



India Justice Report 2020

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Why in News

The **India Justice Report** (2020) prepared by the **Tata Trusts** in collaboration with the **Centre for Social Justice, Common Cause, DAKSH, Vidhi Centre for Legal Policy** and the **Commonwealth Human Rights Initiative** has been released recently.

The Report **assesses the capacity of various states to deliver justice.**

Key Points

- **About the Report:**

The report **analysed expenditure, vacancies, representation of women, human resources, infrastructure, workload, diversity across 18 large and medium-sized states** with a population of over 1 crore and **7 small states.**

- **Findings:**
 - **Overall Ranking:**
 - The overall ranking is a result of a state's ranking across the **four pillars of justice delivery system - Judiciary, Police, Prisons and Legal aid.**
 - **Maharashtra** was ranked **topmost** among 18 states for the second time in a row, followed by Tamil Nadu and Telangana. **Uttar Pradesh** remains **last.**
 - Amongst the **smaller states**, **Goa** remained at the **top** and **Arunachal Pradesh** at the **bottom.**
 - **Women Ratio in Police Force:**
 - **Bihar** leads the list of 25 states for employing most women in its **police force** which is 25.3%.
 - It is the only state to have more than **20% women in the police force.** However, women account for only **6.1% in the officer category.**
 - **Tamil Nadu** has the **highest percentage of women police officers** (24.8%), followed by Mizoram (20.1%).
 - **Women Ratio in Judiciary:**
 - Overall, **only 29% judges in High Courts** across the country are women, but no state **except Sikkim** has over 20% women judges.
 - Four states - Bihar, Uttarakhand, Tripura and Meghalaya **have no woman judges in high courts.**
 - **Social Justice:**
 - **Karnataka** is the only state to meet its quotas for SC, ST and OBC in both officer cadre and constabulary.
 - **Chhattisgarh** being the only other state that meets the diversity requirements for constabulary.
 - **Lack of Finances:**

In the last 25 years, only **1.5 crore** people have received legal aid with the Centre spending **Rs. 1.05 per capita in 2019-20.**
 - **High Proportion of Undertrials:**

Two-thirds of all prisoners are **undertrials** awaiting a conviction.
A person who is being held in custody awaiting trial for a crime.
 - **Causes of Poor Justice Delivery:**

Legal services institutions remain affected by a **lack of infrastructure, uneven human resource distribution, poor utilization of central funds and an inability to effectively harness Lok Adalats to ease the burden on the judiciary.**

Source:IE