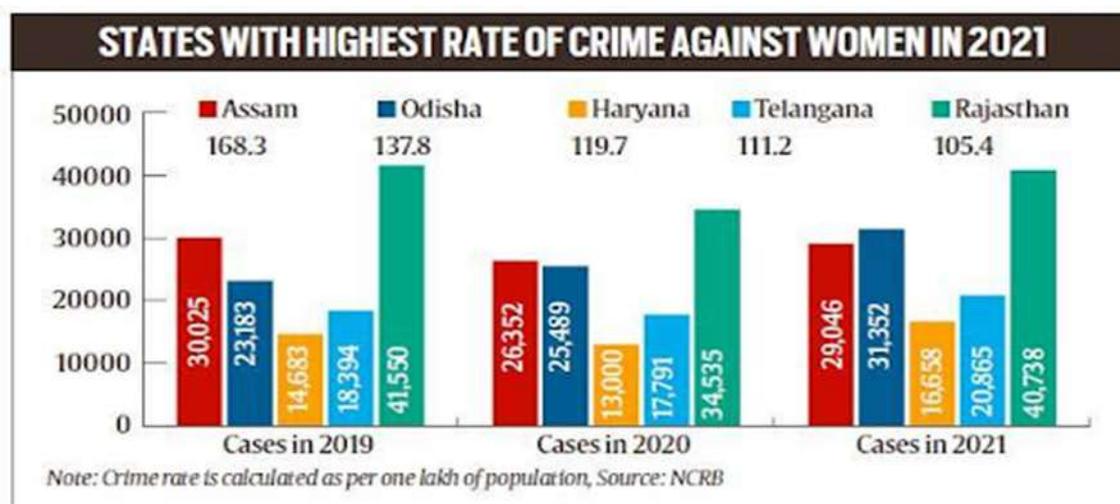
⁵ Outlook Web Desk 2022, "Crime against women", available at:

<https://www.outlookindia.com/national/crimes-against-women> (last visited on August 30, 2022).

⁶ N. Bohra, I. Sharma, *et. al.*, "Violence against women", 57 *Indian Journal of Psychiatry* (Suppl 2), S333 (2015).

⁷ Government of India, "Annual report on Crime in India", National Crime Records Bureau (Ministry of Home Affairs, 2021)

Fig: 1 States showing rate of crime.



***Source:ncrb/journals of India/ncrb report.**

The other leading states in this group are Rajasthan, Odisha, Haryana, and Telangana. Rajasthan, like Assam, showed a slight decrease in the real number of reported cases, however Odisha, Haryana, and Telangana experienced rises. Despite the fact that the prevalence rate is smaller at 50.5%, Uttar Pradesh is ranked first in the report in terms of the actual number of instances reported in 2021 (56,083). Nagaland stood out because it had the fewest recorded offences against women in each of the three years prior—2019, 2020, and 2021.⁸ Furthermore, in 2021, it had the lowest number of offenses towards women. Delhi has the highest rate of violence towards women across Union Territories in 2021, at 147.6%.

Data on Crime against Women Chhattisgarh

The statistics for reported IPC crimes against women in Chhattisgarh are shown in the table below.

Table 3: Statement on IPC Crimes in Chhattisgarh during 2020 &2021

S.no	Crime Head	2018	2019	2020	2021
1	Attacking women with the intent to offend their modesty	1854	1316	1461	1248
2	Rape	2091	1036	1210	1093
3	Attempt to Commit Rape	27	9	118	7
4	Miscarriage, Infanticide, Foeticide and Abandonment	48	81	70	61
5	Dowry Deaths	79	76	71	65

⁸ *Id.* at Annual report on Crime in India 2019.

6	Cruelty by Husband or his Relatives	503	732	641	963
7	Insult to the Modesty of Women	184	232	279	238
8	Kidnaping and Abduction of women	1842	2033	1341	1158
9	Cyber-crimes against women	17	23	36	91
10	Sexual violence against girl child	1803	2021	2038	2321

***Source: ncrb.gov.in**

The table clearly shows a dip in crime against women over the years in comparison to 2018 to 2021. It is clear that the crimes like Miscarriage, Infanticide, Foeticide and Abandonment; Cruelty by Husband or his Relatives; Insult to the Modesty of Women; Cyber-crimes & sexual Violence has shown a phenomenal growth, whereas, the crimes like Assault on women's modesty; Rape & Attempt to Rape; Dowry deaths etc have shown a decreasing data, which is a good sign indicating protected environment for women in the society.⁹

The table is indicating a steep rise in Cruelty by Husband or his relatives, the reason may also be due to Covid most of the family members were at home, in 2020 & 2021, providing more opportunities for domestic violence. Also, there is a hike in Cybercrimes against women in 2017 the number was only 17,¹⁰ which has been drastically increased to 91 in 2021, due to increased internet usage and less awareness, among the youngsters has given a good opportunity to the criminals to perform their tasks easily. As M K Gandhi said, "Woman is the complement of man and not Inferior". It is clear that many people still do not comprehend the meaning of Gandhi's statement. On the other hand, it is evident that one-fourth of intimate partners have mistreated one-half of women.

In regards to crime against women and young girls in Chhattisgarh, a recent National Crime Records Bureau (NCRB) report provides warning indications. According to the NCRB 2021 report, Chhattisgarh had the third-highest incidence of rapes of young girls in the country 12.3 (1,808 instances), as well as the fourth-highest rate of all POCSO (Protection of Children from Sexual Offences Act) cases (2,321) involving females.

According to NCRB data, Chhattisgarh was rated fifth for rape in the year 2018 and would be placed eleventh in 2021. Top states on this list include Maharashtra, Uttar Pradesh, and Madhya Pradesh. In terms of attempted rape cases, Chhattisgarh was rated 14th in 2018; however, in 2021, it improved and was ranked 16th in the country. The data up until December 2018 and the most recent stats in Chhattisgarh demonstrate how the state's criminal charges are steadily declining.

⁹ *Id.* at Annual Report on Crime in India 2018.

¹⁰ *Id.* at Annual Report on Crime in India 2017.

In response, the Chhattisgarh government has chosen to launch the "Hamar Beti Hamar Maan" (our daughter, our honour) campaign, which will focus on raising awareness of safety precautions among girls enrolled in high school and college and prioritizing the registration and investigation of crimes involving women.

Crime against women in the state of Chhattisgarh

The women of Chhattisgarh have a special place for themselves within the country in a number of ways. Women in Chhattisgarh are outspoken, visible, and play a significant role in public production, in contrast to many other regions of India where the culture of isolation and seclusion seems to rule.

Although women in Chhattisgarh have several rights that are not granted to their sisters in other parts of the nation, this does not mean that the philosophy of female subservience is not prevalent in this state. Simply put, patriarchy manifests itself in a variety of ways. Male domination and authority are quite evident in social and cultural life in Chhattisgarh. With or without alcohol intoxication, wife beating is a typical occurrence. In both rural and urban Chhattisgarh, drinking among men is on the rise, and with it, so is violence against women. In several regions of the state, women's groups have been at the forefront of protests against alcohol. In several regions of the state, women's groups have been at the forefront of protests against alcohol. In traditional social decision-making systems, women are underrepresented politically, and their inclusion in local decision-making processes is insufficient. Witchcraft is a widely held societal belief. Chhattisgarh's Tonhi are invariably female, frequently widowed, and frequently embroiled in property conflicts with their male family members.

According to the most recent National Crime Records Bureau (NCRB) data, crimes against women decreased by 10.5% in 2019 compared to the previous year,¹¹ placing Chhattisgarh at 13th place in terms of crime rate in this category and according to previous statistics of 2018 by NCRB, 7,689 cases of crimes against women were reported in Chhattisgarh, down from 8,587 in 2018 and 7,996 in 2017. Up to 2,413 of these offences include rape, with 1,377 (a startling 57%) of those cases involving children. More than 2,042 young girls suffered sexual assaults.

Violation associated with the traditional practices

The sex ratio in Chhattisgarh indicates a favourable ratio of females to males per thousand. Although women play significant economic and social roles in Chhattisgarh. However, there are several socio-cultural customs pertaining to marriage, divorce, and parental rights that are

¹¹ *Supra* note 8.

biased against women. In this region, it is extremely normal for girls to get married before they reach puberty and child marriages are common, which leads to early age pregnancies which adversely affects health of women.

Physical Atrocities and Domestic Violence

Domestic violence and other physical atrocities are widespread in Chhattisgarh, as they are in other regions of the nation. This is a serious issue, but another one that is starting to emerge is the rise in the frequency of crimes against women as a result of changes being made to society's conventional norms. Today, especially in cities, rape, child molestations, rape of minors, eve-teasing, and other forms of female torture are extremely prevalent in Chhattisgarh.

Witch Hunting practice

In this custom, a woman is labelled as a witch and is then blamed for all the bad fortune and seen as a terrible omen for the entire community. If any child becomes ill, if animals are harmed for whatever cause, or if any other unfavourable circumstance arises, the witch or the village tonhi is held responsible. A man known as a Baiga is called to identify a tonhi, and he chooses the witch at random. After that, the entire town turns against her and abuses her in the most brutal and inhumane ways possible. The women classified as tonhi are typically unmarried and have children who are engaged in cases involving property disputes. Too often, the relatives' desire to possess the Tonhi's property and other possessions is what leads to the charges of witchcraft.

Sex Determination

Prenatal sex detection of the foetus is a practise that is widely used. The clinics that clearly state on a board that they do not perform an ultrasound for gender determination of the foetus have found this to be a major source of profit. The price of every test is tenfold the amount of the original amount charged, yet it is nearly impossible to verify, as they are done secretly.

Anti- Liquor movement

Women in Chhattisgarh have heroically led the fight against violence and alcohol and have been at the forefront of the national anti-alcohol campaign. A volunteer group in Chhattisgarh's Balod district developed the unique women's brigade known as "Mahila Commandos," who have been fighting drunkenness and other social ills in their community for ten years. They may soon be classified as Super Police Officers (SPO). Balod Superintendent of Police introduced the concept of SPO to give the commando concept a fresh perspective. According to a senior police official, approximately 100 women commandos who wear maroon sarees and hats and carry batons have been made SPOs as part

of a pilot program. A proposal to create 1,000 SPOs has also been given to the state government.¹²

'Hamar Beti Hamar Maan' Campaign in Chhattisgarh

Bhupesh Baghel, the chief minister of Chhattisgarh, tweeted on September 23, 2022, that the state would be launching the creative campaign "Hamar Beti-Hamar Maan" in support of women's safety, particularly for the safety of daughters, as well as to uphold their dignity, make life easier for them, and provide them with essential services.

Main features of the scheme

- i. In a tweet about the initiative, Chief Minister Mr. Bhupesh Baghel stated that as part of the "Hamar Beti-Hamar Maan" campaign, female state police officers and employees will visit schools and colleges in each district of the state to inform and counsel daughters on their legal rights as well as the good and bad touches, eve-teasing, sexual abuse, cybercrime, and social media crime prevention.
- ii. As part of the effort, police will set up special women's patrols in girls' schools, colleges, and other significant locations where there are plenty of women and young women.
- iii. A telephone number will also be provided for the "Hamar Beti-Hamar Maan" helpline, where girls can report any abuse or crimes committed against them and have them dealt with in the shortest possible time.
- iv. The state government has also decided that investigations into crimes involving women will be prioritized by female investigators, who will also be in charge of making sure that such investigations can be finished within the allotted time and that the challan can be presented. officials from the IG range.

Apart from the above campaign, the state of Chhattisgarh, fighting drunkenness, domestic abuse, and social vices like dowry has been taken on by about 7000 civilian women. They also helped more people take advantage of new government initiatives by raising awareness of them. ladies who were the victims of domestic abuse by alcoholic males. Some of them have also been victims of human trafficking who, after being saved, decided to fight for the fundamental human rights of others in their community. These ladies are driven by the straightforward idea of shielding their kids from the horrors they had to endure. The Chhattisgarh police classified the group as 'Super Police Commandos' (SPOs) after it had

¹² The Indian Express, "Women brigade may soon be revamped as 'super cops' in Chhattisgarh", available at: <https://indianexpress.com/article/india/india-news-india/women-brigade-may-soon-be-revamped-as-super-cops-in-chhattisgarh> (last visited on August 12, 2023).

grown to include more than 30 villages. These SPOs collaborate with the Chhattisgarh police to reduce the state's rife crime, alcohol abuse, and illicit liquor trade, all of which qualify as unsafe work environments. To look out for these activities, they constantly monitor the walkways of the villages they belong to as a team. The "Mahila Commando" campaign is a component of a wider initiative by the Chhattisgarh policemen to re-establish peace and order in the region and empower women. In particular, it depends on numerous women from various areas banding together to battle the problems that beset them. At the same duration, the majority of these women are stay-at-home moms who subsequently join the teams they belong to for tasks like patrolling. Additionally, each and every woman who works in welfare is given access to a sizable community, a strong support network, and the feeling of knowing she made a difference.

During the evening time, the women from the community gather around in the large groups, armed with sticks, whistles etc walk in the whole village investigating for the suspicious activities like alcohol consumption, beating by the husbands etc, they agitate to shut down of the local alcohol shops in their area. These women use to wear same colour saree either blue or Pink as a uniform to indicate their solidarity against alcoholism. They have battled long and hard for the ban on alcohol consumption in the community, and this daily watch has become a crucial component of enforcing it.

Later on, the State government of Chhattisgarh, recognised their effort and has started Bharat matavahini scheme, in the year 2011-12 in the form of empowerment scheme for rural women of the state.

Broad objective of the scheme are as follows:

- i. To develop awareness among the general public about de-addiction through slogans, wall writing, posters, pamphlets, street plays, rallies in favour of drug de-addiction by women self-help groups in Gram Panchayat.
- ii. To take action for survey of drug victims at the Gram Panchayat level, for the motivation and treatment of drug de-addiction, to get them admitted in the de-addiction centres organized by the Department.
- iii. To ensure proper arrangements for supervision and monitoring of drug de-addiction campaign.
- iv. To ensure the deliver facilities/ services to be provided by the concerned departments in coordination with the schemes/ programmes for de-addiction.
- v. To ensure the fulfil of sensitive society by creating a safe, fear-free environment in Gram Panchayat.

- vi. To provide wide publicity to drug de-addiction campaign at all the levels.

Formation and Registration of Bharat Mata Vahini

There will be a group of 8 persons per gram panchayat and dependent village, in which there will be a female president and a maximum of 3 male members can also be in the group. In the selection of members, preference will be given to disabled persons, widows, abandoned women, transgenders, dwarf persons, drug de-addict persons.

Bharat Mata Vahini Group will have to apply for registration at Office of Joint/ Deputy Director, Social Welfare Department after approval from Gram Sabha with the names of President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer and members.

Joint/ Deputy Director, Social Welfare Department after obtaining approval from the District Collector in the application received, the group will be registered as Bharat Mata Vahini by entering it in a separate register and will be sent to the website created for this purpose at the Directorate level.

III. Conclusion & Recommendations

So far according to data, it is possible for women of all ages, colours, and socioeconomic statuses to become victims of the horrifying violence that occurs. Nobody is more likely to become the victim of a crime against women than another. A person may be more susceptible to becoming a victim of a crime against women depending on a number of different circumstances.

In comparison to older women, younger women are more likely to experience rape or sexual assault. This is because younger women are typically less likely to possess the physical stamina to repel an assault and are therefore more physically alluring to attackers. Additionally, because they are frequently living away from home for the first time and might not be aware of the possible hazards they face, college-age women are particularly vulnerable to sexual assault.

Poverty puts women at higher risk of committing crimes. This is because, in order to survive, desperation brought on by poverty may result in criminal conduct. Furthermore, disadvantaged neighbourhoods frequently have higher levels of overall violence, which can raise the possibility of becoming a victim of crime.

Furthermore, any woman who has previously been the victim of domestic abuse or violence faces a higher risk of becoming a victim of crime in the future. This is due to the fact that these women frequently lack self-confidence and may think they deserve the abuse or are unable to stop it. Domestic abuse can also result in PTSD, which can raise a person's risk of

being a victim of crime even more. Although the issue of crime against women is complicated, it must be dealt with in order to protect women from harm. According to the above findings following recommendations can be suggested:

- i. Sexual assault victims should have access to legal representation.
- ii. Law enforcement agencies are obligated to notify the victim about her entitlement to seek legal representation prior to questioning herself, and the report they file ought to indicate that she was so informed. The victim's advocate is supposed to help the victim in filing the complaint, but also point her toward acquiring further aid, such as psychiatric, healthcare, and financial support.
- iii. The victim's troubled mental state must be taken into account while legal aid must be provided at the police station.
- iv. A directory of advocates who were ready to represent these clients should be created.
- v. There should be a criminal injury compensation committee established, and regardless of whether there was a conviction, the court should award compensation to the victim if the culprit was found guilty.
- vi. Lack of cooperation between investigative police officers and public prosecutors is to blame for the weak acquittal rate in rape cases.
- vii. To reduce gender bias beliefs regarding rape victims, training workshops for judges and lawyers are required. It is strongly urged that specialized courts be set up to hear cases of sexual assault. These tribunals should be presided over by female judges so that the victim believes comfortable disclosing the particulars of the sexual assault that she underwent.
- viii. Giving the victim's relatives counselling is an additional essential component. Such facilities must to be built all over the country to provide medical aid and counselling to rape survivors. The best support through difficult times and mental distress can come from family members;
- ix. Particularly for heinous crimes like rape, there is an urgent need for the formation of a state-sponsored compensation for victim's fund. This compensation must be determined by the victim's requirements and must have no bearing on whether the accused is found guilty or not. It ought to be put into effect right away as an FIR has been submitted or a complaint is acknowledged.

- x. The main stream media must be aware of the rape victim's situation and refrain from drawing attention to the victim's identification or any other details that might be utilized in determining them, as doing so would be harmful.
- xi. The state's administration should support a minimum of one women's group in every district to ensure the protection. The government shouldn't meddle with NGOs' autonomy or operations in return for their patronage, support, or cooperation.