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## Crime in India 2019 Report: NCRB

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### Why in News

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The **National Crime Records Bureau (NCRB)** has released the **annual Crime in India 2019 report**.

It reports an **increase in crimes against Scheduled Castes (SCs) and Scheduled Tribes (STs)** in the year 2019 as compared to the year 2018.

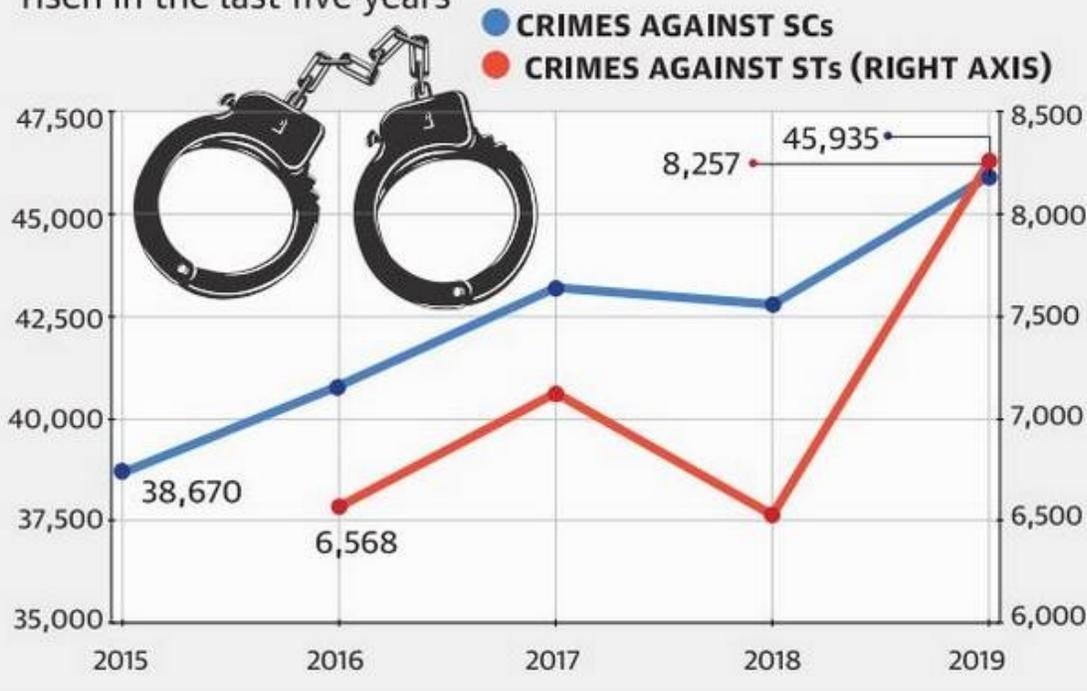
### Key Points

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### **Crimes against SCs and STs:**

- Crime against **SCs have increased by over 7%** and crimes against **STs have increased by 26%** in year 2019 compared to 2018.
- **Uttar Pradesh** recorded the **highest number of crimes against SCs** in 2019, followed by Rajasthan and Bihar.
- **Madhya Pradesh** recorded the **highest number of cases against STs**, followed by Rajasthan, and Odisha.
- **Categories:** Crimes against SCs and STs include the following categories:
  - Atrocities committed by non-SC/ST members under the **Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes (Prevention of Atrocities Act)**, 1989 (POA Act)
  - Indian Penal Code
  - Protection of Civil Rights Act, 1955 : It prescribes punishment for the preaching and practice of Untouchability.
- **Lack of Data**
  - According to the **Commonwealth Human Rights Initiative** (CHRI), very few cases were being registered for specific discriminatory action against SCs and STs under the POA Act.
  - Such actions are registered mainly when **accompanied by any of the IPC** offences like rape, murders etc.
  - Also, there **is no data on total complaints** received on crimes against the Scheduled Castes, the only data available is the number of cases registered.

## Rising hate | Crimes against persons belonging to the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes have sharply risen in the last five years



- **Data on Other Crimes**

- **Cognizable Crimes:** An increase of 1.6% in registration of cognizable crimes in 2019 as compared to 2018 was recorded. Cognizable crimes comprise **Indian Penal Code (IPC)** ones and **Special and Local Laws (SLL)** crimes.
  - Cognisable offence means an offence in which a police officer has the authority to make an arrest without a warrant.
  - SLL are Acts that are framed by the state government for specific issues.
- **Crimes Against Women:** Crime against women showed an increase of 7.3% in 2019 from 2018.
  - 88 cases of crimes against women were recorded per day.
  - Majority of cases under crime against women under IPC were registered under cruelty by husband or his relatives (30.9%), followed by assault on women with intent to outrage her modesty, kidnapping & abduction of women and rape .
  - In the number of cases of **rape of women belonging to SCs, Rajasthan** topped the list, followed by Uttar Pradesh and Madhya Pradesh.
- **Cybercrimes:** Increased by 63.5% in 2019. 60.4% of cybercrime cases registered were for the motive of fraud followed by sexual exploitation.

- **Other Related News:** The Supreme Court recently **upheld the constitutional validity of the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes (Prevention of Atrocities) Amendment Act, 2018.**
  - The amendment act was challenged on the grounds of violation of the **fundamental right to equality (Article 14)** and **personal liberty (Article 21).**
  - The amendment act adds article 18A which states that the preliminary enquiry shall not be required for registration of a First Information Report against any person.
  - It also delineates **specific crimes** against Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes as atrocities and **describes strategies and prescribes punishments** to counter these acts.

### **National Crime Record Bureau**

- NCRB, **headquartered in New Delhi, was set-up in 1986** under the **Ministry of Home Affairs** to function as a repository of information on crime and criminals so as to assist the investigators in linking crime to the perpetrators.
- It was set up based on the recommendations of the National Police Commission (1977-1981) and the MHA's Task Force (1985).
- NCRB brings out the annual comprehensive statistics of crime across the country (**'Crime in India' report**).  
Being **published since 1953**, the report serves as a crucial tool in understanding the law and order situation across the country.

**Source: TH**