

HARYANA

ATROCITIES AGAINST SCHEDULED CASTES & SCHEDULED TRIBES

2019-2023

FACTSHEET

NATIONAL CAMPAIGN ON DALIT HUMAN RIGHTS



ABOUT **NATIONAL CAMPAIGN ON DALIT HUMAN RIGHTS (NCDHR)**

The National Campaign on Dalit Human Rights (NCDHR) was founded in 1998 as a national movement of Dalit human rights defenders, activists, academics, and civil society organizations. NCDHR works to eliminate caste-based discrimination through research, advocacy, and engagement with national and international human rights mechanisms.

The National Dalit Movement for Justice (NDMJ) is a unit of NCDHR that focuses on Access to Justice for Dalit and Adivasi communities. NDMJ primarily works to strengthen the effective implementation of the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes (Prevention of Atrocities) Act, 1989, through legal monitoring, capacity building, and advocacy for institutional accountability, engaging with government machinery, aimed at the protection and empowerment of Dalits and Adivasis.

Researcher: **Ms. Nidhi Jarwal**

Advisor: **Ms. Beena Pallical**

Editor: **Mr. Deepesh Chithra**

Design: **Ms. Sajana J**

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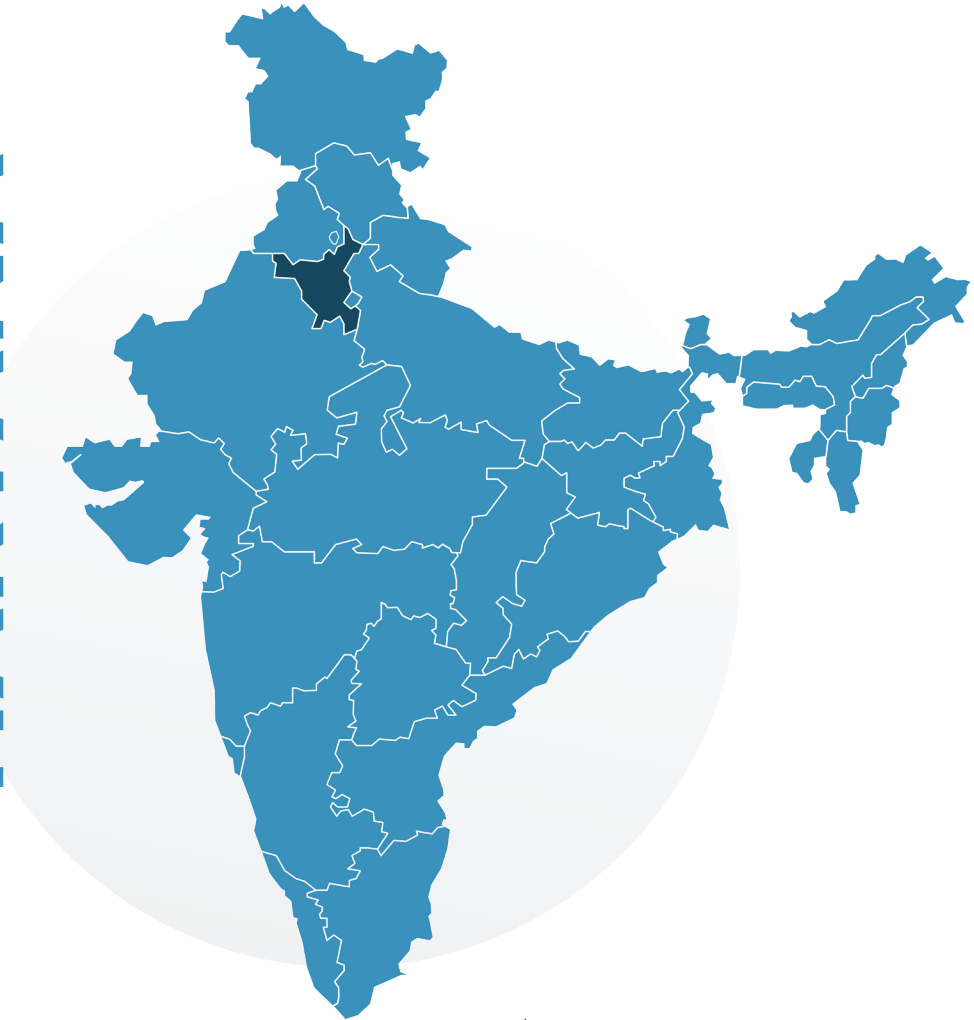
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Address: **National Campaign on Dalit Human Rights (NCDHR)
40, Zamrudpur Community Centre, 3rd Floor, (Above HDFC Bank),
Kailash colony Extension, New Delhi 110048**

Phone: **+91-11-25842249**

Website: **ncdhr.org.in**

HARYANA



Increase in Crime Against
Scheduled Castes*

41.7%

From 2019 to 2023

30.1% Crime rate per Lakh in 2023

POPULATION CONTEXT AND OVERALL CRIME AGAINST SCS AND STS

TABLE 1

Category	Years					Increase % in 2023 over 2019	Crime rate per Lakh (2023)
	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023		
Scheduled Caste	1086	1210	1628	1633	1539	41.7	30.1
Scheduled Tribe	1	0	0	0	0	-	-

Source: Crime in India, NCRB 2019-2023

In the state of Haryana, despite forming a significant share of the state's population, the Scheduled Castes, face rising levels of violence. Crimes against SCs increased by 41.7% between 2019–2023. Sexual violence, especially rape and assault, remains persistently high, reflecting deep-rooted caste and gender vulnerabilities. Although the highest number was recorded in 2022 (1633 cases), the 2023 figure remains substantially higher than the 2019 baseline, indicating a sustained upward trajectory rather than an isolated spike.

The ST population in Haryana is very small, which partly explains the low absolute numbers. However, low incidence cannot automatically be equated with absence of discrimination or vulnerability.

TABLE 2 :

CRIMES AGAINST SCHEDULED CASTES IN HARYANA DURING 2019-2023

No.	Crime Head	Years					Increase of % in 2023 over 2019
		2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	
1	Murder	43	57	53	45	52	20.9
2	Attempt to Commit Murder	20	28	27	22	31	55
3	Simple Hurt	90	103	98	122	68	-24.4
4	Grievous Hurt	15	28	21	25	55	266.7%
5	Assault on Women with Intent to Outrage her Modesty	172	174	270	253	154	-10.5
6	Kidnapping and Abduction	36	37	41	44	43	19.4
7	Rioting	77	84	84	100	86	11.7
8	Robbery	3	5	4	5	5	66.7

TABLE 2 :

CRIMES AGAINST SCHEDULED CASTES IN HARYANA DURING 2019-2023

9	Dacoity	0	1	0	0	1	Emerging
10	Arson	5	5	4	4	3	-40
11	Criminal Intimidation	111	197	305	309	276	48.6
12	Other IPC Crimes	227	200	326	335	313	37.9
13	SC / ST (Prevention of Atrocities) Act only (Total) (Without IPC)	52	78	132	98	138	165.4
14	Intentionally Insult or Intimidate with Intent to Humiliate	5	8	25	23	14	180
15	Occupy/Disposes Land Belongs to SCs	0	0	1	0	1	Emerging
16	Prevent or deny or obstruct usage of public place/passage	0	0	0	1	0	-
17	Other Offences only SC/ST Act	47	70	106	74	123	161.7
18	Total of SC/ST (Prevention of Atrocities) Act (With & Without IPC)	1086	1210	1628	1633	1539	41.7

Source: Crime in India, NCRB 2019-2023

**MURDER****+20.9%**

43 cases (2019) to 52 cases (2023)

ATTEMPT TO COMMIT MURDER**+55%**

20 cases (2019) to 31 cases (2023)

GRIEVOUS HURT**+266.7%**

15 cases (2019) to 55 cases (2023)

**HIGHEST PROPORTIONAL
RISE AMONG VIOLENT
OFFENCES**

KEY FINDINGS:

- The data reflects a worrying escalation in life-threatening violence against SC communities. Murder cases rose from 43 in 2019 to 52 in 2023 (20.9% over five years), while Attempt to Commit Murder increased from 20 cases to 31 cases (55% over five years). These figures indicate that caste-based violence is not only persistent but increasingly severe.
- **Simple Hurt declined from 90 cases in 2019 to 68 cases in 2023 (24.4% fall).** At the same time, **Grievous Hurt rose from 15 cases in 2019 to 55 cases in 2023, reflecting a 266.7% rise over five years.** This is the highest proportional rise among serious violent offences, indicating growing brutality in physical attacks, and suggests a worrying shift from less severe physical assault to more serious bodily harm.
- Forms of collective and coercive violence continue to appear in the data. Rioting rose from 77 cases in 2019 to 86 cases in 2023 (11.7%), while Kidnapping and Abduction increased from 36 to 43 cases (19.4%). Robbery also rose from 3 cases to 5 cases (66.7%), though on a smaller base. These patterns reflect the ongoing vulnerability of SC communities in both public and collective settings.
- Assault on SC women with intent to outrage modesty declined from 172 cases in 2019 to 154 cases in 2023 (10.5% fall), but the 2023 number remains significantly high in absolute terms.
- Certain offences appear sporadically but remain significant because they reflect structural forms of caste discrimination. Dacoity reappeared in 2023, with 1 recorded case, after being largely absent in previous years. Land dispossession cases were recorded in 2021 and again in 2023 (1 case each year), indicating continued risks to land ownership. Preventing access to public places was recorded once in 2022 (1 case), while no cases were recorded under the Social Boycott provisions during the five years. Even when numerically small, these offences point to deeper patterns of exclusion and caste-based control over social and economic spaces.

CASES UNDER SC/ST ACT ONLY

+165.4%

From 52 cases (2019) to 138 cases (2023)

OTHER OFFENCES UNDER ACT

+161.7%

From 47 cases (2019) to 123 cases (2023)

Other IPC Crimes

313 cases (2023)

Criminal Intimidation

276 cases (2023)

Assault on Women
with Intent to
Outrage Modesty

154 cases (2023)

TABLE 2 :

CRIMES AGAINST WOMEN & CHILDREN IN HARYANA DURING 2019-2023

No.	Crime Head	Years					Increase % in 2023 over 2019
		2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	
1	Assault on Women with intent to outrage her modesty (Adults + Children)	172	174	270	253	154	-10.5
2	Assault on Women	142	138	198	183	123	-13.4
3	Assault on Adult Women with Intent to Outrage her Modesty (Sec.354 IPC)	42	50	67	41	44	4.8
4	Sexual Harassment	61	54	77	81	27	-55.7
5	Assault or use of Criminal Force on women with intent to disrobe	20	20	28	30	31	55
6	Voyeurism	2	0	5	4	3	50
7	Stalking	17	14	21	27	18	5.9
8	Robbery	3	5	4	5	5	66.7
9	Assault of Children POCSO Act 8&10 or POCSO Act	30	36	72	70	31	3.3
10	Insult to the Modesty of Women (Sec. 509 IPC)	2	9	20	18	33	1550
12	Missing Children Deemed as Kidnapping	0	0	0	1	1	Emerging
13	Kidnapping and Abduction of Women to compel her for marriage	5	13	10	6	3	-40
14	Procuration of Minor Girls Sec. 366A IPC	15	7	10	14	15	0
15	Rape (Total)	221	195	234	245	242	9.5
16	Rape of Women	120	106	142	148	148	23.3
17	Rape of Children	101	89	92	97	94	6.9
18	Attempt to commit Rape	12	9	9	8	9	25

Source: Crime in India, NCRB 2019-2023

Insult to Modesty of Women (Sec. 509 IPC)
2 cases (2019) to 33 cases (2023)

+1550%

Assault / Criminal Force to Disrobe
20 cases (2019) to 31 cases (2023)

+55%

Voyeurism
2 cases (2019) to 3 cases (2023)

+50%

Stalking
17 cases (2019) to 18 cases (2023)

+5.9%

CRIMES AGAINST WOMEN & CHILDREN IN HARYANA SC Communities • 2019–2023

242 Total rape cases (2023)

▲ 9.5% since 2019 (221 cases)

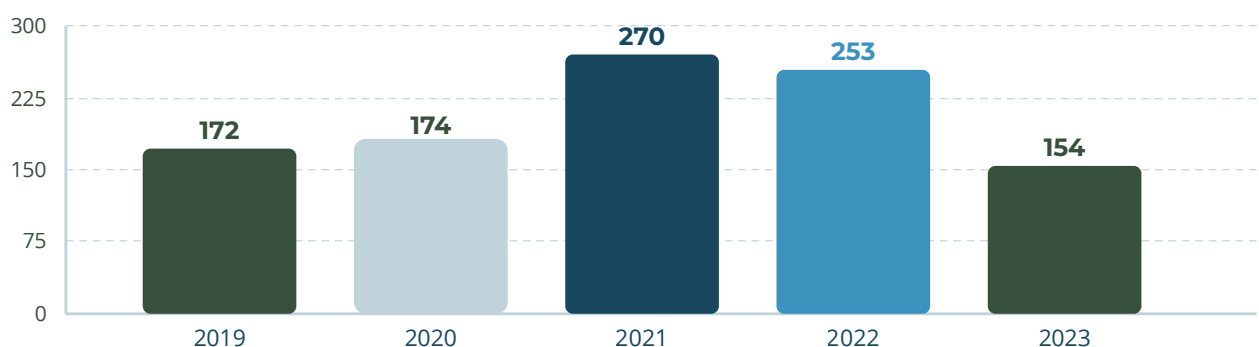
148 Rape of women (2023)

▲ 23.3% since 2019 (120 cases)

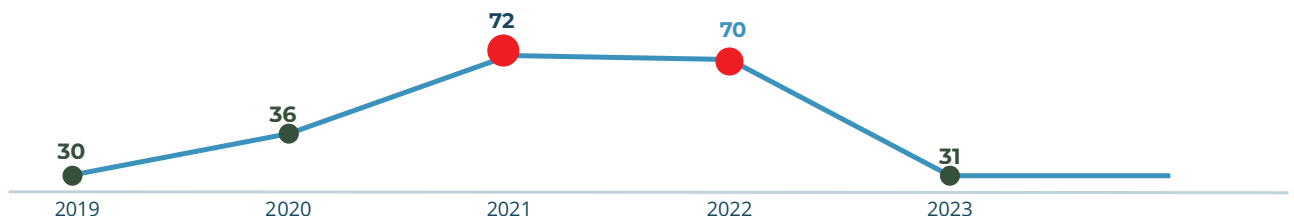
94 Rape of children (2023)

101 cases in 2019

ASSAULT ON WOMEN WITH INTENT TO OUTRAGE MODESTY • 2019–2023



CRIMES AGAINST CHILDREN (SC COMMUNITIES)



Acid Attack: A National Outlier

Haryana is the only state in India to report an acid attack against a Scheduled Caste woman in 2023 (NCRB, 2023).

No other state or Union Territory recorded a single case in 2023.

Acid attacks represent one of the most brutal forms of gendered caste violence, causing lifelong physical, psychological, and social harm.

TABLE 3 : POLICE RESPONSE IN ATROCITIES AGAINST SCs

Year	Total No. of cases for investigation including pending cases from previous years	Final report without proceeding for Charge-sheeting	Chargesheet submitted, including cases from PY	Charge-sheeting Rate (%)	No. of cases pending investigation
2019	1253	419	670	61.5	164
2020	1374	528	632	54.5	214
2021	1842	777	738	48.7	327
2022	1960	894	744	46.7	366
2023	1905	723	806	52.7	374

POLICE RESPONSE IN ATROCITIES AGAINST SCs IN HARYANA

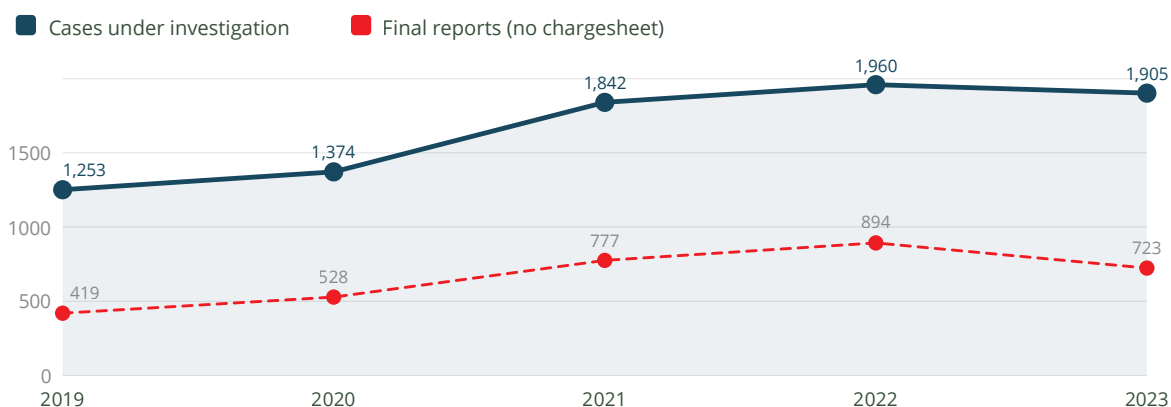


TABLE 4 : JUDICIAL RESPONSE IN ATROCITIES AGAINST SCs

Year	Total No. of cases including pending and brought forward cases	Cases in which trials were completed	No. of cases ended in conviction out of cases in the previous year	No. of cases ended in conviction out of the cases during the year	Total cases convicted cases	No. of cases ending in acquittal	No. of cases pending with courts at the end of the year
2019	1804	287	62	2	64	223	1517
2020	2149	48	6	0	6	42	2101
2021	2839	175	44	0	44	131	2839
2022	3407	280	48	6	54	226	3118
2023	3924	352	67	1	67	284	3568

Total No. of Cases Including Pending & Brought Forward Cases

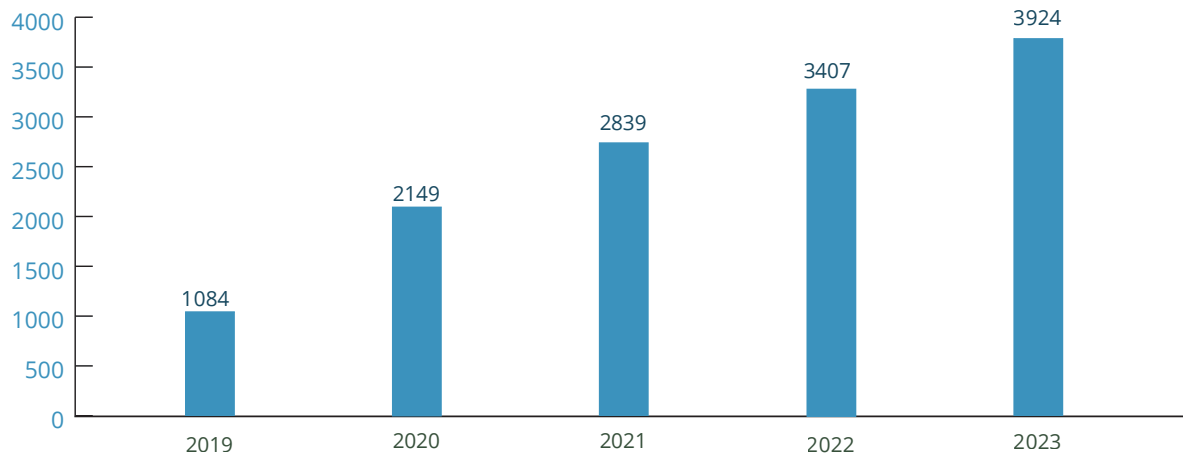
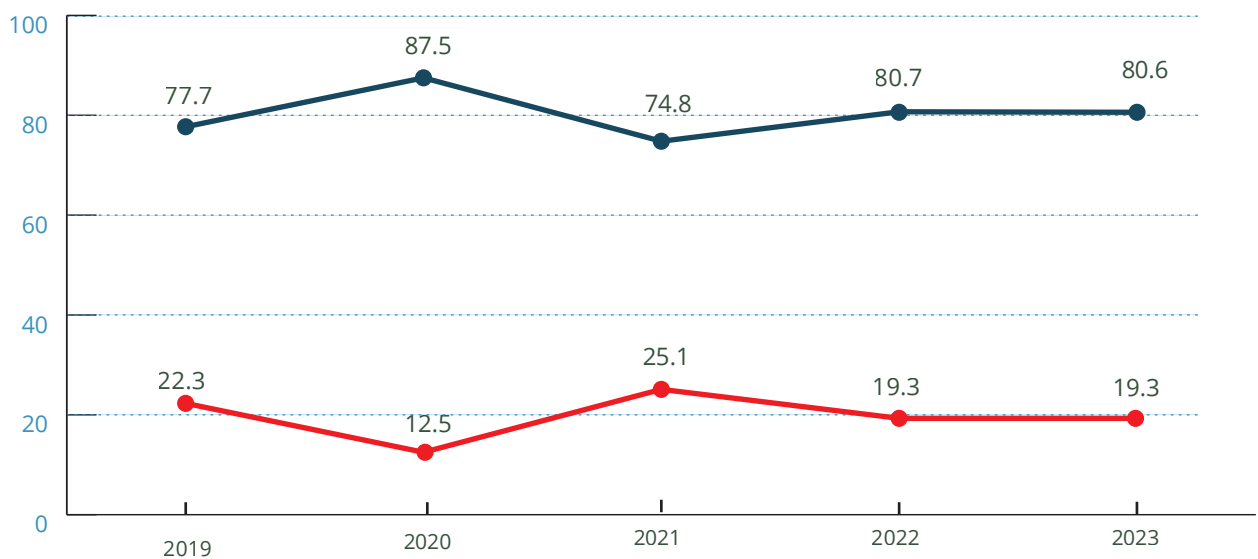


TABLE 5 : **LOW CONVICTION VS HIGH ACQUITTAL**

Year	Conviction Rate	Acquittal Rate	Pendency rate (court)
2019	22.3	77.7	84.1
2020	12.5	87.5	97.8
2021	25.1	74.8	93.8
2022	19.3	80.7	91.5
2023	19.3	80.6	90.9

Low Conviction vs High Acquittal

High Acquittal Low Convictions

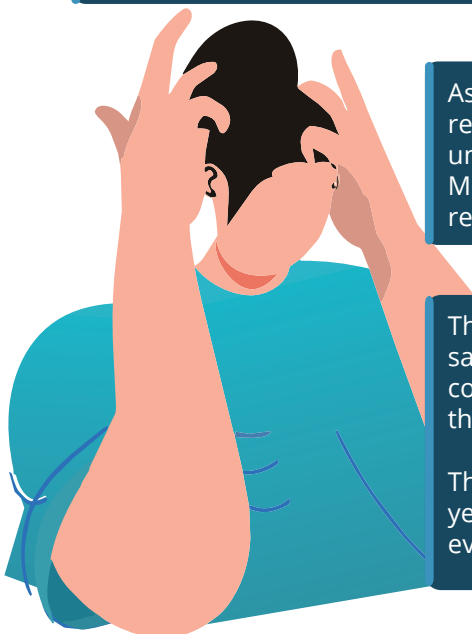


KEY FINDINGS

- **Total cases before courts rose from 1804 in 2019 to 3924 in 2023**, more than doubling within the period. This reflects the growing volume of cases entering the judicial system.
- Although trials completed increased over time, they remain small compared to the total number of cases before courts. **Trials completed increased from 287 cases in 2019 to 352 cases in 2023**, while the total cases before courts reached 3924 cases in 2023.
- The number of cases ending in conviction remains relatively low. Total convictions were 64 cases in 2019 and 67 cases in 2023, showing little change over five years despite the sharp rise in cases before courts. **The conviction rate declined from 22.3% in 2019 to 19.3% in 2023**, indicating limited improvement in judicial outcomes.
- Acquittals remain significantly higher than convictions. **In 2023, 284 cases ended in acquittal** compared to 67 convictions. **The acquittal rate stood at 80.6% in 2023**, indicating that a large proportion of cases do not result in conviction.
- Court pendency remains a major concern. **Pending cases increased from 1517 in 2019 to 3568 in 2023**, showing a steady rise in backlog. The pendency rate remained extremely high at 90.9% in 2023, meaning the vast majority of cases remain unresolved at the end of the year.

SCHEDULED TRIBES (ST)

Haryana officially reports no Scheduled Tribe population in the 2011 Census, and yet somehow the criminal justice system still managed to record one atrocity case and then let it sit in court for half a decade.



As per NCRB data, only one case involving an ST victim was reported in Haryana between 2019 and 2023. The case falls under "Assault on Women with Intent to Outrage her Modesty (Above 18 years)- Sexual Assault", and was recorded in 2019.

The single case reported in 2019 was charge-sheeted in the same year, indicating that the police investigation was completed. Even with only one recorded case in five years, the judicial process has not reached an outcome.

The case has remained unresolved in court for at least four years (2019–2023), highlighting delays in judicial disposal even in cases with minimal caseload.

IMPLEMENTATION OF THE POA ACT IN HARYANA

1. CHARGESHEET

Year	Within 60 days	Later
2019	306	282
2020	353	309
2021	411	347
2022	280	307
2023	381	524

Source: MSJE State Annual Reports, 2019–2023

The timing of the chargesheet submission shows increasing delays. In 2019, 306 chargesheets were filed within 60 days, while 282 were filed later. By 2023, 381 chargesheets were filed within 60 days, but 524 were filed after 60 days, indicating that a significant number of cases continue to experience delays beyond the expected investigation period. The growing number of delayed chargesheets suggests gaps in timely police investigation under the PoA framework.

2. VIGILANCE COMMITTEE MEETINGS

Year	SVMC	DVMC	SDLVMC
2019		37	70
2020	1	36	-
2021	0	38	53
2022	0	57	85
2023	0	29	64

Source: MSJE State Annual Reports, 2019–2023

KEY FINDINGS

- State Vigilance and Monitoring Committee (SVMC) meetings were held only once in 2020, and no meetings were reported in 2021, 2022, or 2023.
- District Vigilance and Monitoring Committees (DVMC) recorded 37 meetings in 2019, 36 in 2020, 38 in 2021, 57 in 2022, and 29 in 2023, showing fluctuations across years.
- Sub-Divisional Level Vigilance and Monitoring Committees (SDLVMC) held 70 meetings in 2019, 53 in 2021, 85 in 2022, and 64 in 2023, while no meetings were reported in 2020.
- The absence of regular VMC meetings and inconsistent activity at other levels raises concerns about institutional monitoring of the PoA Act.

3. VICTIM SUPPORT

Year	Legal Aid	Travel & Maintenance	Relief
2019	46	0	996
2020	15	0	731
2021	61	0	1806
2022	20	0	2016
2023	15	0	1059

Source: MSJE State Annual Reports, 2019–2023

KEY FINDINGS

- Legal aid remains extremely limited and has declined over the years, despite the large number of atrocity cases. Only 46 victims received legal aid in 2019, which fell to 15 in 2020, briefly rose to 61 in 2021, and again dropped to 20 in 2022 and 15 in 2023, numbers that remain negligible compared to the scale of atrocities reported each year (1539 cases in 2023 alone).
- Under Rule 12(4) of the PoA Rules, relief must be provided within 7 days of the incident or FIR registration. However, in 2023 only 19 cases received relief within the mandated 7-day period, while 1040 cases received relief after 7 days, indicating substantial delays in compliance with statutory timelines.
- Travel and maintenance support for victims was reported as 0 across all five years, indicating that this form of support was not provided.

4. INSTITUTIONAL MECHANISMS UNDER THE POA ACT

- Special Cells exist for handling PoA cases.
- No exclusive Special Police Stations have been established for offences under the Act.
- Periodic surveys meant to identify patterns of caste-based violence appear largely absent. Only 10 surveys were conducted in 2020, and no surveys were reported in the remaining years, indicating weak institutional efforts to regularly assess the ground situation.
- Despite the continued occurrence of atrocities, no districts in Haryana have been officially identified as atrocity-prone areas, suggesting a gap in proactive monitoring and targeted preventive measures under the PoA Act.

5. SPECIAL COURT AND SPECIAL PUBLIC PROSECUTOR

According to the MSJE Annual Report, the Court of the First Additional Sessions Judge in each district has been designated as a Special Court for trying offences under the PoA Act, and the Public Prosecutor posted in each Sessions Court has been designated as the Special Public Prosecutor for conducting PoA cases. However, neither the courts nor the prosecutors are exclusively dedicated to PoA cases, as they continue to handle other criminal matters. This is particularly concerning in light of the very **high court pendency rate of 90.9% in 2023**, suggesting that the absence of exclusive Special Courts and dedicated Special Public Prosecutors may be contributing to delays in the trial and disposal of atrocity cases.



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2026

40, Zamrudpur Community Centre, 3rd Floor, (Above HDFC Bank), Kailash colony Extension, New Delhi 110048

+91-11-25842249

ncdhr.org.in