

Chapter -1

Facts

During 2015 for every 5 hours on an average a crime was committed against Scheduled Caste (SC) and Scheduled Tribe in Karnataka State ((total 2037 cases). While murder cases have gone up by 62%, there has been an increase of 30% in other IPC cases. For every 5 days a person belonging to SC and ST is murdered. For every 2 days woman belonging to SC/ST is raped. In rape cases involving victims belonging to SCs, there has been an increase of 64% (from 75 in 2014 to 123 in 2015) and it has increased to 200% among STs (from 16 in 2014 to 123 in 2015). There has been an increase of 64% of grievous injury cases among SCs (from 68 to 112) and the cases of grievous injuries has increased to 130% (from 10 to 23) and murder cases and other IPC cases have increased to 62% and 30% respectively. Although the total crimes being committed against SC have declined by 7%, the crimes being committed against ST have increased by 132%.

The statistics shed light on the increasing number and severity of atrocity cases. Specifically, the atrocities being committed against STs have increased and this is indeed a disturbing development. Because, 2012 has witnessed more number of atrocity cases than 2011 (an increase of 31%) and the year 2013 has witnessed an increase of 375% in rape cases from 2012 (4 in 2012 and 19 in 2013) and in 2013 more other atrocity cases have been reported (85%). In 2013 also atrocity cases have increased by 31%. Similarly 2013 has seen more number of atrocity cases than what has been reported in 2014-an increase of 1.2%. Likewise the rape cases have registered an increase of 189% in 2015 which is more than what was registered in 2014 (from 59 in 2014 to 171 in 2015) and the atrocity cases that have been registered in 2015 show an increase of 51% which was more than what was registered in 2014. The STs are more affected by the severity of atrocities. In 2013, six kidnapping cases were registered and in 2015 the number went up to 11. These statistics show the increasing incidents of violence against this community.

In the current year, the total number of 4891 cases have been reported to the courts out of which, 1037 cases have been disposed off and only in 46 cases the accused were found guilty and convicted. This means the conviction rate in the State is less than 5%. The cases that have been disposed off is 1037; the total percentage of cases that have been disposed off is 21.2%. Veeresh.G. Mamani, Bagalkote (disposal of 14 cases), K.Rudraswamy, Bangalore Rural (disposal of 12 cases), Ashoka Talavara Bangalore Urban((disposal of 14 cases),), T.H.Lolalakshi, Chamarajanagara ((disposal of 15 cases),), K.G.Kalpana Chikkamagalore ((disposal of 44 cases),), D.Narayana Chitradurga (disposal of 31 cases)), S.S. Kudari Davanagere((disposal of 44 cases), S.R.Patel, Gadaga ((disposal of 14 cases),), Mallaraje Gowda, Hassana((disposal of 23 cases),), A.P.Phiroz Khan, Kodagu (disposal of 28 cases),), S.G. Pheerjade (disposal of 11

cases),), L.Nagaraju, Ramanagara (disposal of 87 cases),), Sumita M.Anchatageri, Shivamogga (disposal of 31 cases) and K.Gopal Rao, Yadagir (disposal of 23 cases). The performance of these S.P.Ps shows that the rate of conviction during 2015 is 0%.

During the current year 171 rape cases have been reported out of which compensation was paid for only 136 cases. There are discrepancies between the number of cases for which compensation has been paid and the number of cases registered under Atrocity (Prevention) Act.

In the last two years the number of 'B' Reports has come down (13% and 12% during 2013 and 2014 respectively). In 2014, the number of 'B' Reports has touched 17%. In Bangalore Rural district, 28 cases have been closed with the submission of 'B' Report (number of total cases that have been reported was 99 and number of 'B' Reports is 28 making the ratio of 'B' Report 28%). In Chikkamagalore district 'B' Reports have been submitted for 26 cases (number of total cases that have been reported was 87 and number of 'B' Reports was 30). In Dakshina Kannada district number of total cases that have been reported was 85 and number of 'B' Reports was 27 -making the ratio of 'B' Report 32%.

As for District Vigilance and Monitoring Committee Meetings- when we take into consideration the 'Karnataka State Reports from 2009 to 2015" which has been published by us regarding the implementation of SC/ST (Prevention of Atrocity) Act 1989,-we find that number of D.V.M.C. meetings have gradually increased over a period of seven years. When we observe the D.V.M.C. meetings from 2009 to 2013 it could be seen that only during 2013 for the first time at least one meeting was held in all the districts in the state. Later in 2014 and also during 2015 at least one meeting was held in all the districts.

It is mandatory to convene a "State Supervisory/Vigilance and Monitoring Committee" meetings twice in a year under the chairmanship of Chief Minister. One such meeting was held in 2015, but in 2014 state level meeting was never convened and in 2015 one meeting was held.

Finally, the rate of conviction cases is very less in Karnataka. It is relevant to note here that even though for the past five years Bangalore City was one of the three districts where highest number of crimes has been committed against SC/STs, not even a single conviction has been made in any of the cases. This deserves the immediate attention of the Chief Minister and the government has to initiate a full-fledged enquiry into this matter.

The Scheduled Caste/Scheduled Tribes of Karnataka

According to the Census of India 2011 the total population of Karnataka was 61,095,207 out of which 30,966,657 (50.69%) were men and 30,128,640 (49.31%) were women. Under 1011

Scheduled Castes (SC Dalit) there were 10,474,992 (Women -5,210,447 and men: 5,264,545) making them 17.15% of the total population of the state. Kolar has the highest number of SC population (30.3%) followed by Chamarajanagara and Udupi district has the least number of SC population (6.41%) out of which 71% are in rural areas (the state average is 61%)

Under the Scheduled Tribes of Karnataka there were 4,248,987 people (Women -2,114,233 and men: 2,134,754). They form 6.95% of the total population of Karnataka and basically they are confined to the rural areas which is 20% more than the total rural population of Karnataka. In 8 districts of the state, there are more than 2 lakh ST population: Bellary (18.4%), Raichur (19.03%), Mysore (11.15%), Chitradurga (18.23%), Belgaum (6.22%), Bidar (13.85%), Davanagere (11.98%), Tumkur(7.82%) and this forms 57% of the total ST population of the state. Barring the above figures, when we look at the percentage-wise data of the total population of the state we can find that these districts have more than 10% of ST population Yadagiri(18.4%), Chikkaballapura (12.41%), Koppala(11.82%), Coorg (10.47%).

Annexure-1

The Scheduled Caste/Scheduled Tribes of Karnataka				
Sl.No.	Record Index	Karnataka	SC	ST
1	Total Population	61,095,297	10,474,992	42,48,987
2	Percentage of total population	100	17.15	6.95
3	Men	30,966,657	5,264,545	2,134,754
4	Percentage of Men	50.69	50.26	50.24
5	Women	30,128,640	5,210,447	2,114,233
6	Percentage of Women	49.31	49.74	49.76
7	Urban	38.67	(2,979,229)29.44%	(819,196)29.44%
9	Rural	61.33	(7,495,763)71.56%	(3,429,791)80.72%
Source: Census of India 2011				

Areas which are more prone to atrocities in Karnataka

Out of 30 districts the government has declared 15 districts as districts having a tendency for committing atrocities. However, separate and Special Courts are available only in 8 districts- Belgaum, Bijapura, Gulbarga, Kolar, Mysore, Raichur, Ramanagara and Tumkur. Although the number of pending cases are very high in the remaining 22 districts, Special Courts have not been set up in these districts. Similarly, the following districts in spite of being declared as "Atrocity prone areas": Dharwad, Bidar, Chitradurga, Shivamoga, Belgaum, Bengalore, Mandya and Hassan, Special Courts are yet to be set up in these districts.

Annexure-2

Sl.No.	Disttrect	Villages
1	Dharwad	Sattar, Honnapura, Kehageri, Byadagi, Battikoppa, Varada and Varangalia
2	Bijapura	Baradala
3	Gulbarga	Alagi, Sitanur, Ganjelkhed, Busanur, Surapur, Chincholi, Vothana, Hlppigere, Pettennapur, Hagaragundagi, Royakode, Miriheragi and Afzalpur
4	Raichur	Idaparar, GUdihalla, Lagapur, Karatagi, Manvi, Gangavati, Thirunala and Khanapura.
5	Bidar	Torekella, Bhalki, Dhakulli, Khushanur and Horatti
6	Chitradurga	Gudihalli, Babbuliriya, Somaguddakyamudu, Chikkanayakanahalli, Obbenahalli, Anaji
7	Shivamoga	B.R.Project, Malavalli, Tyagatakana, Karagal, Honnali and Belagutti
9	Bellary	Deshanur and Thelaga
10	Bangalore	Kumbalagodu, Channasanadra, Thattanagara, Srinivasapura, Kadattipura, Harohalli, Beechanahalli
11	Kolar	Haratti and HanahaTTi
12	Tumkur	Dodadadaballa
13	Mysore	Kushalanagara, K.Gudu, G.Marehalli, Devanur, Jitehalli, Hanur, Kilagere, Badanavalu and Kelasur
14	Hassana	Gandasi village, Chigahalli and Bandashettalli.
15	Belgaum	Angola village, Bendigere, Baladagevadi, Mapanadinne, Patagundi and Anjivali.

During the year 2015 a total number of 2037 cases have been reported pertaining to STs. Based on the records pertaining to compensation, 1950 cases and 1925 cases have been reported during 2014 and 2013 respectively. It is important to note that despite an increase in the cases that have been reported, the number of "B Report" cases too has gone up. In the previous two years the number of "B Report" cases had declined (13% and 12% during 2013 and 2014 respectively) but it went up to 17% during 2015. Therefore the government must compulsorily set up Special Courts in "Atrocity Prone" districts and must enhance quantum of punishment for the convicted.

Crimes that are being committed against SC and STs

While the crimes against SCs have come down by 6.9% during this year, the crimes against STs have increased by 132%. Besides, 'new forms of usual' crimes against STs have increased. At a time when crimes are on the rise, on an average one Dalit or Adivasi is being murdered for

every five days (total 69 murders) and for two days one Adivasi or Dalit woman is raped (total 171 rape cases). Among the victims, dalits are the worst sufferers as they are being subjected more to violence. For every two days one Dalit woman is raped (total 123) and for every week one Dalit is murdered (total 47).

However, the statistics available under compensation amount (Annexure 6) show that 136 women were paid compensation in 2015. That means for every two days one rape case, 93 attempt to murder cases (in the span of 4 days) and 428 grievous injuries cases have been reported. In 2015, the murder cases have increased and the people belong to SC/ST have been living in an atmosphere of fear and apprehension. While 68 murder cases were reported during 2014 this has increased to 93. The situation is far from reassuring.

There may be many reasons for this discrepancy in the statistics. When we take a look at the statistics pertaining to compensation, Bagalkote has recorded highest number of murder/attempt to murder cases (13) followed by Bangalore (9), Chamarajanagara (9), Belagaum and CHitradurga (7 each), Gadaga (6), Raichur, Ramanagara and Tumkur (5 each) have been recorded.

When we observe the rape figures, the district-wise statistics are: Raichur (21), Belgaum (12), Dakshina Kannada and Udupi (11 each), Chikkamagalur (9), Haveri (8), Bellary and Gulbarga (7 each) and Koppala, Davanagere, Chikkamagalur (5 each).

When we consider the statistics pertaining to heinous crimes, the district-wise statistics are: Davanagere (85),Hassan (75), Raichur (71), Belagaum (68), Chikkamagalur (54), Ballary (50), Haveri (44), Gulbarga (24), Mysore (14) and Kodagu and Chikkaballapura (13 each)

When we consider the overall cases (as given in Annexure 5) Mandya tops the list (177) followed by Gulbarga (161), Davanagere (96), Mysore (86), Belagavi (84), Raichur (82), Chikkaballapura (81) Hassan (76), Kolar (71), Bangalore Rural (68) and Haveri (65).

Annexure -3

Cases registered under Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribes (Prevention of Atrocities) Act – 2015									
Sl.no	Year	Reported	Cases still pending for disposal	Under investigation	Convicted	Acquittals	Others yet to be disposed	B report	Cases Transferred
1.	2010	1633	904	0	27	273	37	384	8
2.	2011	1792	1285	0	16	100	25	360	6
3.	2012	1762	1173	262	0	11	27	275	14
4.	2013	1925	1287	8	5	136	67	405	17
5.	2014	1950	1269	339	0	11	74	243	14
6.	2015	2037	1451	161	2	846	43	333	22

Annexure -4

Classification of Major Crimes													
Sl.no	Form of crime (IPC/others)	Scheduled Caste						Scheduled Tribe					
		2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	Increase	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	Increase
1.	Murder	44	37	37	29	47	62%	4	7	7	7	22	214%
2.	Rape	45	75	98	75	123	64%	6	2	18	16	48	200%
3.	Assault	79	75	85	68	112	64%	13	12	18	10	23	130%
4.	Burning	9	8	4	4	10	150%	0	0	0	1	1	0%
5.	Other IPC	32	53	52	75	98	30%	0	10	4	7	26	271
6.	Other crime prevention	1303	1294	1369	1497	1237	17%	257	147	155	136	290	113%
7.	Total	1512	1542	1645	1748	1627	7%	280	178	202	177	410	132%

Chart 1-6 not translated here.

Annexure -5

Sl.no.	District	Murder/Attempt to Murder	Greevius injuries	Detention	Kidnapping	Rape	Other s	Total	Henious Crimes	Henious Crimes (%)
1	Bagalakote	13	16	0	0	9	42	80	38	47.50%
2	Bangalore Rural	3	1	0	0	2	62	68	6	08.82%
3	Bangalore Urban	9	0	0	0	0	7	9	16	56.25%
4	Belagavi	7	49	14	1	12	1	84	68	80.95%
5	Bellary	2	41	0	0	7	0	50	50	100%
6	Bidar	1	0	0	0	1	34	32	2	05.55%
7	Bijapura	2	2	0	0	0	42	46	4	08.69%
8	Chamarajanagara	9	0	8	0	0	16	33	9	27.27%
9	Chikkaballapura	2	2	2	1	9	65	81	13	16.04%
10	Chikkamagalur	1	48	0	3	5	1	58	54	93.10%
11	Chitradurga	7	0	0	0	1	19	27	8	29.62%
12	Dakshina Kannada	1	0	4	0	11	39	55	12	21.81%
13	Davanagere	0	80	0	2	5	9	96	85	88.54%
14	Dharwada	1	0	0	1	2	41	45	3	06.66%
15	Gadaga	1	0	0	0	2	14	17	3	17.64%
16	Gulbarga	6	11	0	0	7	137	161	24	14.90
17	Hassana	1	74	1	0	0	0	74	75	98.68%
18	Haveri	1	35	0	0	8	21	65	44	67.69%
19	Kodagu	1	8	0	0	4	0	13	13	100%
20	Kolar	2	0	6	0	0	61	71	2	02.77%
21	Koppala	1	0	0	0	5	23	29	6	20.68%
22	Mandya	0	0	0	0	0	177	177	0	0%
23	Mysore	1	11	0	0	2	74	88	14	15.90%
24	Raichur	5	45	0	2	21	09	82	71	86.58%
25	Ramanagara	5	2	0	0	3	42	52	10	19.23%
26	Shivamogga	0	0	4	0	4	10	18	4	22.22%
27	Tumkur	5	3	0	1	2	37	48	10	20.83%
28	Udupi	0	0	0	0	11	12	23	11	47.82%
29	Uttara Kannada	1	0	0	0	2	16	19	3	15.78%
30	Yadagiri	0	0	0	0	1	30	31	1	03.22%
	Total	93	428	39	11	136	1041	1745	652	37.36%

The district wise scope and crime ranking/rates. Total cases reported in 2015

The maximum number of crimes against Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribes that have been reported in the state are as follows:

Bangalore Urban (144), Gulbarga (116), Raichur (116), Bangalore Rural (99), Belagavi (94), Chikkamagalur (87) Mandya (81), Dakshina Kannada (85), Tumkur (81), Shivamogga and Bijapura (75 each, Bellary, Hassan and Yadagir (70 each) and Haveri (67). These district are occupy the first top ten.

For the last 4 consecutive years Bangalore has been topping the list in atrocity cases (2012-126, 2013-122, 2014-151 and 2015-144). Though a lesser number of atrocity cases have been reported in the previous year, this year Bangalore heads the list in atrocity cases.

The list showing the less number of atrocity cases include these districts: Kolar has for the past five years has retained its place as having a least number of cases (2011-9, 2012-10, 2013-14, 2014-11 and in 2015-7). KGF is an area which had seen the least number of cases during 2011, 2013 and 2015.

Chart 7 not done here

Annexure 6 District –wise ranking based crime reports

District –wise ranking based number of crimes during 2011-2015									
Ran k	District	2011	District	2012	District	2013	District	2014	District
1	Tumkur	112	Bangalore City	126	Bangalore City	122	Bangalore City	151	Bangalore City
2	Mandya	101	Tumkur	121	Kolar	114	Belagavi	124	Raichur
3	Belagavi	100	Chikkaballapura	94	Tumkur	99	Raichur	113	Gulbarga
4	Bangalore City	98	Belagavi	88	Bangalore District	90	Gulbarga	97	Bangalore District
5	Raichur	91	Mysore District	88	Ramanagara	80	Bangalore District	83	Belagavi
6	Gulbarga	83	Kolar	87	Gulbarga	79	Chikkamagalur	79	Chikkamagalur
7	Mysore District	83	Bangalore District	83	Raichur	78	Tumkur	74	Dakshina Kannada
8	Bangalore District	78	Gulbarga	79	Mysore District	74	Bijapura	70	Mandya
9	Chikkaballapura	76	Raichur	74	Chikkaballapura	73	Yadagiri	68	Tumkur
10	Hasan	68	Mandya	69	Mandya	71	Chikkaballapura	67	Shivamogga
11	Kolar	67	Ramanagara	65	Shivamogga	70	Kolar	66	Bijapura
12	Yadagiri	67	Hasan	64	Belagavi	66	Mandya	66	Bellary
13	Shivamogga	60	Yadagiri	57	Hassan	66	Mysore District	66	Hassan
14	Bijapura	57	Bellary	54	Bagalakote	65	Bellary	62	Yadagiri
15	Bellary	56	Bagalakote	53	Bellary	58	Davanagere	60	Haveri
16	Ramanagara	54	Shivamogga	50	Yadagiri	58	Shivamogga	59	Mysore District
17	Chikkamagalur	46	Bijapura	49	Davanagere	54	Bagalakote	58	Ramanagara
18	Bagalakote	44	Chikkamagalur	49	Dakshina Kannada	46	Dakshina Kannada	53	Kolar
19	Chitradurga	43	Chitradurga	46	Udupi	46	Hassan	53	Bagalakote
20	Dakshina Kannada	40	Davanagere	46	Bijapura	45	Ramanagara	51	Davanagere
21	Haveri	33	Udupi	43	Chitradurga	45	Udupi	44	Mangalore City
22	Chamarajanagara	30	Chamarajanagara	32	Kodagu	40	Dharwad	42	Koppala
23	Davanagere	29	Mangalore City	30	Koppala	39	Chitradurga	40	Chikkaballapura
24	Dharwad	29	Dharwad	29	Chikkamagalur	34	Koppala	40	Hubballi-Dharwad
25	Kodagu	28	Dakshina Kannada	27	Haveri	34	Mangalore City	40	Udupi
26	Koppala	27	Koppala	25	Hubballi-Dharwad	34	Haveri	39	Uttara Kannada
27	Udupi	26	Kodagu	24	Mangalore City	32	Bidar	38	Chamarajanagara
28	Mangalore City	25	Haveri	23	Uttara Kannada	28	Mysore City	35	Gadaga
29	Gadaga	24	Uttara Kannada	21	Bidar	25	Hubballi-Dharwad	24	Bidar
30	Bidar	21	Bidar	19	Chamarajanagara	24	Kodagu	24	Kodagu
31	Uttara Kannada	20	Gadaga	17	Dharwad	20	Chamarajanagara	21	Chitradurga
32	Hubballi-Dharwad	17	Hubballi-Dharwad	10	Gadaga	19	KGF	17	Dharwad
33	Mysore City	15	KGF	10	Mysore City	17	Gadaga	15	Mysore City
34	KGF	9	Mysore City	10	KGF	14	Uttara Kannada	11	KGF
		1751		1762		1859		1950	

Atrocity Cases as reported

Bangalore Urban (144), Raichur (116), Bangalore Rural (99), Belagavi (94) and Chikkamagalur (87) occupy the first five places. For the last three years Bangalore Urban district has been in the first four places (2013-122, 2014-151 and 2015-144). Although the number of cases that have been reported has come down, Bangalore Urban district still continues to top the list.

Raichur for the past three years has been in the third spot (2014-133 and in 2015-116) and there has been a reduction in the number of cases during the current year. It is seen that Belagavi had been witnessing a steady increase in the number of cases for the last 2 years (2014-124, 2015-94 and 66 cases in 2013). Gulbarga too has witnessed an increase in the reported cases (2014-97 and in 2015-116).

Total cases that have been disposed/closed: Ramanagara-87, Chikkamagalurr-87, Chitradurga-31, Shivamogga-31, Mandya-11, Gadaga-14, Yadagiri -23, Kodagu-28, Davanagere-44, Hassan-23, Chamarajanagara -15, Bagalkote-14, Bangalore Urban 15 and Bangalore Rural-12. The cases in all these 14 districts have been disposed off and the conviction rate is 0%.

A total number of 86 cases have been disposed off/closed in Haveri district where the rate of conviction is 17% (15 convictions out of 86 cases); in Bijapur 86 cases and 7 conviction (12%), Chikkaballapura -124 cases and 7 convictions (5%); Belagavi -55 cases and 2 convictions (3%); 3 convictions each have been reported from Mysore and Dharwad (Mysore 150 cases-6% and Dharwad 77 cases -10%). In the remaining districts, one conviction has been reported from each district. Overall, the rate of conviction in this year is 5% or less than 5%.

Aneexure -7

Sl. no.	District	Reported	Under Investigation	Pending cases	Conviction	Acquittals	Others settled	'B'Report	Transferred	Rank	Proportion of 'B' Report
1	Bagalakote	52	1	43		10	5	3	0	14	5.76%
2	Bangalore City	144	79	40		12	1	22	3	1	15.27%
3	Bangalore District	99	2	68		11	0	28	0	3	28.28%
4	Belagavi	94	2	73		45	4	14	1	4	14.89%
5	Bellary	75	8	55		18	3	9	0	6	11.99%
6	Bidar	31	4	24		11	0	2	0	21	6.45%
7	Bijapura	75	3	55	1	47	0	11	2	7	14.66%
8	Chamarajanagara	32	1	28		15	0	2	1	20	6.25%
9	Chikkaballapura	38	0	34		70	0	4	0	17	10.52%
10	Chikkamagalur	87	2	59		21	0	26	0	4	29.88%
11	Chitradurga	25	0	22	1	28	0	2	0	23	8.00%
12	Dakshina Kannada	85	4	45		0	9	27	0	5	31.76%
13	Davanagere	51	7	33		42	0	3	3	14	5.88%
14	Dharwada	23	0	18		26	1	2	0	24	8.69%
15	Gadaga	31	6	17		11	2	6	0	21	19.35%
16	Gulbarga	116	2	95		32	0	13	0	2	11.20%
17	Hasan	70	2	58		20	0	9	1	8	12.85%
18	Haveri	67	0	54		58	3	6	1	9	8.95%
19	Hubballi-Dharwad	34	1	24		26	0	8	1	18	23.52%
20	KGF	7	0	6		0	0	1	0	26	14.28%
21	Kodagu	28	1	19		27	0	6	0	22	21.42%
22	Kolar	55	0	45		29	0	9	1	12	16.36%
23	Koppala	40	0	32		10	0	4	4	16	10.00%
24	Mandya	85	1	70		8	1	13	0	5	15.29%
25	Mangalore City	44	0	36		24	1	7	0	15	15.90%
26	Mysore City	23	0	13		49	0	8	1	24	34.78%
27	Mysore District	60	3	44		0	0	12	1	10	10.99%
28	Raichur	116	3	79		33	5	27	0	2	23.27%
29	Ramanagara	58	6	36		76	3	13	0	11	22.41%
30	Shivamogga	75	5	64		24	3	2	1	7	2.66%
31	Tumkur	81	9	63		37	0	9	0	6	11.11%
32	Udupi	33	9	21		5	0	3	0	19	9.09%
33	Uttara Kannada	33	0	19		0	0	14	0	19	42.42%
34	Yadagiri	70	0	59		22	2	8	1	8	11.42%
	Total	2037	161	1451	2	846	43	333	22		16.64

Ratio/Rate of 'B'Reports

In 2015 a total number of 2037 cases of crime against SC/ST have been reported in Karnataka. A total number of 1950 and 1925 cases were reported during 2014 and 2013 respectively. During the current year also, more number of cases have been reported. It is to be observed here that the number of 'B'reports too has increased. During the previous two years the number of 'B'reports (13% in 2013 and 12% in 2014) was less than 2015 figures (17%).

In Bangalore Rural district 28 cases have been closed with the submission of 'B'reports (cases reported 99 and 28 'B'reports i.e. 28% of the cases have been closed with 'B'reports); in Chikkamagalur district 26 cases have been closed with 'B'reports(cases reported 87, 'B'reports-26- 30%); in Dakshina Kannada district 27 cases have been closed with 'B'reports (cases reported 85, 'B'reports-27- 32%); in Bangalore Urban district a total number of 144 cases have been reported out of which, 22 cases were closed with 'B'reports -15%.

Similarly, a total number of 94 cases have been reported out of which, 14 cases were closed with 'B'reports -15%; Gulbarga a total number of 94 cases have been reported out of which, 13 cases were closed with 'B'reports -11%; in Mandya total cases reported: 85-closed with 'B'Report: 13- 15 %; in Mysore total cases reported: 60-closed with 'B'Report: 12- 20%; in Uttara Kannada district total cases reported:33-closed with 'B'Report: 14- 42 %; in Ramanagara total cases reported: 58-closed with 'B'Report: 13- 22%; in Raichur total cases reported: 166-closed with 'B'Report: 27- 23%.

In the previous two years the ratio of 'B' Reports has come down in the state (13% in 2013 and 12% in 2014). But during the current year it has increased to 17%. In Bangalore Rural district 27 cases were closed with the submission of 'B'Reports (cases reported were 99 out of which, 28 cases were closed with 'B'Report –ratio being 28%). In Chikkamagalur district 26 cases were closed with 'B'Report (cases reported: 87, 26 cases closed with 'B'Report; ratio being 30%). In Dakshina Kannada district 27 cases were closed with 'B'Report (cases reported: 85, 27 cases closed with 'B'Report; ratio being 32%).

Quantum of punishment

Cases which have been disposed and pending in districts which have been declared as atrocity prone merit our special attention. The reality is, in the 'Atrocity Prone' districts (Bangalore Urban, Chitradurga, Hassan, Mandya and Shivamogga) the rate of conviction is 0% which is a matter of deep concern. Similarly, in the other 'atrocity prone' districts Bellary, Bidar, Gulbarga, Kolara, Raichur and Tumkur districts the rate of conviction is mere 1%. The conviction rate is 7% in Bijapur, 3% each in Mysore and Dharwad; and 2% in Belagavi.

There is special court in Ramanagara, where the rate of conviction was 5% in 2013 (3 convictions out of 58 cases); in 2014 only one accused was convicted out of 52 cases. In 2015 a total number of 87 cases have been disposed off but none has been convicted making the rate of conviction 0%.

The performance of Tanuja B.Hosapattana of Uttara Kannada district shows that a total number of 56 cases have been registered in the court, out of which one case has ended in conviction (33.33%). Similarly there have been no acquittals in this year and she has ensured disposal of 3 cases making rate of disposal 66%. Except K.G. Kalpana of Chikkamagalur the performance of all other S.P.P.s has resulted in more than 50% of acquittals. The performance of 9 S.P.Ps. in 30 districts of the state the rate of acquittal is more than 90%.

The performance of T.H. Lolakshi of Chamarajanagar as S.P.P. has resulted in the acquittal of 15 cases and none of the cases had resulted in conviction. Since 15 cases have been disposed off, her performance in terms of rate of acquittal is 100%.

In all 1017 cases have been disposed off out of which only 46 cases ended in conviction. That means the rate of conviction during this year is less than 5% (1037 cases and 46 convictions). While the total cases reported were 4891 only 1037 cases have been disposed off making the disposal ratio 21.2%

Pending Cases

During this year a total number of 1451 cases were reported to be pending: Tumkur (63), Shivamogga (64), Raichur (79), Yadagiri (57), Mandya (70), Gulbarga (95). In Tumkur area, out of total 81 cases 63 are pending. In Tumkur Shivamogga area out of total 75 cases 64 are pending. Similarly the figures in other districts are: Raichur 116/79, Mandya 85/70, Koppala 40/32, Hassan 70/58, Haveri 67/54, Gulbarga 116/95, Chikkamagalur 87/59, Chikkaballapura 38/34, Bliapura 75/55, Bagalkote 52/43, Bangalore Urban 144/40, Bangalore Rural 99/68. This indicate that the number of pending cases is also increasing in the state.

Performance of Special Public Prosecutors (S.P.Ps)

The performance of Tanuja B.Hosapattana of Uttara Kannada district shows that a total number of 56 cases have been registered in the court, out of which one case has ended in conviction (33.33%). Similarly there have been no acquittals in this year and she has ensured disposal of 3 cases making rate of disposal 66%.

Except K.G. Kalpana of Chikkamagalur the performance of all other S.P.P.s has resulted in more than 50% of acquittals. The performance of 9 S.P.Ps. in 30 districts of the state the rate of acquittal is more than 90%. . The performance of T.H. Lolakshi of Chamarajanagar as S.P.P. has

resulted in the acquittal of 15 cases and none of the cases had resulted in conviction. Since 15 cases have been disposed off, her performance in terms of rate of acquittal is 100%. Veeresh.G. Mamani, Bagalkote (disposal of 14 cases), K.Rudraswamy, Bangalore Rural (disposal of 12 cases), Ashoka Talavara Bangalore Urban((disposal of 14 cases),), T.H.Lolalakshi, Chamarajanagara ((disposal of 15 cases),), K.G.Kalpna Chikkamagalore ((disposal of 44 cases),), D.Narayana Chitradurga (disposal of 31 cases)), S.S. Kudari Davanagere((disposal of 44 cases), S.R.Patel, Gadaga ((disposal of 14 cases),), Mallaraje Gowda, Hassana((disposal of 23 cases),), A.P.Phiroz Khan, Kodagu (disposal of 28 cases),), S.G. Pheerjade (disposal of 11 cases),), L.Nagaraju, Ramanagara (disposal of 87 cases),), Sumita M.Anchatageri, Shivamogga (disposal of 31 cases) and K.Gopal Rao, Yadagir (disposal of 23 cases). The performance of these 14 S.P.Ps shows that the rate of conviction during 2015 is 0%.

Shailaja M.Patel Belgaum 3.36% (55 cases and 2 convictions), Laxmidevi Patel, Bellary 4.16% (24 cases and 1 conviction), B.Arunakshi, Chikkaballapura 4.83% (124 cases and 6 convictions), B.Shekara Shetty, Mangalore 2.85% (35 cases and 1 conviction), Safeer Ahmad , Gulbarga 3.12% (32 cases and 1 conviction), Rangaswamy Kolara 2.94% (34 cases and 1 conviction), G.Sudarshan Raichur 2.56% (39 cases and 1 conviction), and Manare Gowda, Tumakur 2.5% (40 cases and 21 conviction). The performance of all these S.P.Ps is 5% or less than 5%.

The performance of B.Arunakshi who is the S.P.P. of Chikkamagalur district has resulted in 6 convictions out of 124 cases and the cases handled by Saroja Hosamani in Haveri District has resulted in 15 convictions out of 86 cases.

The above statistics make one wonder whether these S.P.Ps are working for the accused or for the victims of atrocity. Especially, on whose side those S.P.P.s who had shown zero percent conviction did argue in the court? Or Are they incompetent? If they are in private practice can they do what they have done? S.P.Ps please observe your performance closely.

District Vigilance and Monitoring Committee Meetings

As for District Vigilance and Monitoring Committee Meetings- when we take into consideration the 'Karnataka State Reports from 2009 to 2015" which has been published by us regarding the implementation of SC/ST (Prevention of Atrocity) Act 1989,-we find that number of D.V.M.C. meetings have gradually increased over a period of eight years

When we observe the D.V.M.C. meetings from 2008 to 2013 it could be seen that only during 2013 for the first time at least one meeting was held in all the districts in the state. Later in 2014 and also during 2015 at least one meeting was held in all the districts.

Only during 2014 only Uttara Kannada and Bangalore Rural districts all meetings were convened as per Rule 17(3). But in 2015 it could be seen that six districts- Uttara Kannada,

Yadagiri, udupi, Haveri, Bellary, and Bagalkote have conducted D.V.M.C. meetings as per Rule 17(3).

It is a noteworthy fact that five D.V.M.C. meetings were held in Yadgir district during 2015. Uttara Kannada district has earned the distinction of conducting more number of meetings during 2012, 2013, 2014 and 2015 than all other districts in the state.

Seven districts-Bangalore Urban, Kolara, Mandya, Mysore, Raichur, Shivamogga and Tumkur have confined themselves to a single D.V.M.C. meeting.

Five districts- Gulbarga, Chikkamagalur, Chamarajanagara, Belagavi and Bangalore Rural have each held three meetings.

Although Tumkur, Shivamogga, Raichur, Mysore, Mandya, Kolar, Bijapur and Bangalore Urban have been declared as 'Atrocity Prone' districts, only one DVMC meeting has been held in each of these districts. It becomes clear from this that the concerned District Commissioners, have not only violated the law but also were seen to be lacking sensitivity about the issue. This not only reflects the negligence by the concerned DCs but also reflects the violation of the law by them.

State Vigilance and Monitoring Committee Meetings

According to Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribes (Prevention of Atrocities) Act 1989, Amendment Act 2015 and Rules 19185 and Amendment Rules 2016 it is mandatory to convene S.V.M.C. at least twice in a year. The meetings which were required to be held necessarily during the months of January and July were not held in the state.

Sri Siddaramaiah the present Chief Minister made a good beginning by convening a mandatory SVMC meeting towards the end of 2013 (7th Nov 2013) but no meetings were held during 2014 and during 2015 only one meeting was held (26th May 2015). Out of five SVMC meetings which were required be convened by him, the Chief Minister has so far held only two meetings. Barring this, when Sri H.D.Kumaraswamy was the Chief Minister of the state, out of three mandatory meetings only one meeting was held. Sri B.S. Yediyurappa had held one meeting in place of seven meetings. The performance of the remaining Chief Ministers had been far from satisfactory as not even a single meeting was held during their tenures. During S.M.Krishna's tenure as Chief Minister of the state when it became mandatory for the government to hold nine meetings following Kambalapalli massacre, the government held only one meeting. The ratio of SVMC meetings is as unsatisfactory as the quantum of punishment.

All political parties declare that they will ensure social justice. Compared to all other political parties in matters related to the implementation of Atrocity Prevention Act and the meetings

that are required to be held under the rules, the performance of Janata Dal (Secular) appears satisfactory.

Recommendations to the Government

1. Special Courts must be set up in all the 30 districts of the state; only competent and judges who are sensitive to issues of atrocities must be appointed to these courts.
2. A survey must be conducted regarding untouchability in the state, various forms of untouchability and levels and severity of untouchability.
3. Ensure the participation of NGOs and civil society organizations (Rule 3 viii and 3 ix) to sensitize all Officers who have not yet truly understood atrocity and to create awareness in the community.
4. Barring, Tanuja B. Hosapattana (Uttara Kannada), B.Shekara Shetty (Udupi), Saroja Hosamani (Haveri), Girija S.Thaminala (Dharwad), S.A. Paste (Bijapura), Bheema Shankara Ambalagi (Bidar) and B.A. Patil (Koppala) all other Special Public Prosecutors are to be changed.
5. An Watch Officer to be appointed to observe the performance of 14 S.P.Ps who have shown zero achievement in the current year and in case of any adverse comments the same have to be mentioned in their annual confidential report.
6. The Directorate of Public Prosecutors has to bring about a suitable system to review the performance of S.P.Ps. and the inefficient S.P.Ps. have to be changed.
7. Special Courts must be set up on priority in Bangalore Rural and Urban Districts.
8. The officers who have fully understood atrocity and sensitive to the issue must be appointed to strategic administrative positions (Police, IAS, KAS and Judges) which are concerned with dispensing justice for atrocities.
9. The District Commissioners of Bangalore Urban, Kolar, and Tumkur districts must be immediately suspended and departmental proceedings be initiated against them for dereliction of duty. Besides, as per the judgment by Supreme Court in Criminal Appeal Number 959/2011 para 17, all these officers have to be prosecuted and the adverse comments must be recorded in their annual confidential report.
10. The dates of District Vigilance and Monitoring Committee meetings must be determined.