



Role of Assam Police for combating crime against women in Assam:

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Abstract:

Assam is the state of North-eastern India which is rich with her abundant natural resources. Earlier name of Assam was Pragjyotishpur.

Assam is the land of mother goddess Kamakhya. Women were worshiped in ancient Assam as a mother.

From the ancient time position of women is very high in the Hindu family. In the Hindu conception women are known as grihalaxmi, sahadharmini or ardhangini.

The geographical area of Assam is 78438 Sq.km. literacy rate of male is 77.85 and female rate is 66.27% in Assam.

Crime against women mainly includes trafficking, dowry death, cruelty by husband, kidnapping of women/girls, sexual harassment and witch hunting etc. All types of crime in Assam happen in bigger scale.

Assam police takes various measures to control or combat this kind of crime against women.

Introduction:

A crime against women is an indication of lack of respect, love, dignity of women.

“Lau jiman dangor nohowk kiyo sadai pator tolot”-the literal meaning of the proverb is that the size of a gourd immaterial but it will always be under the leaves. A woman may be highly qualified or independent but she will always rank after man in the patriarchal society.

Objectives:

To study what extent Assam police is successful in combating crime against women in Assam.

Methodology:

Here mainly used secondary sources which includes data collected from the site of Assam Police, NCRB data, Journals, Newspaper's report, statistics provided by various NGO's, periodicals, e-book, internet.

Crime Against women:

“The Semantic meaning of crime against women is direct or indirect physical or mental cruelty to women. Crimes which are directed specifically against women and in which only women are victims are characterized as Crime Against Women”.

Statement of Crime against Women for the year 2005 to 2020 (Upto June)																
Heads of Crime	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020 (Upto June)
Rape	1238	1244	1437	1438	1631	1721	1700	1716	1937	2047	1852	1779	1708	1909	1952	770
Trafficking	25	29	21	27	37	25	21	30	18	29	47	65	79	70	49	9
Dowry Death	99	105	100	103	170	175	121	140	170	188	216	157	150	166	165	74
Cruelty by Husband	2206	1548	3000	3478	4398	5410	5246	6407	8636	9626	11225	9321	10580	11999	13320	4679
Kidnapping of women/Girls	1456	1544	1471	1789	2092	2767	3192	3360	4222	3895	5039	5339	5186	6269	6326	2221
Molestation	899	1290	789	1272	1342	1400	1193	1840	2409	2641	3794	2701	3595	4143	4359	1695

Source: Assam Police official site

Crimes against women are various types as follows:

1. **Rape:** rape is increasing day by day in Assam as well as India. It is known to be the 4th common most crime in India. In the year 2005 it was reported only 1238 cases, but in the year 2019 it become 1952 in Assam only. Places mainly where minority people are living there crime rate especially in rape cases are highest. Dhubri and Guwahati has the highest crime zone in this regards.
2. **Dowry Death:** Earlier dowry was not tradition in the Assamese society. But due to migration of people, growing influence in the mind set of people of western part of the country. Low sex ratio and literacy pushes women to subordinate position to a large extent. Lack of legal knowledge also makes this crime vulnerable.
3. **Domestic Violence:** Domestic violence or cruelty by husband and relatives is most alarming crime now-a-days. In the year 2019 it was reported 13320 cases. Alcoholic nature of husband, social status, suspicion, illiteracy, dowry, male ego or male superiority ,patriarchy mindset, lack of legal awareness are the main causes of this kind of crime.

4. **Human Trafficking:** Human Trafficking is trade carried upon human being. Human Trafficking mainly women are trafficked for the purpose of sexual slavery, forced of marriage, forced labour etc. Causes of human trafficking are need of employment, poverty, social condition, war conflict, political issues etc.
5. **Sexual Harassment:** It is a form of sexual crime and considered as serious issues. Sexual harassment can be in home, workplace or anywhere. Sexual harassment in workplace now-a-days is very much alarming. It includes-
 - Sharing sexually inappropriate images or videos.
 - Making inappropriate sexual gestures.
 - Inappropriate touching etc.
6. **Witch Hunting:** Witch hunting is the one of most heinous crime now-a-days in Assam especially in the tribal areas of Assam. the prominent cause of this crime are superstition ,quarrel for property related matter, infused jealousy regarding some personal wellbeing and gain, personal grudges etc.

Role of Assam Police for combating crime against women:

Every women has a right to lodge a complaint, take legal action against any person who assaults, or being harassed, teased and passed rude remark in public places etc.

Some important measures are taken by Assam Police as follows:

- a. **Women Helpline:** women can get assistance from this helpline numbers. The can call or send mailed to – ssp-cid@assampolice.gov.in mentioning subject as “Helpline for women”
Helpline Numbers: +91-9345215029,91-361-2521242.
- b. **Mobile App:** Assam police is working on a mobile app for women where through an SOS system police could respond and it will be regional language i.e assamese only.
- c. **Mulagabharu Brigade:** Assam police planning to coming up with a force, that can hold the bull (the menace) by the horn.
- d. **Anti Human Trafficking Unit (AHTU):** For combat crimes related to trafficking of persons especially women and children, it operationalised in all district of Assam. Funds have been provided by Ministry of Home Affairs, Govt of India. SP’s are the monitor.

- e. **Women cells:** As per the Hon'ble CM Assam Vision 2016, women cells have been created and operationalised in Assam.
- f. **100 dial:** Dial 100 facility has been established with Quick Reaction Teams (QRT) to receive information and to respond in the crimes against women in metro cities like Guwahati. AVL and GPS have been place for quick response.
- g. **Virangana :** Special trained commando women police team created to respond promptly in case of crime against women in a public places including teasing/stalking etc.
- h. **Family counselling centre:** this centre is functioning at CID Hq to assist and counsel persons especially women who are victims of domestic violence, harassments etc.
- i. **Women police station:** For quick response and combating crime against women, this police station was set up.

Conclusion:

Crime against women has become an ever growing problem in Assam as well as India. It can be prevented help of public and govt by any means. Some measures should be taken to raise levels of social protection and to create employment opportunity especially for the women.

In timely steps are not taken in regarding crime against women then in very short time it will remain late but too late.

Mahanta Gandhi quoted "when women, whom we call abala become sabala, all those who are helpless will become powerful.

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