



# India Justice Report 2025

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## Why in News?

The **India Justice Report (IJR) 2025** has been released, presenting a comprehensive assessment of the **capacity and performance** of Indian states in delivering justice.

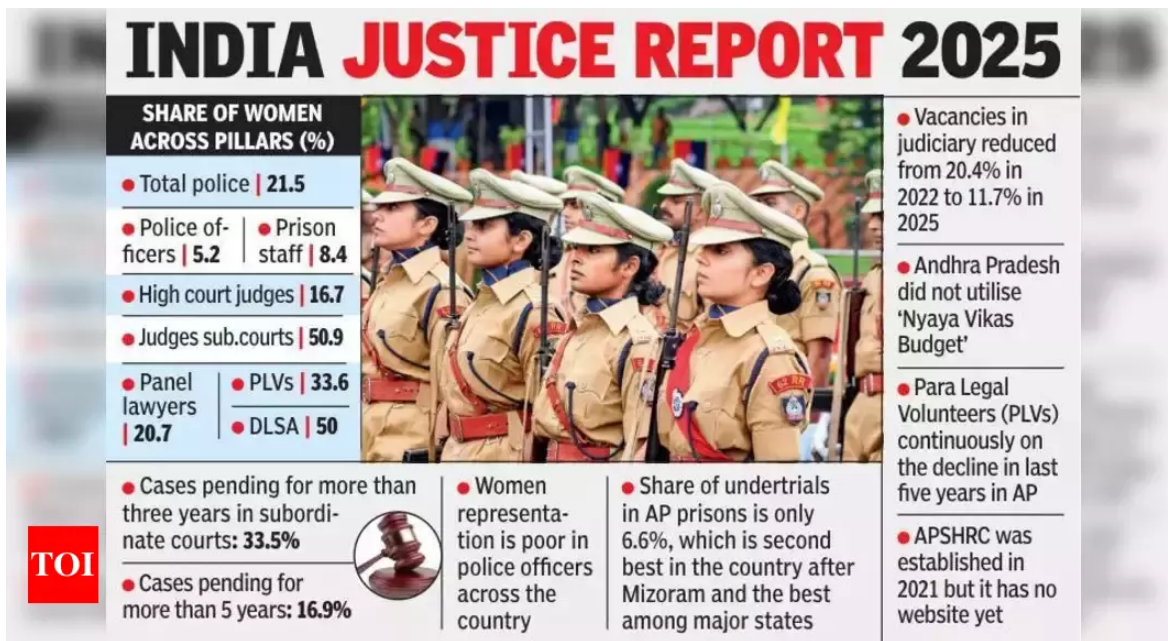
## What is the India Justice Report (IJR)?

- **About:** The **India Justice Report** is a first of its kind **national periodic reporting** that ranks the capacity of states to deliver justice.
- **Parameter:** It assesses 4 pillars: **Police, Prisons, Judiciary, Legal Aid & SHRCs**, using 5 parameters: **human resources, infrastructure, budgets, workload, and diversity**.
- **Categorization of States:** States are categorized as large/mid-sized (>1 crore population) and small (<1 crore) for fair comparison.

## What are the Key Findings of the India Justice Report 2025?

- **Overall Rankings:** Karnataka, Andhra Pradesh, and Telangana top the **large & mid-sized states**, while Sikkim leads among **small states**. Bihar, Chhattisgarh, and Odisha show the most improvement.
- **Share of Women in Police:** Women continue to hold just **8% of officer posts** and under 1,000 of 4,940 senior IPS roles, **90%** serve in constabulary. However, **78% of police stations** now have **Women Help Desks**.
- **Gaps in Justice Delivery:** There are around **21,000 judges** (15 per million vs. recommended 50 by [Law Commission](#)), and high **vacancies in HCs (33%)** and **district courts (21%)**.
  - Per capita spend is just **Rs 6 on legal aid** and overall spending on the judiciary is **Rs 182 per person per year**, with no state allocating over 1% of its budget on the judiciary.
  - The number of **Paralegal Volunteers (PLVs)** has **dropped by 38% over 5 years**, with only **3 PLVs** per lakh population.
    - PLVs, trained under the **Legal Services Authorities Act, 1987**, provide basic legal aid and awareness, especially in rural and marginalized areas.
- **Police:** India's police force faces major manpower gaps, **28%** officer shortfall and low presence (120 per lakh vs. global norm of 222), with **one cop** for every 831 people.
  - Yet, it gets the **highest per capita spending (Rs 1,275)** among 4 justice pillars.
- **Prisons:** India's prisons overcrowded with **131% occupancy** and critical staff shortages- 28% in officers, **44% in correctional staff**, and **43% in medical staff**.
  - The **doctor-inmate ratio is 1:775** (norm: 1:300), with projections showing inmates may exceed capacity by 1.65 lakh by 2030.
  - Under-trials make up **76% of prisoners**, with many spending **3-5 years in custody**.
  - **Caste-based segregation** persists in prisons despite the [SC striking down casteist provisions in 2024](#). Rehabilitation goals remain unmet, with **only 6% of inmates**

receiving education and 2% vocational training in 2022.



## What are the Key Issues Associated with Policing & Judiciary in India?

Click Here to Read: [Issues Associated with Policing in India](#), [Issues Related to Indian Judiciary](#)

## What are the Key Recent Initiatives Related to Judicial Reforms in India?

Click Here to Read: Initiatives [Related to Judicial Reforms](#)

## Conclusion

The **India Justice Report 2025** underscores India's aspirations and challenges in ensuring **accessible, efficient, and inclusive justice**. Despite the implementation of digital tools and reforms, **fundamental capacity gaps persist**. A **comprehensive, sustained, and accountable approach** is crucial to transforming justice delivery across the country.

### **Drishti Mains Question:**

India's policing and judiciary systems are often criticized for delays and inefficiencies. Analyze the primary challenges faced by them and suggest steps to ensure timely and equitable justice.

## UPSC Civil Services Examination Previous Year Question (PYQ)

### **Prelims:**

**Q. With reference to the Indian judiciary, consider the following statements:**

1. Any retired judge of the Supreme Court of India can be called back to sit and act as a Supreme Court judge by the Chief Justice of India with the prior permission of the President of India.
2. A High Court in India has the power to review its own judgement as the Supreme Court does.

**Which of the statements given above is/are correct? (2021)**

- (a) 1 only
- (b) 2 only
- (c) Both 1 and 2
- (d) Neither 1 nor 2

**Ans: (c)**

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**Mains:**

**Q.** Discuss the desirability of greater representation to women in the higher judiciary to ensure diversity, equity and inclusiveness. (2021)

**Q.** Critically examine the Supreme Court's judgement on 'National Judicial Appointments Commission Act, 2014' with reference to appointment of judges of higher judiciary in India. (2017)

PDF Reference URL: <https://www.drishtiias.com/printpdf/india-justice-report-2025>

