



Missing Women and Children in India

Why in News

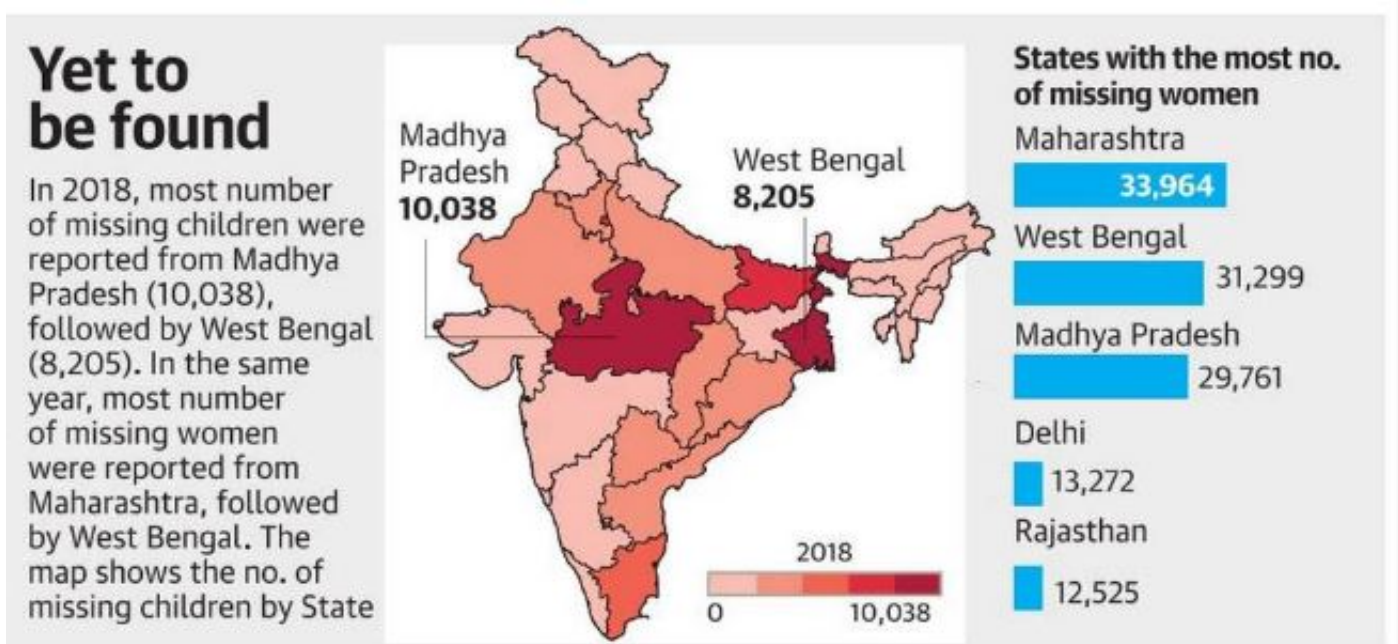
Recently, the **National Crime Records Bureau (NCRB)** has released a study on **missing persons (especially on women and children) in India.**

- The analysis was **directed by the Supreme Court of India in 2019 to identify** the areas prone to **child and women trafficking.**
 - Some parts of the country report higher incidents of missing children and women which could be one of the sources, transit or destination for child /women trafficking.
- The data for the study has been taken from the annual **Crime in India (CII) report** compiled by the NCRB for the years 2016, 2017 and 2018.

Global Scenario

- The **United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) Global report 2018 on trafficking in persons** indicates that the vast majority of the detected victims of trafficking for sexual exploitation are females.
- More than half of the victims of trafficking for forced labour are men and 35 % of them are females.
- The reasons for missing include mental illness, miscommunication, misadventure, domestic violence, and being a victim of crime. Whereas the common cause of trafficking is forced marriage, child labour, domestic help and sexual exploitation etc.

National Scenario

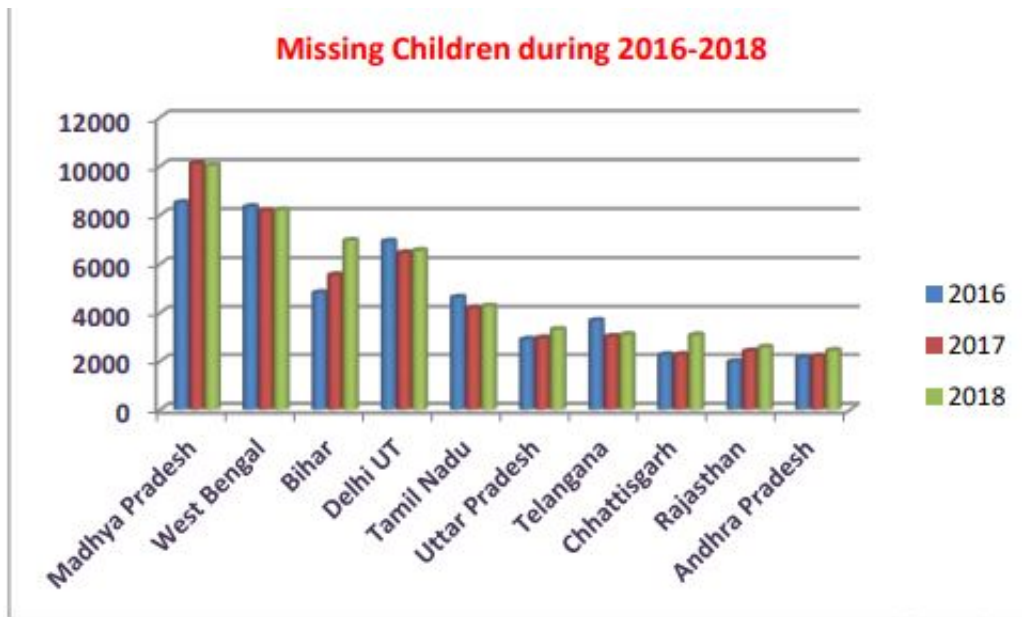


▪ Missing Women

- **Maharashtra** registered the maximum number of missing women followed by **West Bengal**.
- Maharashtra, West Bengal and Madhya Pradesh are three most vulnerable states.
 - Mumbai and Pune (Maharashtra), Kolkata (West Bengal) and Indore (Madhya Pradesh) recorded the highest number of such incidents.

▪ Missing Children

- The number of missing children are **maximum** in the State of **Madhya Pradesh, West Bengal, Delhi and Bihar**.
- Indore reported the highest number of missing children. Whereas **West Bengal's Nadia district, bordering Bangladesh**, showed a **steep increase** from 291 missing children reports in the year 2017 to 474 in 2018.



National Crime Record Bureau

- The National Crime Record Bureau (NCRB) was set-up in 1986 under the Ministry of Home Affairs.
- It functions 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) since 1953. The report serves as a crucial tool in understanding the law and order situation across the country.

Source: TH