

Date: January 08, 2025

To,  
Shri Kishor Makwana,  
Chairperson,  
National Commission for Scheduled Castes,  
5th Floor, Lok Nayak Bhawan, Khan Market, New Delhi- 110003  
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**Subject: Complaint against several anti-Dalit atrocities reported from multiple states from December 2024 to date**

Respected sir,

We, at Citizens for Justice and Peace are concerned about the increasing number of anti-Dalit incidents being reported from the states of Andhra Pradesh, Chhattisgarh, Karnataka, Madhya Pradesh, Tamil Nadu, and Uttar Pradesh.

In the face of such grave atrocities, marginalised communities are left grappling with fear and uncertainty, and there is an urgent need for the commission's intervention to ensure that justice is meted out to the victims. Since the month of December 2024, a number of anti-Dalit incidents have happened which we have highlighted in this complaint. These incidents depict a manifestation of the troubling psyche that is behind caste discrimination, urgently requiring for an increase in conviction in cases of such kind.

These incidents are as follows:

### **TELANGANA**

**Incident:** A Dalit man named Ramu from Nuthankal village in Telangana's Suryapet district has accused two police officers of assaulting him. The alleged incident took place on the night of December 31, but the matter gained attention after a video surfaced on social media on Wednesday.

The video shows Ramu speaking to an official, with visible injuries on his arms and legs. His family members can be seen crying in the background.

Recounting the incident, Ramu claimed he was standing outside his house when two police officers approached and questioned him. "They asked why I was standing there, and I told them it's my house," Ramu said. A verbal altercation followed, after which the officers allegedly took him to the station and assaulted him.

**Action taken:** The police have said that an inquiry has been initiated to investigate the matter. However, the official declined to provide further details.

**Source:** <https://theobserverpost.com/dalit-man-allegedly-assaulted-by-police-in-telangana-inquiry-launched/>

## **UTTAR PRADESH**

### **(1) JALAUN DISTRICT**

**Incident:** In Jalaun district, Uttar Pradesh, a Dalit man named Rahul was allegedly beaten and paraded through a village on Sunday, Dec 25, 2024 garlanded with shoes, after being accused of attempting to coerce locals into converting to Christianity. Villagers claimed he offered money and made derogatory remarks about Hindu gods, leading to a counter-FIR against him under the Uttar Pradesh Prohibition of Unlawful Conversion of Religion Act, 2021. Rahul denied the allegations, stating it stemmed from a personal dispute, and filed an FIR against the perpetrators for assault, humiliation, and caste-based abuse.

**Action taken:** The police have registered both FIRs, detained several individuals, and are investigating the claims from both sides.

**Source:** <https://maktoobmedia.com/india/dalit-man-shaved-beaten-and-paraded-by-caste-hindu-men-in-up-village-over-religious-conversion/>

### **(2) FATEHPUR**

**Incident:** A 47-year-old Dalit man named Shivbadan from Behlopur Alai village of Fatehpur district was beaten and paraded with his head tonsured for allegedly trying to coerce a group of residents to convert to Christianity on 27<sup>th</sup> Dec, 2025. Victim alleged that group of caste Hindus belonging to Bajrang Dal assaulted him and his family to “teach him a lesson” for converting to Christianity.

**Action taken:** On the basis of complaint filed by Shivbadan, Fatehpur police lodged an FIR against Rohit Dixit, Lavlesh Singh and Somkaran along with number of unidentified persons.

**Source:** <https://www.newindianexpress.com/nation/2024/Dec/30/dalit-man-beaten-paraded-by-bajrang-dal-workers-for-attempting-religious-conversion-in-ups-fatehpur>

### **(3) FATEHPUR**

**Incident:** Controversy erupted in Hariharpur village, located in Khaga Kotwali area of Fatehpur district in Uttar Pradesh after a Christian missionary board was found displayed outside the house of a Dalit family. Members of VHP and Bajrang Dal discarded the board shouting slogans of “Jai Shri Ram” It was later found that family who had been suffering from prolonged illness recently travelled to a church in Punjab after which

their health improved significantly. As a token of love, they have carried the board and displayed it outside their house.

**Action taken:** Police instead of filing FIR against those who discarded the board issued a stern warning to the family instructing them not to display the church board outside their home

**Source:** <https://organiser.org/2024/12/06/268257/bharat/up-hindu-activists-removes-christian-missionary-church-board-from-dalit-familys-house-amid-conversion-allegations/>

#### (4) **BASTI**

**Incident:** A 17-year-old Dalit boy in Uttar Pradesh's Basti was invited for a birthday party by a local on the night of Dec 20, 2024. During the celebration, he was stripped naked, brutally beaten, and urinated upon by four individuals who also allegedly recorded the incident on their phones. Accused later threatened to make the video viral. The boy begged with the accused to delete the video, but they humiliated him further, forcing him to lick his spit. Traumatized young boy returned home and shared the incident with his parent and then ended his life by suicide.

**Action taken:** The grieving family took the body to a nearby police station, demanding immediate action. However, the authorities turned down their request forcing them to carry the boy's body to the Basti's SP office and staged a sit-in protest. It was only after hours of agitation; the police registered a case and assured them of action.

**Source:** <https://www.indiatoday.in/india/story/up-dalit-boy-suicide-basti-birthday-party-assaulted-stripped-urinated-upon-police-2654355-2024-12-23>

#### (5) **BULANDESHAHAR**

**Incident:** Rahul Kumar, a Dalit post office employee (sub-postmaster) at the Lakhaothi block post office and a resident of the Bulandshahr city area, Uttar Pradesh took his life by jumping onto a railway track on 22<sup>nd</sup> Dec, 2024 shortly after, corruption allegations were levelled against him, leading to his interrogation by the CBI on 21<sup>st</sup> Dec, 2024. Cousin of the deceased said that he was under immense pressure following the CBI interrogation. He believed that he wouldn't be able to clear his name, which led him to take the extreme step. In a suicide note found in his pocket, Rahul claimed innocence and accused his colleagues of harassment and caste discrimination. A senior female colleague was said to have harassed him after he uncovered her extramarital affair within the office. She has used casteist slurs and implicated him in the false corruption case.

**Action taken:** SP of the city Mr. Shankar Prasad said allegations made in the suicide note are being investigated.

**Source:** <https://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/city/meerut/bullied-by-peers-dalit-postal-worker-ends-life-in-uttar-pradesh/articleshow/116582264.cms>

#### (6) **BULANDSHAHR**

**Incident:** A Dalit groom was forced the horse and stones were thrown at his wedding procession on Dec 11, 2024 when it was passing through the so-called upper-caste neighbourhood in the Uttar Pradesh's Bulandshahr district last week. As per the complaint given by the family, group of men seized the horse by the reins and forced the groom down, they also threw stones and harassed the women in the wedding. The accused damaged the music system as well and a DJ was injured in the stone-pelting. Complainant says that all the attackers were from Thakur and Rajput communities and they made casteist remarks targeting the groom and the wedding party.

**Action taken:** Police have registered an FIR under several sections of BNS including those related to rioting and voluntary causing hurt. Charges under the SC/ST (Prevention of Atrocities) Act have also been invoked. 5 accused have been arrested so far.

**Source:** <https://www.ndtv.com/india-news/dalit-groom-in-up-forced-off-horse-stones-thrown-at-baraat-5-arrested-7277292>

#### **MADHYA PRADESH**

**Incident:** A dalit man named Muskesh Longre died inside a police station in Madhya Pradesh's Dewas district. He was called on to police station to inquire in a complaint given against him by a woman on Dec 26, 2024. According to SP Puneet Gehlot, the deceased strangled himself when inspector Ashish Rajput was reading his statement. However, the deceased's kin accused the police officer of demanding bribe to reduce the severity of the punishment and also alleged they only murdered the deceased.

**Action taken:** Inspector Ashish Rajput was suspended. Judicial Magistrate First Class (JMFC) Nandani Uikey is conducting the inquiry into the death. District magistrate has appointed three doctors to oversee the post mortem process.

**Source:** <https://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/city/bhopal/madhya-pradesh-dalit-man-dies-in-dewas-police-station-kin-allege-murder/articleshow/116787474.cms>

#### **CHHATTISGARH**

**Incident:** At around 2 AM on 24<sup>th</sup> Dec, 2024 in Dumarpalli village, Chhattisgarh, one Virendra Sidar was awoken by some noise and saw victim, Panchram Sarthi alias Butu sneaking into his house and trying to steal a sack of rice. Enraged, he called his neighbors, Ajay Pradhan and Ashok Pradhan and together, the three of them tied Sarthi to a tree and beaten him with bamboo

sticks, kicked and punched. When a team of police got there on the intimation of village sarpanch at around 6 AM, Sarthi was found unconscious and still tied to a tree.

**Action taken:** Three accused have been booked for murder under 103(1) of BNS. Police are investigating the involvement of more people in the case. Activists body press for the invoking of mob lynching provision, section 103(2)

**Source:** <https://indianexpress.com/article/india/suspected-of-stealing-rice-dalit-man-tied-to-tree-and-beaten-to-death-in-chhattisgarh-9741223/>

## TAMIL NADU

**Incident:** A 9-year-old IV standard boy belonging to Dalit community in Thiruppur district, Tamil Nadu was returning home from a temple when one Mohan (26-year-old) stopped him accused him of scribbling in his dust covered car. He was thereby dragged inside his house along with two other boys. Victim boy was severely beaten. Victim's mother, Sudha heard his screams and rushed to Mohan's house. She alleged that when she confronted Mohan, he attacked her as well. Two individuals, Selvaraj and Karuppathal, who attempted to stop the assault, claimed they were stabbed by Mohan during the confrontation.

**Action taken:** The police have initiated an investigation into the case, and Mohan has been taken into custody. Relatives of the victim boy demanded that Mohan be charged under the Prevention of Atrocities against SC/ST Act.

**Source:** <https://www.indiatoday.in/india/tamil-nadu/story/tamil-nadu-dalit-boy-attacked-over-car-scribbling-two-others-stabbed-2654028-2024-12-23>

## ANDHRA PRADESH

**Incident:** Dr. C.H. Changaiah, a Dalit professor (Dean of dept of Electrical Eng.) of Sri Venkateswara University in Andhra Pradesh's Tirupati was allegedly thrashed by Bajrang Dal members inside the campus on Dec 4, 2024. Dr. Changaiah who is known for raising his voice on social justice and Dalit rights was confronted by a group of men who somehow entered the university premises and started an argument with the Prof. that later escalated into a physical altercation.

**Action taken:** Police have registered a case and launched an investigation into the matter. A hunt has also been launched to nab the accused

**Source:** <https://www.indiatoday.in/india/story/dalit-professor-andhra-pradesh-sri-venkateswara-university-bajrang-dal-2644701-2024-12-04>

## KARNATAKA

**Incident:** Deepu, a 19-year-old Dalit youth from Sirivara village in Tumakuru Rural, Karnataka was left with serious injury on 4<sup>th</sup> Jan 2025 after two caste Hindus allegedly assaulted him for playing the song on Dr. BR Ambedkar in a milk procurement van, he was travelling in. The accused, Chandrashekar, a gang man with Indian Railways, and his accomplice Narasimharaju waylaid the van pretending to be RPF personnel. They questioned the victim for playing a song on Ambedkar from the serial 'Mahanayaka' They asked for victim's caste and when he revealed that he was from SC-Madiga community, The dragged both Deepu and Narasimha Murthy (Van driver) and kicked Deepu in his groin leaving him with severe injury. When he shouted in pain, a crowd gathered and shifted him to the govt. hospital in Gubbi town.

**Action taken:** Accused persons were booked under section 307 of BNS and Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes (Prevention of Atrocities) Act, 1989.

**Source:** <https://www.newindianexpress.com/states/karnataka/2025/Jan/06/men-kick-dalit-boy-in-groin-for-playing-ambedkar-song-in-karnataka>

It is disheartening to see that despite the numerous laws and provisions made for the protection of Dalits, there continues to be an increase in the number of incident where Dalits are subjected to atrocities and are denied even basic human rights. It is even more alarming that these acts of violence are often perpetrated with impunity and are rarely met with appropriate legal action. The denial of basic human rights to Dalits is a grave concern. This incident is a classic example of blatant discrimination and social prejudices against the Dalits.

Social discrimination against Dalits remains a pervasive issue and they face violence over the most insignificant acts. These indicate that segregation is still persistent in society and Dalits face exclusion in daily activities on a daily basis. If such acts are let off with impunity, it is a clear violation of the fundamental right of Dalits against discrimination and also untouchability. Sir, in this day and age if such practices remain prevalent and are allowed to go unpunished, the future of Dalits in the country will continue to remain under shadows and their upliftment will continue to remain a far-fetched dream.

These incidents of violence are stark reminders of the deeply rooted caste-based discrimination that continues to plague society across the length and breadth of the nation.

Respected Sir, in addition to highlighting the instances of anti-Dalit atrocities above, we have also provided the status of the action taken by the police over them. Through this complaint, we are urging that the National Commission for Scheduled Castes to closely monitor the case through the investigation and prosecution to ensure that substantive and exemplary justice is delivered.

The rising frequency of crimes against Dalits can also be reflection of the number of anti-Dalit incidents reported in the National Crime Records Bureau (NCRB). In the NCRB report, it was revealed that as many as 57,582 cases of crimes against Scheduled Castes (SC) were registered

in 2022 in India, an increase of 13.1 percent from 2021. Given the spate in recent incidents, a special advisory by your respected self, as chairperson of the esteemed commission would also go a long way in ensuring that authorities in the states pay careful attention to application of the law under the amended SC/ST Prevention of Atrocities Act, 2015.

It is essential that tragic lives lost, most of whom are young, must be reasonably compensated for by justice and full reparation. Often after the first flush of media attention when the furore dies down, the investigation falters and when evidence is not properly collected, the prosecution fails. It would be in the fitness of things that the NCSCST Commission takes an interest in deliverance of justice in this case till justice is delivered.

Here are a few relevant sections of the law that the Commission must ensure are applicable in these cases committed against Dalits:

### **Violation of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes (Prevention of Atrocities) Act, 1989**

#### **3. (1) Whoever, not being 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;

(za) obstructs or prevents a member of a Scheduled Caste or a Scheduled Tribe in any manner with regard to— (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;

**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**

#### **(2) Whoever, not being a member of a Scheduled Caste or a Scheduled Tribe, —**

(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 [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;

### **Targeted Crimes against India's SCs, a Pattern of Abuse**

Through this complaint, CJP would like to highlight the current caste oppressive environment in India, wherein people belonging to the dominant class have the power and audacity to act in an unlawful, exploitative and vicious way towards the Dalit community along with the connections to get away with it. While some measure of space and political representation has been ensured due to the affirmative action of reservations, even decades after independence,



the Dalits have not achieved total emancipation. Even today, Dalits continue to be vulnerable to such attacks which are not just violent in nature but also emerge from trivial social stigma.

The nature of cases reported against members of the Dalit community include rape of women and children, attempt to rape, sexual harassment, acid attack, assault on women with intent to outrage her modesty, stalking, voyeurism, kidnaping and abduction, riots, robbery, arson, criminal intimidation, intentionally insult or intimidate with intent to humiliate, occupy/take possession of lands belonging to SCs and STs, prevent/deny or obstruct usage of public places/passages, force to leave the place of residence or social boycott and practices of untouchability. As per the NCRB report, there are a total of 70,818 cases of atrocities against SCs and 12,159 against STs that remained pending for investigation at the end of the year 2021. A total of 2,63,512 cases of SCs and 42,512 cases of STs were placed for trial in the courts. At the end of the year, more than 96 percent of the total cases were still pending for trial. Though the charge-sheeting percentage was more than 80%, but the conviction rate remained below 40%.

This shows the status of our criminal justice administration specially access of vulnerable victims to speedy trial and justice. It is also being argued by social activists and researchers working on implementation of POA Act, 1989 that the reported data by the Home Department were the cases registered in different police stations of the state while there were equal number of cases that are underreported due to a number of reasons, as it is not easy to get the cases registered due to non-cooperation by police and many cases are being settled under pressure by influential people of dominant castes and by mostly those belonging to ruling parties

### **Police as Perpetrators in Caste-Based Atrocities**

It is deeply troubling that, in many cases, the police—who are expected to be protectors of the law—have themselves become perpetrators of caste-based violence. Several instances in this complaint highlight this alarming trend:

1. In **Basti**, Uttar Pradesh, the family of a Dalit boy who ended his life after being brutally assaulted had to stage a sit-in protest to compel the police to register a case.
2. In **Fatehpur**, Uttar Pradesh, the police issued a warning to a Dalit family displaying a church board, rather than acting against those who vandalized their property and threatened them.
3. In **Madhya Pradesh**, a Dalit man died in police custody under suspicious circumstances, and his family accused the police of demanding bribes and causing his death.

Such instances are clear violations of the duties entrusted to public servants and underline the systemic failure to protect Dalit communities.



## Relevant Legal Provisions

To ensure justice for the victims and accountability for the perpetrators, the following legal provisions should be invoked:

### 1. Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita

- **Section 198:** Public servant disobeying the law with intent to cause injury

Whoever, being a public servant, knowingly disobeys any direction of the law as to the way in which he is to conduct himself as such public servant, intending to cause, or knowing it to be likely that he will by such disobedience, cause injury to any person, shall be punished with simple imprisonment for a term which may extend to one year, or with fine, or with both.  
Read more at: <https://devgan.in/bns/section/198/>

- **Section 120:** Voluntarily causing hurt to extort confession or compel restoration of property.

- (1) Whoever voluntarily causes hurt, for the purpose of extorting from the sufferer or from any person interested in the sufferer, any confession or any information which may lead to the detection of an offence or misconduct, or for the purpose of constraining the sufferer or any person interested in the sufferer to restore or to cause the restoration of any property or valuable security or to satisfy any claim or demand, or to give information which may lead to the restoration of any property or valuable security, shall be punished with imprisonment of either description for a term which may extend to seven years, and shall also be liable to fine.
- (2) Whoever voluntarily causes grievous hurt for any purpose referred to in sub-section (1), shall be punished with imprisonment of either description for a term which may extend to ten years, and shall also be liable to fine.

Read more at: <https://devgan.in/bns/section/120/>

### Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes (Prevention of Atrocities) Act, 1989:

- a. **Section 3(2)(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.
- b. **Section 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 this 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.

These provisions mandate strict penalties for both perpetrators and negligent public officials. However, lax enforcement has allowed impunity to prevail in many cases.

Sir, this needs your immediate attention and rapid action. We urge the National Commission for Schedule Castes to make an example of this case that on all appearances amounts to a targeted hate crime against one of our most vulnerable sections of society.

- Direct the concerned authorities to register FIRs in all cases cited where the same has not been done.
- Ensure an independent, impartial, and expedited investigation into all incidents mentioned, supervised by a senior officer from the SC/ST Protection Cell.
- Suspend and initiate departmental proceedings against public servants found violating provisions of the SC/ST Act, especially Section 4(1).
- Mandate compensation and protection to the victims and their families under Section 15A(6) of the SC/ST Act.
- Issue special guidelines for strict compliance with the SC/ST Act, particularly in cases where police officers are implicated.

Yours sincerely,

Nandan Maluste, President

Teesta Setalvad, Secretary