

A Geographical Study of “Crimes against Women in Haryana- A Case Study of Bahadurgarh District”

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Abstract: *This paper deals with the issue of crime against women in Indian society. In the Indian society, position of women is always perceived in relation to the man. This perception has given birth to various customs and practices. Violence against women both inside and outside of their home has been a crucial issue in the contemporary Indian society. Women in India constitute near about half of its population and most of them are grinding under the socio-cultural and religious structures. One gender has been controlling the space of the India's social economic, political and religious fabric since time immemorial. This study is also considered the level of development and the crime against women. Our government also takes incentives for improving the status of women. Many policies and schemes will be there for the improvement of women conditions at present time and we are finding positive results from these policies and schemes.*

Keywords: Crime, Status of women, Caste, Safe & Unsafe places, Violence, Development

1. Introduction

In Indian society, woman occupies a vital position and venerable place. The Vedas glorified women as the mother, the creator, and one who gives life and worshipped her as a 'Devi' or Goddess. But their glorification was rather mythical for at the same time, in India women found her totally suppressed and subjugated in a patriarchal society. Indian women through the countries remained subjugated and oppressed because society believed in clinging on to orthodox beliefs for the brunt of violence—domestic as well as public, Physical, emotional and mental. Women once venerated as the mother and the perpetuating angel of mankind has come to be looked upon as 'the unblessed creature of God' in India, thanks to the club-and-drag cave-man attitude of the traditionally male-dominated society.

The United Nations defined “Violence against Women” in 1993 in Declaration on the Elimination of Violence against Women. It defines it as any act of gender-based violence that results in, or is likely to result in, physical, sexual or psychological harm or suffering to women, including threats of such acts, coercion or arbitrary deprivation of liberty, whether occurring in public or private life.

For a better understanding of the women's position in Haryanvi society, one must look at this problem- caste factor. This is necessary because it is observed generally that while few castes in Haryana permit certain degree of freedom to women and acknowledge their appointed role in the development of society, the others simply adhere to conservative anti-women values to deny due place to women in the society. These parochial forces get emboldened due to ignorant and uneducated lot of women in the countryside. The predominantly rural economy of the state doesn't provide compelling incentives for women to bypass tradition and take the initiative to join schools and colleges. (Mani

Lal. 1974. Haryana: on high road to prosperity. New Delhi. Vikas Publishing P-8).

2. Objectives of the Study

1. To understand the status of women
2. To analysis how status of women is related to 'crimes against women'
3. To identify the different forms of crime against women according to space

3. Research Methodologies

Research design and methodology consists of collecting data both from secondary as well as primary sources. The primary data was collected through the analysis of wards and household levels through interviews and field survey. It was collected through the questionnaire method. Data has been taken from police stations and media reports will be analyzed with the help of software like SPSS, from 1990-2011 . Maps will be prepared by the software like Eradas, Arc GIS 10.1, Arc View 3.1. The data is tabulated manually. Once the tabulation was over for the survey the appropriate technique will followed i.e. percentage distribution, product movement correlation, Lorenz curves etc

4. Crime against Women: A Study of IPC (in India)

“The Semantic meaning of „crime against women” is direct or indirect physical or mental cruelty to women. Crimes which are „directed specifically against women” and in which, only women are victims” are characterized as Crime against Women. Although Women may be victims of any of the general crimes such as, Murder, "Robbery", Cheating" etc., only the crimes which are directed specifically against women are characterized as, Crimes against Women". Various new legislations have been brought and amendments

have been made in existing laws with a view to handle these crimes effectively. These are broadly classified under two categories i.e. (A) The Crimes under the Indian Penal Code (IPC) and (B) The Crimes under the Special & Local Laws (SLL).

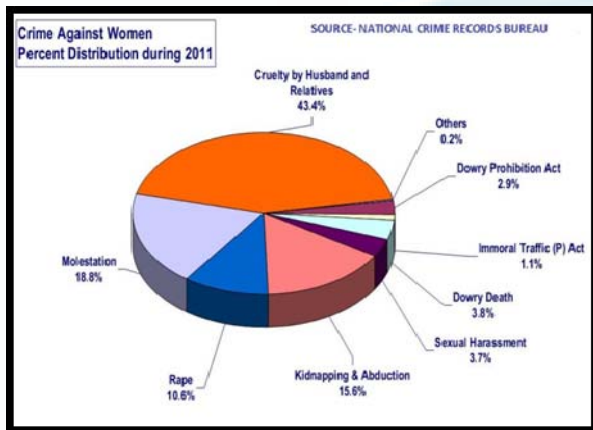


Figure 1.1: Percentage of crime Against women in 2011

The Crimes under the Indian Penal Code (IPC)

Six Crimes included under this head are as follows:

1. Rape (Section 376 IPC) (incidence 24,206 , Rate:2.0)

An increasing trend in cases of rape has been observed during 2007-08. A mixed trend in the incidence of rape has been observed during the periods 2008-11. These cases have reported an increase of 3.5% in the year 2008 over the year 2007, a decline of 0.3% in the year 2009 over 2008 and an increase of 3.6% in the year 2010 over 2009 and further an increase of 9.2% in the year 2011 over the year 2010. Madhya Pradesh has reported the highest number of Rape cases (3,406) in india

2. Kidnapping & Abduction (Sec. 363-373 IPC) (Incidence...35, 565, Rate...2.9)

These cases have reported an increase of 19.4% during the year as compared to previous year (29,795 cases). Uttar Pradesh with 7,525 cases has accounted for 21.2% of the total cases at the National level. Delhi UT has reported the highest crime rate at 12.4 as compared to the National average of 2.9.

3. Dowry Death (Sec.302, 304B IPC) and Dowry Prohibition Act, 1961

A unique form of violence experienced by women is „Dowry Death" and now, the most common one. These cases have increased by 2.7% during the year 2011 over the previous year (8,391 cases). 26.9% of the total such cases reported in the country were reported from Uttar Pradesh (2,322) cases alone followed by Bihar (1,413 cases) (16.4%). The highest rate of crime (1.4) was reported from Bihar as compared to the National average of 0.7

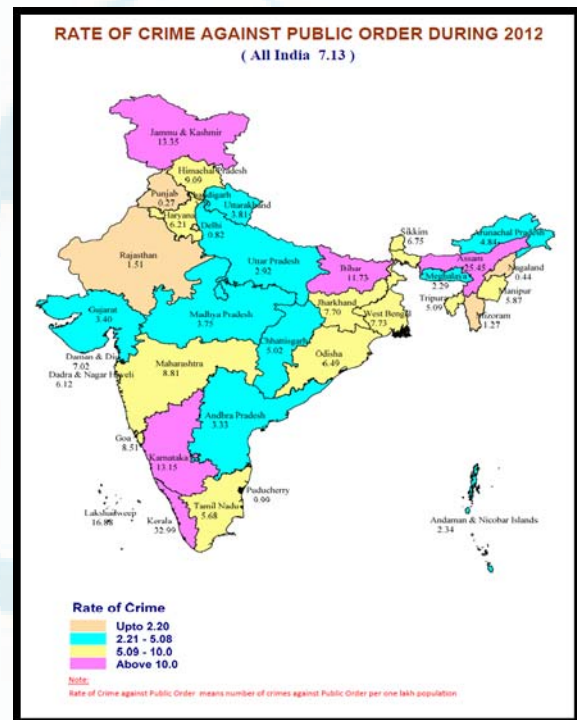
4. Torture (Cruelty by Husband (Incidence ...99,135, Rate...8.2) & Relatives) (Sex.498-A IPC)

Torture" cases in the country have increased by 5.4% over the previous year (94,041 cases). 19.9% of these were reported from West Bengal (19,772 cases). The highest

crime rate of 21.6 was also reported from West Bengal as compared to the National rate at 8.2

5. Sexual Harassment (Sec.509 IPC) (Incidence...8,570 Rate...0.7)

The number of such cases has decreased by 14.0% during the year over the previous year (9,961 cases). Andhra Pradesh has reported 42.7% (3,658 cases) followed by Maharashtra 12.5% (1,071 cases) of total incidences during the year 2011. Andhra Pradesh has reported the highest crime rate (4.3) as compared to the National average



Map 1.1: Crime against women in India

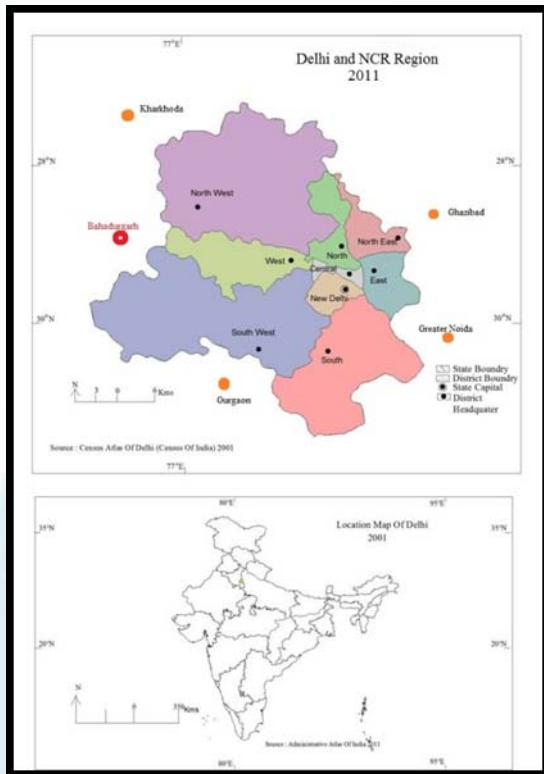
5. Study Area

Bahadurgarh, known as the "Gateway of Haryana," is both a city and a municipal council located in Jhajjar, a district in the state of Haryana, India, which comprises 31 wards. Bahadurgarh is about 2 km from Delhi (Tikri Border). It is also one of the important cities of National Capital Region Bahadurgarh is located at 28°41'N 76°55'E / 28.68°N 76.92°E / 28.68; 76.92 and covers an area of approximately 50 km². It is located to the west of Delhi on the National Highway Number 10. Bahadurgarh is gaining popularity as a residential locale for businessmen and public sector employees working in Delhi. Ongoing Kundli Manesar Palwal Highway, Reliance Sez & Yokohama Plant are going to play a vital role in the development of Bahadurgarh.

It has four residential sectors developed by Haryana Urban Development Authority HUDA. Sector-6 is the oldest and most developed of all. Surrounded by lush greenery, it is considered [by whom?] to be the most spacious sector developed in Haryana by Haryana Urban Development Authority (HUDA). It has good transportation links all around. The Footwear park at sector 16 & 17 is an upcoming

industrial area. Omaxe, KLJ heights, Times Square & PDM are building a township with mall, hospital, school and society.

establishing in the city which plays a major role in any areas education level.



Map 2: Location of Bahadurgarh NCR Region

6. Status of Women

In every society, we find that women and men have some status. In the pure sociological sense, status of gender does not imply rank or hierarchy but denotes only position via-avis condition in terms of rights and obligations of women and men. However, social, cultural, historical religious practices and values are the important determinants of women and men’s status in the society. Another factor that “gender” is also an important factor in determining the status of women and men. Further, classes or caste, ethnicity and race also influence the status of women and men. Therefore, it is difficult to view emerging trends of society in isolation from them. Many social structures hierarchies thus influence “gender ideology” giving birth to various structures giving particular view to gender status and position in terms of superiority and inferiority that is in terms of power, privileges, advantages and disadvantages .In Bahadurgarh the status of women in this area we will take the indicators like level of education, level of development, women’s participation in work and sex ratio. Because the status of women is represents the high and low level of crime against the women in my study area. In the study area level of education is good. According to census 2011 the average literacy rate of the city 88.04 % in which male literacy rate is 94% and female literacy rate is 80 %.in the city literacy rate is improving very rapidly. New institutes and colleges is also

7. Crime against Women

In the city many crimes happens such as domestic violence ,sexual violence ,honour killing ,early marriage ,female foeticide but in these crimes many crimes remains unreported .honour killing and female foeticide like crimes do not reported by peoples that’s why the recorded data for these crimes are not available .sexual violence and domestic violence like crimes are reported. The main reason of domestic violence in study area is dowry.

Table 1: Indicators to show the status of women in Bahadurgarh District (Haryana)

| Year | Total population | Literacy rate in % | Female work participation in % | Sex Ratio per thousand male |
|------|------------------|--------------------|--------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| 1961 | 14982 | 34.3 | 11.4 | 836 |
| 1971 | 25812 | 44.8 | 26.9 | 836 |
| 1981 | 37488 | 57.6 | 28.4 | 834 |
| 1991 | 57235 | 64.2 | 27.8 | 840 |
| 2000 | 131925 | 84.7 | 29.4 | 847 |
| 2011 | 170426 | 88.0 | 32.7 | 858 |

Source: - Haryana District census Handbook of India 2011

8. Safe and Unsafe Spaces

Safe spaces A place where anyone can relax and be fully self-expressed, without fear of being made to feel uncomfortable, unwelcome, or unsafe on account of biological sex, race/ethnicity, sexual orientation, gender identity or expression, cultural background, age, or physical or mental ability; a place where the rules guard each person's self-respect and dignity and strongly encourage everyone to respect others These spaces enhance women’s safety and feelings of safety, and detract from features that cause women’s insecurity and feelings of insecurity.

Unsafe Spaces Places where women cannot feel comfortable and secure them feel unsafe from any kind of v violence, negative activities and any crime against them. These spaces enhance women's unsafe and promote the causes of women's insecurity. In these places women's feel themselves weak and in furious. They feel fear every time. In my study area the major unsafe places are the line par area which are prominently dominated by the lower cast people which is followed by the Town hall area . in both the areas the rate of crimes will be leads against the women.

Table 2: Yearly crimes against women in Bahadhagarh district (Haryana)

| Year | Crime against women in Bahadhagarh district in %(Haryana) | Crime against women in India (%) |
|------|------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| 1961 | Na | 7.2 |
| 1971 | Na | 8.24 |
| 1981 | Na | 6.23 |
| 1991 | 10.32 | 6.98 |
| 2000 | 19.2 | 12.6 |
| 2011 | 22.4 | 18.9 |

Source: crime report of Haryana and India

Both the tables (Table 2 or Table 3) represent the rate of crimes in comparison to India and bahadhgarh district of Haryana, Which shows that the rate of crimes will increases at a very faster rate.

Table 3: Crime against women in bahadhgarh (Haryana) 2011

| Attributes | Increasing rate of crime in percentage from 1961-2011 |
|------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------|
| Domestic violence | 17.67 |
| Dowry | 22.9 |
| Honor killing | 11.78 |
| Violence in public space | 34.5 |
| Violence in individual space | 44.2 |
| Female focisetied | 9.87 |
| Child marriage | 5.82 |

Source: Crime report of Haryana and India 2010

9. Women’s Responses to Development

Socio-economic development and integration of women in to the mainstream of national life has been pursued as a national policy objective since independence. The successive five-year plans have implemented programmers for the development of women in the fields of education, health, employment and training. Several legislative enactments have been made to promote the legal status and political participation of women. There have been several positive developments affecting the status of women such as rising life expectancy, falling mortality and morbidity rates, increasing age at marriage for girls, rising enrolment and retention of girls at various levels of education and improving participation of women in political, economic and administrative decision making. (P.R. Reddy, P. Sumangala.1998. (ed.). **Women in Development: Perspectives from Selected States of India. Vol-2. In Barriers to Women’s Development** by V.J. Naidu and K. Chandralekha. New Delhi: B.R. Publishing Corporation)

Women's Negative Response to Development

Welfare of the society is always a motto of the planners and welfare of the women always remained a major concern to the social reformers of the time. This is due to fact that women become the disadvantage section of the society. Equity and Equality is given to women since ancient India

and in the constitution. However, equality is a dream partially achieved and partially to be achieved.

Due to Welfare Approach of women development, women drew the attention of masses, leaders and religious people to start movement to help women. The equality approach of women development gave equality to women on paper but did not turn it in to reality. This is due to the fact that equality is based on competitive values and merit. Given equality she was not given time space, freedom and opportunity to prepare herself.

Equality of education was given but her schooling was not given priority by the social system. She was not given resources and time as girl’s women in the family are always given chance at the last. She is considered only as a load taker. Equality could not help her utmost. Only few could achieve equality in few areas, so islands were created but full proof equality is a dream of the day. Equality of sexes did not allow women to contribute freely because women were banned in all spheres of the society due to many obstructions, control and proscribed norms.

Equality approach gave birth to two new approaches of women development: efficiency and equity. Due to different realities, women could not achieve the level of equality as was expected, so the equity approach harmed women. Women's development approaches of equality, equity and efficiency could benefit few women only but not all women because culture and social traditions and religious norms proved as hurdles to women's development. When we make comparison of equality and equity given to women with men it looks like as under.

The failure of equality approach has led to think that without empowerment, women will not be able to contribute. Now empowerment approach is being practiced on the notion that one can enjoy equality only with own ability, power, strength, capability and courage. Now voluntary sector is trying to provide space, time, training, opportunity, atmosphere and resources for women's development. Now support is given to women but not permanently, it is being to prepare them self-sufficient. (Case study conducted by Dr. Amarpali Merchant in Administration

10. Government Efforts towards the Welfare of Women

Government of Haryana has started a number of programmers’. The government has set up a directorate for women and child development.

The scheme of **Apni Beti Apna Dhan**” (our daughter is our property) has been launched so as to raise the status of mother and girl child and to give them proper honor and recognition in the society by changing the attitudes of the people. **Indira Vikas Patra**’ or other similar savings schemes till she is 18 years of age. This investment will be made within 3 months of the birth of the girl child. In

addition, the mother of the child will be given 500 rupees extra. **(Special component plan for SCs is Annual plan 1995-96, welfare of scs and BCD~pt., Haryana state, June 1995, p.101.)** The reason behind this is that when a mother gives birth to her daughter, she doesn't get as much respect and importance as when she gives birth to a son. Families having more than three children will not benefit from this scheme. The **Mahila Mandals** are voluntary organizations of rural women interested in working together with the help of gram Sevika. At present, there are 6496 registered Mahila Mandals in the state. The representatives of different departments are to throw light on various development schemes relating to women so that awareness is generated among the rural women. Rural women have also been involved in development programme of social welfare, non-formal education and economic activity. The government of India, apart from these state sponsored schemes, has desired to provide facilities to the adolescent girls in the age group of 11.8 years. This scheme will be implemented in **Anganwadi** functioning under **ICDS** projects. At present Haryana, this scheme is being implemented in Sirsa district and having an allocation of Rs. 6.24 lakhs in the annual plan of 1995-96.

11. Conclusion

Discrimination of girls in all its dimensions is common in all communities. Our traditions and customs and the feudal family value system project women as inferior to men justifying abuse and exploitation. The roots of this violence are buried deep into the social structure which is underpinned by the patriarchal male-dominant ideology the seeming pens ability of women is exhibited by socially sanctioned violence against them at all stages their lives - starting with the foetal stage where they are vulnerable to death through sex selection; during childhood when they are often undernourished, uneducated, generally neglected, and burdened with household responsibilities; during early married life when they are vulnerable to harassment, injury, and even to murder in their marital homes but find no shelter in their parental home; and throughout their lives when they are subjected to physical battering and assault as well as emotional humiliation and degradation. It is clear that violence against women is endemic in India. The reason is women in the country are highly vulnerable because of poor quality of life indicated by rampant poverty, lack of education, high under five mortality, poor health status, high fertility rate and high maternal mortality rate.

But our government takes many incentives to improve the present conditions of women. Many policies and schemes will come into existence which benefited to the women's in all the Indian states. But policies and schemes are not successful because we are not trying to change our mentality we need to change our mentality and think from the women's point of view, because women's are equal to man. If it will happen the rate of crimes against women will decrease at a very faster rate so we need to change our perceptions not policies or plans.

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