

REPORT

U/s 21 (4)


OF

THE SCHEDULED CASTES AND THE SCHEDULED TRIBES (PREVENTION OF ATROCITIES) ACT, 1989, FOR THE YEAR 2023



GOVERNMENT OF INDIA

**MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT
DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND
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CHAPTER

1

INTRODUCTION

1.1 THE SCHEDULED CASTES AND THE SCHEDULED TRIBES (PREVENTION OF ATROCITIES) ACT, 1989 AND THE SCHEDULED CASTES AND THE SCHEDULED TRIBES (PREVENTION OF ATROCITIES) RULES, 1995.

The Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes (Prevention of Atrocities) Act, 1989 (No.33 of 1989) (hereinafter referred as 'PoA' Act) came into force with effect from 30.01.1990. This legislation aims at preventing commission of offences by persons other than Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes against members of Scheduled Castes (SCs) and Scheduled Tribes (STs) and also provide for Special Courts for trial of such offences and for relief and rehabilitation of the victims of such offences. The PoA Act is extended to whole of India. With an objective to deliver members of SCs and STs, a greater justice, the PoA Act was amended by the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes (Prevention of Atrocities) Amendment Act, 2015 (No.1 of 2016), notified in the Gazette of India Extraordinary on 01.01.2016 and enforced with effect from 26.01.2016. The amendments broadly relate to rephrasing and expansion of some of earlier offences and addition of several new offences, addition of certain IPC offences attracting less than ten years of imprisonment committed against members of SCs and STs, as offences punishable under the PoA Act, establishment of Exclusive Special Courts and specification of Exclusive Special Public Prosecutors to exclusively try the offences under the PoA Act to enable expeditious disposal of cases, power of Special Courts and Exclusive Special Courts to take direct cognizance of offence and as far as possible, completion of trial of the case within two months from the date of filing of the charge sheet, addition of chapter on the 'Rights of Victims and Witnesses' and willful negligence of a public servant in discharging duties for registration of complaints, recording statement of witnesses, conducting investigation and filing charges and any other duties specified in the Act and Rules. The PoA Act is implemented by the respective State Governments and Union Territory Administrations, which are provided admissible Central assistance under the Centrally Sponsored Scheme for effective implementation of the provisions of the Act.

Main provisions of the PoA Act are as under: -

- (i) Defines offences of atrocities and prescribes punishment therefore, (Section 3).
- (ii) Punishment for willful neglect of duties by non-SC/ST public servants (Section 4).
- (iii) Establishing an Exclusive Special Court for one or more districts, specifying Court of Session to be a Special Court for speedy trial of offences under the Act. Powers of these Courts to take direct cognizance of offences under the Act, duty of the State Government to establish adequate number of Courts to ensure that cases under the Act are disposed of within a period of two months as far as possible (Section 14).
- (iv) An appeal against judgment of Special Court or an Exclusive Special Court to the High Court (Section 14A).
- (v) Appointment of Exclusive Special Public Prosecutors and Special Public Prosecutors for conducting cases in Exclusive Special Courts and Special Courts (Section 15).
- (vi) Rights of Victims and Witnesses (Section 15A).
- (vii) Preventive action to be taken by the law and order machinery (Section 17).
- (viii) Measures to be taken by State Governments for effective implementation of the Act, including: -
 - a. Adequate facilities including legal aid, to the persons subjected to atrocities to enable them to avail themselves of justice;
 - b. Economic and Social rehabilitation of victims of the atrocities;
 - c. Appointment of officers for initiating or exercising supervision over prosecution for contravention of the provisions of the Act; and
 - d. Setting up of Committees at appropriate levels to assist the Government in implementation of the Act;
 - e. Delineation of "Identified Areas" (commonly known as "Atrocity Prone Areas") where members of SC/ST are vulnerable to being subjected to atrocities and adoption of necessary measures to ensure their safety. {Section 21 (2)}.

The PoA Act has been further amended by the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes (Prevention of Atrocities) Amendment Act, 2018, and after Section 18, Section 18A inserted which reads as under: -

"18A. (1) For the purposes of this Act,:

- (a) Preliminary enquiry shall not be required for registration of a First Information Report against any person; or
- (b) The investigating officer shall not require approval for the arrest, if necessary, of any person, against whom an accusation of having committed an offence under this Act has been made and no procedure other than that provided under this Act or the Code shall apply.

(2) The provisions of Section 438 of the Code shall not apply to a case under this Act, notwithstanding any judgment or order or direction of any Court."

The Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes (Prevention of Atrocities) Amendment Act, 2018, was notified in the Gazette of India, Extraordinary on 17.08.2018 and enforced on 20.08.2018.

The Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes (Prevention of Atrocities) Rules, 1995 under the PoA Act were notified on 31.03.1995, which, among other things, prescribed minimum scale of relief and rehabilitation for the affected persons. The prescribed minimum scale of relief and rehabilitation under the Rules has been amended from time to time.

Consequent upon amendments done in the PoA Act, certain amendments had been necessitated in the PoA Rules. Accordingly necessary amendments were done in the PoA Rules by the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes (Prevention of Atrocities) Amendment Rules, 2016, notified in the Gazette of India on 14.04.2016, which broadly relate to provision of relief amount for 47 offences of atrocity, rationalization of the phasing of payment of relief amount to victims for various offences of atrocities, enhancement of relief amount to Rs. 85,000 to Rs. 8,25,000 depending upon the nature of the offences, ensuring payment of admissible relief amounts within seven days, completion of investigation, and filing of charge sheet in court within sixty days to enable timely commencement of prosecution. Additionally, the amendments require periodic review of the scheme for the rights and entitlements of victims and witnesses in accessing justice by the State, District, and Sub-Division Level Vigilance and Monitoring Committees during their respective meetings."

Salient provisions of the PoA Rules notified under the PoA Act are as under: -

- (i) Precautionary and Preventive Measures to be taken by the State Governments regarding offences of atrocities (Rule 3).
- (ii) Investigation of offences under the Act to be done by not below the rank of a DSP level Officer {Rule 7 (1)}.
- (iii) Completion of investigation and filing of charge sheet in court within sixty days and report forwarded to Director General of Police or Commissioner of Police of the State {Rule 7 (2)}.**[read with section 9 of the Act]**
- (iv) Setting up of the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes Protection Cell at State headquarters under the charge of Director General of Police/IG Police (Rule 8).
- (v) Nomination of (a) a Nodal Officer at the State level (not below the rank of a Secretary to the State Government), and (b) a Special Officer at the district level (not below the rank of an Additional District Magistrate) for districts with identified atrocity prone areas to co-

- ordinate the functioning of DMs, SPs and other concerned officers, at the State and District levels, respectively. (Rule 9 and 10).
- (vi) Provision of relief in cash or kind or both to victims of atrocities as per prescribed norms within seven days. (Rule 12 (4) and Schedule).
 - (vii) State Government/Union Territory Administration to provide necessary authorization and powers to the District Magistrate for immediate withdrawal of money from treasury so as to timely provide the relief amount to atrocity victims (Rule 12(4A)).
 - (viii) State Level Vigilance and Monitoring Committee under the Chief Minister to meet at least twice a year (Rule 16).
 - (ix) District Level Vigilance and Monitoring Committee under the District Magistrate to meet at least once every quarter (Rule 17).
 - (x) Sub-Divisional Level Vigilance and Monitoring Committee under the Sub-Divisional Magistrate to meet at least once every quarter (Rule 17 A)

The PoA Rules have been further amended by the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes (Prevention of Atrocities) Amendment Rules, 2018 and notified in the Gazette of India, Extraordinary, vide notification dated 27.06.2018. The amendments broadly relate to provision of relief to victims of unnatural offences (IPC 377, sr. no.44, col. (2) of Annexure -I to Schedule of PoA Rules), grievous hurt by throwing acid (IPC 326B, sr. no.24, col. (2) of Annexure. I to Schedule of PoA Rules), omission of limit of 25 members of State Level Vigilance and Monitoring Committee (SLVMC) {Rule 16(1) of PoA Rules}, provision of relief in case of death, injury, rape, gang rape, unnatural offences, grievous hurt by throwing acid etc., damage to property, in addition to any other right to claim compensation in respect thereof under any other law.

1.2 RESPONSIBILITY FOR IMPLEMENTATION OF THE PoA ACT

Responsibility for implementation of the PoA Act primarily lies with the State Governments/Union Territory Administrations and their subordinate authorities (Police and Executive magistrates). At the Central level, as per the Government of India (Allocation of Business) Rules, 1961, the responsibility in regard to implementation of the PoA Act is allocated as under: -

Ministry of Home Affairs

Criminal offences against members of the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes, including those under the PoA Act.

Ministry of Social Justice & Empowerment

Implementation of the PoA Act, (in so far as it relates to Scheduled Castes), excluding the administration of criminal justice in regard to offences under the Act.

Ministry of Tribal Affairs

Implementation of the PoA Act, (in so far as it relates to Scheduled Tribes), excluding the administration of criminal justice in regard to offences under the Act.

1.3. REPORT ON THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE PoA ACT, 1989.

Section 21 of the PoA Act casts certain duties on the Central and the State Governments to ensure effective implementation of the Act, and reads as follows: -

“21. Duty of Government to ensure effective implementation of the Act: -

- (1) Subject to such rules as the Central Government may make in this behalf, the State Government shall take such measures as may be necessary for the effective implementation of this Act.
- (2) In particular, and without prejudice to the generality of the foregoing provisions, such measures may include, -
 - (i) *the provision for adequate facilities, including legal aid to the persons subjected to atrocities to enable them to avail themselves of justice;*
 - (ii) *the provision for travelling and maintenance expenses to witnesses, including the victims of atrocities, during investigation and trial of offences under this Act;*
 - (iii) *the provision for the economic and social rehabilitation of the victims of the atrocities;*
 - (iv) *the appointment of officers for initiating or exercising supervision over prosecutions for the contravention of the provisions of this Act;*
 - (v) *the setting up of committees at such appropriate levels as the State Government may think fit to assist that Government in formulation or implementation of such measures;*
 - (vi) *provision for a periodic survey of the working of the provisions of this Act with a view to suggesting measures for the better implementation of the provision of this Act;*
 - (vii) *the identification of the areas where the members of the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes are likely to be subjected to atrocities and adoption of such measures so as to ensure safety for such members.*

(3) The Central Government shall take such steps as may be necessary to co-ordinate the measures taken by the State Governments under sub-section (1).

(4) The Central Government shall, every year, place on the table of each House of Parliament a report on the measures taken by itself and by the State Governments in pursuance of the provisions of this section".

This Report for the calendar year 2023 is being placed on the Table of both the Houses of Parliament, in pursuance of sub-section (4) of the above Section 21.

CHAPTER 2

STRUCTURES AND MECHANISMS FOR IMPLEMENTATION & MONITORING OF THE PoA ACT, 1989.

I. Special Courts

In accordance with Section 14 of the PoA Act, as amended and enforced with effect from 26.01.2016, for the purpose of providing for speedy trial, the State Government shall, with the concurrence of the Chief Justice of the High Court, establish an Exclusive Special Court for one or more districts. Further in the districts where less number of cases under the Act is recorded, with the concurrence of the Chief Justice of the High Court specify for such Districts, the Court of Session to be a Special Court to try the offences under the Act. These Courts have powers to take direct cognizance of offences under the Act, and it is the duty of the State Government to establish adequate number of Courts to ensure that cases under the Act are disposed of within a period of two months, as far as possible.

State Governments and Union Territory Administrations of Andhra Pradesh, Assam, Bihar, Chhattisgarh, Goa, Gujarat, Haryana, Himachal Pradesh, Jharkhand, Karnataka, Kerala, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Meghalaya, Mizoram, Odisha, Punjab, Rajasthan, Sikkim, Tamil Nadu, Telangana, Tripura, Uttar Pradesh, Uttarakhand, West Bengal, Chandigarh, Dadra and Nagar Haveli and Daman and Diu, NCT of Delhi, Jammu & Kashmir, Ladakh and Puducherry have designated District Session Courts as Special Courts.

For ensuring speedy trial of cases under the PoA Act, 211 Exclusive Special Courts, have also been set up by 15 States, as mentioned in the table below: -

S. No.	State	Number of Districts with Exclusive Special Courts
1.	Andhra Pradesh	01
2.	Bihar	14

3.	Chhattisgarh	11
4.	Gujarat	16
5.	Jharkhand	02
6.	Karnataka	08
7.	Madhya Pradesh	11
8.	Maharashtra	03
9.	Odisha	03
10.	Punjab	02
11.	Rajasthan	31
12.	Tamil Nadu	19
13.	Telangana	10
14.	Uttar Pradesh	74
15.	Kerala	6
	Total	211

II. Special Public Prosecutors

Section 15 of the PoA Act as amended, provides for appointing or specifying Exclusive Special Public Prosecutors and Special Public Prosecutors for the purpose of conducting cases in Exclusive Special Courts and Special Courts respectively. Accordingly, the States/Union Territories, which have set up Exclusive Special Courts and Special Courts, have appointed Exclusive Special Public Prosecutors and Special Public Prosecutors.

III. Setting up of (a) SC/ST Protection Cells at State Headquarters, and (b) Special Police Stations for SC/ST

Rule 8 of the PoA Rules, requires the State Government to set up a SC/ST Protection Cell at the State headquarters under the charge of a DGP, ADGP/IGP and assign to it the following responsibilities: -

- (i) conducting survey of, maintaining public order and tranquility in, and recommending deployment of special police force in identified areas;
- (ii) investigating causes of offences under the Act, restoring feeling of security among SC/ST;
- (iii) liaising with Nodal and Special Officers about law and order situation in identified areas;
- (iv) informing the Nodal Officer and the concerned District Magistrate about implementation of the rights of victims and witnesses specified under the provisions of Chapter IVA of the PoA Act;

(v) monitoring investigation of offences and enquiring into willful negligence of public servants;

(vi) reviewing the position of cases registered under the Act; and

(vii) submitting a monthly report to the State Government/Nodal Officer about action taken/proposed to be taken in respect of the above.

SC/ST Protection Cells have been set up in the States and Union Territories of Andhra Pradesh, Arunachal Pradesh, Assam, Bihar, Chhattisgarh, Gujarat, Haryana, Himachal Pradesh, Jharkhand, Karnataka, Kerala, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Meghalaya, Mizoram, Odisha, Punjab, Rajasthan, Sikkim, Tamil Nadu, Telangana, Tripura, Uttar Pradesh, Uttarakhand, West Bengal, Chandigarh, NCT of Delhi, Jammu and Kashmir, Ladakh and Puducherry.

Special Police Stations for registration of complaints of offences against members of SCs and STs have also been set up by five States, viz. Bihar, Chhattisgarh, Jharkhand, Kerala and Madhya Pradesh. The details are as under: -

S. No.	State	Number of Special Police Stations	Name of District where Special Police Station has been set up
1.	Bihar	40	Patna, Nalanda, Rohtas, Bhabhua, Bhojpur, Buxar, Gaya, Jehanabad, Arwal, Nawada, Aurangabad, Saran, Siwan, Gopalganj, Muzaffarpur, Sitamarhi, Sheohar, West Champaran (2), East Champaran, Vaishali, Darbhanga, Madhubani, Samastipur, Saharsa, Supal, Madhepura, Purnia, Araria, Kisanganj, Katihar, Bhagalpur (2), Banka, Munger, Lakhisarai, Sheikhpura, Jamui, Khagaria and Begusarai.
2.	Chhattisgarh	27	Raipur, Durg, Rajnandgaon, Mahasumud, Dhamtari, Kabirdham, Gariyaband, Balod, Baloda Bazar, Bemetara, Bilaspur, Raigarh, Janjgir-Champa, Korba, Mungeli,

			Sarguja, Jashpur, Surajp. ur, Korea, Balrampur, Bastar, North Bastar (Kanker), South Baster (Dantewada), Kondagaon, Sukma and Narayanpur.
3.	Jharkhand	24	Ranchi, Gumla, Simdega, Lohardaga, Chaibasa, Saraikela, Jamshedpur, Hazaribagh, Koderma, Chatra, Giridih, Palamu, Latehar, Garhwa, Dhanbad, Bokaro, Dumka, Godda, Jamtara, Deogarh, Sahebgang, Pakur, Ramgarh and Khunti.
4.	Kerala	03	Kasargod, Wayanad and Palakkad
5.	Madhya Pradesh	51	Gwalior, Shivpuri, Guna, Ashok Nagar, Morena, Sheopur, Bhind, Datia, Ujjain, Mandsore, Neemuch, Ratlam, Dewas, Shajapur, Jabalpur, Katni, Chhindwara, Seoni, Narsinghpur, Mandla, Dindory, Balaghat, Rewa, Satna, Sidhi, Shahdole, Umaria, Anoopur, Hoshangabad, Harda, Raisen, Betul, Bhopal, Sehore, Rajgarh, Vidisha, Indore, Dhar, Jhabua, Khargone, Barwani, Khandwa, Burhanpur, Sagar, Damoh, Panna, Chhatarpur, Tikamgarh, Singruali, Alirajpur and Agar Malwa.
	Total	145	

IV Nodal Officers

Rule 9 of the PoA Rules, provides for appointment of Nodal Officers for coordinating functioning of the District Magistrates and Superintendents of Police or other authorized officers.

Such officers have been appointed in the States/UTs of Andhra Pradesh, Assam, Bihar, Chhattisgarh, Goa, Gujarat, Haryana, Himachal Pradesh, Jharkhand, Karnataka, Kerala, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Odisha, Rajasthan, Sikkim, Tamil Nadu, Telangana, Uttar Pradesh, Uttarakhand, West

Bengal, Chandigarh, NCT of Delhi, Jammu & Kashmir, Ladakh and Puducherry.

V. Delineation of "Identified Areas" or "Atrocity Prone Areas" and undertaking of consequential steps.

(i) Identification of atrocity prone areas

Rule 3(1)(i) of the PoA Rules, provides for identification of atrocity prone areas.

Andhra Pradesh, Bihar, Chhattisgarh, Gujarat, Jharkhand, Kerala, Madhya Pradesh, Odisha, Rajasthan, Tamil Nadu and Telangana, have identified the Atrocity Prone/Sensitive areas.

(ii) Appointment of Special Officers

Rule 10 of the PoA Rules, provides for appointment of a Special Officer not below the rank of an Additional District Magistrate in the identified Atrocity Prone Area, to co-ordinate with the District Magistrate, Superintendent of Police or other officers responsible for implementing the provisions of the Act.

Special Officers have been nominated by Governments of Andhra Pradesh, Assam, Bihar, Chhattisgarh, Gujarat, Haryana, Himachal Pradesh, Jharkhand, Karnataka, Kerala, Madhya Pradesh, Rajasthan, Sikkim, Tamil Nadu, Telangana, Uttar Pradesh, West Bengal and UT Administration of Chandigarh, NCT of Delhi and Puducherry.

VI. State and District Level Vigilance and Monitoring Committees

Rule 16 and Rule 17 of the PoA Rules, provide for setting up of the State Level Vigilance and Monitoring Committee under the Chairpersonship of the Chief Minister and the District level Vigilance and Monitoring Committees under the Chairpersonship of the District Magistrate to review implementation of the provisions of the PoA Act.

Such Committees have been set up in the States/UTs of Andhra Pradesh, Assam, Bihar, Chhattisgarh, Goa, Gujarat, Haryana, Himachal Pradesh, Jharkhand, Karnataka, Kerala, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Meghalaya, Odisha, Punjab, Rajasthan, Sikkim, Tamil Nadu, Telangana, Tripura, Uttar Pradesh, Uttarakhand, West Bengal, Chandigarh, Dadra and Nagar Haveli and Daman and Diu, NCT of Delhi, Jammu and Kashmir, Ladakh and Puducherry.

VII. Constitutional Bodies to monitor safeguards provided for SCs and STs

A. National Commission for Scheduled Castes (NCSC)

The NCSC is a body established under Article 338 of the Constitution. Following provisions of Clause (5) of Article 338 lay down certain duties of the Commission, which have a bearing on prevention of atrocities against SCs: -

- (a) to investigate and monitor all matters relating to the safeguards provided for the Scheduled Castes under this Constitution or under any other law for the time being in force or under any order of the Government and to evaluate the working of such safeguards;
- (b) to inquire into specific complaints with respect to the deprivation of rights and safeguards of the Scheduled Castes;

The NCSC has an Atrocities and Protection of Civil Rights Wing, which deals with cases relating to Scheduled Castes under the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes (Prevention of Atrocities) Act, 1989 and the Protection of Civil Rights Act, 1955, either on receipt of complaints from individuals or information from other sources (including the media). Evaluation studies/surveys on these subjects are also conducted by this Wing.

The Commission has Regional Offices/Sub-Offices situated at Agartala, Ahmedabad, Bengaluru, Chandigarh, Chennai, Guwahati, Hyderabad, Kolkata, Lucknow, Patna, Pune and Thiruvananthapuram, with specified jurisdiction to cover States/Union Territories.

B. National Commission for Scheduled Tribes (NCST)

The NCST is a body established under Article 338-A of the Constitution. Following provisions of Clause (5) of Article 338 -A lay down certain duties of the Commission, which have a bearing on prevention of atrocities against STs:

- (a) to investigate and monitor all matters relating to the safeguards provided for the Scheduled Tribes under this Constitution or under any other law for the time being in force or under any order of the Government and to evaluate the working of such safeguards;
- (b) to inquire into specific complaints with respect to the deprivation of rights and safeguards of the Scheduled Tribes;

On receiving information about an incident of atrocity against a person belonging to ST, the Commission gets in touch with the law enforcing and administrative machinery of the concerned State and the District to ascertain the details of incident and the action taken by the District Administration.

The Commission has six regional offices at Bhopal, Bhubaneswar, Jaipur, Raipur, Ranchi and Shillong with specified jurisdiction to cover States/Union Territories.

CHAPTER

3

ACTION BY THE POLICE AND THE COURTS IN CASES REGISTERED UNDER THE POA ACT IN CONJUNCTION WITH THE IPC, DURING 2023

3.1 Atrocities

Section 3 of the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes (Prevention of Atrocities) Act, 1989, as amended by the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes (Prevention of Atrocities) Amendment, Act, 2015 (1 of 2016) specifies offences of atrocities against members of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes by a person not being a member of a Scheduled Caste or a Scheduled Tribe. In the aforementioned amended Act, various atrocities have been redefined, and several new offenses have also been introduced. Details of Section 3 of the Act are at **Annexure-I**.

This chapter gives statistical data on offences registered under the PoA Act in 2023. Source of all data given herein is the National Crime Records Bureau (NCRB), Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA).

3.2 All India figures of cases under PoA Act in conjunction with the IPC registered by the Police and their disposal by the Courts during the year 2021-2023.

The following table indicates data regarding the registration of cases under the PoA Act in conjunction with the IPC, their pendency in courts, and the conviction rate for the years 2021, 2022, and 2023.

S.No.	Item	2021	2022	2023
1.	Number of cases registered with Police during the year	54085	62601	65532
2.	Percentage of cases pending in Court	95.9	94.1	93.9
3.	Percentage of cases ending in conviction	32.7	32.4	28.05

3.3 State wise registration of offences of atrocities in 2023

State-wise details of cases registered during 2023 under the PoA Act in conjunction with the IPC, are given in Table 3.1 below. In the table, States and UTs have been arranged in descending order of the total number of atrocity cases registered in 2023.

TABLE- 3.1

STATE-WISE CASES REGISTERED DURING 2023 UNDER THE PoA ACT, 1989 IN CONJUNCTION WITH THE IPC.

S. No.	State/Union Territory	Number of Cases registered during the year 2023			SC population as per 2011 Census and its % to total population (In lakhs)	ST population as per 2011 Census and its % to total population (In lakhs)
		SC	ST	Total	SC	ST
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
	States					
1.	Uttar Pradesh	12359	2	12361	413.5 (20.7)	11.3 (0.6)
2.	Rajasthan	8322	2403	10725	122.2 (17.8)	92.3 (13.5)
3.	Madhya Pradesh	8227	2840	11067	113.4 (15.6)	153.2 (21.1)
4.	Bihar	7063	114	7177	165.6 (15.9)	13.3 (1.3)
5.	Odisha	2696	662	3358	71.8 (17.1)	95.9 (22.8)
6.	Maharashtra	2684	717	3401	132.7 (11.8)	105.1 (9.4)
7.	Andhra Pradesh	1966	347	2313	84.5 (17.2)	26.3 (5.4)
8.	Karnataka	1884	432	2316	104.7 (17.1)	42.4 (7.0)
9.	Telangana	1853	47	1900	54.3 (15.4)	32.9 (9.3)
10.	Tamil Nadu	1652	557	2209	144.3 (20.0)	7.9 (1.1)
11.	Haryana	1401	0	1401	51.1 (20.2)	Nil
12.	Gujarat	1356	304	1660	40.7 (6.7)	89.1 (14.8)
13.	Kerala	1093	180	1273	30.4 (9.1)	4.8 (1.5)
14.	Jharkhand	348	164	512	39.8 (12.1)	86.4 (26.2)
15.	Chhattisgarh	250	335	585	32.7 (12.8)	78.2 (30.6)
16.	Punjab	79	0	79	88.6 (31.9)	Nil
17.	West Bengal	72	66	138	214.6 (23.5)	52.9 (5.8)
18.	Uttarakhand	40	0	40	18.9 (18.8)	2.9 (2.9)
19.	Himachal Pradesh	23	0	23	17.2 (25.2)	3.9 (5.7)
20.	Mizoram	3	0	3	0.1 (0.1)	10.3 (94.4)
21.	Assam	1	0	1	22.3 (7.2)	38.8 (12.4)
22.	Goa	0	21	21	0.25 (1.7)	1.4 (10.2)
23.	Tripura	0	2	2	6.5 (17.8)	11.6 (31.8)
24.	Sikkim	0	0	0	0.28 (4.6)	2.0 (33.8)
25.	Manipur	0	2916	2916	0.97 (3.8)	9.0 (35.1)
26.	Arunachal Pradesh	0	0	0	Nil	9.5 (68.8)
27.	Nagaland	0	0	0	Nil	17.1 (86.5)
28.	Meghalaya	0	0	0	0.17 (0.6)	25.5 (86.1)
	Union Territories					
29.	Delhi	42	1	43	28.1 (16.8)	Nil
30.	Puducherry	4	0	4	9.2 (7.4)	14.9 (11.9)
31.	Jammu & Kashmir	2	0	2	Nil	Nil
32.	Chandigarh	1	0	1	1.9 (18.9)	Nil
33.	Dadra & Nagar	0	0	0	Nil	Nil

	Haveli& Daman Diu					
34.	Andaman Nicobar Islands	0	1	1	Nil	0.28 (7.5)
35.	Ladakh	0	0	0	Nil	Nil
36.	Lakshadweep	0	0	0	Nil	0.61 (94.8)
	Total	53421	12111	65532	-	-

Atrocities against members of Scheduled Castes

The following table shows the thirteen States, cumulatively accounting for 98.4% (52556) of the total cases (53421) relating to offences of atrocities against members of SCs, registered under the PoA Act in conjunction with the IPC, during the year 2023:

S.No.	State	Cases of offences of atrocities against members of SCs registered under the PoA Act in 2023
1.	Uttar Pradesh	12359
2.	Rajasthan	8322
3.	Madhya Pradesh	8227
4.	Bihar	7063
5.	Odisha	2696
6.	Maharashtra	2684
7.	Andhra Pradesh	1966
8.	Karnataka	1884
9.	Telangana	1853
10.	Tamil Nadu	1652
11.	Haryana	1401
12.	Gujarat	1356
13.	Kerala	1093
	Total	52556

Atrocities against members of Scheduled Tribes

The following table shows the thirteen States, cumulatively accounting for 98.8% (11971) of the total cases (12111) relating to offences of atrocities against members of STs registered under the PoA Act in conjunction with the IPC, during the year 2023:

S.No.	State	Cases of offences of atrocities against members of STs registered under the PoA Act in 2023
1.	Manipur	2916
2.	Madhya Pradesh	2840
3.	Rajasthan	2403
4.	Maharashtra	717

5.	Odisha	662
6.	Telangana	557
7.	Karnataka	432
8.	Andhra Pradesh	347
9.	Chhattisgarh	335
10.	Gujarat	304
11.	Kerala	180
12.	Jharkhand	164
13.	Bihar	114
	Total	11971

3.4 State-wise progress of investigation of cases by the Police in 2023

Progress of investigation of cases by the police under the PoA Act in conjunction with the IPC, during the year 2023 is given in Table 3.2.

TABLE – 3.2

Investigation done by Police during 2023 of Cases registered under the PoA Act in conjunction with the IPC.

S. No.	Item	Number of Cases			
		Number		Percentage to total	
		SC	ST	SC	ST
1.	Total number of cases, including brought forward cases.	70,643	14,815	-	-
2.	Number of cases in which Charge-sheet filed in courts	45,487	7,186	64.39	48.51
3.	Number of cases withdrawn by the Government during investigation	0	0	0.00	0.0
4.	Cases not investigated u/s 157(1)(b) of Cr. PC	1	1	0.00	0.01
4.	Cases transferred to other State/Agency	34	14	0.05	0.09
5.	Cases quashed/stayed by the Court at investigation stage	96	11	0.13	0.07
6.	Final Report (viz. False, Mistake of Fact/Law, True but insufficient evidence) submitted during the year	10,287	1,740	14.56	11.74
7.	Number of cases pending with the police at the end of the year.	14,747	5,863	20.87	39.58

From the above, it is seen that 64.39% of the cases relating to Scheduled Castes were charge sheeted in courts during the year, with 14.56% of cases final reports submitted (such as false, mistake of fact/law, true but insufficient evidence) during the year. Similarly, 48.51% of the cases related to Scheduled Tribes were charge sheeted during the year, with 11.74% of cases having final reports submitted (such as false, mistake of fact/law, true but insufficient evidence) during the year 2023.

The State/UT wise registration of cases under PoA Act in conjunction with the IPC and the action taken by the Police, is given at **Annexure –II(A) & (B).**

3.5 State-wise Progress of Disposal of Cases by Courts in 2023

The details in regard to disposal of cases by Courts under the PoA Act in conjunction with the IPC, during 2023, are given in table 3.3.

TABLE-3.3

Disposal of Cases by Courts during 2023 under the PoA Act in conjunction with the IPC.

S. No.	Item	Number of Cases			
		Number		Percentage to total	
		SC	ST	SC	ST
1.	Total number of cases, including brought forward cases.	2,79,230	47,988	-	-
2.	Number of cases disposed of by Courts	16,171	3,398	05.79	07.08
(a)	Number of cases ending in conviction	4,703	874	29.08	25.72
(b)	Number of cases ending in acquittal	11,468	2,524	70.92	74.28
3.	Number of cases abated/withdrawn/compounded/plea bargaining/quashed.	256	38	00.09	00.08
4.	Number of cases pending with Courts	2,62,803	44,552	94.12	92.84

From the above table, it is seen that 5.79% of the total cases relating to Scheduled Castes were disposed of by courts during the year 2023 out of

which 29.08% ended in conviction. Likewise, 7.08% of the total cases relating to Scheduled Tribes were disposed of by courts during the year 2023 out of which 25.72% ended in conviction.

The State/UT wise as well as Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes wise details are given at **Annexure – III (A) and (B).**

CHAPTER

4

MEASURES TAKEN BY THE GOVERNMENT OF INDIA

4.1 MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT

4.1.1 CENTRALLY SPONSORED SCHEME FOR IMPLEMENTATION OF THE PROTECTION OF CIVIL RIGHTS (PCR) ACT, 1955 AND THE SCHEDULED CASTES AND THE SCHEDULED TRIBES (PREVENTION OF ATROCITIES) {PoA} ACT, 1989

The PCR Act and the PoA Act are implemented by the respective State Governments and Union Territory Administrations. For effective implementation of the two Acts, Central assistance is provided to them under the Centrally Sponsored Scheme for implementation of the PCR Act and the PoA Act, mainly for following purposes: -

- (i) Functioning and strengthening of the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes Protection Cell and Special Police Stations.
- (ii) Setting up and functioning of Exclusive Special Courts.
- (iii) Relief and Rehabilitation of atrocity victims.
- (iv) Incentive for Inter-Caste Marriages, where one of the spouses is a member of Scheduled Caste.
- (v) Awareness generation.

It has been decided that from F.Y 2023-24, the funding pattern of the Scheme is as such that the total expenditure over and above the committed liability of respective State Governments/Union Territories with legislature i.e. Delhi, Jammu & Kashmir and Puducherry, the expenditure will be shared between Center and States/UTs with legislatures on 50:50 basis and Union Territories without legislatures will receive 100% Central Assistance. Central assistance of Rs.535.30 Crore was granted to 22 States and 3 Union Territories during 2023-24, State/UT wise details of which are given at Annexure-III.

The Budget Estimate (BE), Revised Estimate (RE) and Expenditure under the Scheme during 2023-24 were as under: -

Item Amount (Rs. in Crores)

1. BE	500.00
2. RE	500.00
3. Expenditure	535.30

4.1.2 COMMITTEE CONSTITUTED FOR EFFECTIVE COORDINATION TO DEVISE WAYS AND MEANS TO CURB OFFENCES OF UNTOUCHABILITY AND ATROCITIES AGAINST MEMBERS OF SCs and STs AND EFFECTIVE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE PCR & PoA ACTs

The Parliamentary Committee on the Welfare of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes in its fourth report had, inter-alia, recommended that Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment, Ministry of Home Affairs, National Commission for Scheduled Castes and National Commission for Scheduled Tribes should meet regularly to devise ways and means to curb offences and ensure effective administration of the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes (Prevention of Atrocities) Act, 1989. In pursuance of this recommendation, a committee for effective coordination to devise ways and means to curb offences of untouchability and atrocities against Scheduled Castes/Scheduled Tribes and effective implementation of the PCR Act and the PoA Act, under the Chairpersonship of Union Minister for Social Justice and Empowerment, was set up in March 2006. The present composition of the Committee is as under: -

1	Minister for Social Justice and Empowerment	Chairperson
2	Minister of Tribal Affairs	Co-Chairperson
3	Minister for State for Social Justice and Empowerment	Special Invitee
4.	Minister for State for Tribal affairs	Special Invitee
5.	Secretary, Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment	Member
6.	Secretary, Ministry of Home Affairs	Member
7.	Secretary, Department of Justice, Ministry of Law and Justice	Member
8.	Secretary, Ministry of Tribal Affairs	Member
9.	Secretary, National Commission for Scheduled Castes	Member
10.	Secretary, National Commission for Scheduled Tribes	Member
11.	Joint Secretary, Ministry of Home Affairs (In charge of National Crime Records Bureau)	Member
12.	Two non-official representatives from amongst	Member

	Scheduled Castes	
13.	One non-official representative from amongst Scheduled Tribes	Member
14.	Joint Secretary (SCD), Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment	Member-Secretary

The Committee has so far held twenty-seven meetings to review the implementation status of the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes (Prevention of Atrocities) Act, 1989 in 28 States and 08 Union Territories. The 27th meeting was held on 21.11.2023 at New Delhi.

Important points which emerged from these meetings relate to: -

- (i) Setting up of **exclusive special courts** for speedy trial of offences under the PoA Act,
- (ii) **Regular conduct of meetings of the State and District level Vigilance & Monitoring Committees**, as per Rules 16 and 17 of the PoA Rules,
- (iii) **Identification of Atrocity Prone Areas** as per Section 21(vii) of the PoA Act and Rule 3(i) of the PoA Rules,
- (iv) Invoking relevant provisions of the PoA Rules for **de-notifying defaulting public prosecutors**, and
- (v) **Reviewing all cases of acquittal**, for appropriate remedial action.

4.1.3 NATIONAL HELPLINE AGAINST ATROCITIES (NHAA) ON SCs/STs

The Department of SJJ&E has launched NHAA, with an objective to provide a platform for member of SC/ST community to assist them in registering their grievances in connection to the implementation of SC/ST (PoA) Act and forwarding them to the concerned officer in the districts for redressal. Real time monitoring and self-tracking of the registered grievances is available in the portal. The NHAA is available 24/7 on toll free number '14566' across the country.

Another objective of the helpline is to build informed awareness about the provisions of the law that are aimed at ending discrimination and providing protection. By the end of 2023, thirteen States/UTs had established the Call Centre at the State Level and their integration work with the Call Centre set up at the Central Level has been completed. Implementation and completion of required work for NHAA is in process in remaining States/UTs.

CHAPTER

5

MEASURES TAKEN BY STATE GOVERNMENTS AND UNION TERRITORY ADMINISTRATIONS

5.1 ANDHRA PRADESH

5.1.1 COMMITTEES

STATE LEVEL VIGILANCE AND MONITORING COMMITTEE

The State Level Vigilance & Monitoring Committee has been constituted under the Chairpersonship of the Chief Minister to review implementation of the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes (Prevention of Atrocities) Act, 1989. No such meeting of this committee was held during the year 2023.

DISTRICT LEVEL VIGILANCE AND MONITORING COMMITTEE

District Level Vigilance & Monitoring Committees are functioning in all Districts under the Chairpersonship of the District Collectors, elected Member of Parliament/State Legislative Assembly/Legislative Council, Superintendent of Police and other Official and non-official as Members. During the year 2023, 70 meetings were held in 26 districts of the State.

SUB DIVISIONAL LEVEL COMMITTEES

Sub Divisional Level Committees under the Chairpersonship of Sub Divisional Magistrate have been constituted. During the year 2023, 87 meetings were held in Sub-Divisions of 26 districts of the State.

5.1.2 STATE LEVEL SC AND ST PROTECTION CELL

A Scheduled Caste & Scheduled Tribe Protection Cell at State Level is headed by an Inspector General of Police (CID) and functions under the control and supervision of Additional Director General of Police (CID), assisted by DSPs and other supporting staff. A Deputy Superintendent of Police has also been appointed in each of seven regions exclusively, to deal the offences of atrocities.

5.1.3 INVESTIGATION AND FILING OF THE CHARGE SHEET WITHIN SIXTY DAYS

In accordance with Rule 7 (2) of the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes (Prevention of Atrocities) Amendment Rules, 2016. In 2023, for 998 cases, investigation and filing of the charge sheet was done within sixty days and for 536 cases investigation and filing of the charge sheet was done in more than sixty days.

5.1.4 APPOINTMENT OF OFFICER

A. NODAL OFFICER

The Commissioner/Director of Social Welfare Department has been designated as the Nodal Officer under Rule 9 of the PoA Rules, for coordinating the functioning of the District Magistrates and Superintendents of Police and other officials responsible for the implementation of the act.

B. SPECIAL OFFICER

The Joint Collectors of the seven districts of Prakasam, Guntur, West Godavari, Nellore, Vizianagaram, Kurnool and Cuddapah have been appointed as Special Officers.

5.1.5 IDENTIFICATION OF ATROCITY PRONE AREAS

The details of identified Atrocity Prone Areas are as under: -

S. No.	Identified District	Specific areas within with in District, identified as atrocity prone areas
1.	Srikakulam District	Paddapadu(V), Sanivada(V), Adapaka(V), Bantupalli(V)
2.	West Godavari	Eluru Sub-Division, J.R. Gudem Sub-Division, Polavaram Sub-Division, Nuzvid Sub-Division

5.1.6 SPECIAL COURT AND EXCLUSIVE SPECIAL COURT

The Government of Andhra Pradesh has set up 14 Special Courts in the Tirupati (Chittoor District), Guntur, Nellore, Prakasham at Ongole, Kurnool, Kadapa, Machilipatnam (Krishna District), Vijayawada, Rajahmundry (East Godavari District), Ananthapur, Srikakulam, Vizianagaram, Visakhapatnam and Eluru (West Godavari District).

1 Exclusive Special Court is also established at Lakshmipeta Village in Srikakulam District.

5.1.7 SPECIFICATION OF SPECIAL PUBLIC PROSECUTORS AND EXCLUSIVE SPECIAL PUBLIC PROSECUTORS

Special Public Prosecutors and Exclusive Special Public Prosecutors have been appointed to plead the cases in 14 Special Courts and in 1 Exclusive Special Court, as detailed in Para 5.1.6 above.

5.1.8 SENSITISATION, PUBLICITY AND AWARENESS GENERATION

Police officials often visit Dalit colonies in both rural & urban areas to educate people about their rights and protection available to them under the provision of the PoA Act, 1989.

Training programmes were conducted in the year 2023. There are 9 E-Learning Centers in Andhra Pradesh. Through these trainings, officers ranging from Police Constable (PC) to Assistant Superintendent of Police (ASP) were trained towards Prevention of Atrocities Act in 2023. Approximately 9167 police officers/officials were trained and provided the following guidelines/material:

- a) All the SDPOs in the State were issued guidelines for investigating officers.
- b) Hand Book "Government Orders, Memo's & Circulars instructions' on PoA Act is provided to CPs and SPs for ready reference and guidance to the Investigating Officer.

During the year 2023, 3321 publicity /awareness programmes have been conducted, 5301 police officers/official were also sensitized and 14201 others were sensitized.

5.1.9 TRAVELLING AND MAINTENANCE EXPENSES TO WITNESSES AND VICTIMS OF ATROCITIES

Travelling and maintenance expenses are provided to the victims, their dependents and witnesses in accordance with the PoA Rules. During the year 2023, 171 persons were provided travelling and maintenance expenses in all 26 districts.

5.1.10 ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL REHABILITATION OF VICTIMS OF ATROCITIES

The State Government provides for relief and rehabilitation to the victims of offences of atrocities in accordance with Rule 12 (4) of the PoA Rules. During the year 2023, 3048 persons were provided relief in all 26 districts.

5.1.11 PERIODIC SURVEYS

The provision for a periodic survey of the working of the provisions of this Act to suggest measures for the better implementation of the provision of the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes (Prevention of Atrocities) Act.

The District Level Vigilance and Monitoring Committees review the issues once quarterly. The jurisdictional Superintendents of Police also conduct periodical surveys.

5.1.12 RELIEF AND REHABILITATION OF VICTIMS OF ATROCITIES

In accordance with Rule 12 (4) and 12(4) (A) of the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes (Prevention of Atrocities) Amendment Rules, 2016, the relief and rehabilitation to the victims of offences of atrocities to 11 persons was provided within Seven days and to 3037 persons, relief was provided later than seven days for the year 2023.

5.1.13 LEGAL AID

Free legal Aid is available to eligible families belonging to Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes through Sub-Divisional Level Legal Aid Committee with the Deputy Commissioner of the District as Chairman. There is no income limit fixed for eligibility to provide legal aid to the victims of atrocities. During the year 2023, 185 persons were provided legal aid in all 26 districts.

5.1.14 APPEALS FILED IN SUPERIOR COURTS IN CASES WHICH ENDED IN ACQUITTAL

During the year 2023, 879 cases ended in acquittal and 10 appeals against acquittals were filed in the Hon'ble High Court of Andhra Pradesh.

5.2 ARUNACHAL PRADESH

5.2.1 STATE LEVEL SC AND ST PROTECTION CELL

A SC and ST Protection Cell functions under the supervision of IGP (Crime), SIT, PHQ, Itanagar.

5.3 ASSAM

5.3.1 COMMITTEES

STATE LEVEL VIGILANCE AND MONITORING COMMITTEE

State Level Vigilance & Monitoring Committee has been constituted under the Chairpersonship of Hon'ble Chief Minister to review implementation of the PoA Act. No such meeting of this committee was held during the year 2023.

DISTRICT LEVEL VIGILANCE AND MONITORING COMMITTEE

District Level Vigilance & Monitoring Committees, chaired by District Magistrates, have been constituted in 21 districts out of total 35 districts to review the implementation of the PoA Act. 03 District Level meetings were held in 2023.

SUB DIVISIONAL LEVEL VIGILANCE AND MONITORING COMMITTEE

Sub Divisional Level Committees under the Chairpersonship of Sub Divisional Magistrate have not been constituted to review implementation of the PoA Act.

5.3.2 STATE LEVEL SC AND ST PROTECTION CELL

A SC and ST Protection Cell at State level, functions under the supervision of Director General of Police. The Cell consists of Additional Director General of Police (CID), Inspector General of Police (A), Deputy Inspector General of Police (Range) and all Superintendents of Police.

5.3.3 APPOINTMENT OF OFFICERS

A. NODAL OFFICER

The Director, Welfare of Scheduled Castes, Assam is the Nodal Officer.

B. SPECIAL OFFICER

No area has been specified as an atrocity prone in the State. However, in accordance with Rule 10 of the PoA Rules, the Additional District Magistrate in each district has been appointed as a Special Officer.

5.3.4 IDENTIFICATION OF ATROCITY PRONE AREAS

There is no atrocity prone area in the State.

5.3.5 SPECIAL COURTS

35 Special designated Courts have been functioning in the State to try the cases under the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes (Prevention of Atrocities) Act, 1989.

5.3.6 SPECIFICATION OF SPECIAL PUBLIC PROSECUTORS

Special Public Prosecutors have been appointed to plead the cases under the PoA Act in 34 Special Courts.

5.3.7 INVESTIGATION OF THE CASE AND FILING OF CHARGE SHEET WITHIN SIXTY DAYS

In accordance with Rule 7 (2) of the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes (Prevention of Atrocities) Amendment Rules, 2016. In 2023, 03 cases, investigation and filing of the charge sheet was done within sixty days and that in 05 cases investigation and filing of the charge sheet was done in later than sixty days.

5.3.8 RELIEF AND REHABILITATION OF VICTIMS OF ATROCITIES

In accordance with Rule 12 (4) and 12(4) (A) of the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes (Prevention of Atrocities) Amendment Rules, 2016, no persons were provided relief and rehabilitation to the victims of offences of atrocities within Seven days and 02 persons were provided later than seven days.

5.3.9 LEGAL AID

Free legal aid is available to deserving families belonging to members of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes through Sub-Division Level Legal Aid Committees.

5.4. BIHAR

5.4.1 COMMITTEES

STATE LEVEL VIGILANCE AND MONITORING COMMITTEE

State Level Vigilance & Monitoring Committee functions under the Chairpersonship of the Chief Minister to review implementation of the Act. During the year 2023, one meeting was held of the State to review of the PoA Act and the PoA Rules.

DISTRICT LEVEL VIGILANCE AND MONITORING COMMITTEE

District Level Vigilance & Monitoring Committees function under the Chairpersonship of District Collector. During the year 2023, 144 meetings were held in 38 districts to review various aspects of implementation of the PoA Act and the PoA Rules.

SUB DIVISIONAL LEVEL COMMITTEES

Sub Divisional Level Committees under the Chairpersonship of Sub Divisional Magistrate have been constituted. During the year 2023, 366 meetings were held in 101 Sub Division of the State to review various aspects of implementation of the PoA Act and the PoA Rules.

5.4.2 STATE LEVEL SC AND ST PROTECTION CELL

At State Level, a Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes Cell has been functioning under the charge of Inspector General of Police, (Weaker Section), with supporting staff.

5.4.3 SPECIAL POLICE STATIONS

40 Special Police Stations are functioning in 38 districts in the State, namely Patna, Nalanda, Rohtas, Bhabhua, Bhojpur, Buxer, Gaya, Jehanabad, Arwal, Nawada, Aurangabad, Saran, Siwan, Gopalganj, Muzaffarpur, Sitamarhi, Sheohar, West Champaran (2), East Champaran, Vaishali, Darbhanga, Madhubani, Samastipur, Saharsa, Supal, Madhepura, Purnia, Araria, Kisanganj, Katihar, Bhagalpur (2), Banka, Munger, Lakhisarai, Sheikhpura, Jamui, Khagaria and Begusarai.

5.4.4 APPOINTMENT OF OFFICERS

A. NODAL OFFICER

The Secretary, Home Department, is the Nodal Officer, who from time to time convenes the meetings to review implementation of the PoA Act.

B. SPECIAL OFFICER FOR DISTRICTS HAVING ATROCITY PRONE AREAS

The Additional District Magistrate, in each of the 38 districts, have been designated as a Special Officer to co-ordinate the functioning with the District Magistrate/ Superintendent of Police or other officers responsible for the implementation of the provisions of the PoA Act and the Rules notified there under.

5.4.5 INVESTIGATION OF THE CASE AND FILING OF CHARGE SHEET WITHIN SIXTY DAYS

In accordance with Rule 7(2) of the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes (Prevention of Atrocities) Amendment Rules, 2016. In 2023, investigations and filing of charge sheets were completed within the prescribed limit of sixty days for 1481 cases and later than sixty days for 3635 cases.

5.4.6 IDENTIFICATION OF ATROCITY PRONE AREAS

In the State, 34 districts have been identified as sensitive from the point of view of atrocities against members of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes. These districts are Patna, Nalanda, Rohtas, Bhabhua, Bhojpur, Buxer, Gaya, Jehanabad, Nawada, Aurangabad, Saran, Siwan, Gopalganj, Muzaffarpur, Sitamarhi, Bettiah, Bagha, Motihari, Vaishali, Darbhanga, Madhubani, Samastipur, Saharsa, Madhepura, Purnia, Bhagalpur, Banka, Munger, Sheikhpura, Begusarai, Khagaria, Katihar, Jamui and Araria.

5.4.7 SPECIAL COURT AND EXCLUSIVE SPECIAL COURT

The Court of Additional District Session Judge has been specified as a Special Court under the PoA Act in the districts of Bhabhua, Bhojpur, Buxer, Jehanabad, Aurangabad, Siwan, Sitamarhi, Sheohar, W.Champaran, Madhubani, Saharsa, Supaul, Madhepura, Purnea, Araria, Ksihanganj, Katihar, Banka, Munger, Lakhisarai, Sheikhpura, Jamui and Khagaria. In addition, fourteen Exclusive Special Courts also function at Patna, Gaya,

Bhagalpur, Muzaffarpur, Begusarai, Nalanda, RohtasNawada, Saran, Gopalganj, E.Champaran(Motihari), Vaishali, Darbhanga and Samastipur Districts.

5.4.8 SPECIFICATION OF SPECIAL PUBLIC PROSECUTORS AND EXCLUSIVE SPECIAL PUBLIC PROSECUTORS

Special Public Prosecutors have been appointed in 23 Special Courts and Exclusive Special Public Prosecutors in 14 Exclusive Special Courts, to plead the cases under the PoA Act.

5.4.9 PUBLICITY

Funds have been allotted to all Districts for Publicity/Awareness by the way of hoardings at District and Block levels for creating awareness.

For creating awareness amongst public, copies of the PoA Act and the PoA Rules were distributed at Panchayat, District and State level.

All Superintendent of Police, officer in charge of Thana, District Social Welfare Officers, Block Welfare Officers and Vikas Mitra were sensitized.

5.4.10 ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL REHABILITATION

The State Government provides for relief and rehabilitation to the victims of offences of atrocities in accordance with Rule 12 (4) of the PoA Rules. During the year 2023, 8998 persons were provided relief in all 38 districts.

5.4.11 TRAVELLING AND MAINTENANCE EXPENSES TO WITNESSES AND VICTIMS OF ATROCITIES

The State Government provides travelling and maintenance expenses to the witnesses and victims of atrocity during the investigation before the inquiry officer and to attend the trial in the court. During the year 2023, 886 persons were provided travelling and maintenance expenses to the witnesses and victims of atrocity in all 38 districts.

5.4.12 RELIEF AND REHABILITATION OF VICTIMS OF ATROCITIES

In accordance with Rule 12 (4) and 12(4) (A) of the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes (Prevention of Atrocities) Amendment Rules, 2016 in

2023, the relief and rehabilitation to the victims of offences of atrocities to 829 persons was provided within seven days and to 8069 persons, relief was provided later than seven days.

5.4.13 LEGAL AID

Free legal aid is available to members of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes. During the year 2023, no person availed of the legal aid.

5.4.14 APPEALS FILED IN SUPERIOR COURTS IN CASES WHICH ENDED IN ACQUITTAL

During the year 2023, total of 1347 cases that ended in acquittal, appeals against acquittals were filed in 02 cases in superior courts.

5.5. CHHATTISGARH

5.5.1 COMMITTEES

STATE LEVEL VIGILANCE AND MONITORING COMMITTEE

The State Level Vigilance and Monitoring Committee are headed by the Chief Minister, to review the implementation of the PoA Act. During the year 2023, no State Level meeting was held.

DISTRICT LEVEL VIGILANCE AND MONITORING COMMITTEE

The District Level Vigilance and Monitoring Committees are headed by the District Collectors. During the year 2023, 87 meetings were held in 33 Districts to review various aspects of implementation of the PoA Act and the PoA Rules.

SUB DIVISIONAL LEVEL COMMITTEES

Sub Divisional level Committees under the Chairpersonship of Sub Divisional Magistrate/Dy. Collector have been constituted. During the year 2023, 157 meetings were held in 109 Sub Divisions of 29 Districts.

5.5.2 STATE LEVEL SC AND ST PROTECTION CELL

At State Level, a Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes Protection Cell, in the Police Headquarters has been functioning under the charge of Deputy Inspector General of Police with supporting staff.

5.5.3 SPECIAL POLICE STATIONS

Special Police Stations are functioning in 27 districts namely Raipur, Durg, Rajnandgaon, Mahasumud, Dhamtari, Kabirdham, Gariyaband, Balod, Baloda Bazar, Bemetara, Bilaspur, Raigarh, Janjgir-Champa, Korba, Mungeli, Sarguja, Jashpur, Surajpur, Koriya, Balrampur, Bastar, Kanker, Dantewada, Kondagaon, Sukma, Narayanpur and Bijapur except in the remaining six districts.

5.5.4 INVESTIGATION OF THE CASE AND FILING OF CHARGE SHEET WITHIN SIXTY DAYS

In accordance with Rule 7 (2) of the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes (Prevention of Atrocities) Amendment Rules, 2016, in 391

cases investigation and filing of the charge sheet was done within sixty days and that in 234 cases investigation and filing of the charge sheet was done later than sixty days for the year 2023.

5.5.5 RELIEF AND REHABILITATION OF VICTIMS OF ATROCITIES

In accordance with Rule 12 (4) and 12(4) (A) of the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes (Prevention of Atrocities) Amendment Rules, 2016, the relief and rehabilitation to the victims of offences of atrocities 26 person was provided within seven days and to 442 persons relief was provided later than seven days for the year 2023.

5.5.6 APPOINTMENT OF OFFICERS

A. NODAL OFFICER

The Secretary, Scheduled Tribes and Scheduled Castes Development Department, is the Nodal Officer, who from time to time convenes the meetings to review implementation of the PoA Act.

B. SPECIAL OFFICERS

In accordance with Rule 10 of the PoA Rules, the District Magistrate/Additional District Magistrate/Assistant Commissioner in 23 districts has been appointed as a Special Officer.

5.5.7 IDENTIFICATION OF ATROCITY PRONE AREAS

The details of identified atrocity prone areas are as under: -

S. No.	Identified District	Specific areas within District, identified as atrocity prone areas
1.	Durg District	14
2.	Janjgir-Champa District	11
	Total	25

5.5.8 SPECIAL COURT AND EXCLUSIVE SPECIAL COURT

11 Exclusive Special Courts have been set up in the State of Chhattisgarh namely Bastar, Bilaspur, Durg, Janjgir-Champa, Jashpur, Korba, Korba (Baikunthpur), Raigarh, Raipur, Rajnandgaon and Sarguja (Ambikapur). In the 12 districts of Balod, Balodabazar, Balrampur Hearquarter at Ramanujganj, Bemetara, Dasshin Bastar Dantewada, Dhamtari, Kabirdham(Kawardha), Kondagaon, Mungeli, Surajpur and Uttar Bastar Kanker, District Session Courts have been designated as 12 Special Courts for trial of cases of offences of atrocities under the PoA Act.

5.5.9 SPECIFICATION OF SPECIAL PUBLIC PROSECUTORS AND EXCLUSIVE SPECIAL PUBLIC PROSECUTORS

05 Special Public Prosecutors have been appointed in 18 Special Courts, for conducting cases in the special courts. 18 Exclusive Public Prosecutors have been appointed in 06 Exclusive Special Courts.

There are no Special Courts and Special Public prosecutors in Gariyaband, Dhamtari, Mahasamund, Kabirdham, Jangir-Champa, Surajpur, Jashpur, Bijapur, Narayanpur, Sukma and Gorela-pendra, Khairagarh, Mohla, Shaktiand Manendragarh districts.

5.5.10 PERODIC SURVEY

During the year 2023, 18 periodic surveys were conducted in Durg and Kabirdham districts of Chattisgarh.

5.5.11 LEGAL AID

Legal aid is provided to members of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes in rural areas in the cases which relate to disputes of land, offences of atrocities and where trial is pending in the Session Courts. During the year 2023, 582 such persons were provided legal aid in 33 districts.

5.5.12 TRAVELLING AND MAINTENANCE EXPENSES TO WITNESSES AND VICTIMS OF ATROCITIES

The State Government provides travelling and maintenance expenses to the witnesses and victims of atrocity during the investigation before the Inquiry Officer and to attend the trial in the court. During the year 2023, 1466 persons were provided travelling and maintenance expenses in 33 districts.

5.5.13 RELIEF AND REHABILITATION

During the year 2023, 584 atrocity victims were provided relief and rehabilitation in 33 districts.

5.5.14 PUBLICITY AND AWARENESS GENERATION

During the year 2023, in 71 Publicity/Awareness programmes 139 Police Officers and 2880 other Officers were sensitized.

**5.5.15 APPEALS FILED IN SUPERIOR COURTS IN CASES WHICH ENDED
IN ACQUITTAL**

During the year 2023, total of 173 cases that ended in acquittal, appeals against acquittals were filed in 11 cases in superior courts.

5.6 GOA

5.6.1 COMMITTEE

STATE LEVEL VIGILANCE AND MONITORING COMMITTEE

The State Level Vigilance and Monitoring Committee under the Chairpersonship of Chief Minister has been constituted to review implementation of the PoA Act. 01 meeting of this committee was held in the year 2023.

DISTRICT LEVEL VIGILANCE AND MONITORING COMMITTEE

The District Level Vigilance and Monitoring Committees are functioning under the Chairpersonship of the District Magistrate, North Goa and South Goa to review cases of atrocities under the PoA Act. During the year 2023, 05 such meetings were held.

SUB DIVISIONAL LEVEL COMMITTEES

Sub Divisional level Committees under the Chairpersonship of Sub Divisional Magistrate/Dy. Collector have been constituted. During the year 2023, no such meeting of the committee was held.

5.6.2 INVESTIGATION OF THE CASE AND FILING OF CHARGE SHEET WITHIN SIXTY DAYS

In accordance with Rule 7 (2) of the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes (Prevention of Atrocities) Amendment Rules, 2016. In 2023, 02 cases investigation and filing of the charge sheet was done within sixty days and that in 03 cases investigation and filing of the charge sheet was done later than sixty days.

5.6.3 APPOINTMENT OF OFFICERS

NODAL OFFICER

The Additional Secretary, Government of Goa is the Nodal Officer and coordinates the functioning of the District Magistrate and Superintendent of Police and other officers, responsible for implementing provisions of the PoA Act.

5.6.4 IDENTIFICATION OF ATROCITY PRONE AREAS

There is no specific area where member of SC/ST are likely to be subjected to offences of atrocities.

5.6.5 SPECIAL COURTS

The State Government has designated District and Session Courts at North District, Panaji and South District, Margao as Special Courts for the speedy trial of cases under the PoA Act.

5.6.6 SPECIFICATION OF SPECIAL PUBLIC PROSECUTOR AND EXCLUSIVE SPECIAL PUBLIC PROSECUTOR

09 Special Public Prosecutors were appointed for conducting PoA Act related cases in the Special Courts in the North Goa District (05) and South Goa District (04).

5.6.7 SENSITIZATION OF OFFICERS

All Sub Divisional Police Officers (SDPOs) and the In-charge of Police Stations have been sensitized in respect of provisions of the PoA Act.

5.6.8 LEGAL AID

The State Government has formulated a scheme to provide Free Legal Aid to members of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes without any economic criteria. During the year 2023, 1 person was provided legal aid.

5.7 GUJARAT

5.7.1 COMMITTEES

A. HIGH LEVEL COMMITTEE

A High Level Committee under the chairmanship of the Chief Minister reviews implementation of the PoA Act. The Ministers of Finance, Revenue, Social Justice and Empowerment, some Members of Parliament, State Legislature and Senior Government Officers are members of the Committee. No such meeting of this committee was held during the year 2023.

B. STATE LEVEL COMMITTEE

A State Level Committee under the chairmanship of the Secretary-in-charge of Social Justice & Empowerment Department reviews the reports of the Vigilance Officers of the three Vigilance Squads. The Committee consists of Home Secretary, Legal Secretary and Special Inspector General of Police etc. During the year 2023, 03 meeting of the State level Committee were held on 05.01.2023, 10.07.2023 and 01.11.2023.

C. DISTRICT LEVEL VIGILANCE & MONITORING COMMITTEE

At district level, a District Vigilance and Monitoring Committee under the chairmanship of the District Collector of the respective district reviews implementation of the PoA Act. The Committee consists of District Panchayat President, Chairperson of District Social Justice Committee, District Development Officer, District Superintendent of Police, Government Public Prosecutor, Members of Parliament and Members of Legislative Assembly and prominent Social Workers of respective Districts. During the year 2023, 149 meetings of the Committees were held.

D. PRANT LEVEL COMMITTEE

Prant Level Committees have been set up at every Prant under the chairmanship of Sub-Divisional Magistrate to review implementation of the PoA Act. The Chairperson of Prant Social Justice Committees, Public Prosecutor, Police Inspector and Sub Inspector of the Prant are members of the Committee. During the year 2023, the Committee held 486 meetings in 252 sub-divisions.

E. CITY LEVEL COMMITTEE

Under the chairmanship of the Police Commissioner, City Level Committees have also been set up to review implementation of the PoA Act. Government Public Prosecutor, Municipal Commissioner and Scheduled Caste/ Scheduled Tribe Members of Municipal Corporation are members of these Committees. During the year 2023, the Committee held 22 meetings.

5.7.2 STATE LEVEL SC AND ST PROTECTION CELL

The SC and ST Protection Cell is working in the office of the Director General of Police, under the control of the Additional Director General of Police and assisted by one Dy. Inspector General of Police, one Dy. Superintendent of Police and other supporting staff.

At district level, it is headed by a Deputy Superintendent of Police with supporting staff. 46 such Deputy Superintendents of Police looks after the work in 36 Districts and 4 Police Commissionerates.

5.7.3 INVESTIGATION OF THE CASE AND FILING OF CHARGE SHEET WITHIN SIXTY DAYS

In accordance with Rule 7 (2) of the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes (Prevention of Atrocities) Amendment Rules, 2016, in 1047 cases, investigation and filing of the charge sheet was done within sixty days and that in 289 cases investigation and filing of the charge sheet was done later than sixty days for the year 2023.

5.7.4 RELIEF AND REHABILITATION OF VICTIMS OF ATROCITIES

In accordance with Rule 12 (4) and 12(4) (A) of the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes (Prevention of Atrocities) Amendment Rules, 2016, the relief and rehabilitation to the victims of offences of atrocities, were provided to 1421 persons within seven days.

5.7.5 SPECIAL COURTS AND EXCLUSIVE SPECIAL COURTS

Session Courts in all Districts have been specified as Special Courts. Moreover, 16 Exclusive Special Courts in the districts of Ahmedabad (Rural), Anand, Banaskantha (Palanpur), Bharuch, Bhavnagar, Gandhinagar, Junagadh, Jamnagar, Kutch (Bhuj), Mehsana, Patan, Rajkot, Surat, Surendranagar, Vadodara and Ahmedabad (City).

29 Special Courts in Ahmedabad (Rural, Amreli, Anand, Arvalli (Modasa), Banaskantha (Palanpur), Bharuch, Bhavnagar, Dahod, Gandhinagar, Gir-Somnath, Junagadh, Kachchha-Bhuj, Kheda (Nandiad), Mahesana, Narmada, Navsari, Panchmahal (Godhra), Patan, Porbandar, Rajkot, Sabarkantha (Himmatnagar), Surat, Surendranagar, Tapi (Vyara), Vadodara, Valsad, City Ahmedabad, Devbhumi Dwarka and Morbi are also functioning to deal with cases under the PoA Act.

5.7.6 SPECIFICATION OF SPECIAL PUBLIC PROSECUTORS AND EXCLUSIVE SPECIAL PUBLIC PROSECUTORS

29 Special Public Prosecutors have been appointed for 29 Special Courts and 16 Exclusive Special Public Prosecutors have been appointed for 16 Exclusive Special Courts, for conducting cases under the PoA Act.

5.7.7 APPOINTMENT OF OFFICERS

A. NODAL OFFICER AT STATE LEVEL

Principal Secretary, Social Justice & Empowerment is the Nodal Officer in accordance with Rule 9 of the PoA Rules.

B. SPECIAL OFFICERS

Three Regional Vigilance Officers have been nominated as Special Officers in accordance with Rule 10 of the PoA Rules, 1995 in the identified atrocity prone areas.

5.7.8 IDENTIFICATION OF ATROCITY PRONE AREAS

11 districts have been identified as atrocity prone areas for Scheduled castes- Mehsana, Ahmedabad Rural, Junagadh, Kutch, Banasakantha, Kheda, Amreli, Rajkot Rural, Surendranagar, Vadodara Rural, Bharuch.

4 districts have been identified as atrocity prone areas as for the Scheduled Tribes- Valasad, Vadodara Rural, Surat Rural and Bharuch.

5.7.9 PUBLICITY AND AWARENESS GENERATION

For wide publicity of the provisions of the PoA Act, printed booklets, both in Gujarati and English, have been circulated among the authorities, Village Panchayats, Social Workers and Voluntary Organizations.

During the year 2023, 2 publicity/awareness programmes were held and 6806 police officials/officers were sensitized.

5.7.10 EFFORTS FOR INVOLVING NON-GOVERNMENT ORGANIZATIONS

Non-Governmental Organizations, Volunteers and the prominent leaders in the field are invited for active participation in the District Shibirs, State level Seminars and Workshops. Besides, the Government has set up Awareness Centers with help of Non-Governmental Organizations and provided Rs. 15000/- to each Awareness Centre in the State.

5.7.11 ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL REHABILITATION

The State Government provides prescribed relief amount etc to the atrocity victims. During the year 2023, the relief amount was given to 1421 persons belonging to Scheduled Castes in 33 districts.

5.7.12 APPEALS FILED IN SUPERIOR COURTS IN CASES WHICH ENDED IN ACQUITTAL

During the year 2023, as against 1215 cases which ended in acquittal, appeals against acquittals were filed in 148 cases in superior courts.

5.8 HARYANA

5.8.1 COMMITTEES

STATE LEVEL VIGILANCE AND MONITORING COMMITTEE

A State Level Vigilance and Monitoring Committee under the Chairpersonship of the Chief Minister to review implementation status of the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes (Prevention of Atrocities) Act, 1989 is available in the State. No Meeting of this committee was held during the year 2023.

DISTRICT LEVEL VIGILANCE AND MONITORING COMMITTEE

At the District level, a District Level Vigilance Monitoring Committee functions under the Chairpersonship of the District Magistrate. During the year 2023, the Committees held 56 meetings in 22 Districts.

SUB DIVISIONAL LEVEL VIGILANCE AND MONITORING COMMITTEE

At the Sub Divisional Level, a Sub-Divisional Level Vigilance and Monitoring Committee functions under the Chairpersonship of the Sub-Divisional Magistrate (Civil). These Committees review implementation status of the PoA Act. 64 such meetings were held in 22 districts during the year 2023.

5.8.2 STATE LEVEL SC AND ST PROTECTION CELL

A Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes Protection Cell under the direct supervision of Director General of Police/Inspector General of Police has been set up at Police Headquarters, to deal with crimes against caste-based atrocities reported. A Special Cell has also been created in every district under the supervision of Superintendent of Police to ensure speedy investigation of cases of atrocities against members of Scheduled Castes.

5.8.3 INVESTIGATION OF THE CASE AND FILING OF CHARGE SHEET WITHIN SIXTY DAYS

In accordance with Rule 7 (2) of the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes (Prevention of Atrocities) Amendment Rules, 2016, in 381 cases, investigation and filing of the charge sheet was done within sixty days and that in 524 cases investigation and filing of the charge sheet was done later than sixty days.

5.8.4 RELIEF AND REHABILITATION OF VICTIMS OF ATROCITIES

In accordance with Rule 12 (4) and 12(4) (A) of the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes (Prevention of Atrocities) Amendment Rules, 2016, the relief and rehabilitation to the victims of offences of atrocities 19 persons was provided within seven days and to 1040 persons, relief was provided later than seven days for the year 2023.

5.8.5 IDENTIFICATION OF ATROCITY PRONE AREAS

No atrocity prone area has been identified in the State of Haryana.

5.8.6 APPOINTMENT OF OFFICERS

A. NODAL OFFICER AT STATE LEVEL

A Secretary-level officer in the Government of Haryana has been appointed as the Nodal Officer in accordance with Rule 9 of the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes (Prevention of Atrocities) Rules 1995.

B. SPECIAL OFFICER

As per Rule 10 of the PoA Rules, 1995, the District Magistrates of all the districts in the State have been designated as Special Officer.

5.8.7 SPECIAL COURTS

The Court of first Additional Session Judge in each district has been designated as a Special Court to try offences under the PoA Act.

5.8.8 SPECIFICATION OF SPECIAL PUBLIC PROSECUTORS AND EXCLUSIVE SPECIAL PUBLIC PROSECUTORS

The State Government has designated Public Prosecutor, posted in each Session Courts specified as a Special Public Prosecutor, for conducting cases under the PoA Act.

5.8.9 PERIODIC SURVEY

During the year 2023, no periodic surveys were conducted in the State of Haryana.

5.8.10 PUBLICITY AND AWARENESS GENERATION

During the year 2023, 412 publicity /awareness programmes have been conducted and provisions of the Act have been displayed through hoardings at important public places like Courts & police stations etc and 1316 police officers/official were also sensitized and 23945 others were sensitized.

5.8.11 RELIEF MEASURES

Financial assistance is provided to the victims of atrocities, as per Rule 12 (4) of the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes (Prevention of Atrocities) Rules, 1995 as amended. During the year 2023, relief amount was given to 1059 persons.

5.8.12 LEGAL AID

Legal aid is provided to the Scheduled Caste persons in cases relating to practice of untouchability, denial of access to temples, wells and other public places, disputes relating to women and for ensuring reservation in services. Assistance is also provided for expenditure incurred on witnesses and payment of court fees. During the year, 2023, such legal aid was given to 15 beneficiaries.

5.8.13 TRAVELLING AND MAINTENANCE EXPENSES TO WITNESSES AND VICTIMS OF ATROCITIES

Travelling and maintenance expenses are provided to the victims of atrocities and witnesses, as per the provisions of the PoA Rules, 1995. During the year 2023, no such expenses were provided.

5.8.14 APPEALS FILED IN SUPERIOR COURTS IN CASES WHICH ENDED IN ACQUITTAL

During the year 2023, as against 242 cases which ended in acquittal, appeals against acquittals were not filed as the cases were not found fit for filling appeal in superior courts.

5.9 HIMACHAL PRADESH

5.9.1 COMMITTEES

STATE LEVEL VIGILANCE AND MONITORING COMMITTEE

A State Level Vigilance and Monitoring Committee under the chairmanship of the Chief Minister review the implementation of the PoA Act. No such meeting of this committee was held during the year 2023.

DISTRICT LEVEL VIGILANCE AND MONITORING COMMITTEE

The District Level Committees have also been functioning under the Chairpersonship of District Magistrate in each District. During the year 2023, 29 meetings were held in 12 districts.

SUB DIVISIONAL LEVEL VIGILANCE AND MONITORING COMMITTEE

The Sub-Divisional Level Committees have been constituted in 12 Districts under the Chairpersonship of Sub-Divisional Magistrate. During the year 2023, 19 such meetings were held.

5.9.2 STATE LEVEL SC AND ST PROTECTION CELL

Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes Protection Cell has been set up at the State CID Headquarters, Shimla to monitor the offences of atrocities under the PoA Act functioning under the direct supervision of the Director General of Police.

5.9.3 INVESTIGATION OF THE CASE AND FILING OF CHARGE SHEET WITHIN SIXTY DAYS

In accordance with Rule 7 (2) of the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes (Prevention of Atrocities) Amendment Rules, 2016, in 83 cases, investigation and filing of the charge sheet was done within sixty days and that in 68 cases investigation and filing of the charge sheet was done later than sixty days in the year 2023.

5.9.4 APPOINTMENT OF OFFICER

A. NODAL OFFICER

The Director, ESOMSA, Government of Himachal Pradesh has been appointed as the Nodal Officer.

B. SPECIAL OFFICER

As under Rule 10 of the PoA Rules, 1995, all Additional District Magistrates of the concerned districts have been appointed as Special Officer.

5.9.5 IDENTIFICATION OF ATROCITY PRONE AREAS

There is no area in the State identified as atrocity prone.

5.9.6 SPECIAL COURTS

All the Courts of District and Session Judges in every district in the State have been designated as Special Courts.

The court of additional District & Session Judge Nalagrah, Sundernagar, Sarkaghat, ADG, Rohru and LD. Court has also been designated as Special Court to try offence under the PoA Act.

The Principal Judges, Family Courts at Shimla, Mandi, Kangra at Dharamshala and Chairman HP Waqf Tribunal Kangra at Dharamshala have also been designated as Special Courts to try the cases under SC/ST (POA) Act, 1989.

5.9.7 SPECIAL PUBLIC PROSECUTORS

All the Public Prosecutors (District Attorneys) attached with the Court of District and Session Judges have been designated as Special Public Prosecutors to conduct cases of offence under the PoA Act, within their respective jurisdiction.

5.9.8 PUBLICITY

The State Government has taken the following steps to generate awareness among general masses and to sensitize the various Government functionaries. 65 Awareness Camps were organized at District/ Sub Division/Tehsil/ Block and Gram Panchayat level where 67 police officers, 40 other officers and 7034 participants were sensitized in 2023.

5.9.9 LEGAL AID

Himachal Pradesh State Legal Services Authority provides legal aid services to SCs/STs, women, and children. During 2023, 5 people were provided legal aid and other facilities.

5.9.10 TRAVELLING AND MAINTENANCE EXPENSES TO WITNESSES AND VICTIMS OF ATROCITIES

The State Government re-notified the rates of travelling and maintenance expenses and transport facilities to the victims of atrocities and their dependents/witnesses for visiting investigating officer or any other Executive Magistrate as per Notification dated 12.3.2018. In 2023, no individual was provided such expenses.

5.9.11 RELIEF MEASURES

During the year 2023, relief was provided to 364 atrocity victims as per prescribed norms.

5.9.12 APPEALS FILED IN SUPERIOR COURTS IN CASES WHICH ENDED IN ACQUITTAL

During the year 2023, as against 143 cases which ended in acquittal, appeals against acquittals were filed in 09 cases in superior courts.

5.10. JHARKHAND

5.10.1 COMMITTEES

STATE LEVEL VIGILANCE AND MONITORING COMMITTEE

State Level Vigilance and Monitoring Committee has been constituted under the Chairpersonship of the Chief Minister to review the implementation of the PoA Act. No such meeting of this committee was held during the year 2023.

DISTRICT LEVEL VIGILANCE AND MONITORING COMMITTEE

At District Level, Committee functions under the Chairpersonship of the District Collector. During the year 2023, 48 meetings were held in 26 districts of the State.

SUB DIVISIONAL LEVEL VIGILANCE AND MONITORING COMMITTEE

The Sub-Divisional Level Committees have been constituted in 1 District under the Chairpersonship of Sub-Divisional Magistrate. During the year 2023, no such meetings were held.

5.10.2 STATE LEVEL SC AND ST PROTECTION CELL

A Special Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes Protection Cell has been constituted under the Crime Investigation Branch of the Police Department to monitor investigation of offences under the PoA Act. The Cell is headed by the Inspector General of Police, CID, Jharkhand. A Special Cell has also been set up in every district.

5.10.3 APPOINTMENT OF OFFICERS

A. NODAL OFFICER

The Commissioner, Tribal Welfare Department, Government of Jharkhand has been appointed as the Nodal Officer.

B. SPECIAL OFFICER

The Additional Collectors/Additional District Magistrates of each district have been appointed as Special Officers.

5.10.4 INVESTIGATION AND FILING OF THE CHARGE SHEET WITHIN SIXTY DAYS

In accordance with Rule 7 (2) of the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes (Prevention of Atrocities) Amendment Rules, 2016, in 95 cases investigation and filing of the charge sheet was done within sixty days and that in 167 cases investigation and filing of the charge sheet was later than sixty days for the year 2023.

5.10.5 RELIEF AND REHABILITATION OF VICTIMS OF ATROCITIES

In accordance with Rule 12 (4) and 12(4) (A) of the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes (Prevention of Atrocities) Amendment Rules, 2016, the relief and rehabilitation to the victims of offences of atrocities to 0 persons was provided within seven days and to 239 persons, relief was provided later than seven days for the year 2023.

5.10.6 SPECIAL POLICE STATIONS

24 Special Police Stations are functioning in 24 districts in the State, viz. Ranchi, Gumla, Simdega, Lohardaga, Khunti, Chaibasa, Jamsedpur, Saraikela, Palamu, Garhwa, Latehar, Hazaribag, Giridih, Koderma, Chatra, Ramgarh, Dhanbad, Bokaro, Dhumka, Godda, Deoghar, Jamtara, Sahibganj and Pakur.

5.10.7 IDENTIFICATION OF ATROCITY PRONE AREAS

Specific areas have been identified as atrocity prone in the districts of Garhwa, Khunti, Palamu, Ranchi, Rail Dhanbad and Saraikela.

5.10.8 SPECIAL COURTS AND EXCLUSIVE SPECIAL COURTS

The Special Courts have been set up in 24 districts viz. Gumla, Simdega, Lohardaga, Saraikela, East Singhbhum, Koderma, Chatra, Giridih, Palamu, Latehar, Garhwa, Bokaro, Dumka, Godda, Jamtara, Sahebganj, Pakur, Ramgarh, Ranchi, Khunti, Deoghar, Hazaribagh, Dhanbad and West Singhbhum.

Besides, Two Exclusive Special Courts have been set up in the districts of Dumka and Deoghar for trial of cases under the PoA Act.

5.10.9 SPECIFICATION OF SPECIAL PUBLIC PROSECUTORS AND EXCLUSIVE SPECIAL PUBLIC PROSECUTORS

24 Special Public Prosecutors have been appointed for 24 Special Courts and 2 Exclusive Special Public Prosecutors have been appointed for 2 Exclusive Special Courts, for conducting cases under the PoA Act.

5.10.10 PERIODIC SURVEY

No Periodic survey was conducted in the State of Jharkhand.

5.10.11 PUBLICITY AND SENSITISATION OF OFFICERS

For creating awareness amongst public, 69 awareness programmes were conducted in 7 districts. 274 Police officers and 348 other officers were sensitized about provisions of the Act.

5.10.12 RELIEF TO ATROCITY VICTIMS

During the year 2023, 262 atrocity victims were provided relief and rehabilitation.

5.10.13 LEGAL AID

Legal aid and other facilities were provided to victims subjected to atrocities to enable them to avail of justice. 277 persons were provided legal aid during the year 2023.

5.10.14 TRAVELLING AND MAINTENANCE EXPENSES TO WITNESSES AND VICTIMS OF ATROCITIES

Travelling and maintenance expenses to victims of atrocities and witnesses were provided in accordance with the PoA Rules, 1995. During the year 2023, 149 persons were provided travelling and maintenance expenses.

5.10.15 APPEALS FILED IN SUPERIOR COURTS IN CASES WHICH ENDED IN ACQUITTAL

During the year 2023, 4048 cases ended in acquittal; hence and 03 appeals were filed in the superior courts.

5.11 KARNATAKA

5.11.1 COMMITTEE

STATE LEVEL VIGILANCE AND MONITORING COMMITTEE

A State Level Vigilance and Monitoring Committee under the Chairpersonship of the Chief Minister review the implementation of the PoA Act. 02 such meetings of this committee were held during the year 2023.

DISTRICT LEVEL VIGILANCE AND MONITORING COMMITTEE

District Level Committees have been functioning under the Chairpersonship of the District Magistrate in each District to review implementation of the PoA Act. During the year 2023, 113 meetings were held in 31 districts.

SUB-DIVISIONAL LEVEL VIGILANCE AND MONITORING COMMITTEES

The Sub-Divisional Vigilance and Monitoring Committees have been constituted under the Chairpersonship of Sub-Divisional Magistrate to review implementation of the PoA Act. During the year 2023, 185 meetings were held in 53 Sub-Divisions.

5.11.2 STATE LEVEL SC AND ST PROTECTION CELL

The Civil Rights Enforcement Cell is functioning since 1975. Subsequently the Cell was re-designated as Directorate of Civil Rights Enforcement and is headed by an Additional Director General of Police. The Directorate comprises of six regional offices at Mysore, Mangalore, Belgaum, Davanagere and Bangalore, under the charge of a Superintendent of Police. Four district units at Kolar, Tumkur, Bagalkot and Bijapur districts are also functioning under the supervision of Deputy Superintendent of Police.

5.11.3 APPOINTMENT OF OFFICERS

A. NODAL OFFICER

The Principal Secretary, Social Welfare Department, Government of Karnataka has been appointed as the Nodal Officer.

B. SPECIAL OFFICER

The additional Deputy Commissioners of all Districts are appointed as the Special Officers under Rule 10 of the PoA, Rules.

5.11.4 INVESTIGATION AND FILING OF THE CHARGE SHEET WITHIN SIXTY DAYS

In accordance with Rule 7 (2) of the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes (Prevention of Atrocities) Amendment Rules, 2016, in 1505 cases investigation and filing of the charge sheet was done within sixty days and that in 391 cases investigation and filing of the charge sheet was done later than sixty days in the year 2023.

5.11.5 RELIEF AND REHABILITATION OF VICTIMS OF ATROCITIES

In accordance with Rule 12 (4) and 12(4) (A) of the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes (Prevention of Atrocities) Amendment Rules, 2016, the relief and rehabilitation to the victims of offences of atrocities 1163 persons were provided within seven days and for 1089 persons relief was provided later than seven days.

5.11.6 SPECIAL COURTS AND EXCLUSIVE SPECIAL COURTS

For the purpose of speedy trial of cases under the PoA Act, the District Sessions Courts have been designated as Special Courts in 23 districts.

Besides, eight Exclusive Special Courts for trial of offences under the PoA Act are functioning at Belagavi, Vijayapura, Kalaburagi, Kolar, Mysuru, Raichur, Ramanagar and Tumakuru districts.

5.11.7 SPECIFICATION OF SPECIAL PUBLIC PROSECUTORS AND EXCLUSIVE SPECIAL PUBLIC PROSECUTORS

08 Special Public Prosecutors were specified for conducting cases in the thirty-one designated Special Courts. Further, 08 Exclusive Special Public Prosecutors were specified for conducting the cases in Exclusive Special Courts.

5.11.8 PUBLICITY AND SENSITISATION OF OFFICERS

During the year 2023, 762 publicity and awareness programmes were conducted where 3221 Police officials and 80362 other officials were sensitized.

5.11.9 LEGAL AID

The Karnataka Legal Services Authority extends free services to the members of weaker sections including member of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes whose annual income is below Rs. 25,000/-. The main objective is to provide free legal aid and advice to the eligible persons through State Legal Services Authority, High Court Legal Services Committee, District Legal Services Authority and Taluk Legal Services Committee. During the year 2023, 1629 persons were provided legal aid.

5.11.10 TRAVELLING AND MAINTENANCE EXPENSES TO WITNESSES AND VICTIMS OF ATROCITIES

Travelling and Maintenance expenses were provided to the victims of atrocities as well as to witnesses. During the year 2023, 950 persons were provided such expenses.

5.11.11 ECONOMIC & SOCIAL REHABILITATION

During the year 2023, 3897 atrocity victims were provided relief and rehabilitation.

5.11.12 APPEALS FILED IN SUPERIOR COURTS IN CASES WHICH ENDED IN ACQUITTAL

During the year 2023, out of 426 cases which ended in acquittal, appeals in 01 case was filed in appellate courts against acquittals.

5.12 KERALA

5.12.1 COMMITTEES

STATE LEVEL VIGILANCE AND MONITORING COMMITTEE

A State Level Vigilance and Monitoring Committee functions under the chairmanship of the Chief Minister, to review the implementation of the PoA Act. During the year 2023, 01 meeting of the State Level Vigilance and Monitoring Committee was held on 31.07.2023.

DISTRICT LEVEL VIGILANCE AND MONITORING COMMITTEE

The District Level Vigilance and Monitoring Committees under the Chairpersonship of District Collectors review implementation of the PoA Act. During 2023, 49 meetings of these Committees were held in 14 districts.

SUB- DIVISIONAL LEVEL VIGILANCE AND MONITORING COMMITTEE

The Sub Divisional Level Vigilance and Monitoring Committees have been constituted under the Chairpersonship of Sub-Divisional Magistrate to review implementation of the PoA Act. During the year 2023, 01 meeting was held on 27.01.2023.

5.12.2 STATE LEVEL SC AND ST PROTECTION CELL

A Special Cell at the State Police Head Quarter functions under the supervision of the Additional Director General of Police and the Cell keeps a watch over handling of cases under the Act. It also monitors cases registered under the PoA Act as well as petitions presented by the members of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes.

5.12.3 INVESTIGATION AND FILING OF THE CHARGE SHEET WITHIN SIXTY DAYS

In accordance with Rule 7 (2) of the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes (Prevention of Atrocities) Amendment Rules, 2016, in 634 cases investigation and filing of the charge sheet was done within sixty days and that in 426 cases investigation and filing of the charge sheet was done later than sixty days for the year 2023.

5.12.4 RELIEF AND REHABILITATION OF VICTIMS OF ATROCITIES

In accordance with Rule 12 (4) and 12(4) (A) of the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes (Prevention of Atrocities) Amendment Rules, 2016,

no relief and rehabilitation were provided to the victims of atrocities within seven days; relief and rehabilitation were provided to 478 persons after the expiry of seven days for the year 2023.

5.12.5 APPOINTMENT OF OFFICER

A. NODAL OFFICER

The Principal Secretary, Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes Development Department have been appointed as the Nodal Officer.

B. SPECIAL OFFICER

In accordance with the Rule 10 of the PoA Rules, Additional District Magistrate has been appointed as the Special Officer for the Kasargod District.

5.12.6 IDENTIFICATION OF ATROCITY PRONE AREAS

Areas have been identified as atrocity prone in the districts of Thiruvananthapuram, Pathanamthitta, Ernakulam and Wayanad.

5.12.7 SPECIAL COURTS

Six Exclusive Special Courts have been set up in Thiruvananthapuram, Kollam, Wayanad, Malappuram, Thrissur and Palakkad Districts.

In remaining Districts, Sessions Courts have been designated as Special Courts, for trial of cases, under the PoA Act.

5.12.8 SPECIFICATION OF SPECIAL PUBLIC PROSECUTORS AND EXCLUSIVE SPECIAL PUBLIC PROSECUTORS

Special Public Prosecutors have been specified for conducting cases in the Special Courts.

5.12.9 SPECIAL POLICE STATIONS

Three Special Police Stations have been set up in Kasargod, Wayanad and Palakkad districts.

5.12.10 PERIODIC SURVEY

During the year 2023, 226 surveys were conducted in the Districts of Kottayam, Palakkad, Kozhikkod and Kannur.

5.12.11 PUBLICITY AND SENSITISATION OF OFFICERS

During the year 2023, 1549 publicity/awareness programmes were conducted and 1453 Police officers and 10214 other officers were sensitized.

5.12.12 LEGAL AID

During the year 2023, 1166 persons belonging to Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribe availed of the legal aid.

5.12.13 TRAVELLING AND MAINTENANCE EXPENSES TO WITNESSES AND VICTIMS OF ATROCITIES

Travelling and Dearness Allowance, Maintenance and Transport expenses were provided to the victims of atrocities as well as witnesses. During the year 2023, 82 Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes persons were provided such expenses.

5.12.14 ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL REHABILITATION

During the year 2023, 404 Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes atrocity victims were provided relief.

5.12.15 APPEALS FILED IN SUPERIOR COURTS IN CASES WHICH ENDED IN ACQUITTAL

During the year 2023, 814 cases ended in acquittal and appeals against acquittals were filed in 17 cases in superior courts against acquittals.

5.13 MADHYA PRADESH

5.13.1 COMMITTEES

STATE LEVEL VIGILANCE AND MONITORING COMMITTEE

A State Level Vigilance and Monitoring Committee under the Chairpersonship of the Chief Minister review implementation of the PoA Act. No such meeting of this committee was held during the year 2023.

DISTRICT LEVEL VIGILANCE AND MONITORING COMMITTEE

At the district level, District Level Vigilance and Monitoring Committees have been functioning under the Chairpersonship of the District Magistrate in each District to review implementation of the PoA Act. During the year 2023, 100 meetings were held in 52 districts.

5.13.2 STATE LEVEL SC AND ST PROTECTION CELL

A Cell under the charge of the Additional Director General of Police reviews implementation of the PoA Act. 51 Scheduled Caste Welfare (Anusuchit Jati Kalyan Thanas) under the Cell are required to, *inter-alia*, register cases of offences of atrocities.

5.13.3 INVESTIGATION AND FILING OF THE CHARGE SHEET WITHIN SIXTY DAYS

In accordance with Rule 7 (2) of the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes (Prevention of Atrocities) Amendment Rules, 2016, in 6663 cases, investigation and filing of charge sheet was done within sixty days and in 4171 cases investigation and filing of charge sheet was done later than sixty days for the year 2023.

5.13.4 APPOINTMENT OF OFFICERS

A. NODAL OFFICER AT THE STATE LEVEL

A Secretary level officer has been nominated as a Nodal Officer under Rule 9 of the PoA Rules.

B. SPECIAL OFFICER

The Additional District Magistrates of the 26 districts have been appointed as the Special Officers under Rule 10 of the PoA, Rules.

5.13.5 SPECIAL POLICE STATIONS

Special Police Stations are functioning in 51 Districts, to investigate offences of atrocities against members of the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes except in Niwadi District.

5.13.6 IDENTIFICATION OF ATROCITY PRONE AREAS

In Madhya Pradesh, in 26 Districts, 65 Police stations and 89 Area/Villages have been identified as atrocity prone areas.

5.13.7 SPECIAL COURTS AND EXCLUSIVE SPECIAL COURTS

Apart from Six Special Courts at Alirajpur, Anuppur, Burhanpur, Dindory, Singruali and Umaria , 32 Special Courts as per Section 14 of the PoA Act are functioning at Balaghat, Barwani, Bhind, Bhopal, Damoh, Datia, Dewas, Dhar, Guna, Harda, Narmdapuram, Indore, Jhabua, Katni, Khandwa, Mandla, Mandsore, Neemuch, Panna, Raisen, Rajgarh, Rewa, Sheore, Seoni, Shahdole, Satna, Shajapur, Sheoaur, Sidhi, Tikamgarh, Ujjain and West Nimar(Mandleshwar).

11 Exclusive Special Courts are functioning at Betul, Chhatarpur, Chhindwara, Gwalior, Jabalpur, Morena, Narsinghpur, Ratlam, Sagar, Shivpuri and Vidisha.

5.13.8 SPECIFICATION OF SPECIAL PUBLIC PROSECUTORS AND EXCLUSIVE SPECIAL PUBLIC PROSECUTORS

47 Special Public Prosecutors have been designated in the 43 Special Courts for conducting cases under the PoA Act.

Similarly, 21 Exclusive Special Public Prosecutors have been designated in the 14 Exclusive Special Courts for conducting cases under the PoA Act.

5.13.9 PERODIC SURVEYS

During the year 2023, no periodic surveys were conducted in 52 Districts.

5.13.10 RELIEF AND REHABILITATION OF VICTIMS OF ATROCITIES

In accordance with Rule 12 (4) and 12(4) (A) of the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes (Prevention of Atrocities) Amendment Rules, 2016,

1286 victim of offences of atrocity has been provided relief and rehabilitation within seven days and 9548 persons have been provided later than seven days for the year 2023.

5.13.11 AWARENESS GENERATION

During the year 2023, 551 publicity/awareness programmes were organized and 320 Police officials and 116 other officials were also sensitized.

5.13.12 TRAVELLING AND MAINTENANCE EXPENSES TO WITNESSES AND VICTIMS OF ATROCITIES

As per the provision of Section 21{(2) (ii)} of the PoA Act and Rule 11 of the PoA Rules, the State Government provides travelling and maintenance allowance to the witnesses and victims of offences of atrocities. During the year 2023, no persons were provided any expenses.

5.13.13 RELIEF AND REHABILITATION OF VICTIMS OF ATROCITIES

During the year 2023, 10834 Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes atrocity victims were provided relief and rehabilitation.

5.13.14 APPEALS FILED IN SUPERIOR COURTS IN CASES WHICH ENDED IN ACQUITTAL

During the year 2023, 3663 cases ended in acquittal and appeals against acquittals were filed in 203 cases in superior courts against acquittals.

5.14 MAHARASHTRA

5.14.1 COMMITTEES

STATE LEVEL VIGILANCE AND MONITORING COMMITTEE

The State Level Vigilance and Monitoring Committee under the chairmanship of Chief Minister review the implementation of the PoA Act. No such meeting of this committee was held during the year 2023.

DISTRICT LEVEL VIGILANCE AND MONITORING COMMITTEE

The District Level Vigilance and Monitoring Committees function under the Chairpersonship of the respective District Magistrates and review implementation of the PoA Act. During the year 2023, 371 district level meetings were held in 36 Districts.

SUB-DIVISIONAL LEVEL VIGILANCE AND MONITORING COMMITTEES

The Sub-Divisional Vigilance and Monitoring Committees have also been constituted under the Chairpersonship of Sub-Divisional Magistrate to review implementation of the PoA Act. During the year 2023, 278 meetings were held in 36 Districts.

5.14.2 STATE LEVEL SC AND ST PROTECTION CELL

A Special Cell is functioning at the State Police Headquarters under the supervision of Special Inspector General of Police with supporting staff comprising of Superintendent of Police, Deputy Superintendent of Police, Inspector, Sub Inspector, Assistant Police Inspector, Head Constables and Police Constables etc. PCR unit has also been functioning in 36 districts of the State.

Special machinery is also functioning in the Social Justice & Special Assistance Department. Special District Social Welfare Officers at all the district places are required to implement the programmes to rehabilitate the victims of atrocities as per provisions of the PoA Act and the PoA Rules.

5.14.3 INVESTIGATION AND FILING OF THE CHARGE SHEET WITHIN SIXTY DAYS

In accordance with Rule 7 (2) of the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes (Prevention of Atrocities) Amendment Rules, 2016, in 1758 cases, investigation and filing of charge sheet was done within sixty days and in 1726 cases investigation and filing of charge sheet was done later than sixty days for the year 2023.

5.14.4 NODAL OFFICER

The Principal Secretary level officer has been nominated as the Nodal Officer as per Rule 9 of the PoA Rules.

5.14.5 IDENTIFICATION OF ATROCITY PRONE AREAS

There is no identified atrocity prone area in the State of Maharashtra.

5.14.6 SPECIAL COURT AND EXCLUSIVE SPECIAL COURT

In each district, the Court of Session has been specified as a Special Court to try the cases of offences of atrocities under the PoA Act. Three exclusive Special Courts have been functioning at Nagpur, Aurangabad and Mumbai (Thane).

5.14.7 PUBLICITY MEASURES

During the year 2023, 4695 publicity and awareness programmes were conducted. 14448 police officials and 36423 other officials were also sensitized.

5.14.8 LEGAL AID

During the year 2023, 2713 number of persons subjected to atrocities was provided Legal Aid.

5.14.9 RELIEF MEASURES

During the year 2023, relief and rehabilitation were provided to 3124 Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes atrocity victims.

5.14.10 RELIEF AND REHABILITATION OF VICTIMS OF ATROCITIES

In accordance with Rule 12(4) and 12(4A) of the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes (Prevention of Atrocities) Amendment Rules, 2016, relief and rehabilitation to the victims of atrocities were provided within seven days to 57 persons, and to 2144 persons later than seven days.

5.14.11 TRAVELLING AND MAINTENANCE EXPENSES TO WITNESSES AND VICTIMS OF ATROCITIES

As per the provision of Rule 11 of the PoA Rules, the State Government provides travelling and maintenance allowance to the witnesses and victims of offences of atrocities. During the year 2023, no travelling and maintenance expenses were provided.

5.14.12 PERIODIC SURVEYS

During the year 2023, no periodic survey was conducted in 36 districts.

5.14.13 APPEALS FILED IN SUPERIOR COURTS IN CASES WHICH ENDED IN ACQUITTAL

During the year 2023, 1350 cases ended in acquittal and 07 appeals against acquittals were filed.

5.15 MEGHALAYA

5.15.1 COMMITTEES

STATE LEVEL VIGILANCE AND MONITORING COMMITTEE

A State Level Vigilance & Monitoring Committee under the Chairpersonship of Chief Minister reviews implementation of the PoA Act. No such meeting of this committee was held during the year 2023.

DISTRICT LEVEL VIGILANCE AND MONITORING COMMITTEE

The District Level Vigilance & Monitoring Committees have been constituted in all districts of the State, under the Chairpersonship of the District Magistrate to review implementation of the PoA Act.

SUB-DIVISIONAL LEVEL VIGILANCE AND MONITORING COMMITTEES

The Sub-Divisional Vigilance and Monitoring Committees have also been constituted in all Sub-Divisional under the Chairpersonship of Sub-Divisional Magistrate.

5.15.2 STATE LEVEL SC AND ST PROTECTION CELL

The Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes Protection Cell have been set up at the State Police Headquarters under the supervision of Deputy Inspector General of Police (CID) with supporting staff comprising of Special Superintendent of Police (CID).

5.15.3 IDENTIFICATION OF ATROCITY PRONE AREAS

No area has been identified as atrocity prone where the members of Scheduled castes/Scheduled Tribes are likely to be subjected to atrocities.

5.15.4 SPECIAL COURTS

The District and Session Judge Court of each district has been designated as Special Court (except East Khasi Hills District) to try cases under the PoA Act.

5.16 MIZORAM

5.16.1 STATE LEVEL SC AND ST PROTECTION CELL

The Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes Protection Cell has been set up at the State Police Headquarters under the supervision of Additional Director General of Police/Inspector General of Police (CID) with supporting staff comprising of Special Superintendent of Police (CID) and Superintendent of Police (Aizawl).

5.16.2 SPECIAL COURTS

The Court of the Additional District Sessions Judge of Aizawl has been specified as Special Courts, to try cases under the PoA Act, for whole of Aizawl, Judicial District comprising of Aizawl, Kolasib, Mamit, Champhai and Serchhip Administrative districts.

Further, Court of the Additional District Sessions Judge of Lunglei has been specified as Special Courts, to try cases under the PoA Act, for whole of Lunglei Judicial District comprising of Lunglei, Lawngtlai and Siaha.

5.17 ODISHA

5.17.1 COMMITTEES

STATE LEVEL VIGILANCE AND MONITORING COMMITTEE

No State Level High Power Vigilance and Monitoring Committee is constituted to review the implementation of the PoA Act. Therefore, no such meeting of this committee was held during the year 2023.

DISTRICT LEVEL VIGILANCE AND MONITORING COMMITTEE

District Level Vigilance and Monitoring Committees have also been functioning under the Chairpersonship of District Magistrate in all the districts to review implementation of the PoA, Act. During the year 2023, 14 meetings were held in 30 districts.

SUB DIVISIONAL LEVEL VIGILANCE AND MONITORING COMMITTEE

Sub Divisional Level Vigilance and Monitoring Committees have been constituted in 30 districts. During the year 2023, 01 meeting of Sub-Divisional Committees was held.

5.17.2 STATE LEVEL SC AND ST PROTECTION CELL

The Government of Odisha has constituted Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes Protection Cell under the charge of Additional Director General of Police, Human Rights Protection Cell (HRPC) in the State Police Headquarters at Cuttack in accordance with Rule 8 of the PoA Rules. The State Government has also constituted District Human Right Protection Cells to deal with atrocities against members of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes.

5.17.3 INVESTIGATION AND FILING OF THE CHARGE SHEET WITHIN SIXTY DAYS

In accordance with Rule 7 (2) of the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes (Prevention of Atrocities) Amendment Rules, 2016, in 624 cases, investigation and filing of charge sheet was done within sixty days and in 1019 cases investigation and filing of charge sheet was done later than sixty days for the year 2023.

5.17.4 NODAL OFFICER

Smt. Roopa Roshan Sahoo, Commissioner-cum-Secretary, ST & SC Development, M & BC Welfare Department, Government of Odisha has been nominated as the Nodal Officer as per Rule 9 of the PoA Rules.

5.17.5 RELIEF AND REHABILITATION OF VICTIMS OF ATROCITIES

In accordance with Rule 12 (4) and 12(4) (A) of the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes (Prevention of Atrocities) Amendment Rules, 2016, relief and rehabilitation to the victims of atrocities were provided within seven days to 0 persons, and to 2647 persons later than seven days.

5.17.6 IDENTIFICATION OF ATROCITY PRONE AREAS

The Home Department of the State has identified following atrocity prone areas in the State: -

S. No.	District	Specific areas within District, identified as "atrocity" prone area
1.	Cuttack	Niali, Badamba, Gobindpur PS Areas
2.	Angul	Angul Sadar, Angul Town & Bantala PS Areas
3.	Balasore	Basta, Bhogarai, Jaleswar Town, SahadevKhunta, Singla, Kamarda, Sora, Khantapara, Nilgiri PS Areas
4.	Bhadrak	Bhadrak Rural (Sadar), Bansada, Basudevapur, Bhandaripokhari, Dhamnagar PS Areas
5.	Bolangir	Patnagarh & KantaBanji Sub Division Area
6.	Boudh	Boudh, Baunsuni, Manamunda, Kantamal, Purunakatak, Harabhanga PS Areas
7.	Dhenkanal	Dhenkanal town, Bhubana, Kam-Nagar, Sadar & Parjang PS Areas
8.	Kalahandi	Dharmagarh, Junagarh, Jaipatna, Koksara, Bhwanipatna Sadar, Kehaon and Bhawanipatna Town PS Areas
9.	Kandhamal	Entire District
10.	Kendrapara	Pattamundai & Marsaghai PS Areas
11.	Keonjhar	Keonjhar Town, Sadar, Patna, Ghasipura, Ghtagaon, Anandapur, Champua, Joda, Barbil PS Areas
12.	Mayurbhanj	Baripada Town, Khuntia, Udala, Thakurmunda, Karanjia, Jharpokhari, Rasgovindpur and

		Badasahi PS Areas
13.	Nuapada	Sinapali Block Area
14.	Puri	Sadar, Town, Seabeach, Chandanpur, Satyabadi, Brahmahiri, Delang, Kanas, Pipili, Gop, Balanga, Nimapara, Krushnaprasad PS Areas
15.	Rayagada	Kashipur PS Areas
16.	Subarnapur	Sonepur, Birmaharajpur PS Areas

5.17.7 SPECIAL COURT AND EXCLUSIVE SPECIAL COURT

102 District and Sessions Courts and Additional District and Sessions Courts have been designated as Special Courts, for the trial of the offences under the PoA, Act.

3 Exclusive Special Courts at Cuttack, Balasore and Bolangir have also been set up.

5.17.8 SPECIFICATION OF SPECIAL PUBLIC PROSECUTORS/EXCLUSIVE SPECIAL PUBLIC PROSECUTORS

Up to the year 2023, 46 Special Public Prosecutors/Special Public Prosecutors were specified to conduct cases in the Special Courts and rest of courts conducted cases by the Public Prosecutors/ Special Public Prosecutors. Three Exclusive Special Public Prosecutors were also specified in three Exclusive Special Courts, to conduct the cases of offence of atrocities under the PoA Act.

5.17.9 PUBLICITY AND AWARENESS GENERATION

During the year 2023, no publicity and awareness generation programme was organized.

5.17.10 PERIODIC SURVEYS

During the year 2023, 45 periodic surveys were conducted in Bhadrak district.

5.17.11 LEGAL AID

During the year 2023, 1866 members of Scheduled Castes and 1331 members of Scheduled Tribes were provided Legal Aid.

5.17.12 RELIEF MEASURES

During the year 2023, 2647 atrocity victims were provided relief.

5.17.13 TRAVELLING AND MAINTENANCE EXPENSES TO WITNESSES AND VICTIMS OF ATROCITIES

During the year 2023, 591 persons were provided such travelling and maintenance expenses.

5.17.14 APPEALS FILED IN SUPERIOR COURTS IN CASES WHICH ENDED IN ACQUITTAL

During the year 2023, of 326 cases which ended in acquittal, appeals against acquittals were filed in 0 cases in superior courts.

5.18 PUNJAB

5.18.1 COMMITTEES

STATE LEVEL VIGILANCE AND MONITORING COMMITTEE

The State Level Vigilance and Monitoring Committee set up under Chairpersonship of the Chief Minister, reviews implementation of the PoA, Act. No such meeting of this committee was held during the year 2023.

DISTRICT LEVEL VIGILANCE AND MONITORING COMMITTEE

The districts level Vigilance and Monitoring Committees review implementation of the PoA, Act at the District level. During the year 2023, 18 meetings were held in 23 districts.

SUB DIVISIONAL LEVEL VIGILANCE AND MONITORING COMMITTEE

Sub Divisional Level Vigilance and Monitoring Committees have also been constituted in the all districts of Punjab. During the year 2023, no meeting of Sub-Divisional Committees was held.

5.18.2 STATE LEVEL SC/ST PROTECTION CELL

A special SC/ST Cell headed by the Superintendent of Police with supporting staff under the control of Director, Bureau of Investigation (Additional Director General of Police (Crime)) is functioning at the Police Headquarters. The SC/ST Cells are also functioning at the district level under the control of Senior Superintendent of Police, to reviews cases of offences of atrocities against members of Scheduled Castes.

5.18.3 RELIEF AND REHABILITATION OF VICTIMS OF ATROCITIES

In accordance with Rule 12 (4) and 12(4) (A) of the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes (Prevention of Atrocities) Amendment Rules, 2016, relief and rehabilitation to the victims of atrocities were provided to no persons within seven days, and to 57 persons after the expiry of seven days.

5.18.4 INVESTIGATION AND FILING OF THE CHARGE SHEET WITHIN SIXTY DAYS

In accordance with Rule 7 (2) of the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes (Prevention of Atrocities) Amendment Rules, 2016, in 16

cases, investigation and filing of charge sheet was done within sixty days and in 48 cases investigation and filing of charge sheet was done later than sixty days.

5.18.5 SPECIAL COURT AND EXCLUSIVE SPECIAL COURT

Special Courts are functioning under the senior most Additional Session Judge, to try the offences under the Scheduled Caste and the Scheduled Tribe (Prevention of Atrocities) Act, 1989. 21 Special courts are functioning in all the districts.

Two Exclusive Special Courts at Ludhiana and Fatehgarh Sahib have also been set up.

5.18.6 SPECIFICATION OF SPECIAL PUBLIC PROSECUTORS

All the public prosecutor in the state of Punjab are designated as Special public prosecutor for the purpose of conducting cases in the Special courts of districts of their respective jurisdiction.

5.18.7 IDENTIFICATION OF ATROCITY PRONE AREAS

There is no atrocity prone area in the State.

5.18.8 PUBLICITY

During the year 2023, seminars and mass lunch at Block/District/State level were organized. 1138 seminars were organized, highlighting the provisions of the PoA Act.

Inputs of the PoA Act have been provided during the basic training of newly recruited Deputy Superintendent of Police, Sub-Inspectors and Constables. The PoA Act also forms an integral part of the syllabus of all promotional courses conducted at Punjab Police Academy, Phillaur. In addition, special workshops on PoA Act have also been organized in the Punjab Police Academy for Gazette and Non-Gazette officers.

5.18.9 LEGAL AID

Under Rule 12 of the Punjab Legal Service Authority Act, 1987, free legal aid is provided to the members of Scheduled Castes. In 2023, 13 people were provided free legal aid.

5.18.10 TRAVELLING AND MAINTENANCE EXPENSES TO WITNESSES AND VICTIMS OF ATROCITIES

Travelling and maintenance expenses to victims of atrocities and witnesses are provided as per the PoA Rules.

5.18.11 RELIEF TO ATROCITY VICTIMS

During the year 2023, relief amount was provided to 180 atrocities victims.

5.18.12 APPEALS FILED IN SUPERIOR COURTS IN CASES WHICH ENDED IN ACQUITTAL

During the year 2023, out of 22 cases which ended in acquittal, no appeal was filed against acquittals.

5.19 RAJASTHAN

5.19.1 COMMITTEES

STATE LEVEL VIGLIANCE AND MONITORING COMMITTEE

A State Level Vigilance and Monitoring Committee under the Chairpersonship of Chief Minister, review the implementation of the PoA, Act. 01 such meeting of this committee was held during the year 2023.

DISTRICT LEVEL VIGLIANCE AND MONITORING COMMITTEE

The District Vigilance and Monitoring Committees also review implementation of the PoA, Act. During the year 2023, 73 meetings were held in 33 districts.

SUB DIVISIONAL LEVEL VIGLIANCE AND MONITORING COMMITTEE

The Sub Divisional Level Vigilance and Monitoring Committees also review implementation of the PoA, Act. During the year 2023, 5 meetings were held in the Banswara District.

5.19.2 STATE LEVEL SC AND ST PROTECTION CELL

A Civil Rights Cell is functioning in the Police Headquarters. This Cell has been entrusted, inter-alia, with the task of prevention of offences of atrocities. The Cell is headed by Superintendent of Police and works under the supervision of Additional Director General of Police (Civil Rights) with Deputy Inspector General of Police (Civil Rights) and other staff.

Further, 37 SC/ST Cells have been set up in 33 Districts, which are headed by a Deputy Superintendent of Police and entrusted with the task to deal with offences of atrocities.

5.19.3 INVESTIGATION AND FILING OF THE CHARGE SHEET WITHIN SIXTY DAYS

During the year 2023, 3835 cases were charge sheeted in the court within sixty days. Likewise, 5180 cases charge sheeted later than sixty days.

5.19.4 APPOINTMENT OF OFFICERS

A. NODAL OFFICER

Shri Ravi Kumar Surpur, I.A.S. Officer has been nominated as a Nodal Officer as per Rule 9 of the PoA Rules.

B. SPECIAL OFFICER FOR DISTRICTS HAVING ATROCITY PRONE AREAS

The Additional District Magistrates of the concerned districts have been appointed as the Special Officers under Rule 10 of the PoA, Rules.

5.19.5 IDENTIFICATION OF ATROCITY PRONE AREAS

11 districts have been identified as atrocity prone in the State namely Bharatpur, Ganganagar, Bikaner, Alwar, Hanumangarh, Bhilwara, Pali, Dholpur, Churu, Sikar and Nagaur.

5.19.6 SPECIAL COURT AND EXCLUSIVE SPECIAL COURT

Out of total 33 Districts of the State, 37 Exclusive Special Courts and Special Courts have been set up in districts viz. Ajmer, Alwar, Barmer, Baran, Bharatpur, Bhilwara, Bikaner, Bundi, Chittorgarh, Churu, Dausa, Dholpur, Ganganagar, Hanumangarh, Jaipur, Jaisalmer, Jalore, Jhalawar, Jhunjhunu, Jodhpur City, Karauli, Kota, Merta Nagaur, Pali, Pratapgarh, Rajsamand, Sawai Madhopur, Sikar, Sirohi, Tonk, Udaipur, Banswara, Barmer, Dungarpur, Jaipur Mahanagar I & II and Jaipur District, Courts of District and Session have been designated as Special Courts to try offences under the Act.

5.19.7 SPECIFICATION OF SPECIAL PUBLIC PROSECUTORS AND EXCLUSIVE SPECIAL PUBLIC PROSECUTORS

31 Exclusive Special Public Prosecutors were specified to conduct the cases in 31 Exclusive Special Courts and 03 Special Public Prosecutors were specified to conduct the cases in 03 designated courts as special public prosecutors.

5.19.8 PUBLICITY

Basic Training, Promotion Cadre Courses and Specialized Courses were conducted. During the year 2023, 3261 police officials were also sensitized about the provisions of the PoA Act and the PoA, Rules.

5.19.9 TRAVELLING AND MAINTENANCE EXPENSES TO WITNESSES AND VICTIMS OF ATROCITIES

In accordance with Rule 11 of the PoA Rules, travelling allowance, daily allowance, maintenance expenses were provided to the victims of atrocities,

their dependents and witnesses. During the year 2023, travelling and maintenance was provided to 30 persons.

5.19.10 RELIEF MEASURES

During the year 2023, 7308 atrocity victims were provided relief amount later than seven days.

5.19.11 LEGAL AID

Free legal aid is provided to the members of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes. During the year 2023, legal aid was provided to 315 persons.

5.19.12 APPEALS FILED IN SUPERIOR COURTS IN CASES WHICH ENDED IN ACQUITTAL

During the year 2023, of 2164 cases which ended in acquittal, appeals against acquittals were filed in 75 cases in superior courts.

5.20 SIKKIM

5.20.1 COMMITTEES

STATE LEVEL VIGLIANCE AND MONITORING COMMITTEE

State level Vigilance and Monitoring Committee has been constituted to review the implementation of the PoA Act. No such meeting of this committee was held during the year 2023.

DISTRICT LEVEL VIGLIANCE AND MONITORING COMMITTEE

District level Vigilance and Monitoring Committees have been constituted to review implementation of the PoA Act. During the year 2023, no meetings were held in 6 districts.

5.20.2 STATE LEVEL SC AND ST PROTECTION CELL

A Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes Protection Cell has been set up under the supervision of SSP/CID.

5.20.3 IDENTIFICATION OF ATROCITY PRONE AREAS

There is no atrocity prone area in the State where members of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes are subject to atrocities.

5.20.4 SPECIAL COURTS

District and Session Courts in the State have been designated as Special Courts to try the cases under the PoA Act.

5.20.5 SPECIFICATION OF SPECIAL PUBLIC PROSECUTORS AND EXCLUSIVE SPECIAL PUBLIC PROSECUTORS

Eight Special Public Prosecutors were specified to conduct the cases in designated Special Courts.

5.20.6 INVESTIGATION AND FILING OF THE CHARGE SHEET WITHIN SIXTY DAYS

During the year 2023, in 01 case charge sheet was filed in the court within sixty days. And, no charge sheet was filed later than sixty days.

5.20.7 APPOINTMENT OF OFFICERS

A. NODAL OFFICER

Welfare officer has been nominated as a Nodal Officer as per Rule 9 of the PoA Rules.

B. SPECIAL OFFICER

In accordance with Rule 10 of PoA Rules, 1995, Additional District Magistrates in each of the concerned district have been appointed as Special Officers.

5.20.8 PUBLICITY AND AWARENESS GENERATION

Provisions of the PoA Act, 1989 have been translated into Lingua Franca i.e. on Nepali language which is widely circulated among the Panchayats, Collectorates, NGO's, members of SCs & STs etc and are supplemented by display of hoardings at public places like Courts, Police Stations, and District & Sub-divisional Headquarters etc.

5.20.9 LEGAL AID

The State Government has implemented the Legal Services Authorities Act in the State to provide legal aid to the victims of offences of all crimes including atrocities on members of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes, to enable them to avail justice.

5.20.10 TRAVELLING AND MAINTENANCE EXPENSES TO WITNESSES AND VICTIMS OF ATROCITIES

In accordance with Rule 11 of the PoA Rules, travelling allowance, daily allowance and maintenance expense were provided to the victims of atrocities, their dependents and witnesses.

5.21 TAMIL NADU

5.21.1 COMMITTEES

STATE LEVEL VIGILANCE AND MONITORING COMMITTEE

A State Level Vigilance and Monitoring Committee under the Chairmanship of the Chief Minister have been reconstituted, to review implementation of the PoA Act. During the year 2023, 01 meeting was held.

DISTRICT LEVEL VIGILANCE AND MONITORING COMMITTEE

The District Level Vigilance and Monitoring Committees have been constituted under the Chairpersonship of the District Collector to review implementation of the PoA, Act, relief and rehabilitation facilities provided to the atrocity victims and discuss other matters concerned with prosecution of cases. During the year 2023, 141 meetings of these committees were held in 38 districts.

SUB DIVISIONAL LEVEL VIGILANCE AND MONITORING COMMITTEE

Sub Divisional Level Vigilance and Monitoring Committees have been constituted in 38 districts. Strict instructions have been issued to the district authorities for the early formation of Committees in all the Revenue Divisions and to conduct the meetings regularly. During the year 2023, 152 meetings were held.

5.21.2 STATE LEVEL SC AND ST PROTECTION CELL

The Additional Director General of Police/Inspector General of Police and Assistant Inspector General of Police, Social Justice & Human Rights, monitor enforcement of the PoA Act, and supervise functioning of the Social Justice and Human Rights Units.

The PoA Act is enforced through 38 Social Justice and Human Rights Units located at each of 38 district headquarters. Further, there are mobile squads, which work for prevention and detection of cases of atrocity. For collection of statistical information under the Act, a Statistical Unit consisting of one Statistical Inspector is attached to each Unit. The Inspector (Statistics) is assisted by the Staff of Social Justice and Human Rights Units. The Inspector General of Police, Social Justice & Human Rights Chennai monitors implementation of the PoA Act also supervises the functioning of the Social Justice and Human Rights Units.

5.21.3 INVESTIGATION AND FILING OF THE CHARGE SHEET WITHIN SIXTY DAYS

In accordance with Rule 7(2) of the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes (Prevention of Atrocities) Amendment Rules, 2016, in 886 cases, investigation and filing of the charge sheeted was done within sixty days and that in 731 cases, investigation and filing of the charge sheeted was done later than sixty days.

5.21.4 SPECIFICATION AN APPROPRIATE SCHEME TO ENSURE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE RIGHTS AND ENTITLEMENTS OF VICTIMS AND WITNESSES IN ACCESSING JUSTICE

The rights and entitlements of victims and witnesses in accessing justice as specified in Sub section (11) of Section 15A of Chapter IVA of the Act have been complied in each case registered under the Act.

5.21.5 RELIEF AND REHABILITATION OF VICTIMS OF ATROCITIES

In accordance with Section 21 (2) (iii) of the PoA Act and Rule 12 (4) and 12(4) (A) of the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes (Prevention of Atrocities) Amendment Rules, 2016, the relief and rehabilitation to the victims of offences of atrocities was provided within seven days to 52 persons and 4020 persons were provided later than seven days.

5.21.6 APPOINTMENT OF OFFICERS

A. NODAL OFFICER

The Secretary, Adi Dravidar and Tribal Welfare Department has been appointed as the Nodal Officer for coordinating functioning of the District Magistrates, Superintendents of Police and other officers authorized for implementation of provisions of the PoA Act.

B. SPECIAL OFFICER

In accordance with Rule 10 of PoA Rules, 1995, District Magistrates/District Collectors in each of the concerned district have been appointed as Special Officers.

5.21.7 IDENTIFICATION OF ATROCITY PRONE AREAS

The Government of Tamil Nadu has identified following atrocity prone areas in the State: -

S. No.	Total Number of Districts and Commissionerates	Specific areas within identified 'atrocity areas' as District as prone'	Measures taken for the removal of such disability in such areas
1.	37 Districts and 9 Commissionerates	<p>In 37 Districts, 346 areas have been identified as "atrocity-prone".</p> <p>In 9 Commissionerates, 48 areas have been identified as "atrocity-prone".</p>	<p>The areas are surveyed by the Staff of Social Justice and Human Rights Units in the districts and developments if any are brought to the notice of Superintendent of Police and Collector for taking precautionary and preventive measures to strengthen communal harmony among the people.</p> <p>More than 3200 such awareness campaigns were conducted in the year 2023.</p>

5.21.8 SPECIAL COURT AND EXCLUSIVE SPECIAL COURT

19 Exclusive Special Courts have been set up for speedy disposal of cases under the PoA Act in the following districts, namely, Trichy, Thanjavur, Madurai, Tirunelveli, Villupuram, Sivagangai, Pudukottai, Virudhunagar (Srivilliputhur), Ramanathapuram, Dindigul, Cuddalore, Namakkal, Theni, Thiruvannamalai, Vellore, Thoothukudi, Perambalur, Coimbatore and Salem.

In 13 Districts, the existing Sessions Courts have been designated as Special Courts, to try the cases under the PoA Act.

5.21.9 SPECIFICATION OF SPECIAL PUBLIC PROSECUTORS AND EXCLUSIVE SPECIAL PUBLIC PROSECUTORS

32 Special Public Prosecutors were specified to conduct the cases in designated Special Courts and Exclusive Special Courts.

5.21.10 PUBLICITY AND AWARENESS GENERATION

Refresher training courses for investigating officers were conducted regularly by Police Training College and Tamil Nadu Police Academy and a separate capsule course was designed for the purpose of creating awareness among officers with regard to the provisions of PoA Act as amended.

During the year 2023, 3221 awareness programmes were conducted and sensitized of the Act and Rules.

A training Programme conducted for Revenue and Police Officials throughout the title 'Samathuvam Kaanbom' to sensitize the officials for effective implementation of PoA Act, 1989.

5.21.11 ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL REHABILITATION

In accordance with Rule 12 (4) of the PoA Rules, the admissible relief amount is provided to the victims of atrocities. During the year 2023, 4481 atrocity victims belonging to Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes were provided relief.

5.21.12 TRAVELLING AND MAINTENANCE EXPENSES

Travelling and maintenance allowance is provided to the victims, their dependents and witnesses in accordance with the PoA Rules. During the year 2023, 3353 persons were provided travelling and maintenance expenses.

5.21.13 LEGAL AID

All cases requesting for free legal aid are brought under the Free Legal Aid Scheme, implemented through the Tamil Nadu Legal Service Authority.

5.21.14 CONTINGENCY PLAN

Contingency Plan has been formulated and notified in Tamil Nadu Government Gazette 281, dated 01.9.2017.

**5.21.15 APPEALS FILED IN SUPERIOR COURTS IN CASES WHICH ENDED
IN ACQUITTAL**

During the year 2023, of 1093 cases which ended in acquittal, appeals against acquittals were filed in legal opinion is sought to prefer an appeal against the Cases ended in acquittal in superior courts.

5.22 TELANGANA

5.22.1 COMMITTEES

STATE LEVEL VIGILANCE AND MONITORING COMMITTEE

State Level Vigilance and Monitoring Committee have been constituted to review the implementation of the PoA Act. During the year 2023, no meeting was held.

DISTRICT LEVEL VIGILANCE AND MONITORING COMMITTEE

District Level Vigilance and Monitoring Committees are functioning in all Districts under the Chairpersonship of the District Collectors. During the year 2023, 54 meetings were held in 33 districts of the State.

SUB DIVISIONAL LEVEL VIGILANCE AND MONITORING COMMITTEE

Sub Divisional Level Vigilance and Monitoring Committees have been constituted in 12 Districts. During the year 2023, 08 meetings were held in 33 districts.

5.22.2 STATE LEVEL SC AND ST PROTECTION CELL

A SC and ST Protection Cell at the State Level is headed by an Inspector General of Police (CID) and functions under the control and supervision of Additional Director General of Police (CID). There are a total of 30 Police Units in the State i.e. 9 Commissionerate, 20 Police District and 1 Railway Police District. The cases of atrocities against member of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes are registered by these 30 Police Units. Further, there are 8 Regional offices of Crime Investigation Department located at Warangal, Khammam, Cyberabad, Greater Hyderabad, Sangareddy, Nizamabad, Mahabubnagar and Nalgonda Districts. The Deputy Superintendents of Police at Regional offices also take up enquiries referred by Director General of Police, CID, Office of PCR Cell at CID, Hyderabad.

5.22.3 RELIEF AND REHABILITATION OF VICTIMS OF ATROCITIES

In accordance with Section 21 (2) (iii) of the PoA Act and Rule 12 (4) and 12(4) (A) of the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes (Prevention of Atrocities) Amendment Rules, 2016, the relief and rehabilitation to the victims of offences of atrocities, no person was provided within seven days and 2483 persons were provided later than seven days for the year 2023.

5.22.4 INVESTIGATION AND FILING OF THE CHARGE SHEET WITHIN SIXTY DAYS

In accordance with Rule 7(2) of the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes (Prevention of Atrocities) Amendment Rules, 2016, in 663 cases, investigation and filing of the charge sheeted was done within sixty days and that in 701 cases investigation and filing of the charge sheeted was done later than sixty days for the year 2023.

5.22.5 APPOINTMENT OF OFFICER

A. NODAL OFFICER

The Commissioner, Scheduled Castes Development Department has been designated as the Nodal officer under Rule 9 of the PoA Rules, for coordinating the functioning of District Magistrates and Superintendents of Police.

B. SPECIAL OFFICER

The Joint Collectors of District/Additional Collectors have been appointed as Special Officers, in the districts which have atrocity prone areas.

5.22.6 IDENTIFICATION OF ATROCITY PRONE AREAS

The details of identified atrocity prone areas are as under: -

S.No.	Identified District	Number of villages in the district, identified as atrocity prone.
1.	Hyderabad Commissionerate	2
2.	Cyberabad Commissionerate	3
3.	Karimnagar Commissionerate	2
4.	Khammam Commissionerate	2
5.	Nizamabad Commissionerate	7
6.	Rachakonda Commissionerate	6
7.	Ramagundam Commissionerate	7
8.	Siddipet Commissionerate	1
9.	Warangal Commissionerate	2
10.	Adilabad	1
11.	Bhadradi Kothagudem	7
12.	Bhupalapally A.J. Shankar	2
13.	Jagityal	2
14.	Jogulamba Gadwal	1
15.	Kamareddy	1
16.	Komarbheem Asifabad	1

17.	Mahaboobabad	3
18.	Mahaboobnagar	3
19.	Medak	1
20.	Mulugu	1
21.	Nagarkurnool	1
22.	Nalgonda	4
23.	Narayanpet	2
24.	Nirmal	3
25.	Sangareddy	1
26.	Siricilla Rajanna	2
27.	Suryapet	2
28.	Vikarabad	2
29.	Wanaparthi	1
30.	GRP Sec-bad	0
	Total	73

5.22.7 SPECIAL COURT AND EXCLUSIVE SPECIAL COURT

The Government of Telangana has specified Session Courts in all Districts as Special Courts, besides 10 Exclusive Special Courts, namely in the districts of Secunderabad, Mahabubnagar, Medak at Sangareddy, Karminagar, Nizamabad, Khammam, Warangal, Nalgonda, Ranga Reddy and Adilabad.

5.22.8 SPECIAL PUBLIC PROSECUTORS

As per the Section 15 of the PoA Act, 10 Special Public Prosecutor in 10 Special Courts has been appointed to conduct trial of cases under the PoA Act and 09 Exclusive Special Public Prosecutor specified for conducting cases in Exclusive Special courts.

5.22.9 AWARENESS GENERATION

During the year 2023, 3342 awareness programmes were conducted and 7041 police officials and 145465 other officials were sensitized.

5.22.10 TRAVELLING AND MAINTENANCE EXPENSES TO WITNESSES AND VICTIMS OF ATROCITIES

Travelling and maintenance expenses are provided to the victims, their dependents and witnesses in accordance with the PoA Rules. During the year 2023, no person was provided Travelling and maintenance expenses.

5.22.11 RELIEF AND REHABILITATION

The State Government provides relief and rehabilitation to the victims of offences of atrocities in accordance with Rule 12 (4) of the PoA Rules. During the year 2023, 2483 victims of atrocities were provided relief.

5.22.12 LEGAL AID

The District Collector is the competent authority in the district to grant legal aid. During the year 2023, no people were provided legal aid.

5.22.13 APPEALS FILED IN SUPERIOR COURTS IN CASES WHICH ENDED IN ACQUITTAL

During the year 2023, of 1105 cases which ended in acquittal, appeals against acquittals were filed in none of the cases in superior courts.

5.23 TRIPURA

5.23.1 COMMITTEES

STATE LEVEL VIGILANCE AND MONITORING COMMITTEE

The State Level Vigilance and Monitoring Committee have been re-constituted on 02.12.2020, under the Chairpersonship of the Chief Minister. No such meeting of this committee was held during the year 2023.

DISTRICT LEVEL VIGILANCE AND MONITORING COMMITTEE

District Level Vigilance and Monitoring Committees have been constituted under the Chairpersonship of the District Magistrates.

SUB DIVISIONAL LEVEL VIGILANCE AND MONITORING COMMITTEE

Sub Divisional Level Vigilance and Monitoring Committees in all the Sub Divisions in the Districts have been constituted.

5.23.2 INVESTIGATION AND FILING OF THE CHARGE SHEET WITHIN SIXTY DAYS

In accordance with Rule 7(2) of the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes (Prevention of Atrocities) Amendment Rules, 2016, in 03 case, investigation and filing of the charge sheeted was done within sixty days and in none case investigation and filing of the charge sheeted was done later than sixty days.

5.23.3 STATE LEVEL SC AND ST PROTECTION CELL

The SC/ST Protection Cell has been constituted in the Department for Welfare of Scheduled Castes of the State.

5.23.4 IDENTIFICATION OF ATROCITY PRONE AREAS

There is no specific atrocity prone area in the State.

5.23.5 SPECIAL COURTS

The State Government with the concurrence of the Chief Justice of the Guwahati High Court has specified the District & Session Judge, West Tripura

Judicial District Agartala, Gomati Judicial District Udaipur, South Tripura Judicial District Belonia, Unakoti Judicial District Kaiashahar, North Tripura Judicial District Dharmanagar and Additional District Session Judges, Khowai, Sonamura, and Kamalpur under Unakoti District as a Special Court for the trial of offences under the PoA Act.

5.23.6 SPECIFICATION OF SPECIAL PUBLIC PROSECUTORS AND EXCLUSIVE SPECIAL PUBLIC PROSECUTORS

Eight Special Public Prosecutors were specified to conduct concerned cases in the designated Special Courts.

5.23.7 ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL REHABILITATION

In accordance with PoA Rules, 1995 as amended, relief was provided to victims of atrocities. During the year 2023, no atrocity victims were provided relief.

5.23.8 LEGAL AID

In the State of Tripura, legal aid to Scheduled Castes is provided under the Legal Services Authorities Act, 1987. During the year 2023, legal aid was provided to 0 people.

5.24. UTTAR PRADESH

5.24.1 COMMITTEES

STATE LEVEL VIGILANCE AND MONITORING COMMITTEE

The State Level Vigilance and Monitoring Committee have been constituted under the Chairpersonship of the Chief Minister, to review implementation of the PoA Act. No such meeting of this committee was held during the year 2023.

DISTRICT LEVEL VIGILANCE AND MONITORING COMMITTEE

The District Level Vigilance and Monitoring Committees have been constituted in every District under the Chairpersonship of the District Magistrate, to review implementation of the PoA Act. During the year 2023, 136 meetings were held in 75 districts.

5.24.2 STATE LEVEL SC AND ST PROTECTION CELL

A Special Investigation Cell has been functioning at the State level. This Cell comprises of the Director General of Police, an Inspector General of Police, a Deputy Inspector General of Police, a Superintendent of Police, an Additional Superintendent of Police and nine Dy. S.Ps. A Special Investigation Cell has also been set up in all Districts. Each such Cell has one Sub-Inspector, one head constable and two constables. The Deputy Superintendent of Police is the investigating officer.

5.24.3 INVESTIGATION AND FILING OF THE CHARGE SHEET WITHIN SIXTY DAYS

In accordance with Rule 7(2) of the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes (Prevention of Atrocities) Amendment Rules, 2016, in 11351 cases, investigation and filing of the charge sheeted was done within sixty days and in 829 case investigation and filing of the charge sheeted was done later than sixty days.

5.24.4 RELIEF AND REHABILITATION OF VICTIMS OF ATROCITIES

In accordance with Section 21 (iii) of the PoA Act and Rule 12 (4) and 12(4) (A) of the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes (Prevention of

Atrocities) Amendment Rules, 2016, the relief and rehabilitation to the victims of offences of atrocities were provided to 595 persons within seven days and 23146 persons were provided later than seven days.

5.24.5 APPOINTMENT OF OFFICER

A. NODAL OFFICER

Shri Rajneesh Chandra, Special Secretary, Social Welfare Department has been nominated as the Nodal Officer under Rule 9 of the PoA Rules, for coordinating the functioning of District Magistrates and Superintendents of Police and other officers authorized for implementation of provisions of the PoA Act.

B. SPECIAL OFFICER

No atrocity prone areas have been identified in the State of Uttar Pradesh, However, the District Magistrates have been appointed as Special Officers, in the all Districts.

5.24.6 IDENTIFICATION OF ATROCITY PRONE AREAS

No atrocity prone areas have been identified in the State of Uttar Pradesh.

5.24.7 SPECIAL COURT AND EXCLUSIVE SPECIAL COURT

74 Exclusive Special Courts in the Districts of Aligarh, Ambedkar Nagar, Auraiya, Azamgarh, Ballia, Chitrakoot, Firozabad, Hathras, Jaunpur, Kaushambi, Kushinagar(Padrauna), Kashiram Nagar(Kasganj), Lakhimpur Kheri, Lalitpur, Mathura, Mau, Moradabad, Muzaffarnagar, Pratapgarh, Prayagraj, Rae Bareilly, Sant Kabir Nagar, Shahjahanpur, Sitapur, Sonbhadra, Farrukhabad, Unnao, Basti, Banda, Etawah, Hamirpur, Gonda, Kanpur Nagar, Budaun, Sultanpur, Barabanki, Bulandshahr, Gorakhpur, Varansi, Pilibhit, Etah, Deoria, Jhansi, Ayodhya, Agra, Kanpur Rural, Bahraich, Lucknow, Jalaun (Urai), Meerut, Gaziabad, Siddharth Nagar, Mirzapur, Chandauli, Balrampur, Fatehpur, Ghazipur, Mainpuri, Kannauj, Gautam Buddha Nagar, Hardoi, Shravasti, Bagpat, Bareilly and Amroha, Bhadohi, Bijnor, Hapur, Maharajganj, Mahoba, Rampur, Saharanpur, Sambhal and Shamli have been set up to conduct trial of offences under the PoA Act.

Apart from this, in the remaining 1 District (Amethi), Additional District and Session Judge Courts have been designated as Special Courts, to try offences of atrocities under the PoA Act.

5.24.8 SPECIFICATION OF SPECIAL PUBLIC PROSECUTORS AND EXCLUSIVE SPECIAL PUBLIC PROSECUTORS

Seventy-Four Exclusive Special Public Prosecutors were specified to conduct the cases in 74 Exclusive Special Courts and nine Special Public Prosecutors were specified to conduct the cases in 9 designated courts as special public prosecutors.

5.24.9 PUBLICITY

Workshops were organized for bringing awareness about the PoA Act and the PoA Rules as amended from time to time. Police Officers/officials were also sensitized. Besides, training was also imparted to the police officials in refresher course at Police Training Colleges. The syllabus on the PoA Act as amended has also been included in the training courses for police officials of various training institutes. During the year 2023, 28908 police officers were sensitized.

5.24.10 TRAVELLING AND MAINTENANCE EXPENSES TO WITNESSES AND VICTIMS OF ATROCITIES

All the victims of atrocities of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes were provided Travelling and maintenance expenses to witnesses as per PoA Rules, 1995.

5.24.11 ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL REHABILITATION

Financial assistance was provided to the victims of offences of atrocities in accordance with the provisions of the PoA Rules. During the year 2023, 25499 persons were provided relief.

5.24.12 LEGAL AID

The concerned District authorities provide free legal aid to Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes in all Districts of the State.

5.25. UTTARAKHAND

5.25.1 COMMITTEES

STATE LEVEL VIGILANCE AND MONITORING COMMITTEE

The State Level Committee has been constituted under the Chairpersonship of the Chief Minister, to review implementation of the PoA Act. No such meeting of this committee was held during the year 2023.

DISTRICT LEVEL VIGILANCE AND MONITORING COMMITTEE

The District Level Committees have been constituted under the Chairpersonship of the concerned District Magistrate, to review implementation of the PoA Act. During the year 2023, 42 meetings were held in 13 districts.

SUB DIVISIONAL LEVEL VIGILANCE AND MONITORING COMMITTEE

Sub Divisional Level Vigilance and Monitoring Committees in all the Sub Divisions have been constituted. During the year 2023, 41 meetings were held in the Sub Divisions of 13 District.

5.25.2 STATE LEVEL SC AND ST PROTECTION CELL

Special Inquiry Cell has been set up in each district under the supervision of Superintendent of Police for prompt action. The cases of offences of atrocities against members of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes were regularly reviewed and whenever any case was reported, the same was immediately registered under the PoA Act. These cases were investigated by the Deputy Superintendent of Police.

5.25.3 APPOINTMENT OF OFFICER

NODAL OFFICER

The Director, Social Welfare, Uttarakhand has been appointed as the Nodal Officer for coordinating functioning of the District Magistrates, Superintendents of Police and other officers authorized for implementation of provisions of the PoA Act.

5.25.4 INVESTIGATION AND FILING OF THE CHARGE SHEET WITHIN SIXTY DAYS

In accordance with Rule 7(2) of the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes (Prevention of Atrocities) Amendment Rules, 2016, in 62 cases, investigation and filing of charge sheet was done within sixty days and in 14 cases investigation and filing of charge sheet was done later than sixty days for the year 2023.

5.25.5 SPECIAL COURTS

In each of the 13 districts, the District and Session Courts have been designated as Special Courts, for trial of cases of offences under the PoA Act.

5.25.6 SPECIFICATION OF SPECIAL PUBLIC PROSECUTORS AND EXCLUSIVE SPECIAL PUBLIC PROSECUTORS

13 Special Public Prosecutors was specified to conduct the cases in designated Special Courts in the State.

5.25.7 RELIEF AND REHABILITATION OF VICTIMS OF ATROCITIES

In accordance with Section 21 (iii) of the PoA Act and Rule 12 (4) and 12(4) (A) of the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes (Prevention of Atrocities) Amendment Rules, 2016, the relief and rehabilitation to the victims of offences of atrocities was provided within seven days to no person and 64 persons provided later than seven days for the year 2023.

5.25.8 IDENTIFICATION OF ATROCITY PRONE AREAS

No atrocity prone areas have been identified in the State.

5.25.9 PUBLICITY AND AWARENESS GENERATION

During the year 2023, 300 awareness programmes were conducted and 6143 police officials and 9857 other officials were sensitized.

5.25.10 ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL REHABILITATION

Financial assistance is provided to the victims of offences of atrocities in accordance with the provisions of the PoA Rules. During the year 2023, 154 persons were provided relief.

5.25.11 TRAVELLING AND MAINTENANCE EXPENSES

Travelling and maintenance allowance is provided to the victims, their dependents and witnesses in accordance with the PoA Rules. During the year 2023, no person was provided the travelling and maintenance expenses.

5.25.12 LEGAL AID

The concerned District authorities provide free legal aid to members of SC/ST, in all Districts of the State. During the year 2023, 35 persons were provided Legal Aid.

5.25.13 APPEALS FILED IN SUPERIOR COURTS IN CASES WHICH ENDED IN ACQUITTAL

During the year 2023, of 27 cases which ended in acquittal and 03 appeals against acquittals was filed.

5.26 WEST BENGAL

5.26.1 COMMITTEES

STATE LEVEL VIGILANCE AND MONITORING COMMITTEE

The State Level Vigilance and Monitoring Committee is functioning. No such meeting of this committee was held during the year 2023.

DISTRICT LEVEL VIGILANCE AND MONITORING COMMITTEE

The District Level Vigilance and Monitoring Committees are functioning. During the year 2023, 38 District Level committee meetings have been organized.

SUB-DIVISIONAL LEVEL VIGILANCE AND MONITORING COMMITTEE

The Sub-Divisional Level Vigilance and Monitoring Committees are also functioning. During the year 2023, 19 Sub-Divisional committee meetings have been organized.

5.26.2 STATE LEVEL SC AND ST PROTECTION CELL

The State Government has set up a Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes Protection Cell at the State level under the supervision of the Director General of Police/Inspector General of Police.

5.26.3 SPECIFICATION OF APPROPRIATE SCHEME TO ENSURE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE RIGHTS AND ENTITLEMENTS OF VICTIMS AND WITNESSES IN ACCESSING JUSTICE

The Backward Classes Welfare Department, Government of West Bengal had circulated a copy of the amended PoA Act to all Districts for compliance and the same was also incorporated in the awareness generation /sensitization programme undertaken by the Department. In order to ensure the rights of victims and witnesses, as well as to meet the requirement for implementation of provision specified in Sub-Section 10 of Section 15A

5.26.4 INVESTIGATION AND FILING OF THE CHARGE SHEET WITHIN SIXTY DAYS

Charge sheet was framed within sixty days in each of the case registered under the PoA Act.

5.26.5 RELIEF AND REHABILITATION OF VICTIMS OF ATROCITIES

In accordance with Section 21 (iii) of the PoA Act and Rule 12 (4) and 12(4) (A) of the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes (Prevention of Atrocities) Amendment Rules, 2016, the relief and rehabilitation to the victims of offences of atrocities was provided within seven days to 319 persons for the year 2023.

5.26.6 APPOINTMENT OF OFFICER

A. NODAL OFFICER

In accordance with Rule 9 of the PoA, Rules 1995, the Secretary, Backward Classes Welfare Department has been nominated as a Nodal Officer for coordinating the functions of the District Magistrate and the Superintendent of Police.

B. SPECIAL OFFICER

No district in the State has been identified as an atrocity prone area. However, in accordance with the provision of Rule 10 of the PoA, Rules 1995, the Additional District Magistrates of all districts have been appointed as Special Officers.

5.26.7 IDENTIFICATION OF ATROCITY PRONE AREAS

No area in any district of the State has been identified as atrocity prone area.

5.26.8 SPECIAL COURTS

The Courts of first Additional Session Courts have been designated as Special Courts in each district, for trial of offences under the PoA Act. Exclusive Special Courts have not been set up in the State as no need was felt to do so.

5.26.9 SPECIFICATION OF SPECIAL PUBLIC PROSECUTORS

First Additional Session Court has been designated as a Special Court in all the Districts for trial of cases of offences of atrocities under the PoA Act.

In all districts, Special Public Prosecutors have been appointed to conduct the cases of atrocities on SCs and STs in the Special Court.

5.26.10 PUBLICITY

During the year 2023, 27 of sensitization camps have been organized covering the maximum Districts, 489 police officers and 4696 other officers were sensitized.

5.26.11 ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL REHABILITATION

During the year 2023, 354 victims of atrocities have been provided compensation/relief as per the recommendation of the respective District Magistrate.

5.26.12 LEGAL AID

Legal Aid is provided to the people living below poverty line, and to members of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes.

5.27 CHANDIGARH ADMINISTRATION

5.27.1 COMMITTEES

STATE LEVEL VIGILANCE AND MONITORING COMMITTEE

A Vigilance & Monitoring Committee is functioning to review implementation of the PoA Act under the Chairmanship of the Secretary, Social Welfare, Chandigarh Administration. During the year 2023, 01 meeting was held of the said Committee.

5.27.2 SC AND ST PROTECTION CELL

The Union Territory Administration has set up a Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes Protection Cell under the supervision of the Director General of Police, Chandigarh.

5.27.3 APPOINTMENT OF OFFICER

A. NODAL OFFICER AT STATE LEVEL

In accordance with Rule 9 of the PoA, Rule, the Secretary, Social Welfare Department has been appointed as a Nodal Officer for coordinating the functions of the District Magistrate and the Superintendent of Police.

B. SPECIAL OFFICER

There is no atrocity prone area in the UT, even though, in accordance with Rule 10 of the PoA Rule, the Director, Social Welfare Department has been nominated as a Special Officer for coordinating with the District Magistrate, superintendent of Police and other Officers.

5.27.4 IDENTIFICATION OF ATROCITY PRONE AREAS

There is no atrocity prone area in the Union Territory of Chandigarh.

5.27.5 SPECIAL COURTS

The Court of First Additional Session Judge, Chandigarh has been specified as a Special Court to try the offences under the PoA, Act.

5.27.6 SPECIFICATION OF SPECIAL PUBLIC PROSECUTORS AND EXCLUSIVE SPECIAL PUBLIC PROSECUTORS

The Deputy District Attorney/Additional public prosecutors, Chandigarh have been specified as Special Public Prosecutor for the purpose of conducting cases in the Special Court.

5.27.7 PUBLICITY AND AWARENESS GENERATION

During the year 2023, 01 publicity / Awareness programmes conducted by the Social Welfare Department, Chandigarh and 05 training programmes were conducted by Police Department, Chandigarh at the recruitment training Center to make awareness among the Police Officers/Personnel. This workshop was attended by 324 investigating officials.

5.27.8 ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL REHABILITATION

During the year 2023, 03 victims of atrocities were provided relief.

5.27.9 LEGAL AID

Rules for providing legal aid to Scheduled Castes have been formulated and notified in Chandigarh. Free Legal Aid is being provided by the State Legal Service Authority, Union Territory Administration, Chandigarh.

5.28 DADRA AND NAGAR HAVELI AND DAMAN AND DIU

5.28.1 COMMITTEES

STATE LEVEL VIGILANCE AND MONITORING COMMITTEE

A Vigilance and Monitoring Committee at the Union Territory Level is functioning to review implementation of the PoA Act. No such meeting of this committee was held during the year 2023.

DISTRICT LEVEL VIGILANCE AND MONITORING COMMITTEE

The District Level Vigilance and Monitoring Committees under the Chairpersonship of District Collectors review implementation of the Act.

5.28.2 INVESTIGATION AND FILING OF THE CHARGE SHEET WITHIN SIXTY DAYS

In no case, investigation and filing of charge sheet was done within sixty days and in 01 cases investigation and filing of charge sheet was done later than sixty days for the year 2023.

5.28.3 IDENTIFICATION OF ATROCITY PRONE AREAS

There is no atrocity prone area in the Union Territory.

5.28.4 SPECIAL COURTS

The Session Court, Dadra & Nagar Haveli has been designated as a Special Court, for trial of cases under the PoA Act.

5.28.5 SPECIAL PUBLIC PROSECUTOR

The one Public Prosecutor has been designated as Special Public Prosecutor, to deal with cases under the PoA Act.

5.28.6 PUBLICITY

Regular refresher courses for Police Personnel are conducted at Police Training School, Saily with classes on sensitization regarding the PoA Act. During the year 2023, 10 police officials were sensitized.

5.29 NATIONAL CAPITAL TERRITORY OF DELHI

5.29.1 COMMITTEE

STATE LEVEL VIGILANCE AND MONITORING COMMITTEE

A State Level Vigilance and Monitoring Committee under the Chairpersonship of the Chief Minister is functioning. No such meeting of this committee was held during the year 2023.

DISTRICT LEVEL VIGILANCE AND MONITORING COMMITTEE

The District Level Vigilance and Monitoring Committees have been re-constituted in all the districts. During the year 2023, 14 meetings were held in 11 districts.

SUB DIVISIONAL LEVEL VIGILANCE AND MONITORING COMMITTEES

Sub Divisional Level Vigilance and Monitoring Committees have been constituted. During the year 2023, 09 meetings were held in the Sub Divisions of 11 District.

5.29.2 STATE LEVEL SC AND ST PROTECTION CELL

The SC and ST Protection Cell has been set up in the Police Headquarters under the supervision of Deputy Commissioner of Police (Crime Branch) of Delhi Police.

5.29.3 INVESTIGATION AND FILING OF THE CHARGE SHEET WITHIN SIXTY DAYS

In 44 cases, investigation and filing of charge sheet was done within sixty days and in 87 cases investigation and filing of charge sheet was done later than sixty days for the year 2023.

5.29.4 RELIEF AND REHABILITATION OF VICTIMS OF ATROCITIES

As per the Section 21(2) (iii) of the PoA Act and Rule 12 (4) of the PoA Rules, as amended, 48 cases in which relief amount was paid to concerned person later than seven days for the year 2023.

5.29.5 APPOINTMENT OF OFFICER

A. NODAL OFFICER AT THE STATE LEVEL

The Secretary, Department of Welfare of SC/ST/OBC and Minorities has been nominated as a Nodal Officer under Rule 9 of the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes (Prevention of Atrocities) Rules, 1955.

B. SPECIAL OFFICER FOR DISTRICTS HAVING ATROCITY PRONE AREAS

Although there is no atrocity prone area identified in the UT, even then eleven Additional Districts Magistrates have been appointed as Special Officers.

5.29.6 IDENTIFICATION OF ATROCITY PRONE AREAS

There is no atrocity prone area in the Union Territory.

5.29.7 SPECIAL COURT

Eleven Special Courts have been specified as Special Courts for trial of the offences under the PoA, Act.

5.29.8 PUBLICITY AND AWARENESS GENERATION

During the year 2023, 03 workshops on implementation of SCs/STs (POA) Act-1989 was conducted where 34 police officials were sensitized. 04 sessions were given to trainees by Public Prosecutors on working of the SC/ST (POA) Act, 1989 where 10 DANIPS and 183 ASIs were sensitized.

5.29.9 ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL REHABILITATION

During the year 2023, 34 victims of atrocities were provided relief.

5.29.10 LEGAL AID

During the year 2023, 13 people were provided legal aid.

5.29.11 APPEALS FILED IN SUPERIOR COURTS IN CASES WHICH ENDED IN ACQUITTAL

During the year 2023, of 24 cases which ended in acquittal, no appeal against acquittal was filed.

5.30 JAMMU AND KASHMIR

5.30.1 COMMITTEES

STATE LEVEL HIGH POWER VIGILANCE AND MONITORING COMMITTEE

A High-Power Vigilance and Monitoring Committee has been constituted under the Chairpersonship of Hon'ble Lt. Governor who is functioning to review implementation of the PoA Act. No such meeting of this committee was held during the year 2023.

DISTRICT LEVEL VIGILANCE AND MONITORING COMMITTEE

The District Level Vigilance and Monitoring Committees have been constituted under the Chairpersonship of District Development Commissioners and District Social Welfare Officer as Member Secretary to review implementation of the Act. During the year 2023, 50 meetings of the Committees were held.

SUB DIVISIONAL LEVEL VIGILANCE AND MONITORING COMMITTEES

Sub Divisional Level Vigilance and Monitoring Committees have been constituted in all Sub divisions are functioning to review implementation of the PoA Act.

5.30.2 SC & ST PROTECTION CELL

The setting up of the UT level SC/ST Protection Cell under the chairmanship of Director General of Police/Inspector General of Police at Police Head Quarter has already been taken up with Home Department J&K as per provisions of Rule 8 of POA Rules as amended and same is under consideration.

5.30.3 INVESTIGATION AND FILING OF THE CHARGE SHEET WITHIN SIXTY DAYS

In accordance with Rule 7(2) of the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes (Prevention of Atrocities) Amendment Rules, 2016, in 07 case investigation and filing of charge sheet was done within sixty days and in 05 cases investigation and filing of charge sheet was done in later than sixty days.

5.30.4 RELIEF AND REHABILITATION OF VICTIMS OF ATROCITIES

As per the Section 21 (2) (iii) of the PoA Act and Rule 12 (4) of the PoA Rules, as amended, for the year 2023, 14 cases of atrocity victims were provided economic and social rehabilitation within seven days.

5.30.5 APPOINTMENT OF OFFICER

NODAL OFFICER AT THE STATE LEVEL

The Secretary, Advisory Board for Welfare and Development of Scheduled Castes has been nominated as Nodal Officer to co-ordinate functioning of the District Magistrate and Superintendents of Police and officers responsible for implementation provisions of the Act. Besides, the Secretary, Jammu & Kashmir Advisory Board for Welfare and Development of Scheduled Castes has been nominated as Departmental Nodal Officer.

5.30.6 IDENTIFICATION OF ATROCITY PRONE AREAS

There is no atrocity prone area in the Union Territory.

5.30.7 SPECIAL COURT & SPECIAL PUBLIC PROSECUTORS

The Courts of Principal District and Session Court have been designated as Special Courts in each district of Union Territory of Jammu and Kashmir, for trial of offences under the PoA Act. There are 20 Special Public Prosecutors specified for conducting cases in the special courts.

5.30.8 PUBLICITY AND AWARENESS GENERATION

98 Awareness camps and 09 training programmes were conducted during the year 2023. In such programmes, 120 police officials, 353 officers were sensitized and 4873 persons were covered.

5.30.9 TRAVELLING AND MAINTENANCE EXPENSES

Travelling and maintenance allowance is provided to the victims, their dependents and witnesses in accordance with the PoA Rules. For the year 2023, travelling & maintenance expenses were paid to none.

5.30.10 LEGAL AID

In the State of Jammu & Kashmir, free legal aid to the persons to atrocities for all weaker Section of the Society including Scheduled Casted and Scheduled Tribe is provided under the Legal Services Authorities.

During the year 2023, legal aid service has been provided to 445 persons belonging to Scheduled Castes, 419 persons belonging to Scheduled Tribes and 15 persons belonging to other castes.

5.30.11 APPEALS FILED IN SUPERIOR COURTS IN CASES WHICH ENDED IN ACQUITTAL

During the year 2023, 01 case was discharged and revision was filed before the High court of J&K and Ladakh at Jammu.

5.31 LADAKH

5.31.1 COMMITTEES

U.T. LEVEL VIGILANCE AND MONITORING COMMITTEE

U.T level Vigilance and Monitoring Committee has been constituted under the Chairmanship of Hon'ble Lt. Governor is functioning to review implementation of the PoA Act. No such meeting of this committee was held during the year 2023.

DISTRICT LEVEL VIGILANCE AND MONITORING COMMITTEE

The District Level Vigilance and Monitoring Committees have been constituted under the Chairpersonship of Deputy Commissioners to review implementation of the Act.

SUB DIVISIONAL LEVEL VIGILANCE AND MONITORING COMMITTEES

Sub Divisional Level Vigilance and Monitoring Committees have been constituted in all Sub divisions and they have been advised to periodically meet and submit report to the UT level Committee.

5.31.2 SC & ST PROTECTION CELL

The Union Territory Administration has been accorded for the constitution of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes Protection Cell in the U.T. of Ladakh.

5.31.3 IDENTIFICATION OF ATROCITY PRONE AREAS

There is no atrocity prone area identified in the Union Territory.

5.31.4 APPOINTMENT OF OFFICER

NODAL OFFICER

The Secretary, Social & Tribal Welfare Department has been nominated as the Nodal Officer for co-coordinating the functioning of the District Magistrate and Superintendent of Police.

5.31.5 SPECIAL COURT

The Hon'ble Chief Justice, High Court of Jammu & Kashmir and Ladakh has directed all Principal District and Session Judges of UT of Ladakh to Act as Special Court in terms of provision to sub-section (1) of (14) of the PoA Act and Law Department of UT of Ladakh has been asked to issue orders in this regard.

5.32 LAKSHAWDEEP

The entire indigenous population of the Union Territory has been classified as Scheduled Tribes and in terms of religious classification; the entire indigenous population is Muslim. There have been no offences of atrocities in the Union Territory. Thus, the information for the year 2023 for the purpose of annual report may be treated as 'Nil'.

5.33 PUDUCHERRY

5.33.1 COMMITTEES

STATE LEVEL VIGILANCE AND MONITORING COMMITTEE

The State Level Vigilance and Monitoring Committee in the Union Territory of Puducherry have been constituted under the Chairpersonship of the Chief Minister to review implementation of the PoA Act. 01 such meeting of this committee was held during the year 2023.

DISTRICT LEVEL VIGILANCE AND MONITORING COMMITTEE

Action is being taken to constitute the District Level Vigilance and Monitoring Committees.

5.33.2 STATE LEVEL SC AND ST PROTECTION CELL

The PCR Cell is functioning under the direct supervision of the Superintendent of Police in three enclaves of the Union Territory of Puducherry, namely Karaikal, Puducherry and Yanam. Senior Superintendent of Police (Law and Order) and Director General of Police, Puducherry are closely monitoring functioning of the PCR Cell.

5.33.3 INVESTIGATION AND FILING OF THE CHARGE SHEET WITHIN SIXTY DAYS

In accordance with Rule 7(2) of the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes (Prevention of Atrocities) Amendment Rules, 2016, in 01 case, investigation and filing of charge sheet was done within sixty days and in 01 cases investigation and filing of charge sheet was done in later than sixty days for the year 2023.

5.33.4 RELIEF AND REHABILITATION OF VICTIMS OF ATROCITIES

In accordance with Rule 12 (4) and 12(4) (A) of the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes (Prevention of Atrocities) Amendment Rules, 2016, the relief and rehabilitation to the victims of offences of atrocities no person was provided relief within 7 days and 31 persons were provided relief later than 7 days for the year 2023.

5.33.5 APPOINTMENT OF OFFICERS

A. NODAL OFFICER

Shri Thiru R. Kesavan, Secretary, Adi-Dravidar and Tribal Welfare Department have been nominated as a Nodal Officer.

B. SPECIAL OFFICER

There is no identified area in the Union Territory of Puducherry. However, the following officers have been appointed as Special Officers:

S.No.	Appointment of Special Officer	Area
1.	The Director of Adi-Dravidar Welfare Department, Puducherry.	Puducherry
2.	The Sub-Collector, Karaikal	Karaikal
3.	The Regional Administrator, Mahe.	Mahe
4.	The Regional Administrator, Yanam.	Yanam

5.33.6 IDENTIFICATION OF ATROCITY PRONE AREAS

There is no atrocity prone area in all the regions of the Union Territory of Puducherry.

5.33.7 SPECIAL COURTS

The Second Additional Session Court, Puducherry has been designated as a Special Court for the whole of Puducherry, to try offences under the PoA Act.

5.33.8 SPECIFICATION OF SPECIAL PUBLIC PROSECUTOR

One Public Prosecutor has been appointed as Special Public Prosecutor for trial of cases under the PoA Act.

5.33.9 DIRECTORATE OF PROSECUTION

The Directorate of Prosecution functioning under the control of Law Department is guiding the Prosecution of cases registered by the PCR Cell and various Police Stations.

5.33.10 LEGAL AID

Necessary legal assistance is being provided by the Special Public Prosecutors in Puducherry region and by the Assistant Public Prosecutors in Karaikal and Yanam regions.

5.33.11 TRAVELLING AND MAINTENCE EXPENSES

Travelling and daily allowance to witnesses is given by the Judicial Department, Puducherry.

5.33.12 RELIEF AND REHABILITATION OF VICTIMS OF ATROCITIES

During the year 2023, 31 atrocities victims were provided relief.

5.33.13 PUBLICITY AND TRAING PROGRAMMES

During the year 2023, for the sensitization of police personnel, contents of the PoA Act and the Rules there under are taught during their basic training and in-service courses conducted at the police Training School, Puducherry and no other training was conducted.

5.34 OTHER STATE GOVERNMENTS

- (i) The States of Nagaland and UT of Andaman & Nicobar Islands have reported 'NIL' information.
- (ii) Despite several reminders, the material towards the annual report for the year 2023 from the State of Manipur is still awaited.

Offences of atrocities specified under Chapter-II of the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes (Prevention of Atrocities) Act, 1989, as amended by the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes (Prevention of Atrocities) Amendment Act, 2015.

<u>OFFENCES OF ATROCITIES</u>	
<i>Punishment for offences of atrocities</i>	3. '(1) Whoever, not being a member of a Scheduled Caste or a Scheduled Tribe.
	(a) puts any inedible or obnoxious substance into the mouth of a member of a Scheduled Caste or a Scheduled Tribe or forces such member to drink or eat such inedible or obnoxious substance;
	(b) dumps excreta, sewage, carcasses or any other obnoxious substance in premises, or at the entrance of the premises, occupied by a member of a Scheduled Caste or Scheduled Tribe;
	(c) with intent to cause insult or annoyance to any member of a Scheduled Caste or a Scheduled Tribe, dumps excreta, waste matter, carcasses or any other obnoxious substance in his neighbourhood;
	(d) garlands with footwear or parades naked or semi-naked a member of a Scheduled Caste or a Scheduled Tribe;
	(e) forcibly commits on a member of a Scheduled Caste or a Scheduled Tribe any act, such as removing clothes from the person, forcible tonsuring of head, removing moustaches, painting face or body or any other similar act, which is derogatory to human dignity;
	(f) wrongfully occupies or cultivates any land, owned or in the possession of or allotted to, or notified by any competent authority to be allotted to, a member of a Scheduled Caste or a Scheduled Tribe, or gets such land transferred;
	(g) wrongfully dispossesses a member of a Scheduled Caste or a Scheduled Tribe from his land or premises or interferes with the enjoyment of his rights, including forest rights, over any land or premises or water or irrigation facilities or destroys the crops or takes away the produce therefrom. Explanation. —For the purposes of clause (f) and this clause, the expression "wrongfully" includes -- (A) against the person's will; (B) without the person's consent; (C) with the person's consent, where such consent has been obtained by putting the person, or any other person in whom the person is interested in fear of death or of hurt; or (D) fabricating records of such land;
	(h) makes a member of a Scheduled Caste or a Scheduled Tribe to do begar or other forms of forced or bonded labour other than any compulsory service for public purposes imposed by the Government;
	(i) compels a member of a Scheduled Caste or a Scheduled Tribe to dispose or carry human or animal carcasses, or to dig graves;
	(j) makes a member of a Scheduled Caste or a Scheduled Tribe to do manual scavenging or employs or permits the employment of such member for such purpose;
	(k) performs, or promotes dedicating a Scheduled Caste or a Scheduled Tribe woman to a deity, idol, object of worship, temple, or

	other religious institution as a devadasi or any other similar practice or permits aforementioned acts;
	(l) forces or intimidates or prevents a member of a Scheduled Caste or a Scheduled Tribe— (A) not to vote or to vote for a particular candidate or to vote in a manner other than that provided by law; (B) not to file a nomination as a candidate or to withdraw such nomination; or (C) not to propose or second the nomination of a member of a Scheduled Caste or a Scheduled Tribe as a candidate in any election;
	(m) forces or intimidates or obstructs a member of a Scheduled Caste or a Scheduled Tribe, who is a member or a Chairperson or a holder of any other office of a panchayat under Part IX of the Constitution or a municipality under Part IX A of the Constitution, from performing their normal duties and functions;
	(n) after the poll, causes hurt or grievous hurt or assault or imposes or threatens to impose social or economic boycott upon a member of a Scheduled Caste or a Scheduled Tribe or prevents from availing benefits of any public service which is due to him;
	(o) commits any offence under this Act against a member of a Scheduled Caste or a Scheduled Tribe for having voted or not having voted for a particular candidate or for having voted in a manner provided by law;
	(p) institutes false, malicious or vexatious suit or criminal or other legal proceedings against a member of a Scheduled Caste or a Scheduled Tribe;
	(q) gives any false or frivolous information to any public servant and thereby causes such public servant to use his lawful power to the injury or annoyance of a member of a Scheduled Caste or a Scheduled Tribe;
	r) intentionally insults or intimidates with intent to humiliate a member of a Scheduled Caste or a Scheduled Tribe in any place within public view;
	(s) abuses any member of a Scheduled Caste or a Scheduled Tribe by caste name in any place within public view;
	(t) destroys, damages or defiles any object generally known to be held sacred or in high esteem by members of a Scheduled Caste or a Scheduled Tribe. Explanation. —For the purposes of this clause, the expression "object" means and includes statue, photograph and portrait;
	(u) by words either written or spoken or by signs or by visible representation or otherwise promotes or attempts to promote feelings of enmity, hatred or ill-will against members of a Scheduled Caste or a Scheduled Tribe;
	(v) by words either written or spoken or by any other means disrespects any late person held in high esteem by members of a Scheduled Caste or a Scheduled Tribe;
	(w) (i) intentionally touches a woman belonging to a Scheduled Caste or a Scheduled Tribe, knowing that she belongs to a Scheduled Caste or a Scheduled Tribe, when such act of touching is of a sexual nature and is without the recipient's consent; (ii) uses words, acts or gestures of a sexual nature towards a woman belonging to a Scheduled Caste or a Scheduled Tribe, knowing that she belongs to a Scheduled Caste or a Scheduled Tribe.

	<p>Explanation. —For the purposes of sub-clause(i), the expression "consent" means an unequivocal voluntary agreement when the person by words, gestures, or any form of non-verbal communication, communicates willingness to participate in the specific act:</p> <p>Provided that a woman belonging to a Scheduled Caste or a Scheduled Tribe who does not offer physical resistance to any act of a sexual nature is not by reason only of that fact, to be regarded as consenting to the sexual activity:</p> <p>Provided further that a woman's sexual history, including with the offender shall not imply consent or mitigate the offence;</p>
	(x) corrupts or fouls the water of any spring, reservoir or any other source ordinarily used by members of the Scheduled Castes or the Scheduled Tribes so as to render it less fit for the purpose for which it is ordinarily used;
	(y) denies a member of a Scheduled Caste or a Scheduled Tribe any customary right of passage to a place of public resort or obstructs such member so as to prevent him from using or having access to a place of public resort to which other members of public or any other section have a right to use or access to;
	<p>z) forces or causes a member of a Scheduled Caste or a Scheduled Tribe to leave his house, village or other place of residence:</p> <p>Provided that nothing contained in this clause shall apply to any action taken in discharge of a public duty.</p>
	<p>za) obstructs or prevents a member of a Scheduled Caste or a Scheduled Tribe in any manner with regard to –</p> <p>(A) using common property resources of an area, or burial or cremation ground equally with others or using any river, stream, spring, well, tank, cistern, water-tap or other watering place, or any bathing ghat, any public conveyance, any road, or passage;</p> <p>(B) mounting or riding bicycles or motor cycles or wearing footwear or new clothes in public places or taking out wedding procession, or mounting a horse or any other vehicle during wedding processions;</p> <p>(C) entering any place of worship which is open to the public or other persons professing the same religion or taking part in, or taking out, any religious, social or cultural procession including jatras;</p> <p>(D) entering any educational institution, hospital, dispensary, primary health centre, shop, public restaurant, hotel or place of public entertainment; or any other public place; or using any utensils or articles meant for public use in an any place open to the public; or</p> <p>(E) practicing any profession or the carrying on of any occupation, trade or business or employment in any job which other members of the public, or any section thereof, have a right to use or have access to;</p>
	(zb) causes physical harm or mental agony of a member of a Scheduled Caste or a Scheduled Tribe on the allegation of practicing witchcraft or being a witch; or

	<p>(zc) imposes or threatens a social or economic boycott of any person or a family or a group belonging to a Scheduled Caste or a Scheduled Tribe,</p> <p>shall be punishable with imprisonment for a term which shall not be less than six months but which may extend to five years and with fine.</p>
<i>Punishment for offences of atrocities</i>	<p>3 (2) Whoever, not being a member of a Scheduled Caste or a Scheduled Tribe-</p>
	<p>i) gives or fabricates false evidence intending thereby to cause, or knowing it to be likely that he will thereby cause, any member of a Scheduled Caste or a Scheduled Tribe to be convicted of an offence which is capital by the law for the time being in force shall be punished with imprisonment for life and with fine; and if an innocent member of a Scheduled Caste or a Scheduled Tribe be convicted and executed in consequence of such false or fabricated evidence, the person who gives or fabricates such false evidence, shall be punished with death;</p>
	<p>(ii) gives or fabricates false evidence intending thereby to cause, or knowing it to be likely that he will thereby cause, any member of a Scheduled Caste or a Scheduled Tribe to be convicted of an offence which is not capital but punishable with imprisonment for a term of seven years or upwards, shall be punishable with imprisonment for a term which shall not be less than six months but which may extend to seven years or upwards and with fine;</p>
	<p>(iii) commits mischief by fire or any explosive substance intending to cause or knowing it to be likely that he will thereby cause damage to any property belonging to a member of a Scheduled Caste or a Scheduled Tribe, shall be punishable with imprisonment for a term which shall not be less than six months but which may extend to seven years and with fine;</p>
	<p>iv) commits mischief by fire or any explosive substance intending to cause or knowing it to be likely that he will thereby cause destruction of any building which is ordinarily used as a place of worship or as a place for human dwelling or as a place for custody of the property by a member of a Scheduled Caste or a Scheduled Tribe, shall be punishable with imprisonment for life and with fine;</p>
	<p>(v) commits any offence under the Indian Penal Code (45 of 1860) punishable with imprisonment for a term of ten years or more against a person or property on the ground knowing that such person is a member of a Scheduled Caste or a Scheduled Tribe or such property belongs to such member, shall be punishable with imprisonment for life and with fine;</p> <p>"(va) commits any offence specified in the Schedule, against a person or property, knowing that such person is a member of a Scheduled Caste or a Scheduled Tribe or such property belongs to such member, shall be punishable with such punishment as specified under the Indian Penal Code for such offences and shall also be liable to fine";</p>
	<p>(vi) knowingly or having reason to believe that an offence has been committed under this Chapter, causes any evidence of the commission of that offence to disappear with the intention of screening the offender from legal punishment, or with that intention gives any information respecting the offence which he knows or</p>

	believes to be false, shall be punishable with the punishment provided for that offence; or
	vii) being a public servant, commits any offence under this section, shall be punishable with imprisonment for a term which shall not be less than one year but which may extend to the punishment provided for that offence.
<i>Punishment for offences of atrocities</i>	<p>"4. (1) Whoever, being a public servant but not being a member of a Scheduled Caste or a Scheduled Tribe, wilfully neglects his duties required to be performed by him under the Act and the rules made thereunder, shall be punishable with imprisonment for a term which shall not be less than six months but which may extend to one year.</p> <p>(2) The duties of public servant referred to in sub-section (1) shall include—</p> <p>(a) to read out to an informant the information given orally, and reduced to writing by the officer in charge of the police station, before taking the signature of the informant;</p> <p>(b) to register a complaint or a First Information Report under this Act and other relevant provisions and to register it under appropriate sections of the Act;</p> <p>(c) to furnish a copy of the information so recorded forthwith to the informant;</p> <p>(d) to record the statement of the victims or witnesses;</p> <p>(e) to conduct the investigation and file charge sheet in the Special Court or the Exclusive Special Court within a period of sixty days, and to explain the delay if any, in writing;</p> <p>(f) to correctly prepare, frame and translate any document or electronic record;</p> <p>(g) to perform any other duty specified in the Act or the rules made thereunder:</p> <p>Provided that the charges in this regard against the public servant shall be booked on the recommendation of an administrative enquiry.</p> <p>(3) The cognizance in respect of any dereliction of duty referred to in sub-section (2) by a public servant shall be taken by the Special Court or the Exclusive Special Court and shall give direction for penal proceedings against such public servant."</p>

STATEWISE CASES OF OFFENCES OF ATROCITIES AGAINST MEMBERS OF SCHEDULED CASTES REGISTERED BY POLICE AND THEIR DISPOSAL UNDER THE SCHEDULED CASTES AND THE SCHEDULED TRIBES (PREVENTION OF ATROCITIES) ACT, 1989 DURING THE YEAR 2023

S. No.	State / UT	Number of cases pending from previous year	Number of cases registered during 2023	Cases Re-opened for investigation	Number of cases with police during 2023 including B.F.	Number of cases withdrawn by Government during investigation	Cases investigated u/s 157(1) (b) of Cr. PC	Cases transferred to State/ Agency	Final Report (viz. Mistake of Fact/Law, True but insufficient evidence etc. during the year	Number of cases charge sheeted in courts	Cases quashed at investigation on stage	Number of cases pending with police at the end of 2023
1.	Andhra Pradesh	1622	1966	1	3589	0	0	0	362	1439	1	1787
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
3.	Assam	28	1	0	29	0	0	0	17	2	0	10
4.	Bihar	6742	7063	43	13848	0	0	0	1499	8341	0	4008
5.	Chhattisgarh	70	250	0	320	0	0	0	0	252	0	68
6.	Goa	1	3	0	4	0	0	0	0	3	0	1
7.	Gujarat	341	1356	0	1687	0	0	0	28	1270	59	340
8.	Haryana	349	1401	0	1750	0	0	0	629	777	2	342
9.	Himachal Pradesh	5	23	0	28	0	0	0	6	17	0	5
10.	Jharkhand	606	348	0	954	0	0	0	185	180	0	589
11.	Karnataka	602	1884	0	2486	0	0	30	336	1687	6	427
12.	Kerala	289	1093	5	1387	0	0	0	195	932	4	256
13.	Madhya Pradesh	596	8227	0	8823	0	0	0	25	8025	4	769
14.	Maharashtra	1120	2684	0	3804	0	0	1	167	2500	2	1134
15.	Manipur	1	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
16.	Meghalaya	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
17.	Mizoram	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
18.	Nagaland	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
19.	Odisha	158	2696	0	2854	0	0	0	34	2778	0	42
20.	Punjab	195	79	2	276	0	0	0	30	76	4	166
21.	Rajasthan	1263	8322	0	9585	0	1	0	4274	3448	1	1861
22.	Sikkim	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
23.	Tamil Nadu	931	1853	1	2785	0	0	0	320	1459	9	997
24.	Telangana	753	1652	4	2409	0	0	2	366	1116	3	922
25.	Tripura	2	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	2
26.	Uttar Pradesh	1276	12359	0	13635	0	0	1	1780	11028	0	826
27.	Uttarakhand	34	40	0	74	0	0	0	15	38	0	21
28.	West Bengal	65	72	0	137	0	0	0	6	71	0	60
29.	A & N Islands	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
30.	Chandigarh	2	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	1	1	0
31.	D & N Haveli & Daman Diu	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
32.	Delhi	107	42	0	149	0	0	0	2	45	0	102
33.	Jammu & Kashmir	3	2	0	5	0	0	0	2	0	0	3
34.	Ladakh	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
35.	Lakshadweep	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
36.	Puducherry	5	4	0	9	0	0	0	0	2	0	7
Total		17166	53421	56	70643	0	1	34	10278	45487	96	14747

Source: National Crime Records Bureau, Ministry of Home Affairs, Government of India, New Delhi.

STATEWISE CASES OFFENCES OF ATROCITIES AGAINST MEMBERS OF SCHEDULED TRIBES REGISTERED BY POLICE AND THEIR DISPOSAL UNDER THE SCHEDULED CASTES AND THE SCHEDULED TRIBES (PREVENTION OF ATROCITIES) ACT, 1989 DURING THE YEAR 2023

S. No.	State / UT	Number of cases pending from previous year	Number of cases registered during 2023	Cases Re-opened for investigation	Number of cases with police during 2023 including B.F.	Number of cases withdrawn by Government during investigation	Cases investigated u/s 157(1) (b) of Cr. PC	Cases transferred to other State/ Agency	Final Report (v/z. Mistake of Fact/Law, True but insufficient evidence etc. during the year	Number of cases charge sheeted in courts	Cases quashed at investigation on stage	Number of cases pending with police at the end of 2023
1.	Andhra Pradesh	365	347	0	712	0	0	0	67	286	0	359
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	1	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
3.	Assam	17	0	0	17	0	0	0	6	3	0	8
4.	Bihar	95	114	0	209	0	0	0	17	124	0	68
5.	Chhattisgarh	74	335	0	409	0	0	0	2	340	0	67
6.	Goa	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
7.	Gujarat	118	304	0	422	0	0	0	3	294	8	117
8.	Haryana	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
9.	Himachal Pradesh	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
10.	Jharkhand	292	164	0	456	0	0	0	46	73	0	337
11.	Karnataka	143	432	0	575	0	0	12	59	398	0	106
12.	Kerala	59	180	2	241	0	0	1	28	166	0	46
13.	Madhya Pradesh	289	2840	0	3129	0	0	0	44	2709	0	376
14.	Maharashtra	365	717	0	1082	0	0	1	59	632	0	390
15.	Manipur	6	2916	0	2922	0	0	0	19	5	0	2898
16.	Meghalaya	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
17.	Mizoram	0	21	0	21	0	0	0	0	19	0	2
18.	Nagaland	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
19.	Odisha	44	662	0	706	0	0	0	8	696	0	2
20.	Punjab	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
21.	Rajasthan	460	2403	0	2863	0	1	0	1256	930	1	675
22.	Sikkim	1	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
23.	Tamil Nadu	25	47	0	72	0	0	0	1	45	0	26
24.	Telangana	232	557	1	790	0	0	0	119	394	2	275
25.	Tripura	0	2	0	2	0	0	0	1	0	0	1
26.	Uttar Pradesh	0	2	0	2	0	0	0	1	1	0	0
27.	Uttarakhand	4	0	0	4	0	0	0	0	1	0	3
28.	West Bengal	110	66	0	176	0	0	0	4	70	0	102
29.	A & N Islands	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
30.	Chandigarh	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
31.	D & N Haveli & Daman Diu	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
32.	Delhi	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
33.	Jammu & Kashmir	1	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
34.	Ladakh	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
35.	Lakshadweep	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
36.	Puducherry	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total		2701	12111	3	14815	0	1	14	1740	7186	11	5863

Source: National Crime Records Bureau, Ministry of Home Affairs, Government of India, New Delhi.

STATEWISE CASES OF OFFENCES OF ATROCITIES AGAINST MEMBERS OF SCHEDULED CASTES WITH COURTS UNDER THE SCHEDULED CASTES AND THE SCHEDULED TRIBES (PREVENTION OF ATROCITIES) ACT, 1989 DURING THE YEAR 2023

S. No.	State/UT	Number of cases pending from previous year	Number of cases received for trial during the year	Number of cases in Courts including B.F. in 2023	Cases Withdrawn/Compound d/plea bargaining/ quashed	Number of cases in which		Number of cases pending with Courts at the end of 2023
						Convicted	Acquitted or Discharged	
1.	Andhra Pradesh	6611	1439	8050	14	26	744	7266
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	2	0	2	0	0	0	2
3.	Assam	8	2	10	0	0	0	10
4.	Bihar	43795	8341	52136	0	177	413	51546
5.	Chhattisgarh	1614	252	1866	0	76	94	1696
6.	Goa	13	3	16	0	0	0	16
7.	Gujarat	11347	1270	12617	7	44	497	12069
8.	Haryana	3033	777	3810	4	68	270	3468
9.	Himachal Pradesh	145	17	162	3	7	24	128
10.	Jharkhand	1208	180	1388	3	14	33	1338
11.	Karnataka	6355	1687	8042	8	22	376	7636
12.	Kerala	4198	932	5130	57	99	634	4340
13.	Madhya Pradesh	34304	8025	42329	7	1055	3836	37431
14.	Maharashtra	12487	2500	14987	28	86	802	14071
15.	Manipur	3	0	3	0	0	0	3
16.	Meghalaya	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
17.	Mizoram	5	0	5	0	0	0	5
18.	Nagaland	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
19.	Odisha	16371	2778	19149	0	0	370	18779
20.	Punjab	296	76	372	3	5	32	332
21.	Rajasthan	20192	3448	23640	7	1435	853	21345
22.	Sikkim	2	0	2	0	0	0	2
23.	Tamil Nadu	5058	1459	6517	20	94	728	5675
24.	Telangana	6384	1116	7500	13	34	756	6697
25.	Tripura	1	0	1	0	0	0	1
26.	Uttar Pradesh	59065	11028	70093	81	1448	945	67619
27.	Uttarakhand	304	38	342	0	0	0	342
28.	West Bengal	703	71	774	0	1	36	737
29.	A & N Islands	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
30.	Chandigarh	1	1	2	0	0	0	2
31.	D & N Haveli & Daman Diu	1	0	1	0	0	0	1
32.	Delhi	205	45	250	1	12	25	212
33.	Jammu & Kashmir	4	0	4	0	0	0	4
34.	Ladakh	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
35.	Lakshadweep	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
36.	Puducherry	28	2	30	0	0	0	30
Total		233743	45487	279230	256	4703	11468	262803

Source: National Crime Records Bureau, Ministry of Home Affairs, Government of India, New Delhi.

STATEWISE CASES OF OFFENCES OF ATROCITIES AGAINST MEMBERS OF SCHEDULED TRIBES WITH COURTS UNDER THE SCHEDULED CASTES AND THE SCHEDULED TRIBES (PREVENTION OF ATROCITIES) ACT, 1989 DURING THE YEAR 2023.

S. No.	State/UT	Number of cases pending from previous year	Number of cases received for trial during the year	Number of Courts including B.F. in 2023	Cases Withdrawn/Compound ed/plea bargaining/quashed	Number of cases in which		Number of cases pending Courts at the end of 2023
						Convicted	Acquitted discharged	
1.	Andhra Pradesh	1201	286	1487	8	5	116	1358
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
3.	Assam	50	3	53	0	0	11	42
4.	Bihar	426	124	550	0	2	0	548
5.	Chhattisgarh	2578	340	2918	0	64	142	2712
6.	Goa	13	0	13	0	0	0	13
7.	Gujarat	2645	294	2939	2	15	110	2812
8.	Haryana	1	0	1	0	0	0	1
9.	Himachal Pradesh	4	0	4	0	0	2	2
10.	Jharkhand	578	73	651	0	2	13	636
11.	Karnataka	1387	398	1785	3	2	121	1659
12.	Kerala	676	166	842	4	19	134	685
13.	Madhya Pradesh	13129	2709	15838	2	406	1077	14353
14.	Maharashtra	3662	632	4294	4	35	221	4034
15.	Manipur	3	5	8	0	0	0	8
16.	Meghalaya	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
17.	Mizoram	26	19	45	0	0	0	45
18.	Nagaland	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
19.	Odisha	5524	696	6220	0	0	27	6193
20.	Punjab	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
21.	Rajasthan	5326	930	6256	3	298	248	5707
22.	Sikkim	3	0	3	0	0	2	1
23.	Tamil Nadu	146	45	191	1	0	11	179
24.	Telangana	1846	394	2240	9	21	253	1957
25.	Tripura	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
26.	Uttar Pradesh	1053	1	1054	2	0	0	1052
27.	Uttarakhand	35	1	36	0	0	0	36
28.	West Bengal	451	70	521	0	5	35	481
29.	A & N Islands	28	0	28	0	0	0	28
30.	Chandigarh	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
31.	D & N Haveli & Daman Diu	3	0	3	0	0	0	3
32.	Delhi	8	0	8	0	0	1	7
33.	Jammu & Kashmir	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
34.	Ladakh	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
35.	Lakshadweep	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
36.	Puducherry	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total		40802	7186	47988	38	874	2524	44552

Source: National Crime Records Bureau, Ministry of Home Affairs, Government of India, New Delhi.

ANNEXURE-IV
(Para 4.1.1)

DETAILS OF CENTRAL ASSISTANCE RELEASED TO STATE GOVERNMENTS / UNION TERRITORY ADMINISTRATIONS UNDER THE CENTRALLY SPONSORED SCHEME FOR IMPLEMENTATION OF THE PROTECTION OF CIVIL RIGHTS ACT, 1955 AND THE SCHEDULED CASTES AND THE SCHEDULED TRIBES (PREVENTION OF ATROCITIES) ACT, 1989 DURING 2023-24.

S. No	State /UT/Others	Central assistance released (Rs. in lakhs)
1.	Andhra Pradesh	1467.41
2.	Assam	54.37
3.	Bihar	3762.81
4.	Chhattisgarh	1337.53
5.	Goa	24.62
6.	Gujarat	2980.87
7.	Haryana	2943.04
8.	Himachal Pradesh	260.52
9.	Jharkhand	81.35
10.	Karnataka	4000.37
11.	Kerala	1131.75
12.	Madhya Pradesh	6348.53
13.	Maharashtra	3727.65
14.	Odisha	5802.79
15.	Rajasthan	4255.34
16.	Sikkim	4.66
17.	Tamil Nadu	3659.45
18.	Telangana	899.54
19.	Tripura	11.03
20.	Uttar Pradesh	9795.35
21.	Uttarakhand	100.49
22.	West Bengal	369.19
23.	Chandigarh	173.00
24.	Delhi	18.00
25.	Puducherry	138.76
26.	Others Expenditure	181.60
	TOTAL	53530.02