

## CHAPTER-5

### CRIME AGAINST WOMEN

Although Women may be victims of any of the general crimes such as 'Murder', 'Robbery', 'Cheating', etc, only the crimes which are directed specifically *against Women* are characterised as 'Crimes Against Women'. Various new legislations have been brought and amendments have been made in existing laws with a view to handle these crimes effectively. These are broadly classified under two categories.

(1) **The Crimes under the Indian Penal Code (IPC)**

- (i) Rape (Sec. 376 IPC)
- (ii) Kidnapping & Abduction for specified purposes (Sec. 363 - 373 IPC)
- (iii) Homicide for Dowry, Dowry Deaths or their attempts (Sec. 302/304-B IPC)
- (iv) Torture - both mental and physical (Sec. 498-A IPC)
- (v) Molestation (Sec. 354 IPC)
- (vi) Sexual Harassment (Sec. 509 IPC)
- (vii) Importation of girls (upto 21 years of age) (Sec. 366-B IPC)

(2) **The Crimes under the Special & Local Laws (SLL)**

Although all laws are not gender specific, the provisions of law affecting women significantly have

been reviewed periodically and amendments carried out to keep pace with the emerging requirements. The gender specific laws for which crime statistics are recorded throughout the country are -

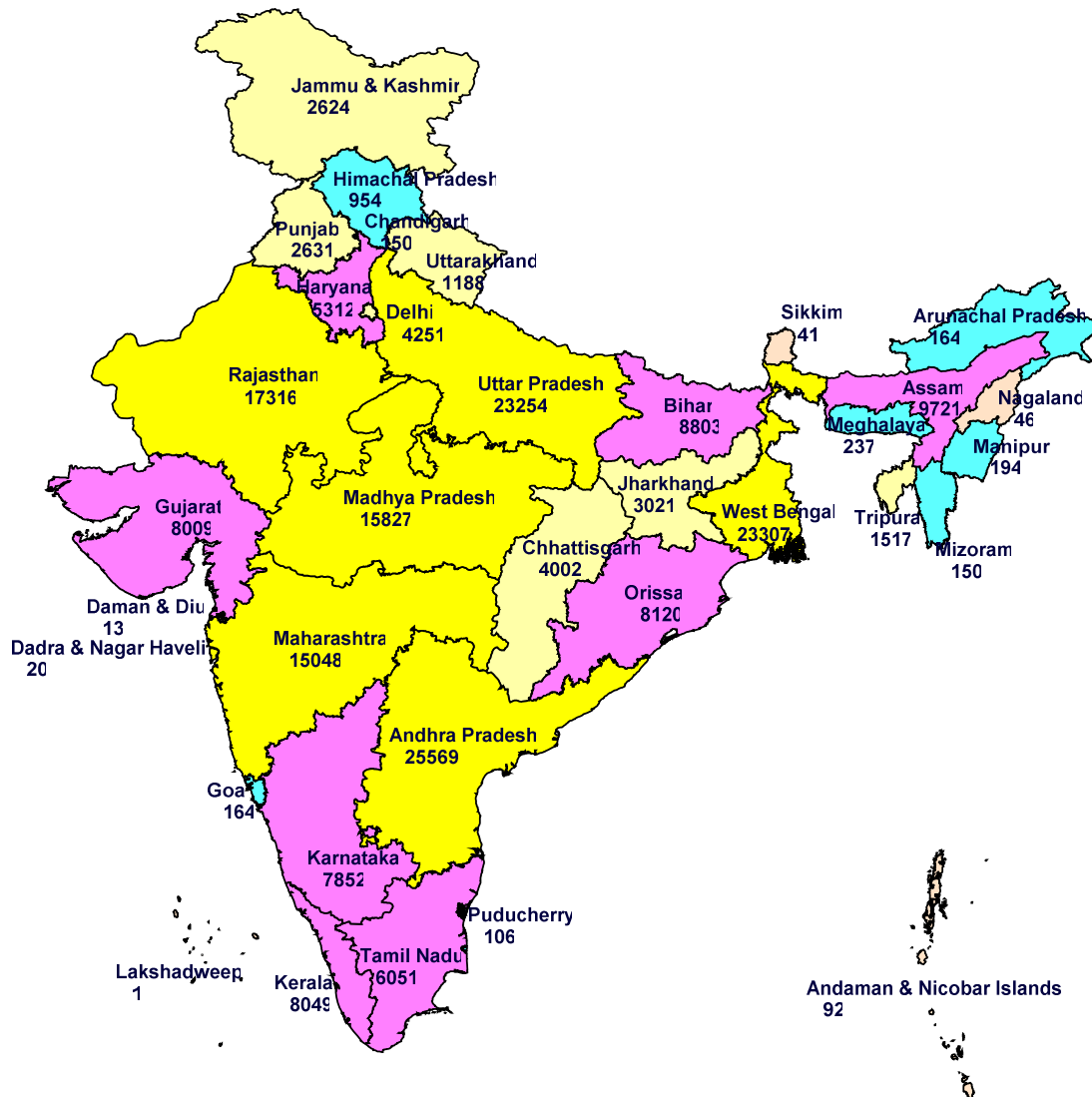
- (i) Immoral Traffic (Prevention) Act, 1956
- (ii) Dowry Prohibition Act, 1961
- (iii) Indecent Representation of Women (Prohibition) Act, 1986
- (iv) Commission of Sati (Prevention) Act, 1987

**Reported Incidents of crime (Incidence...2,03,804)**

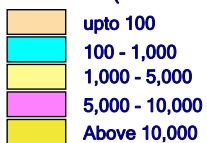
*A total of 2,03,804 incidents of crime against women (both under IPC and SLL) were reported in the country during 2009 as compared to 1,95,856 during 2008 recording an increase of 4.1% during 2009. These crimes have continuously increased during 2005 - 2009 with 1,55,553 in 2005, 1,64,765 cases in 2006, 1,85,312 cases in 2007, 1,95,856 cases in 2008 and 2,03,804 cases in 2009. Andhra Pradesh, accounting for nearly 7.1% of the country's population, has accounted for 12.5% of total crimes against women in the country by reporting 25,569 cases. West Bengal with 7.6% share of country's population has accounted for nearly 11.4% of total crime against women by reporting 23,307 cases in 2009.*

# INCIDENCE OF CRIME AGAINST WOMEN DURING 2009

(All India 203804)



## Incidence (No. of Cases)



## Crime Rate (Crime rate... 17.4)

The rate of crime has increased marginally from 17.0 during the year 2008 to 17.4 during 2009. Tripura reported the highest rate of crime against women at 42.5 during 2009.

presented in Table-5(A). The crime against women has increased by 4.1% over 2008 and by 31.0% over 2005. The IPC component of crimes against women has accounted for 95.6% of total crimes and the rest 4.4% were SLL crimes against women.

## Trend Analysis

The crime head-wise details of reported crimes during 2005 to 2009 along with percentage variation are

The proportion of IPC crimes committed against women towards total IPC crimes has increased continually during last 5 years from 7.9% in 2005 to 9.2% during 2009.

Table - 5(A)

Crime Head-wise Incidents of Crime Against Women during 2005 - 2009 and Percentage variation in 2009 over 2008

Sl. No.	Crime Head	Year					Percentage variation in 2009 over 2008
		2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	
1.	Rape (Sec. 376 IPC)	18,359	19,348	20,737	21,467	21,397	-0.3
2.	Kidnapping & Abduction (Sec. 363 to 373 IPC)	15,750	17,414	20,416	22,939	25,741	12.2
3.	Dowry Death (Sec. 302 / 304 IPC)	6,787	7,618	8,093	8,172	8,383	2.6
4.	Torture (Sec. 498-A IPC)	58,319	63,128	75,930	81,344	89,546	10.1
5.	Molestation (Sec. 354 IPC)	34,175	36,617	38,734	40,413	38,711	-4.2
6.	Sexual Harassment (Sec. 509 IPC)	9,984	9,966	10,950	12,214	11,009	-9.9
7.	Importation of Girls (Sec. 366-B IPC)	149	67	61	67	48	-28.3
8.	Sati Prevention Act, 1987	1	0	0	1	0	-100.0
9.	Immoral Traffic (Prevention) Act, 1956	5,908	4,541	3,568	2,659	2,474	-6.9
10.	Indecent Representation of Women (Prohibition) Act, 1986	2,917	1,562	1,200	1,025	845	-17.6
11.	Dowry Prohibition Act, 1961	3,204	4,504	5,623	5,555	5,650	1.7
	<b>Total</b>	<b>1,55,553</b>	<b>1,64,765</b>	<b>1,85,312</b>	<b>1,95,856</b>	<b>2,03,804</b>	<b>4.1</b>



**Table - 5(B)**  
**Proportion of Crime against Women (IPC) towards total IPC crimes**

Sl. No.	Year	Total IPC Crimes	Crime Against women (IPC cases)	Percentage to total IPC crimes
1	2005	18,22,602	1,43,523	7.9
2	2006	18,78,293	1,54,158	8.2
3	2007	19,89,673	1,74,921	8.8
4	2008	20,93,379	1,86,617	8.9
5	2009	21,21,345	2,03,804	9.2

### **Crime head-wise analysis (IPC)**

#### **Rape (Sec. 376 IPC) (Incidence...21,397 Rate...1.8)**

An increasing trend in cases of rape has been observed during 2005 - 2008. However, incidence of rape has marginally declined during 2009 as compared to 2008. These cases reported an increase of 5.4% in 2006 over 2005, an increase of 7.2% in 2007 over 2006, an increase of 3.5% in 2008 over 2007 and a decline of 0.3% in 2009 over 2008. *Madhya Pradesh has reported the highest number of Rape cases (2,998) accounting for 14.0% of total such cases reported in the country.* However, Mizoram has reported the highest crime rate 8.3 as compared to National average of 1.8.

Rape cases have been further categorised as Incest Rape and other Rape cases.

#### **Incest Rape (Incidence...404)**

Incest rape cases have increased by 30.7% from 309

cases in 2008 to 404 cases in 2009 as compared to 0.3% decrease in overall Rape cases. Chhattisgarh (107) has accounted for the highest (26.5%) of the total such cases reported in the country. (See Table 5.3)

#### **Rape Victims**

There were 21,413 victims of Rape out of 21,397 reported Rape cases in the country. 11.5% (2,470) of the total victims of Rape were girls under 15 years of age, while 15.6% (2,912) were teenaged girls (15-18 years). 59.8% (12,812) were women in the age-group 18-30 years. 3,124 victims (14.6%) were in the age-group of 30-50 years while 0.4% (95) were over 50 years of age. The details are given in Table-5.3.

*Offenders were known to the victims in as many as 20,311 (94.9%) cases.* Parents / close family members were involved in 2.0% (404 out of 20,311) of these cases, neighbours were involved in 35.1% cases (7,129 out of 20,311) and relatives were involved in 7.3% (1,481 out of 20,311) cases. The State / UT / City-wise details are presented in Table-5.4.

**Kidnapping & Abduction (Sec. 363-373 IPC)**  
**(Incidence...25,741**  
**Rate...2.2)**

*These cases have reported an increase of 12.2% as compared to previous year (22,939). Uttar Pradesh (5,078) has accounted for 19.7% of the total cases at the National level. Delhi UT has reported the highest rate at 9.3 as compared to the National average of 2.2.*

**Dowry Deaths (Sec. 302, 304B IPC)**  
**(Incidence...8,383**  
**Rate...0.7)**

*These cases have increased by 2.6% over the previous year (8,172). 26.6% of the total such cases reported in the country were reported from Uttar Pradesh (2,232) alone followed by Bihar (1,295) (15.4%). The highest rate of crime (1.4) was reported from Bihar as compared to the National average of 0.7.*

**Torture (Cruelty by Husband & Relatives) (Sec. 498-A IPC)**  
**(Incidence...89,546**  
**Rate...7.7)**

*'Torture' cases in the country have increased by 10.1% over the previous year (81,344). 18.0% of these were reported from West Bengal (16,112). The highest rate of 22.8 was reported from Tripura as compared to the National rate at 7.7.*

**Molestation (Sec. 354 IPC)**  
**(Incidence...38,711**  
**Rate...3.3)**

*Incidents of Molestation in the country have decreased by 4.2% over the previous year (40,413). Madhya Pradesh has reported the highest incidence (6,307) amounting to 16.3% of total such cases. Tripura has reported the highest rate (10.8) as compared to the National average of 3.3.*

**Sexual Harassment (Sec. 509 IPC)**  
**(Incidence...11,009 Rate...0.9)**

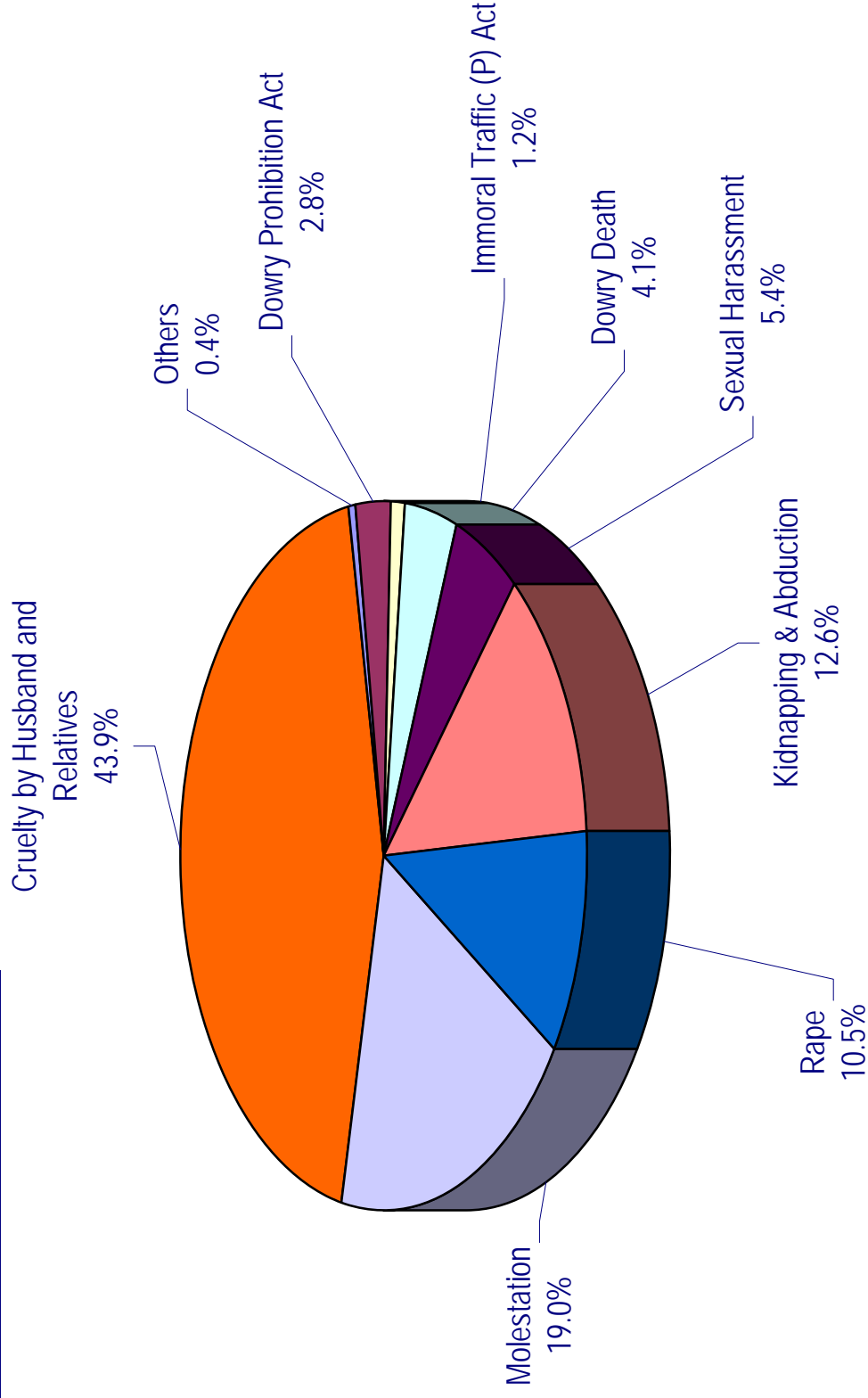
*The number of such cases has decreased by 9.9% over the previous year (12,214). Andhra Pradesh has reported 32.0% of cases (3,520) followed by Uttar Pradesh 22.9% (2,524). Andhra Pradesh has reported the highest crime rate 4.2 as compared to the National average of 0.9.*

**Importation of Girls (Sec. 366-B IPC)**  
**(Incidence...48)**

*A decrease of 28.3% has been observed in such cases as 48 cases were reported during the year 2009 as compared to 67 cases in the previous year (2008). Bihar (31) has reported the highest number of such cases accounting for 64.6% of total such cases at the National level.*

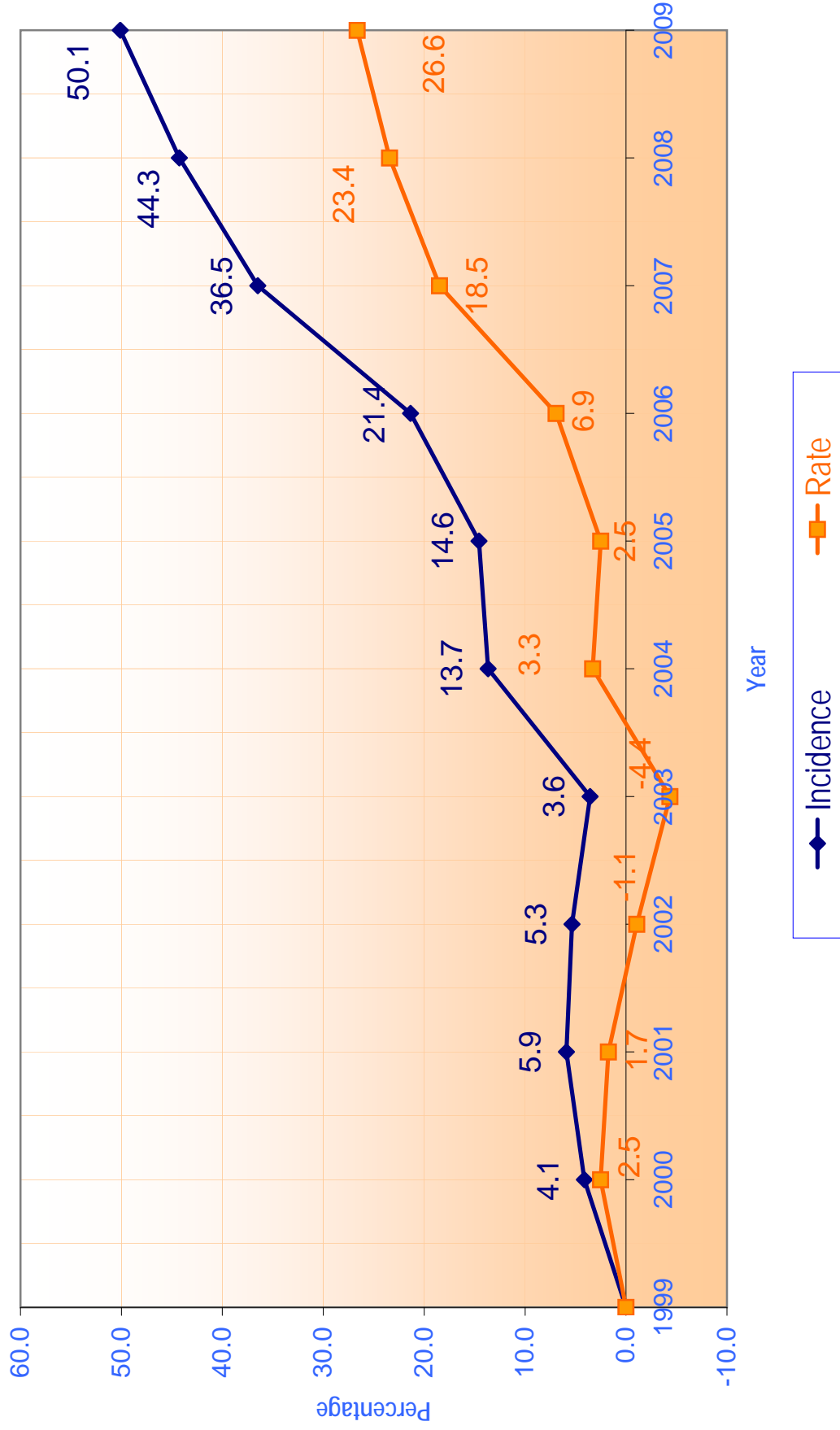
**Crime Against Women  
Percent Distribution during 2009**

**FIGURE 5.1**



Incidence & Rate of Crime Against Women  
Percentage Change from 1999

FIGURE 5.2





**Crime-head wise analysis  
(Special Laws)**

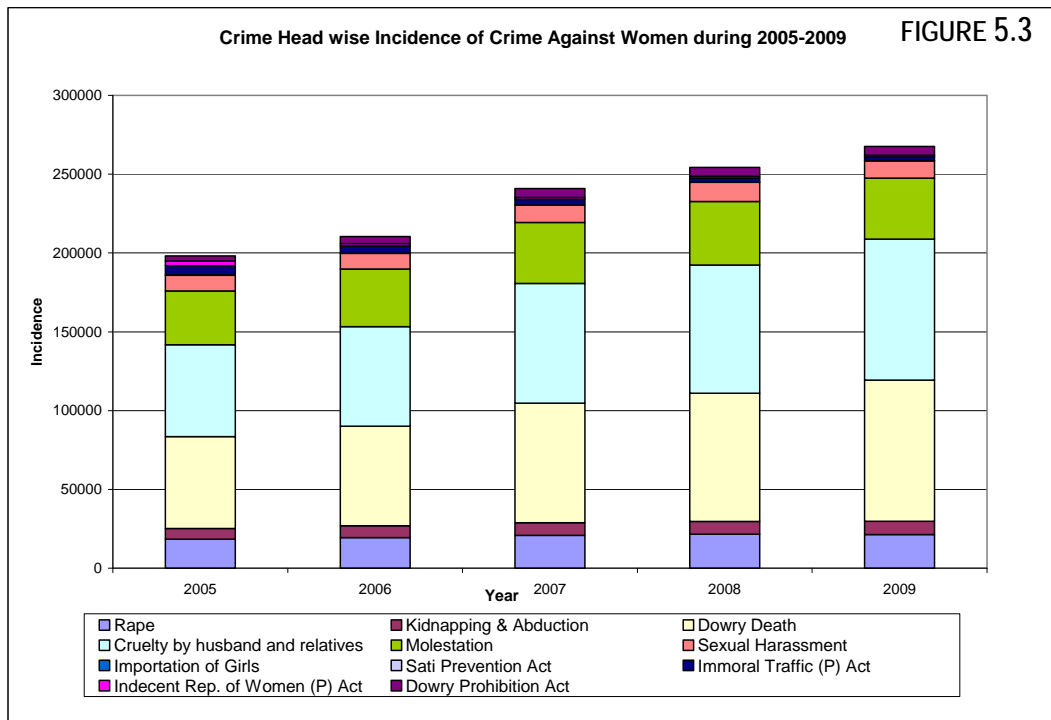
2.1 as compared to the National average of 0.2.

**Immoral Traffic (Prevention) Act  
(Incidence...2,474  
Rate...0.2)**

**Sati Prevention Act  
(Incidence...Nil)**

*Cases under this Act have registered a decline of 6.9% during the year as compared to the previous year (2,659). 28.9% (716) cases were reported from Tamil Nadu whereas Daman & Diu reported the highest crime rate of*

*No case was registered under this Act in 2009 as against one case reported from Chhattisgarh in 2008.*



**Indecent Representation of Women (Prohibition) Act  
(Incidence...845 Rate...0.1)**

A decline of 17.6% was noticed in cases under this Act as compared to previous year (1,025). *Andhra Pradesh with 704 cases has accounted for 83.3% of total such cases at the National level* which has also reported the highest crime rate of 0.8 as compared to the National average rate of 0.1.

**Dowry Prohibition Act  
(Incidence...5,650 Rate...0.5)**

*The cases under this Act have increased by 1.7% as compared to the previous year (5,555).* 24.1% cases were reported from Andhra Pradesh (1,362) followed by Bihar (1,252) accounting for 22.2% of total cases at the National level. The highest crime rate was reported from Orissa at 2.3 as compared to 0.5 at the National level.

**Crime against Women in Cities  
(All-India...2,03,804  
Cities...23,983)**

35 cities having population over 10 lakh (See Chapter-2) have been identified as Mega cities as per population census 2001. A total of 23,983 cases of crimes against women were reported from these 35 cities as compared to 24,756 cases in the year 2008 reporting a

decrease of 3.1%. The rate of crime in cities at 22.2 was comparatively higher as compared to the National rate of 17.4.

Among 35 cities, Delhi (3,701) has accounted for 15.4% of total crimes followed by Hyderabad (1,896) (7.9%). The crime rate was significantly higher in Vijayawada, Lucknow and Vishakhapatnam at 92.6, 55.5 and 54.6 respectively as compared to average of mega cities at 22.2.

*Delhi city has accounted for 23.8% of Rape cases, 38.9% of Kidnapping & Abduction cases, 15.2% of Dowry Deaths and 14.1% of Molestation cases among 35 cities.* Hyderabad has reported 11.9% of cases of Cruelty by Husband and Relatives. Lucknow has reported 14.5% of cases of Eve-teasing. All the 4 cases under Importation of Girls were reported from Kolkata city.

It is worthwhile to mention that *Bengaluru, Chennai, Mumbai and Jaipur* have booked more cases under Special & Local Laws among the mega cities. 17.3% (134 out of 774) of cases under Immoral Traffic (Prevention) Act and 83.3% (567 out of 681) of Dowry Prohibition Act cases were registered in Bengaluru city alone. Similarly, 15.9% (123 out of 774) and 14.6% (113 out of 774) cases under Immoral Traffic (Prevention) Act were registered in Chennai and Mumbai respectively. All the 44 cases under Indecent Representation of Women (Prohibition) Act cases were registered in Jaipur city.