

Operation Conviction

Why in News?

Uttar Pradesh has witnessed a transformation in its law and order situation through a strict **zero-tolerance policy**, **including Operation Conviction**, which focuses on securing swift convictions and tackling serious crimes.

Key Points

- Operation Conviction & Impact:
 - Launched in July 2023, Operation Conviction has emerged as a key strategy to ensure swift justice by focusing on fast-track prosecution, leading to significant improvements in conviction rates.
 - In crimes against children, several received the death penalty under <u>Protection of Children from Sexual Offences (POCSO) Act, 2012</u> and more than 600 were sentenced to life imprisonment.
 - Significant convictions have been secured in cases involving top criminals and notorious mafias, underscoring the **focus on organized crime**.
 - POCSO Act, 2012:
 - About:
 - The POCSO Act was enacted to address sexual exploitation and abuse of children, defining a child as anyone below 18 years.
 - It was enacted in consequence to India's ratification of the <u>UN Convention</u> on the <u>Rights of the Child</u> (1992).
 - Key Features:
 - The Act is gender-neutral, protecting both boys and girls from sexual abuse. It provides for interim compensation by Special Courts and immediate relief through the Child Welfare Committee (CWC) for urgent needs.
 - A support person is appointed to assist the child through legal proceedings. Section 23 ensures confidentiality by prohibiting disclosure of the victim's identity in the media.
 - Organised Crime:
 - Organised crime is defined as illegal activities carried out by groups or networks working together, often involving violence, corruption, or related actions to gain financial or material benefits.
 - Transnational organised crime (TOC) occurs when activities or groups operate in multiple countries.
 - Different forms of organised crime include:
 - Money Laundering, <u>Drug Trafficking</u>, <u>Human Trafficking</u>, <u>Illicit Firearms Trafficking</u>, Trafficking in <u>Natural Resources</u>, Fraudulent Medicines, Cybercrime and Identity Theft.

