Crime in India Report

What is the issue?

The annual report, '**Crime in India'** was released by NCRB to provide insights on the patterns of crimes that were registered in 2020.

What does the report say?

- **Crime rate -** States/UTs such as Tamil Nadu (1808.8), Kerala (1568.4) and Delhi (1309.6) recorded the highest crime rate (crimes per one lakh people) overall.
- **Crime against women -** There was an 8.3% decline and out of the total registered cases, 30.2% were of the category "cruelty by husband or his relatives".
- **Crime against Children**- A decline of 13.2% has been reported in cases registered for committing crimes against children.
- **Crime against SCs and STs -** An increase of 9.4% and 9.3% respectively have been reported in 2020.
- **Economic offences** - There was a reduction in the registered number of economic offences (by 12% since 2019) but cybercrimes recorded an increase of 11.8%.
- **Sedition** - Cases related to sedition declined from 93 in 2019 to 73 last year having Manipur and Assam with leading cases.
- **Communal riots** - communal riots registered an increase of 96% in 2020 over the previous year and caste riots saw an increase of close to 50%.
- **Violent crimes** - violent crimes decreased by 0.5% but murder has registered a marginal increase of 1%.
- **Offences against the State** – It include cases related to sedition, waging war against the nation, provisions of Unlawful Activities Prevention Act (UAPA), Official Secrets Act and Damage to Public Property Act.
- 2020 saw a 27% drop in cases over 2019 related to offences against the state.
- **Agrarian riots -** It saw a 38% increase over 2019 due to unprecedented protests against the three farm laws passed by the Centre.

What is the impact of pandemic on the pattern of crimes?

- The year 2020 saw prolonged lockdowns which coincided with a high number of complaints of domestic violence.
- The lockdown also led to an overall fall in crime related to theft, burglary and dacoity.
- The COVID-19 related disruption led to a greater registration of cases due to disobedience to government order and violations of other State local laws.
- As lockdown has led to increase in digital transactions, cybercrimes also saw a rise.

Source: The Hindu, The Indian Expres

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