



INTERNATIONAL LAW
JOURNAL

**WHITE BLACK
LEGAL LAW
JOURNAL
ISSN: 2581-
8503**

Peer - Reviewed & Refereed Journal

The Law Journal strives to provide a platform for discussion of International as well as National Developments in the Field of Law.

WWW.WHITEBLACKLEGAL.CO.IN

DISCLAIMER

No part of this publication may be reproduced, stored, transmitted, translated, or distributed in any form or by any means—whether electronic, mechanical, photocopying, recording, scanning, or otherwise—without the prior written permission of the Editor-in-Chief of *White Black Legal – The Law Journal*.

All copyrights in the articles published in this journal vest with *White Black Legal – The Law Journal*, unless otherwise expressly stated. Authors are solely responsible for the originality, authenticity, accuracy, and legality of the content submitted and published.

The views, opinions, interpretations, and conclusions expressed in the articles are exclusively those of the respective authors. They do not represent or reflect the views of the Editorial Board, Editors, Reviewers, Advisors, Publisher, or Management of *White Black Legal*.

While reasonable efforts are made to ensure academic quality and accuracy through editorial and peer-review processes, *White Black Legal* makes no representations or warranties, express or implied, regarding the completeness, accuracy, reliability, or suitability of the content published. The journal shall not be liable for any errors, omissions, inaccuracies, or consequences arising from the use, interpretation, or reliance upon the information contained in this publication.

The content published in this journal is intended solely for academic and informational purposes and shall not be construed as legal advice, professional advice, or legal opinion. *White Black Legal* expressly disclaims all liability for any loss, damage, claim, or legal consequence arising directly or indirectly from the use of any material published herein.

ABOUT WHITE BLACK LEGAL

White Black Legal – The Law Journal is an open-access, peer-reviewed, and refereed legal journal established to provide a scholarly platform for the examination and discussion of contemporary legal issues. The journal is dedicated to encouraging rigorous legal research, critical analysis, and informed academic discourse across diverse fields of law.

The journal invites contributions from law students, researchers, academicians, legal practitioners, and policy scholars. By facilitating engagement between emerging scholars and experienced legal professionals, *White Black Legal* seeks to bridge theoretical legal research with practical, institutional, and societal perspectives.

In a rapidly evolving social, economic, and technological environment, the journal endeavours to examine the changing role of law and its impact on governance, justice systems, and society. *White Black Legal* remains committed to academic integrity, ethical research practices, and the dissemination of accessible legal scholarship to a global readership.

AIM & SCOPE

The aim of *White Black Legal – The Law Journal* is to promote excellence in legal research and to provide a credible academic forum for the analysis, discussion, and advancement of contemporary legal issues. The journal encourages original, analytical, and well-researched contributions that add substantive value to legal scholarship.

The journal publishes scholarly works examining doctrinal, theoretical, empirical, and interdisciplinary perspectives of law. Submissions are welcomed from academicians, legal professionals, researchers, scholars, and students who demonstrate intellectual rigour, analytical clarity, and relevance to current legal and policy developments.

The scope of the journal includes, but is not limited to:

- Constitutional and Administrative Law
- Criminal Law and Criminal Justice
- Corporate, Commercial, and Business Laws
- Intellectual Property and Technology Law
- International Law and Human Rights
- Environmental and Sustainable Development Law
- Cyber Law, Artificial Intelligence, and Emerging Technologies
- Family Law, Labour Law, and Social Justice Studies

The journal accepts original research articles, case comments, legislative and policy analyses, book reviews, and interdisciplinary studies addressing legal issues at national and international levels. All submissions are subject to a rigorous double-blind peer-review process to ensure academic quality, originality, and relevance.

Through its publications, *White Black Legal – The Law Journal* seeks to foster critical legal thinking and contribute to the development of law as an instrument of justice, governance, and social progress, while expressly disclaiming responsibility for the application or misuse of published content.

ECONOMIC OFFENCES IN INDIA

AUTHORED BY - MANASVI MOHTA

TABLE OF CONTENT

SL.NO	CONTENT
1.	<i>Chap I. Abstract</i>
2.	<i>Chap II. Research Methodology</i>
3.	<i>Chap III. Introduction</i>
4.	<i>3.1 Types of Economic Offences in India</i>
5.	<i>3.2 Scope of economic Offences in India</i>
6.	<i>3.3 Significance</i>
7.	<i>Chap IV. Literature Review</i>
8.	<i>4.1 Significant Economic Offences</i>
9.	<i>Chap V. Data Analysis</i>
10.	<i>Chap VI. Policy Implementation</i>
11.	<i>Chap VII. Conclusion</i>
12.	<i>Chap VIII. References</i>

Chapter 1: ABSTRACT

This article proves an in-depth analysis of Economic Offences in India, exploring their types, scope, significance, legal frameworks and so on. It offers an illicit activity that hinders economic growth and stability of a nation.

Economic crimes, especially white-collar and financial crimes, have become a major concern in modern India, parallel to the growth of economic activities and financial transactions. It forms a separate category of offences which are committed by individuals or businesses for financial gains. These crimes are done in a very organized manner and this paper critically analyse all such offences under the category of economic offences.

The mens rea is important and intent is to deceive and cheat people for personal benefit. It impacts the economy of the country and as well as impact financially the victims of such crimes.

In this article through the data collected from NCRB, crimes are analysed empirically and statistics tools are used to show it via bar graphs for a better understanding.

Chapter 2: Introduction

Crimes that have an economic component are included in the category of economic crimes. The objective of economic offenses, commonly known as financial offenses, is to gain financial benefit. These are illegal activities performed by an individual or group of people in an attempt to gain money or benefits in the workplace. In simple terms, economic crimes are frauds committed for the purpose of generating money. These crimes differ from others in that the physical state of the victim is not directly affected. Apart from damaging the individual, these economic offenses also affect the economy of the country and the progress and growth of neighbouring nations.

Economic offence is an illegal activity which involves financial transaction or business operations typically to generate profit through fraudulent or deceitful means. These offences cause significant harm to the individuals at large as well as the society.

The Indian Penal Code (IPC)¹, Prevention of Money Laundering Act ²(PMLA), and the Companies Act ³are some of the legislations that deal with economic crimes in India.

The methods of economic criminals evolve in sophistication day by day. Unlike traditional criminals, who resort to physical violence and ordinary criminal methods to pilfer various amounts of money, economic criminals utilize high-tech instruments and communication channels to execute their illegal business dealings, hack computer databases, and design grand schemes of fraud. These victims of the economic crimes tend to be uninformed and naive and are largely oblivious to their exploitation.

Economic offenses have taken centre stage in recent years with the Vijay Mallya and Nirav Modi cases, highlighting the devastation such offenses can unleash on the fiscal health of a nation. Unlike traditional offenses that only involve individuals or specific groups, economic crimes have widespread consequences which compromise the health of the national economy and erode confidence in financial institutions among citizens.

The genesis of economic offenses in India is traced to the post-World War period, when scarcity of basic commodities gave rise to exploitative propensities on the part of unscrupulous

¹ Indian Penal Code, 1850, Acts of Parliament, 1850 (India)

² The Prevention of Money Laundering Act, 2002, Acts of Parliament, 2002 (India)

³ The Companies Act, 2013, Acts of Parliament, 2013 (India)

companies. The problems were further compounded post-independence for India, where the weak and inefficient legal and administrative machinery failed to effectively deal with these challenges. The 29th and 47th reports of the Law Commission of India have attempted to deal with these problems. In 1964, Santhanam Committee also suggested incorporating a new chapter on social and economic offences in the Indian Penal Code of 1860.

Significant Economic Crimes:

The Bofors Scandal (1987): The Bofors scandal was one of India's most notable corruption cases, with charges of bribery in defence deals. It highlighted the pervasive nature of corruption and economic crime in political as well as corporate circles and served to emphasize the imperative for reforms in financial markets regulation and exposed the weaknesses in India's financial system to economic abuse.

Pre-Independence Period:

Colonial Economic System: Under the British colonial rule, economic crimes were predominantly defined by activities like embezzlement, misappropriation of funds, and corruption in the colonial government.

Legal Framework: Many laws and regulations were enacted to deal with economic crimes during this period. Some of the key legislation was:

The Prevention of Corruption Act (1947): This was the very first act enacted to deal with comprehensive law to deal with corruption in public offices.

The Reserve Bank of India Act (1934): Even though it was formed earlier, this act became of the essence in the regulation of financial institutions and curbing fraudulent activities in the banking system.

Industrialization Impact: With India starting its planned economic growth, the industrialization process led to the emergence of new forms of economic crimes such as economic fraud, bribery, and corruption and many other economic offences.

1980s-1990s: White-Collar Crime Emerges:

Liberalization and Private Sector Expansion: The 1980s were a period of gradual liberalization in the Indian economy, and in this decade, the private sector expanded. It was this decade that

witnessed increased corporate fraud, financial mismanagement, insider trading, and other such white-collar crimes.

Chapter 3.1: Types of Economic Offences in India are:

- Swindling and fraud
- Money laundering
- Corruption
- Intellectual property crime
- Environmental crime
- Forgery
- Cheating or deceiving
- Counterfeiting of money or money equivalents

Chapter 3.2: Scope of Economic Offences in India

In India, the term “economic crime” covers a variety of illegal acts that harm the economy, other businesses, and the society at large. These crimes usually consist of breaking the laws and regulations which control the flow of money, businesses, and even the government. The category of economic crimes in India is quite broad and it is possible to identify the following key constituents:

1. Financial Fraud

Banking Frauds: This includes not paying back loans which individuals and corporates defraud, creating exorbitant losses to the banks and financial institutions.

Securities Fraud: Describe the actions of their employees who sell business secrets for money, control stock prices, or falsify other documents and thus cause loss to the business and its Investors.

Corporate Fraud: Activities such as financial results fraud, theft by company executives of funds belonging to the firm or its assets, and other forms of malfeasance by business administrators or agents are examples of this.

2. Money Laundering

Illicit Wealth Laundering: Usually, money laundering is the ideal subset of criminal activities where money made from illicit and illegal activities is made to look legitimate. This is accomplished by hiding the source of money using convoluted schemes of investment and a web of 'shell' corporations.

Importance of Global Webs: International linkages have been a significant factor contributing towards the growth of money laundering operations in India, adding another layer of complexity for investigation and enforcement agencies.

3. Tax Avoidance and Evasion

Failure to pay Taxes: This refers to non-reporting or skipping payment of taxes by people, companies or other entities which results in loss of funds to the State that would otherwise be used in supporting public programs and development works.

Tax Evasion - This activity includes negligence of the Goods and Services Tax (GST), fraudulent customs duties, and other manipulative activities concerning indirect taxation.

4. Bribery and Corruption

Public Sector Corruption: This is when government officials get involved in shady stuff like bribery, kickbacks, and favouritism, especially when it comes to handing out contracts or licenses.

Private Sector Corruption: Here's where things get tricky in private companies, with employees or management making under-the-table deals that benefit either themselves or their company.

5. Intellectual Property (IP) Offenses

Counterfeit Goods: It is a major economic offence to manufacture, sell or distribute counterfeit goods including luxury items, medications, electronics and so on.

Patent and Trademark Infringements: Unregulated use of intellectual including patents, trademark of business and persons is known as intellectual property infringement.

Chapter 3.3: Significance of Economic Offences in India

Economic crimes in India have significant implications for the economy, business, and society as a whole. The substance of these crimes can be seen in a number of key areas:

1. Impact on the National Economy

Loss of Revenue: Economic crimes like tax evasion, financial fraud, and corruption greatly impact government tax revenues. This results in fewer resources for public growth, infrastructure, and other projects.

Stagnation of Economic Growth: Corruption and fraud can undermine economic growth by preventing investment, increasing the cost of doing business, and creating a negative atmosphere for foreign investors and entrepreneurs.

Inflation and Price Volatility: Economic crimes, specifically in financial institutions and banks, can cause financial instability, which could lead to inflation, price fluctuations, and market uncertainty.

2. Deterioration of Governance and Institutions

Reduced Trust in Institutions: Widespread corruption and fraud can erode public trust in government institutions, financial institutions, and companies, resulting in social unrest and investor distrust.

Destruction of the Rule of Law: Economic crimes, especially those committed by powerful corporate players or individuals, can destroy the rule of law, creating a culture of impunity and undermining the integrity of the justice system.

3. Impact on Public and Private Sector Activities

Operational Disruptions: Firms that are charged with fraud or corruption scandals face severe operational disruptions, legal challenges, reputational damage, and monetary losses and litigation can be expensive.

Decrease in Foreign Direct Investment (FDI): Corruption and financial crimes may dissuade foreign investors based on unethical behaviours, legal issues, and political unrest, which would reduce FDI inflows into India.

4. Social Consequences

Inequality and Poverty: Poor and vulnerable people are particularly impacted by corruption and inefficiency fiscal management, which aggravates social inequality.

Public Health and Safety Risks: Economic crimes, such as the sale of fake drugs or harmful products, poses serious risks to public health and safety.

5. Hindrance to Development

Choking Innovation: By preventing R&D investment, infringement of intellectual property rights like piracy and counterfeiting impedes innovation and creativity.

Burdens to Sustainable Development: Misallocation of resources as a result of corruption or deceit diminishes the level of financial resources available for sustainable growth, undermining advancement toward vital social and environmental goals.

Chapter 4: LITERATURE REVIEW

1. The Repercussion of Economic Offences in India: Author: Dr Thangavel. V

Economic offences are among the categories of criminal offences which impacts both financial and economic well-being. These crimes have severe economic consequences and are often carried out by powerful individuals and businesses. In recent years, high-profile incidents of socioeconomic crimes have occurred in India, raising public attention. This article discusses the impact of these crimes on the economy of India, the statutes and law enforcement authorities, and how they are accountable across several environmental conditions. The research focuses on metropolitan cities and their population ratios, highlighting key economic offences and government responses.

2. Economic Offences in India; A Critical Analysis: Author: Anand Shankar

The nature, cause and impact of economic offences in India are critically examined. It examines fraud, corruption, money laundering, tax evasion, insider trading, and financial misconduct. The analysis reveals systemic problems like inefficient regulatory mechanisms, insufficient enforcement, and governance failures. It also draws attention to the deficits of the existing legal framework, including gaps in legislation and loopholes. The study also reviews the role of financial institutions, corporate governance structures, and regulatory bodies in preventing or enabling economic offences. The analysis proposes legislative modifications and strategic interventions to enhance prevention and deterrence mechanisms against economic offences, such as enhancing regulatory oversight, enhancing coordination, promoting transparency, and raising stakeholder awareness.

3. Economic Offences and its role in developing India; A Critical Analysis: Author: Trisha Ray, Sanskruti Panigrahi & Dr Snigdha Sarkar

White-collar offenses, also referred to as economic offenses, are more prominent than conventional offenses in a nation. They affect the economic state and the nation's reputation. These offenses, including bank fraud, insurance fraud, market rigging, payment fraud, tax evasion, laundering of corruption money, embezzlement, and counterfeiting of money, can be perpetrated by an individual, company, or group of organized crime. They accumulate black money and develop a shadow economy. Technical innovations help in

understanding these crimes, which directly or indirectly impact a nation's development and export and import services. This paper offers legitimate solutions to these problems.

4. Economic Offences; A Conceptual Perspective: Author: Dr Vikas Madhukar, Anil Samota

Since long, the phrase Economic Offenses is being used with vagueness particularly while analysing and defining White Collar Violations. These crimes carry an enormous scope with definable and well-defined gradation from Traditional Crimes and White-Collar Offenses. The presentation Paper does scrutiny of all the aspects and presents a clear definition of Financial Offenses. A distinct improvement of Financial Offenses from White Collar Misconduct and other Traditional Violations has been explained through these references. The views of Incomparable Court of India and unique Tall Courts regarding Financial Offenses while delivering varied Judgements have been summarized here

5. Financial Fraud, Economic Offence in India; Crime Prevention through Heuristic Method:

Author: Shahanshah Gulpham

Monetary consideration is the decade's gigantic achievement of the Indian government through opening zero adjust sparing accounts mass level in nationalized arranging banks. In recent past, India is facing gigantic challenges to manage the white collar and financial misconduct challenges responsible for devastating the entire financial administration and system of open approach allotments. The show paper is examining the various freely concerned monetary extortion and various financial crimes which are directly or indirectly impacting the economy of the country and responsible for sea-merging the monetary status of the nation. In fact, there are various preventive measures taken by the government to prevent such crimes from happening in the future and various steps taken alongside to counter the financial crisis. In this essay, a strategy of wrongdoing avoidance by heuristic has been suggested to manage similar crimes and reduce the occurrence of the fakes.

6. Economic offences in India and need of Criminal Corporate Liability: Author: Jiyauddin, Sunita Banerjee

Defining a corporation's or company's liability demands an intimate acquaintance with the concept of "economic offenses." Because these offenses affect society's foundation and members, they do not happen in isolation. These offenses also underscore a major problem for India: The lack of procedures and guidelines for punishing body corporates or

companies that provide the facility to destroy the country's economy, reputation, and most importantly its people. India does not, at least not officially, possess corporate criminal liability. The country's other codes contain a number of different clauses. When one considers the scope of some of the most serious corporate offenses that are committed in the country, it is clear why such provisions are required.

7. Economic Abuse and Legal Remedies in India: A Qualitative Review: Author: Shalu Nigam

The terms economic abuse, financial abuse, and economic violence have been used over and over in academic literature to define situations whereby men exercise control over women using their economy based on different mechanisms, such as exploitation, sabotage, manipulation, and engagement in the context of intimate partner relationships. As a way of responding to this violence, many countries have developed legal and policy frameworks geared towards supporting the survivors. In India, the Protection of Domestic Violence Against Women Act (PWDVA) defines economic violence in a broad sense, including the denial, deprivation, and control of basic resources and necessities. This also includes the control of assets in which an aggrieved woman has an interest, as well as the prohibition and restriction of her access to resources and facilities to which she is entitled within a domestic environment. Legislative interventions like monetary relief, maintenance, and compensation are considered avenues of redress. This research critically analyzes the gaps in the expression of economic violence, its legal definitions, and the state response based on legal case studies and secondary data. It finds that the existing law ignores many kinds of economic abuse suffered by women and has not kept pace with the fast technological and socio-economic developments. It calls for a wider definition of "economic violence" and for re-examination of remedies in terms of India's constitutional and international human rights obligations.

8. Corruption in India: Author: Jeevan Singh Rajak

Corruption exists in a number of ways, but a definition common to most is the doing by a public official something for personal gain. Corruption can be divided into petty and grand corruption in India, both of which are rampant. Much of corruption in the nation has its origins in the delivery of public goods and services and is wide-ranging within the administrative scale, but with the notable characteristic of frequent instances, with

relatively low sums on a per-instance basis. Grand corruption, frequently in the spotlight with the media, covers notable examples like the 2G spectrum scandal, which is but one among a plethora of instances that have cropped up in public debate. It should be noted that corruption is more of an administration problem and less of a cultural one. Improper discretion allocation without proper oversight, poor law enforcement, and lack of punitive action are some of the factors that drive the environment toward corrupt actions becoming the norm. Further, the lack of proper use of technology in governmental functioning, including IT systems, meters, and testing equipment, contributes to the issue. A key factor is the sheer quantity of laws, rules, and regulations that limit economic freedom while at the same time encouraging illegal payments. Most of these regulations existed before independence when discretion was vested in government officials without adequate controls on their behaviour. Nevertheless, some of India's states are making attempts at reforms and across the country efforts are made against corruption spurred by political parties realizing that less corruption among government servants is to their self-interest.

9. Economic Offences in India; Depletion of the economic status of the nation: Author: B. Bhanukesh

Economic crimes rarely get the appropriate punishment proportionate to the offense committed. Consequently, there has been an increase in such offenses; however, the Government of India has made drastic changes to existing laws and enacted new laws whenever necessary. This article will present an overview of economic crimes, their history, statistics as per the National Crime Records Bureau (NCRB), and some prominent people involved in these crimes such as Ketan Parekh, Harshad Mehta, and Nirav Modi. Economic crimes are seen not just in developing countries but also in the strongest nations. Also, the different legislative provisions dealing with such offences are outlined in this article.

10. New Specific Techniques of Investigation for the Economic Offences: Author: Delia Magherescu

This article analyses the particular investigative methods used in economic crimes, as well as the scientific results oriented towards meeting the goals of criminal proceedings, namely establishing the truth and punishing criminals responsible for economic crimes. Traditional evidence collection procedures typical of forensic science are applied mainly in this research,

coupled with new strategies and comparative study methods. Apart from that, it also includes the analysis and synthesis to harmonize the legal instruments offered by the legislator sufficiently for their own purposes. In the research work, emphasis would be placed upon major economic offenses like tax avoidance, money laundering, forgery, and the trafficking of treasures, in other words, concentrating on the underground economy. At the same time, the study would also formulate some legislative recommendations to strengthen the current legal corpus in this subject.

11. ECONOMIC ANALYSIS OF THE CRIMINAL OFFENCE:

Author: Danijela Petrović, Gordana Damjanović

The development of the Economic Analysis of Law has made it easier to apply economic concepts to the study of legal institutions that used to be seen as intangible. This essay is concerned with the economic analysis of criminal acts, and it investigates the influence of punishment on criminals and the general effects of crime on individuals' welfare and the welfare of society. Whereas the law system focuses on the need to identify, prosecute, and punish criminals accordingly, economic analysis considers the costs of criminal activity. The forced transfer and destruction of wealth and the opportunity costs borne by resources used in crime reduce the welfare of both the victims and society as a whole. Apart from physical losses, criminal behaviour also causes non-material damage. The paper utilizes economic models constructed in the discipline to examine criminal crimes.

12. Deterring economic crimes; The case of tax evasion: Author: Kimberly N. Varma and Anthony N. Doob

Criminal justice reform efforts and policy normally embrace aspects of deterrence models as they attempt to control crime. The assumption here is that if the cost of criminal activity is raised, it will be more than the benefit, and hence the individual will be deterred from so doing. This study examines the applicability of deterrence theory to the field of criminal justice, as applied to tax evasion. Tax evasion is a relevant case study for deterrence because it takes place under circumstances that are favourable to its tenets. The study employs Canadian survey data to evaluate the effect of criminal justice sanctions on tax evasion activities. The findings show that perceived risk of detection is more important in tax evasion choices than perceived severity of punishment. This result implies that deterrence policies based on the severity of

sanctions could fail if people assume they are not going to get caught. For this reason, this research encourages reappraisal of compliance policies relying heavily on the severity of sanctions and ventures into regulatory solutions outside the criminal justice system that might be more effective.

13. Bail in Economic Offences: Author: Oshi Priya

The recent upsurge of economic crimes in the country over the last two decades, in addition to the criminals going scot-free by fleeing the country, highlights the pressing need for a strong Criminal Justice System, especially in regard to bail petitions. While endeavouring to reconcile individual freedom—an integral objective of bail provisions under the Criminal Justice System—with wider societal interests, the courts have felt the imperative of dealing with these offences responsibly, as these are offences against society and not against private persons. The refusal of the Delhi High Court to grant bail to applications filed by P. Chidambaram in the INX Media case was then challenged before the Supreme Court, which formulated key principles concerning bail in economic offences and sternly dissuaded anticipatory bail in such cases. While there is no exhaustive code of rules dealing with bail in such cases, the principles enunciated in the Prahalad Singh Bhati case and the triple test, or tripod test, act as important determinants of bail applications under Section 439 of the Criminal Procedure Code.

14. Frauds in the Indian Banking Industry: Author: Charan Singh

Indian banking has experienced tremendous growth and change since the liberalization of the economy in 1991. Although the sector as a whole is subject to strong regulation and supervision, it is beset with a number of problems pertinent to ethical standards, financial stability, and corporate governance. This study seeks to tackle problems like bank fraud and the growing credit card debt burden using an extensive analysis involving secondary data in the form of literature reviews and case studies, coupled with interviews of stakeholders engaged in reporting financial misconduct. The report points out the alarming trend of growing non-performing assets (NPAs) over the last few years in different scheduled commercial banks, especially in the public sector. Finally, the research presents suggestions to avoid the recurrence of fraud in the Indian banking industry in the future.

The research also issues warnings over the credibility of third-party firms like auditors and credit rating firms, who are viewed as major contributors towards such malpractices, along with inadequate monitoring by banks and a lack of diligence.

15. Peculiarities Of the Apprehension of Economic Offences by Learners: Author: Diana Pshenichnyuk, Irina Pogozhina, Marina Sergeeva

The timeliness of the present study is highlighted by a striking trend: the development of legal literacy among students. This trend is expressed in the Federal State Educational Standards for general and complete secondary education. The goal of the present research is to analyse the interrelations among students' comprehension of economic crimes, their competence in identifying these crimes, and their attitudes. The study is carried out in Moscow schools with the help of valid testing techniques created by the authors from 2013 to 2017. The diagnostic tools used are aimed at measuring the degree of knowledge of economic crimes, the capacity to distinguish these crimes, and the attitudes towards illegal actions. Our first hypothesis is that the attitudes of older students towards illegal actions in the economic sphere depend on their degree of knowledge about the details of economic crimes. To investigate the essence of such crimes, our second hypothesis states that the attitudes of high school students toward illegal actions in economics also relate to the degree of their comprehension. Both hypotheses have been proven. Hence, with the improvement of students' cognitive development, their awareness of the nature and harmful effects of illegal activity may be broadened, thus encouraging an unfavourable attitude towards such activity.

16. Cognitive Component in the Structure of Students' Legal Consciousness in the Analysis of Economic Offence Cases:

Author: Irina Pogozhina

The intellectual dimension in the context of the legal consciousness of students remains a relatively under-explored field. There is no clearness on how students utilize their knowledge of representations of economic crimes while examining potentially criminal situations. This study aims to determine and examine the components of the cognitive aspect of students' legal consciousness when they are solving cases involving economic

offenses, specifically corruption risk situations. In particular, it will concentrate on corruption representations, the cognitive skills required for its identification, and the character of the interaction among these components.

17. Caste-based crimes and economic status: Evidence from India: Author: Smriti Sharma

Crimes inflicted upon the hitherto subordinated Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes (SC and ST) by Indian upper castes are a bad reflection of bias and discrimination. The research attempts to explore if changes in the relative material levels of living for SCs/STs in comparison to that of upper castes—expressed in the form of ratios of consumption expenses of SCs/STs over those of upper castes—are correlated to changes in crime occurrences against SCs/STs. Based on the hierarchical social structure created by the caste system, we expect an increase in the expenditure ratio to be positively related to the number of crimes committed by upper castes against lower castes. Using official district-level crime data from 2001 to 2010, we find that crime rates are positively correlated with the expenditure of SC/ST vis-a-vis upper castes. In addition, while making a distinction between violent and non-violent offenses, it can be seen that violent offenses are especially responsive to changes in economic inequalities. Also, this association seems to result from fluctuations in the economic status of higher castes and not from changes in the economic conditions of SCs and STs.

18. Controlling Money Laundering in India - Problems and Perspectives: Author: Vijay Kumar Singh

Money laundering is a sophisticated crime that will not necessarily at first glance be perceived as serious as street crime by most in society. In starting this paper, the researcher tried to concentrate only on the national picture; however, this was found to be difficult because of the intrinsically international nature of money laundering, which tends to involve the moving of funds through several countries to hide their origins. Talking about money laundering only at a national level would have produced a disjointed analysis. For the sake of providing a complete study, the researcher has organized the paper into three separate sections. Part I is where the processes and concepts involved in money laundering are defined, and the problems and losses associated with it are pointed out as an introduction to the study. As earlier indicated, money laundering usually involves an international backdrop to the covering up of dirty money. Part II explores the international trends and

regulatory systems put in place to counter money laundering. Based on this analysis, Part III assesses the measures taken by India to counter money laundering according to international norms. India is revising its anti-money laundering law, with a 2008 Bill outstanding for implementation. A comparative review of the Bill is presented in one of the sub-parts of the paper. In summary, the paper discusses several issues and deficiencies in the enforcement of anti-money laundering legislation and provides a number of positive suggestions for creating a more efficient anti-money laundering system.

Chapter 4.1: Below are some significant categories of economic offenses in India:

1. Corruption

Corruption is one of the most predominant economic offenses, specifically involving public officials and politicians. It encompasses:

- Bribery: The act of accepting or offering bribes to affect the decisions.
- Abuse of power: Public officials exploiting their authority for their own benefit. Key legislation:
 - Prevention of Corruption Act, 1988
 - Central Vigilance Commission Act, 2003

2. Fraud

Fraud entails deception aimed at obtaining economic gain. It can be in various forms, including:

- Bank fraud: Providing deceptive or ambiguous information to obtain loans, credit, or funds from financial institutions.
- Investment fraud: De investors regarding potential returns or associated risks. Key legislation:
 - Indian Penal Code (IPC), 1860
 - The Companies Act, 2013
 - Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI) Regulations

3. Money Laundering

The process of making funds collected illegally seem legitimate is known as money laundering. This involves activities such as:

- Hiding or obscuring the source of illicit funds.

- Utilizing legal avenues to integrate the proceeds of criminal activities into the economy. Key legislation:

- The Prevention of Money Laundering Act (PMLA), 2002

Counterfeits and Spurious Currency

Counterfeiting is the illegal manufacture of spurious currency notes or goods closely resembling genuine products for financial profit. It causes economic loss and leads to inflation. Important laws are:

The Indian Penal Code (IPC), which was passed in 1860
The Reserve Bank of India Act, which was enacted in 1934

Enforcement Agencies:

Several agencies in India are committed to dealing with economic offenses, which are as follows:

- Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI)
- Enforcement Directorate (ED)
- Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI)
- Income Tax Department
- Reserve Bank of India (RBI)
- National Investigation Agency (NIA)

These economic crimes harm the economy by diverting public and private resources, eroding confidence among investors, and creating unequal market situations. India is proactively strengthening its legal infrastructure and enforcement mechanisms to combat economic crimes and encourage greater transparency in the economic system.

Chapter 5: DATA ANALYSIS

Economic offenses in India pertain to crimes associated with financial activities or the improper use of resources that adversely affect the economy, society, or individuals. These offenses are generally perpetrated for the financial benefit of individuals or organizations and may encompass fraud, corruption, embezzlement, and other unlawful economic activities.

A. Economic Incidences

Sub-Heading: Trends in Criminal Breach of Trust

Criminal Breach of Trust is a criminal offence with whom the property or any other such thing is entrusted intentionally uses it for their own benefit or for any other purpose besides the purpose for which it was intended.

For example, boss entrusts an employee with important files of the company and he uses those files for personal use that is criminal breach of trust.

The data represented is of different regions- W, E, S, N. These regions represent different geographic areas and the rate of criminal breach of trust in that region, for the years 2016-2022.

Table No. 1: Region wise details of Criminal Breach of Trust in India between 2016-2022

Data analysis of Criminal Breach of Trust, 2016-2022

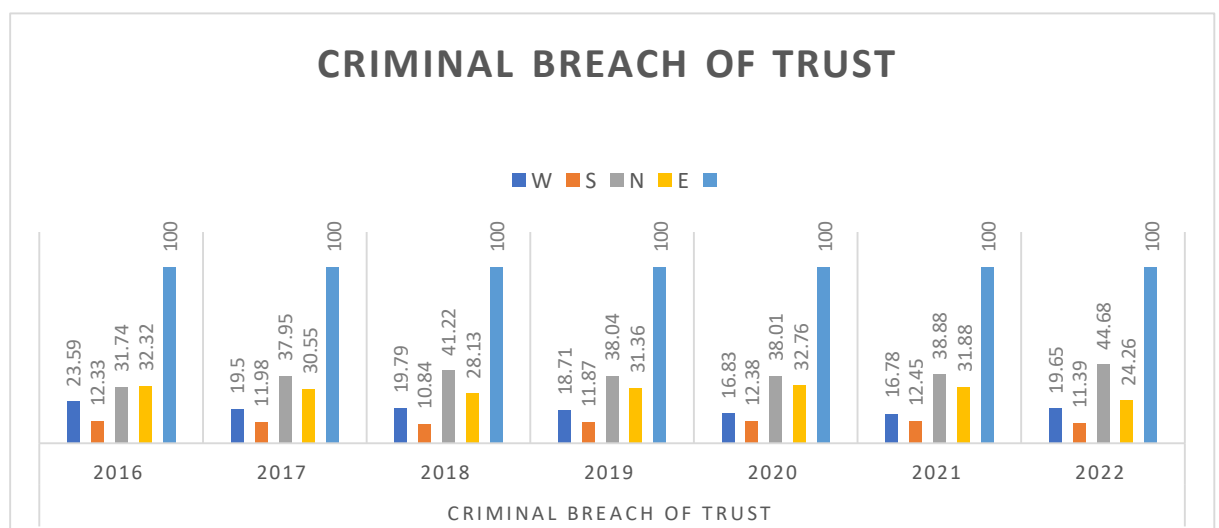
The present study shows that, over the period of 2016-2022, the trends of Criminal Breach of Trust cases differed dramatically across the four regions: West (W), South (S), North (N), and East (E). The western area (W) had a fluctuating trend, beginning at 23.59 in 2016, falling to 16.78 in 2021, and then increasing to 19.65 in 2022. This reflects cyclical fluctuations instead of a constant upward or downward trend. In contrast, the southern area (S) reflected relative stability, with values ranging between 10.84 and 12.45. The lowest value was recorded in 2018 at 10.84, while the peak occurred in 2021 at 12.45, reflecting minimal variation over the years.

On the other hand, the northern area (N) had a clear increasing trend, rising consistently from 31.74 in 2016 to 44.68 in 2022. This increase reflects an increasing number of Criminal Breach of Trust cases in the north, making it the area with the highest rise during the period

under observation. During the same period, the eastern area (E) presented an overall fall from 32.32 in 2016 to 24.26 in 2022. The reduction wasn't strictly linear, however, as it presented fluctuations like a decline to 28.13 in 2018 followed by a momentary increase to 32.76 in 2020 before continuing on its declining path.

Overall, the northern region is notable for its steady and significant rise in cases, and the eastern region for a declining trend with occasional fluctuations. The western region sees periodic fluctuations without a clear trend, and the southern region is the most stable with only small variations. These trends project that although some areas are witnessing a rise in cases, some others are declining or stabilizing, and the diverse factors responsible for the occurrence of Criminal Breach of Trust cases in different regions.

Criminal Breach of Trust							
	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
W	23.59	19.50	19.79	18.71	16.83	16.78	19.65
S	12.33	11.98	10.84	11.87	12.38	12.45	11.39
N	31.74	37.95	41.22	38.04	38.01	38.88	44.68
E	32.32	30.55	28.13	31.36	32.76	31.88	24.26
	100	100	100	100	100	100	100



Sub Heading: Trends in Counterfeiting in India

Counterfeiting is the illegal act of producing, selling, distributing currency or any other document that is made to look authentic or original but in reality, is fake or imitation. The main purpose of counterfeiting is to deceive people into believing that they are purchasing real items when in fact, they are not.

For example, A consumer may purchase ⁴a Chanel Handbag from a seller thinking of it to be an original but the seller is ⁵deceiving the consumer in thinking of it to be real when it is not.

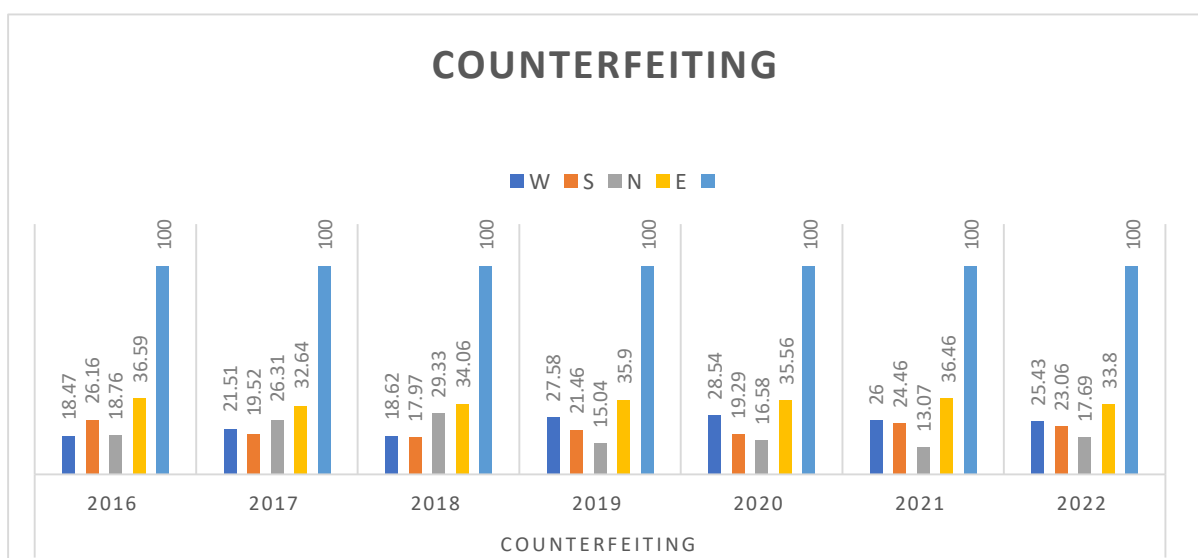
The data represented is of different regions- W, E, S, N. These regions represent different geographic areas and the rate of counterfeiting in that region, for the years 2016-2022.

Table No. 2: Trends in Counterfeiting in India, 2016-2022

Data Analysis of Counterfeiting, 2016-2022

The present study shows that, during 2016-2022, counterfeiting trends varied significantly in the four regions: West (W), South (S), North (N), and East (E). The East had the highest percentage of counterfeiting occurrences consistently, with levels staying above 32% over the entire duration, peaking at 36.59% during 2016, and closing at 33.80% for 2022 with minimal variation. The West fluctuated mildly, starting at 18.47% in 2016, rising to 28.54% in 2020, then reducing marginally to 25.43% in 2022. The South showed a sharp drop from 26.16% in 2016 to 17.97% in 2018, then recovered to 24.46% in 2021, though ending slightly lower at 23.06% in 2022. The North had the highest fluctuation, reaching 29.33% in 2018 before plummeting to 13.07% in 2021, then recovering mildly to 17.69% in 2022. These trends indicate that the East was the area most hit by counterfeiting, while the North had high fluctuations. As opposed to that, the South and West showed relatively more stability with periodic surges and dips.

	Counterfeiting						
	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
W	18.47	21.51	18.62	27.58	28.54	26	25.43
S	26.16	19.52	17.97	21.46	19.29	24.46	23.06
N	18.76	26.31	29.33	15.04	16.58	13.07	17.69
E	36.59	32.64	34.06	35.90	35.56	36.46	33.80
	100	100	100	100	100	100	100



Sub Heading: Trends in Total Economic Crimes in India

This table will show the total economic offences in India which occurred between the period of 2016-2022 which includes all types of economic offences as describes in this paper in all the regions of it.

The data represented is of different regions- W, E, S, N. These regions represent different geographic areas and the rate of total economic offences in that region, for the years 2016- 2022.

Table No. 3: Trends in Total Economic Crimes India, 2016-2022

Data Analysis of Total Economic Crimes in India

The present study shows that, from 2016 to 2022, overall economic crimes had varying trends in the four regions (W, S, N, E), which reflected regional variations in crime patterns and effectiveness of law enforcement the western region (W) experienced fluctuations in the rates of economic crime across the years. Beginning at 31.38% in the year 2016, the rate gradually fell to 28.58% in 2018, increased to 30.99% in 2019. There was a dramatic fall of 26.61% in the year 2020, which was lowest for this sector. This was followed by a rebound in 2021 (28.52%) and a slight increase to 29.14% in 2022. The fluctuations indicate that economic crimes in the west might have been impacted by varying enforcement tactics, economic conditions, or changes in criminal patterns. The short-term dip in 2020 might be due to interruptions caused by the pandemic, which affected financial crimes globally.

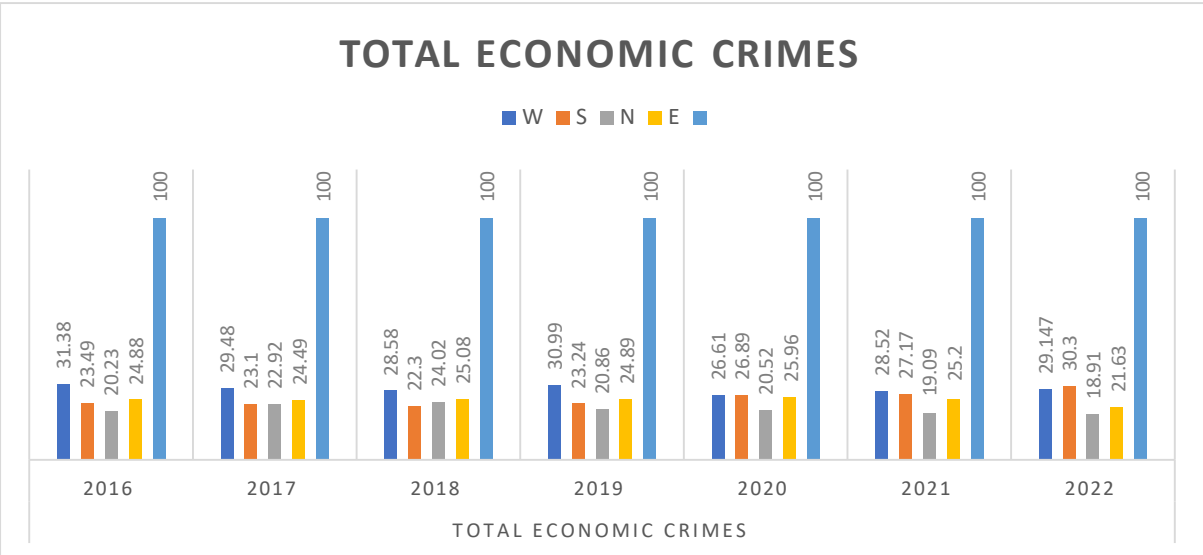
The southern region exhibited a trend of increasing overall, reflecting greater economic crime activity over time. Beginning at 23.49% in 2016, the rate remained relatively stable until 2019, varying between 22.30% and 23.24%. But from 2020 onwards, there was a steep increase to 26.89%, followed by 2021 (27.17%) and topped 30.30% in 2022. Such steady increase indicates the rise in economic crime in the south, perhaps because of increased cybercrime, fraud, or financial malpractices. The coronavirus pandemic also hastened financial fraud as companies and people relied more on electronic transactions, which increased opportunities for financial crimes.

The northern area initially experienced a rise in economic offenses, followed by a gradual fall. The percentage increased from 20.23% in 2016 to 24.02% in 2018, the peak of this time. Since 2018, the crimes of an economic nature in the north have begun to decline, reaching 20.86% in 2019 and even further to 18.91% in 2022. That downward trajectory indicates that enforcement efforts, policy reforms, or economic changes may have reduced economic crimes in this region successfully. Maybe the preventive measures, tougher regulations, or improvements in financial security were the contributors to this consistent decline.

The eastern region was relatively stable for a majority of the period prior to declining more recently. Starting at 24.88% in 2016, the percentages wavering slightly between 24-25% up until 2020 peaked at 25.96%. Though, subsequent to 2020, the percentages began declining, to 25.20% in 2021 and highly to 21.63% in 2022. The latest decline could indicate more robust law enforcement activities, improve financial security practices, or shifts in criminal activity

strategies that led economic crime activity away from this area. Overall, economic crime trends were different in the regions. The western sector reported fluctuations with no definite pattern, the southern sector a sustained growth reflecting intensification of financial crime activity, and the northern sector an initial upswing but followed by a constant decline suggesting efficacious measures being in place to control them. The eastern sector remained level until recently registering an appreciable reduction. These variations illustrate how economic crimes evolve due to law enforcement activities, economic conditions, and technological innovations in various areas.

Total Economic Crimes							
	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
W	31.38	29.48	28.58	30.99	26.61	28.52	29.14
S	23.49	23.10	22.30	23.24	26.89	27.17	30.30
N	20.23	22.92	24.02	20.86	20.52	19.09	18.91
E	24.88	24.49	25.08	24.89	25.96	25.20	21.63
	100	100	100	100	100	100	100



B. Court Disposal

Sub Heading: Trends Cases Sent for Trial During the Year

Court Disposal is the final outcome of a case after it has been processed or decided by the court. Legal cases designated for trial relate to those that have been formally charged and referred to a court for full judicial hearings. This means that after a preliminary investigation and early hearings, there is sufficient evidence to proceed to trial, at which evidence is presented, witnesses are allowed to testify, and a verdict is delivered. This table will show the total no. of cases sent for trial during the year in India in all the regions of it. The data represented is of different regions- W, E, S, N. These regions represent different geographic areas and the rate of total economic offences in that region, for the years 2016-2022.\

Table No. 4: Trends in Cases Sent for Trial During the Year India, 2016-2022

Data Analysis of Cases sent for trial

The present study shows that, from 2016 to 2022, trends in the number of cases forwarded for trial within the four regions (W, S, N, E) presented different patterns, indicating differential regional variations in legal processing and activities. The western region (W) revealed a shifting trend in cases forwarded for trial. Beginning at 23.04% in 2016, the percentage decreased in the following years to 19.73% in 2018 and 19.71% in 2019. There was a slight increase to 19.81% in 2020, then went up to 21.04% in 2021 before decreasing again to 18.47% in 2022. These fluctuations indicate that the number of cases forwarded for trial in the west was influenced by alterations in the legal system, perhaps due to factors such as case volume, case processing speed, or crime trend shifts. The slight decrease in recent years could imply fewer serious cases or improved pre-trial arrangements like settlements or dismissals.

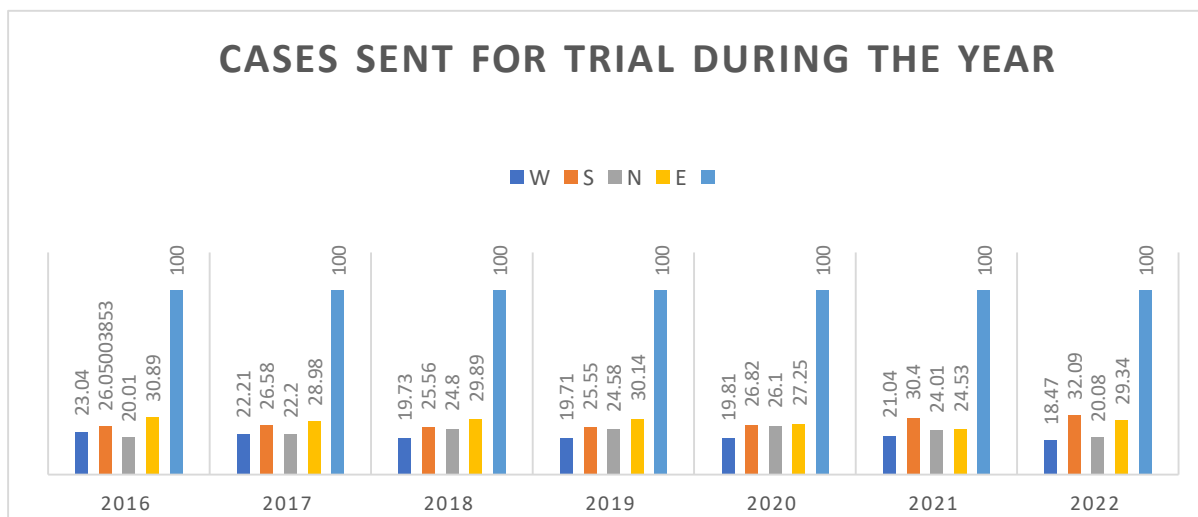
The southern region (S) indicated a continuous increase in cases referred to trial throughout the years. Beginning at 26.05% in 2016, it increased gradually, to 26.58% in 2017 and 25.56% in 2018, with minimal fluctuation during the said years. Nonetheless, the total number of cases forwarded for trial increased in 2021 (30.40%) and reached its peak in 2022 at 32.09%. This consistent rise reflects an increasing load on the judicial system in the south and implies either a rise in the number of cases that are filed, a rise in seriousness of charges, or a decline in other resolutions such as settlements. It may also represent broader regional patterns or changes in law enforcement practices that cause more cases to be tried.

In the north region (N), there was a spike in cases sent for trial between 2017 and 2019. Beginning at 20.01% in 2016, the rate went up steadily in the following years, reaching its highest point of 24.80% in 2018 and remaining quite high at 24.58% in 2019. But from 2019, there was an evident decline to 20.52% in 2020, followed by further drops to 19.09% in 2021 and 18.91% in 2022. This indicates that fewer cases were being sent for trial in the north over time, perhaps because fewer serious crimes were being committed or because better pre-trial solutions like settlements or plea bargains were being utilized.

The eastern region (E) showed a pattern of stability with a strong peak in the early years followed by a fall. Beginning at 30.89% in 2016, the region had minor fluctuations in the subsequent years, reaching its peak at 30.14% in 2019 before plummeting sharply in 2020 (27.25%). The rate subsequently declined again to 24.53% in 2021 but rose to 29.34% again in 2022. This indicates that even though the east had a quite high rate of cases referred for trial, numbers did have some volatility during the mid-2020s and most probably captured a shift in the type of cases being lodged, together with adjustments to the judicial process or impacts from extrinsic influences such as the COVID-19 pandemic.

In short, the southern region exhibited the most consistent growth in cases referred to trial, suggesting an increase in legal workload. The eastern region had a high rate but saw fluctuating patterns, which may indicate differences in case types and legal processing. The northern region witnessed a peak and a decline, implying fewer trials over the recent past, while the western region went through fluctuations, a downward movement of late. Such regional variation in trends points towards the varied dynamics of legal processes, crime incidence, and outcomes of cases across the country, which may have been influenced by legal, economic, or social factors particular to each region.

	Cases Sent for Trial During the Year						
	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
W	23.04	22.21	19.73	19.71	19.81	21.04	18.47
S	26.05	26.58	25.56	25.55	26.82	30.40	32.09
N	20.01	22.20	24.80	24.58	26.10	24.01	20.08
E	30.89	28.98	29.89	30.14	27.25	24.53	29.34
	100	100	100	100	100	100	100



Sub Heading: Trends in No. of Cases Disposed by Plea Bargaining in India

Plea bargaining cases are those concluded legally through a negotiated agreement between the prosecution and defence. Under this agreement, the defendant agrees to plead guilty to a lesser offense or to the original offense in exchange for a reduced sentence or other beneficial terms. Plea bargaining is a substitute for the full trial and is often used as a way to speed up the judicial process, reduce court congestion, and eliminate the uncertainty attached to trial outcomes. This table will show the total no. of Cases in India disposed by plea bargaining in all the regions of it. The data represented is of different regions- W, E, S, N. These regions represent different geographic areas and the rate of total economic offences in that region, for the years 2016- 2022.

Table No. 5: Trends in Cases Disposed by Plea Bargaining in India, 2016-2022

Data Analysis of cases disposed by plea bargaining

The present study shows that, between 2016 and 2022, the number of settled cases by plea bargaining exhibited apparent differences in the four regions (W, S, N, E), illustrating different trends and approaches in the management of legal cases. The western region (W) utilized plea bargaining the most, with the percentage of cases being settled in this manner varying significantly. It began in 55.77% in 2016, then to 31.35% in 2017, and down further to 27.78% in 2018. In 2019, nevertheless, this was up to 51.59%, and next rose sharply to 70.83% in 2020. This plateau of plea bargains could possibly be attributed to continued efforts toward reducing case backlog and mitigating the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on the courts. Although there was a decline in 2021 to 89.09%, the region continued to predominantly depend on plea

bargaining, though it declined once more to 79.46% in 2022. The western region trend indicates a consistent shift towards disposing of cases by plea bargaining, particularly in the latter years, presumably to decongest courts and prevent lengthy trials.

The southern region (S) presented a quite different trend. Plea bargaining was hardly used, with only 14.34% of cases being settled through it in 2016. In 2017, it fell to 0.98%, then continued to decrease until it reached 0% in 2020 and remained there until 2022. This shows that plea bargaining was not prevalent in the south, perhaps because there were other legal practices, policies, or an inclination towards having trials rather than negotiated settlements. The absence of plea bargaining over the past few years could also indicate more stringent guidelines from prosecutors or judges against such agreements.

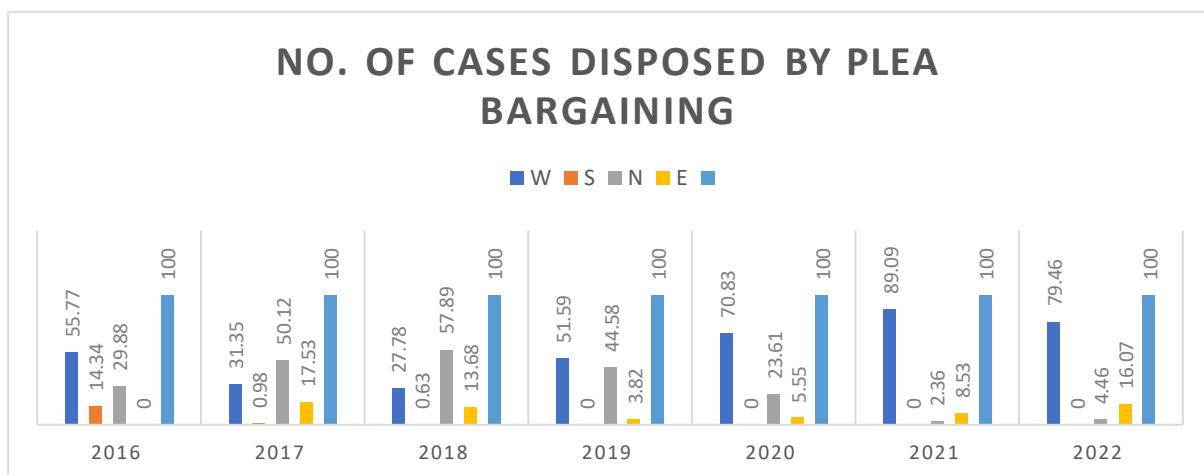
The northern region (N) exhibited a mixed but overall declining trend in plea bargaining. During 2016, 29.88% of the cases were disposed of by this means, which increased by leaps and bounds to 50.12% in 2017 and went up to 57.89% in 2018. From 2019, however, there was a clear dip in the percentage of cases disposed of by way of plea bargaining. By 2021, merely 2.36% were disposed of in this manner, increasing minimally to 4.46% in 2022. The dramatic fall indicates a transformation in the manner in which cases were disposed of in the northern area, possibly because of changes in prosecution policy, public policy, or legal procedures that encouraged trials or alternative methods of case disposition.

The eastern region (E) had irregular application of plea bargaining. No cases were resolved in such a manner during 2016, but 17.53% in the year 2017 and percentages in subsequent years were different. The peak of 13.68% was in 2018, which slowly fell back to 5.55% in 2020. Plea bargaining became slightly more frequent in 2021 (8.53%), before increasing again to 16.07% in 2022. This fluctuation indicates that the eastern region could have adopted plea bargaining practices more cautiously, depending on different types of cases, judicial decisions, or regional legal norms.

In general, the western region had the most consistent and high use of plea bargaining, particularly post-2020, indicating a deliberate shift towards quicker resolutions. The southern region utilized very little or no plea bargaining, which indicates an alternative preference of legal approaches or stricter prosecutorial tactics. The north had its peak in the earlier years but then plummeted sharply, perhaps due to modifications in regional court practices or changes in policy. The east, however, demonstrated irregular utilization of plea bargaining, with fluctuating use over time, presumably due to altering perceptions regarding negotiated

agreements. These regional variations highlight the complex and diverse methods of plea bargaining in various parts of the nation.

	No. of Cases Disposed by Plea Bargaining						
	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
W	55.77	31.35	27.78	51.59	70.83	89.09	79.46
S	14.34	0.98	0.63	0	0	0	0
N	29.88	50.12	57.89	44.58	23.61	2.36	4.46
E	0	17.53	13.68	3.82	5.55	8.53	16.07
	100	100	100	100	100	100	100



Sub Heading: Trends in Cases Compounded in India

Compounded cases" refers to court cases that have been settled via a mutual accord between the aggrieved parties, as opposed to proceeding to an entire trial or court judgment. Compounding a case in terms of law often means that the victim (complainant) and the offender have reached an agreement, most often leading to the dropping of charges, especially in cases

where the law accommodates such arrangements. This table will show the total no. of Cases Compounded in India in all the regions of it.

The data represented is of different regions- W, E, S, N. These regions represent different geographic areas and the rate of cases compounded, for the years 2016-2022.

Table No. 6: Trends in Cases Compounded in India, 2016-2022

Analysis of cases compounded

The present study shows that, the case data collated from 2016-2022 evidences stark distinctions by region and indicates differing patterns in legal pacts in the West (W), South (S), North (N), and East (E). The South consistently accounted for the largest proportion of combined cases, beginning at 76.6% in 2016, peaking at 85.47% in 2021, and dropping slightly to 81.89% in 2022. This indicates that in the South, legal compromises and mutual agreements are the primary means of resolving disputes, most probably because of cultural, legal, or organizational factors favouring out-of-court settlements. The persistently high levels in this region are in sharp contrast to all the other regions. In the West, the combined cases gradually fell, from 15.76% in 2016 to a low point of 10.34% in 2021, before slightly increasing to 11.03% in 2022. Although still representing a substantial proportion, the declining trend indicates that fewer cases were being resolved through mutual settlements over time. This may be due to shifting legal principles, tighter enforcement, or a change in the way disputes were resolved in the legal system.

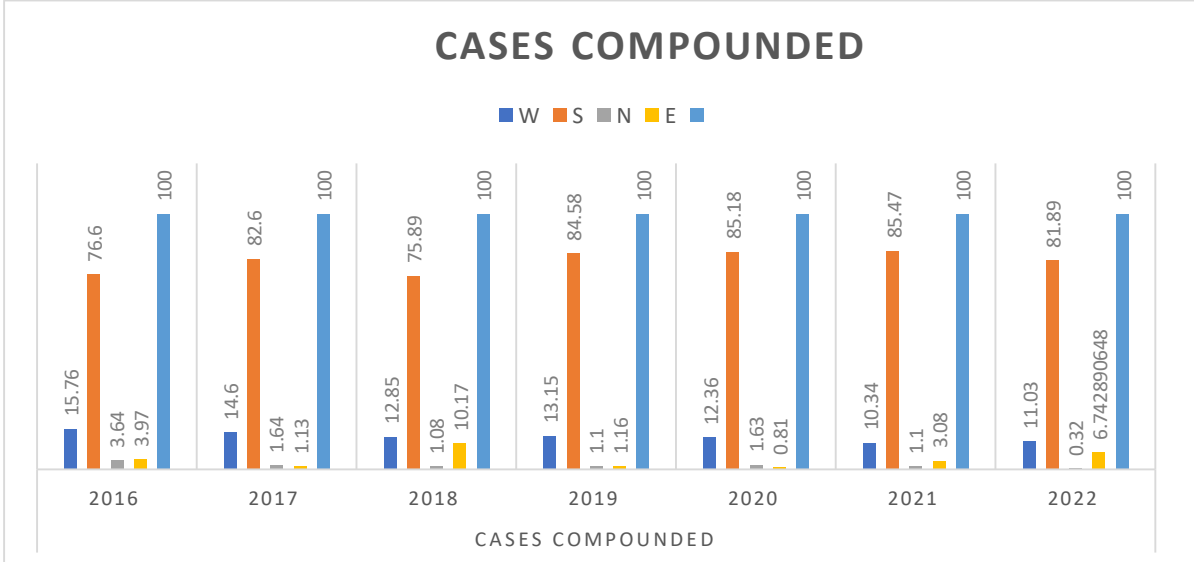
North had the smallest percentage of combined cases over the years. From 3.64% in 2016, the figures went down gradually to just 0.32% in 2022. The low overall figures indicate that combined cases are not a norm in this region, perhaps because of legal restrictions, a weaker tendency toward contracts, or an inclination toward full court proceedings. The dramatic drop over the years indicates the declining importance of contracts in the North.

The East revealed a fluctuating trend in combined cases, with figures varying extensively. It began in 3.97% in 2016, then declined to a mere 1.13% in 2017. The largest rise occurred in 2018, when combined cases rose to 10.17%, but this was not sustained, as the percentage rapidly declined to 1.16% in 2019 and plummeted to 0.81% in 2020. There was a slight rise in 2021 (3.08%), followed by another hike in 2022 (6.74%). The differences in this area imply

that external factors, such as variations in legal policies, enforcement, or popular sentiment towards legal contracts, might have affected the way cases were being settled.

By and large, the evidence suggests that consolidating cases is very popular in the South, where a majority of cases are disposed of on terms of settlement, whereas the phenomenon is fairly rare in the North. The West, although still important, is trending downward, while the East has also experienced significant fluctuations, possibly because of changes in law or administration. These patterns could be indicative of deeper legal, social, and economic forces shaping how disputes are being resolved across regions.

	2016	2017	2018	Cases Compounded	2020	2021	2022
W	15.76	14.6	12.85	13.15	12.36	10.34	11.03
S	76.6	82.6	75.89	84.58	85.18	85.47	81.89
N	3.64	1.64	1.08	1.1	1.63	1.1	0.32
E	3.97	1.13	10.17	1.16	0.81	3.08	6.74
	100	100	100	100	100	100	100



C. Police Disposal

Sub Heading: Trends in Cases Reported During the Year in India

The term "Cases reported within the year" refers to the cumulative number of legal cases that have actually been documented or recorded by authorities within a given year. Such cases can be for a variety of offenses, such as criminal activities, civil disputes, fraud, counterfeiting, or any other legal matters, depending on the scenario. The reported cases represent newly identified occurrences as opposed to previously identified ones. Such information is often used to analyse crime trends, assess the efficiency of law enforcement, and identify emerging issues that might require policy intervention. Fluctuations in reported cases can be influenced by a number of factors, including improvements in reporting systems, changes in legal definitions, the effectiveness of law enforcement, awareness, or socio-economic factors. This table will show the total no. of **Cases Reported During the Year** in India in all the regions of it. The data represented is of different regions- W, E, S, N. These regions represent different geographic areas and the rate of Cases Reported During the Year, for the years 2016-2022.

Table No. 7: Trends in Cases Reported During the Year in India, 2016-2022

Analysis of cases reported during the year

The present study shows that, the data on cases reported between 2016 and 2022 indicate trends in the number of new legal cases registered in the West (W), South (S), North (N), and East (E). Over this period, the number of reported cases varied, indicating changes in crime patterns, the effectiveness of law enforcement, and social factors influencing the way cases are registered. The West maintained a relatively consistent trend, beginning at 31.34% in 2016 and slightly altering throughout the years. It was 30.92% in 2019, decreased to 26.57% in 2020, and increased again to 29.11% in 2022. This indicates that the overall number of reported cases in the West didn't experience significant changes but experienced moderate changes, perhaps because of occasional shifts in enforcement practices or crime patterns.

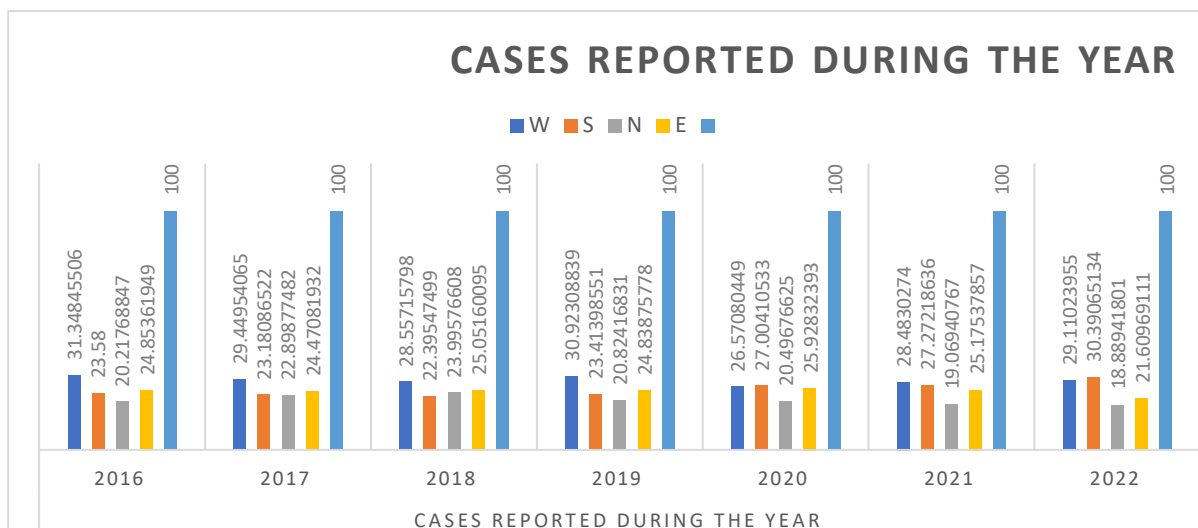
The South also demonstrated a slow increase in its proportion of reported cases. It started at 23.58% in 2016, remained relatively consistent until 2019, but then had a sharp increase from 27.0% in 2020 to 30.39% in 2022. This trend is indicative of increasing incidents being formally recorded, most likely because crime is increasing, reporting systems are improving, or public awareness is greater and prompting more cases to be reported to the authorities.

In the North, there was a different pattern, with a gradual fall in reported offenses. Having begun at 20.21% in 2016, it experienced a slight increase, peaking at 23.99% in 2018, before beginning to decline to 18.88% in 2022. The falling trend could reflect either actual reductions in crime or reduced reporting, perhaps as a result of lower public confidence in the police or fewer incidents being formally reported.

The East remained fairly consistent for most of the decade, hovering between 24-25% from 2016 to 2021. Yet in 2022, it plummeted sharply to 21.60%. This precipitous decline might indicate shifts in policy, shifting patterns of crime, or variations in how effectively the police are operating in the region.

By and large, the South alone demonstrated a consistent growth in reported cases, while the North demonstrated a decline. The West experienced moderate changes, while the East remained constant for the majority of the time before undergoing a fall in 2022. These trends indicate that case reporting has mixed local determinants, including crime rates, law enforcement tactics, and community engagement with the justice system.

	Cases Reported During the Year						
	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
W	31.34	29.44	28.55	30.92	26.57	28.48	29.11
S	23.58	23.18	22.39	23.41	27.0	27.27	30.39
N	20.21	22.89	23.99	20.82	20.49	19.06	18.88
E	24.85	24.47	25.05	24.83	25.92	25.17	21.60
	100	100	100	100	100	100	100



Sub Heading: Trends in Total Cases for Investigation in India

The total number of cases to be investigated represents the workload burden on law enforcement agencies and is a measure of the efficacy of the legal system. A high number of cases may indicate increased crime rates or inefficiency in case closure, whereas a low number may suggest rapid processing of cases or reduced reported offenses. Different factors, including improvements in investigation practices, improvements in judicial processes, and changes in policies, may affect the overall number of cases under investigation. This table will show the total no. Total Cases for Investigation in India in all the regions of it. The data represented is of different regions- W, E, S, N. These regions represent different geographic areas and the rate of Cases Investigated During the Year, for the years 2016-2022.

Table No. 8: Trends in Cases Reported During the Year in India, 2016-2022

Analysis of total cases for investigation

The present study shows that, the data of total cases to investigate between the years 2016 and 2022 reveals trends in workload of law enforcement agencies in the West (W), South (S), North (N), and East (E). Both new and existing cases are accounted for in the numbers, highlighting how each region has managed its backlog of cases and efficiency in investigations over time.

The West exhibited a relatively consistent pattern, beginning at 28.12% in 2016 and varying slightly, hitting 27.29% in 2019, then decreasing to 25.58% in 2020. There was a minor bounce back in 2021 (26.12%), but the percentage dropped again to 25.90% in 2022. This suggests that the overall number of cases under investigation in the West remained largely unchanged, with small variations potentially because of case clearance rates or variations in crime reporting.

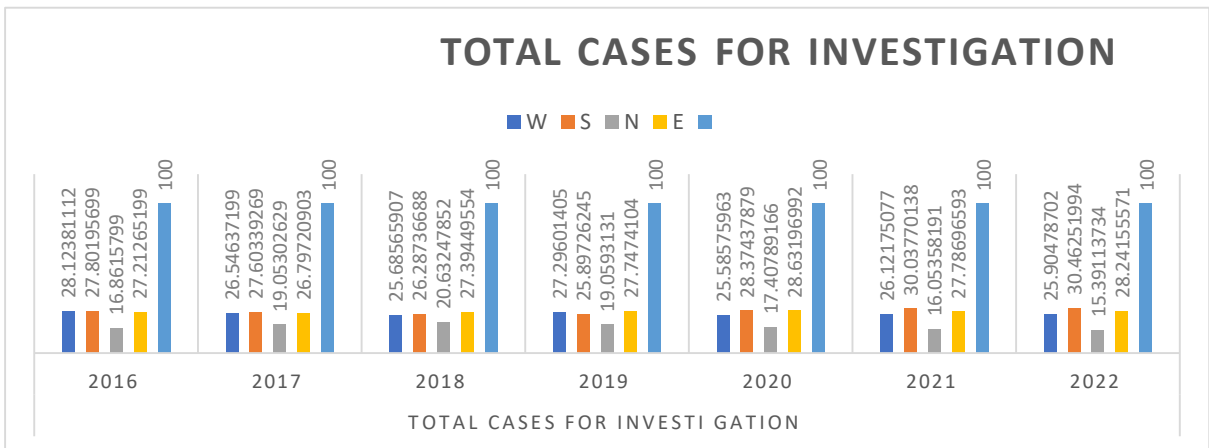
The South had a rising trend throughout the years. Beginning at 27.80% in 2016, it remained relatively constant until 2019 when it fell to 25.89%. Yet, from 2020 onwards, there was an unmistakable spike, reaching its peak at 30.46% in 2022. This spike indicates that the police had to deal with an increasing number of cases, perhaps due to increased crime rates, a lag in solving cases, or improved reporting systems resulting in more cases requiring investigation. The South was the only region that revealed a consistent increase in its investigative burden over time.

The North had a declining trend, starting at 16.86% in 2016 and increasing marginally to 20.63% in 2018, thereafter declining consistently to 15.39% in 2022. This decline could reflect better clearance rates of cases, lower reported crime, or a reduction in legal action such that less follows investigation. It could also reflect issues such as underreporting or reduced police activity

The East was relatively stable, with figures ranging from 26.79% in 2017 to a peak of 28.63% in 2020. Despite slight movement, the East was consistent in its proportion of overall cases under investigation, finishing at 28.24% in 2022. This indicates that although the workload in the East moved slightly, it remained a large proportion of the national overall investigative workload.

Overall, the South registered an increasing trend in cases under investigation, indicating that there's a growing demand on law enforcement. The North, however, had a declining trend in its proportion of cases under investigation. The West experienced minor fluctuations but was generally stable, while the East maintained a constant number of cases. These trends indicate variations in crime patterns, effectiveness of law enforcement, and case-solving ability in various regions over time.

	Total Cases for Investigation						
	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
W	28.12	26.54	25.68	27.29	25.58	26.12	25.90
S	27.80	27.60	26.28	25.89	28.37	30.03	30.46
N	16.86	19.05	20.63	19.05	17.40	16.05	15.39
E	27.21	26.79	27.39	27.74	28.63	27.78	28.24
	100	100	100	100	100	100	100



Sub Heading: Trends in Cases Not Investigated in India

The number of uninvestigated reports can be indicative of inefficiencies or barriers in the law enforcement and legal systems, such as resource constraints, inadequate staffing, or systemic issues that hinder the timely resolution of all reported occurrences. This table will show the total no Cases Not Investigated in India in all the regions of it.

The data represented is of different regions- W, E, S, N. These regions represent different geographic areas and the rate of Cases Not Investigated During the Year, for the years 2016- 2022.

Table No. 9: Trends in Cases Not Investigated During the Year in India, 2016-2022

Analysis of cases not investigated

The present study shows that, Cases not investigated between 2016 and 2022 indicates significant variations across regions with varying trends in the proportion of cases that were not followed up on by law enforcement in the West (W), South (S), North (N), and East (E). The figures indicate variances in effectiveness of law enforcement, case priorities, as well as system challenges impacting case investigations.

In the West, the proportion of cases not investigated was highly variable. It began at 58.33% in 2016, declined to 36.36% in 2017, and decreased to 20% in 2018, reflecting improved investigation efforts. The proportion again increased to 42.10% in 2019 and reached 100% in 2020, which means all reported cases during that year remained uninvestigated. Following this peak, the percentage declined to 47.05% in 2021 and 50% in 2022, indicating continued challenges in investigation activities. The fluctuating trend in the West indicates inconsistency in law enforcement operations, possibly caused by policy changes, resources, or external factors, which could have affected case management in 2020.

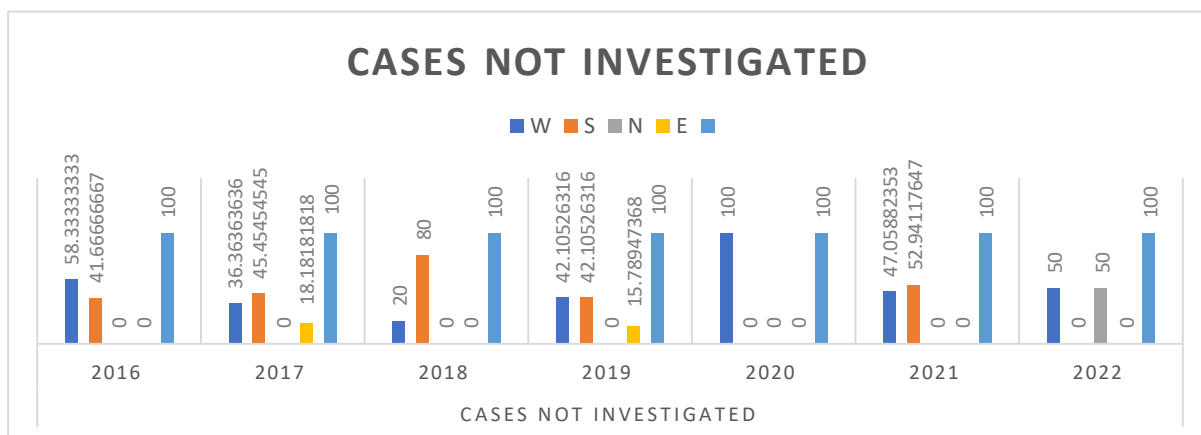
In the South, the trend is also unstable. The percentage of uninvestigated cases was 41.66% in 2016 and 45.45% in 2017. Nevertheless, in 2018, it skyrocketed to 80%, indicating a serious failure of investigation that year. In 2019, the percentage declined back to 42.10%, which is at the 2016 level. Interestingly enough, in 2020, there were 0% cases that were not investigated, indicating law enforcement in the South thoroughly handled all the reported cases in that year. But in 2021, the figure rose to 52.94%, before falling back to 0% in 2022. This trend indicates fluctuating efficiency in investigations, possibly from varying law enforcement priorities, deployment of resources, or administrative challenges.

North, between 2016 and 2021, had a constant percentage of 0% of cases not investigated, indicating all reported cases were at least investigated to some extent. But in 2022, there was a drastic surge to 50%, reflecting a huge failure in investigation work that year. This drastic turn could be as a result of policy changes in law enforcement, an increase in cases that congested the investigative capacity, or other external factors that impacted on operations in the area.

In the East, the rate of cases not investigated was 0% in 2016, reflecting total case management that year. But in 2017, the figure rose to 18.18%, which meant that there was a temporary setback for investigations. It dropped again in 2018 to 0%, indicating a complete investigation.

In 2019, it increased again to 15.78%, but this represented some inconsistency in how cases were dealt with. For the years between 2020 and 2022, the percentage remained at 0%, which meant that in those years, the East continued to fully investigate all the reported cases. These trends indicate that enforcement by law varied significantly among areas and years. Resource distribution, efficiency of the judicial process, administrative agendas, and outside disturbances (e.g., the COVID-19 pandemic) could have affected these fluctuations. The North and East tended to perform better in investigation rates overall, but the West and South exhibited substantial issues, particularly in specific years.

	Cases Not Investigated						
	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
W	58.33	36.36	20	42.10	100	47.05	50
S	41.66	45.45	80	42.10	0	52.94	0
N	0	0	0	0	0	0	50
E	0	18.18	0	15.78	0	0	0
	100	100	100	100	100	100	100



D. Cognizable Crimes

Sub Heading: Trends in Total Cases for Investigation in India

The total number of cases under investigation provides useful information about the workload of law enforcement agencies and their efficiency in case handling. A high number of cases may indicate increasing crime rates, current backlogs, or case processing delays, while a low number may suggest more efficient case closure or decreasing criminal activity. Different factors, including improvements in investigative techniques, improvements in judicial processes, and changes in policies, may affect this number. This table will show the total no Cases for Investigation in India in all the regions of it.

The data represented is of different regions- W, E, S, N. These regions represent different geographic areas and the rate of Cases Not Investigated During the Year, for the years 2001- 2015.

Table No. 10: Trends in Cases for Investigation During the Year in India, 2001-2015

Analysis of total cases for investigation

The present study shows that, the aggregate of cases for consideration between 2001 and 2015 indicates significant trends between four categories (W, S, N, and E) that reflect trends in case distribution over time.

The "W" category, being the dominant one in 2001 with a figure of 46.30%, then went down over the next years to reach a level of 40.02 in 2002 and then varied between 33.27 and 40.35 between the years 2003-2008. It did show an overall comeback in the post-2008 years, rising as high as 35.24 in the year 2011 and steadily progressing up to its high of 47.91 in 2014 before minutely dropping in 2015 to a value of 47.17. This indicates that after some declination initially, "W" cases highly regained ground in subsequent years and also crossed their earlier 2000s values eventually.

Meanwhile, the "S" category stayed largely unchanged from 2001 to 2004, fluctuating between 22.52% and 23.67%. Since 2005, "S" experienced a gradual increase, reaching its peak of 33.10% in 2009. It then started a gradual but steady decrease, reaching 30.36% in 2011, 28.49%

in 2013, and eventually hitting its lowest at 25.60% in 2015. This shows that although "S" cases grew more prominent during the mid-to-late 2000s, they progressively lost share to other categories during the early 2010s.

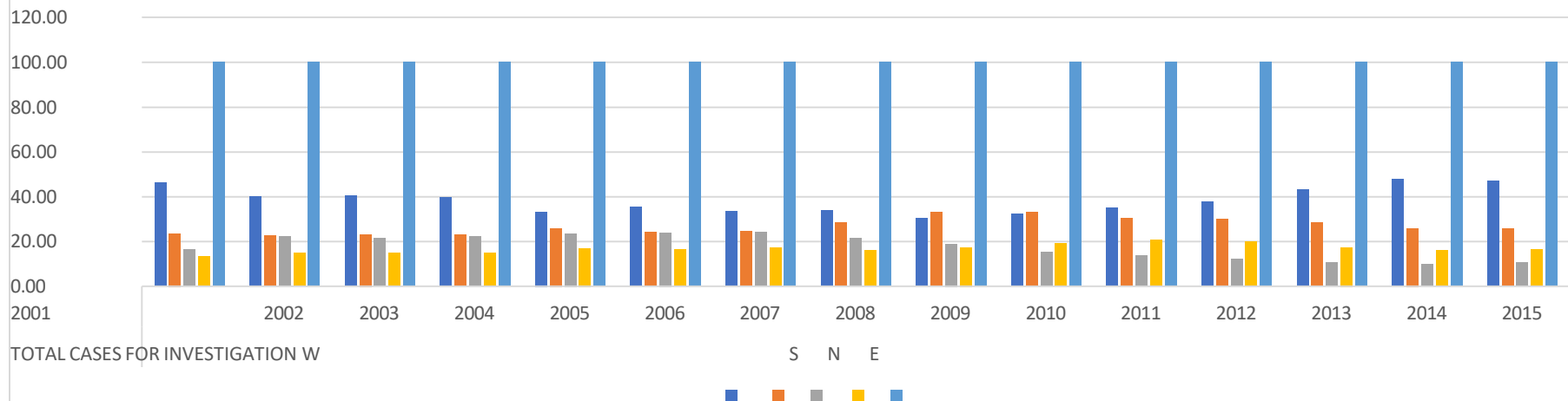
The "N" category had a distinct trend. Beginning at 16.56% in 2001, "N" cases peaked at 24.27% in 2007, remaining at a relatively high rate throughout the mid-2000s. But since 2008, "N" cases started a consistent decline, falling to 19.03% in 2009, 15.35% in 2010, and hitting their lowest point at 9.84% in 2014 before recovering slightly to 10.59% in 2015. This indicates that "N" cases were significant in the 2000s but declined consistently in subsequent years.

The "E" category exhibited a generally flat trend with minor fluctuations. It started at 13.48% in 2001 and progressively increased to a high of 20.72% in 2011. Yet, once this peak was attained, "E" cases decreased slightly, reaching 17.44% in 2013 and stabilizing around 16.24%– 16.64% in 2014 and 2015. This indicates that although "E" cases increased in significance during the late 2000s and early 2010s, they began to plateau in subsequent years.

Overall, the data shows a changing pattern in case distribution over time. "W" cases initially decreased but increased significantly in later years, regaining their leading position. "S" cases rose in the mid-2000s but steadily declined after 2009. "N" cases peaked in the late 2000s but saw a big drop afterwards. "E" cases showed a steady increase but eventually became stable. These trends show the way the emphasis of investigations has shifted over time across various categories.

TOTAL CASES FOR INVESTIGATION															
	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015
W	46.30	40.02	40.35	39.66	33.27	35.44	33.75	34.06	30.38	32.39	35.24	37.89	43.39	47.91	47.17
S	23.67	22.52	23.25	23.01	26.04	24.20	24.79	28.46	33.10	33.07	30.36	29.94	28.49	26.01	25.60
N	16.56	22.43	21.39	22.36	23.59	23.96	24.27	21.57	19.03	15.35	13.69	12.08	10.68	9.84	10.59
E	13.48	15.03	15.01	14.97	17.10	16.40	17.20	15.91	17.49	19.19	20.72	20.08	17.44	16.24	16.64
	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100

TOTAL CASES FOR INVESTIGATION



Sub Heading: Trends in Total Cases Investigated in India

Cases Investigated represents the total number of cases that law enforcement agencies have actively pursued within a specified period. This measurement is critical in assessing the effectiveness of law enforcement, as it showcases the ability of authorities to handle reported crimes and legal matters. A high percentage of investigated cases reflects efficient policing and the best use of available resources, while a low percentage can reflect backlogs, resources constraints, or deficiencies in the investigation process.

This table will show the total no Cases Investigated in India in all the regions of it.

The data represented is of different regions- W, E, S, N. These regions represent different geographic areas and the rate of Cases Investigated During the Year, for the years 2001-2015.

Table No. 11: Trends in Cases Investigated During the Year in India, 2001-2015

Analysis of cases investigated

The present study shows that, Data for cases examined between the period of 2001 and 2015 reveal evident trends for four groups (W, S, N, and E), demonstrating how the number of cases varied annually. The "W" category started as the biggest group in 2001 at 49.94% and remained largely unchanged in the early 2000s, with small fluctuations but remaining above 46% until 2004. But in 2005, it fell sharply to 36.7%, followed by small fluctuations between 36.96% and 39.84% until 2012. From 2013 onwards, there was a rapid increase, reaching the peak at 53.66% in 2014, before falling slightly to 47.55% in 2015. This indicates that while "W" cases initially decreased, they recovered strongly in subsequent years.

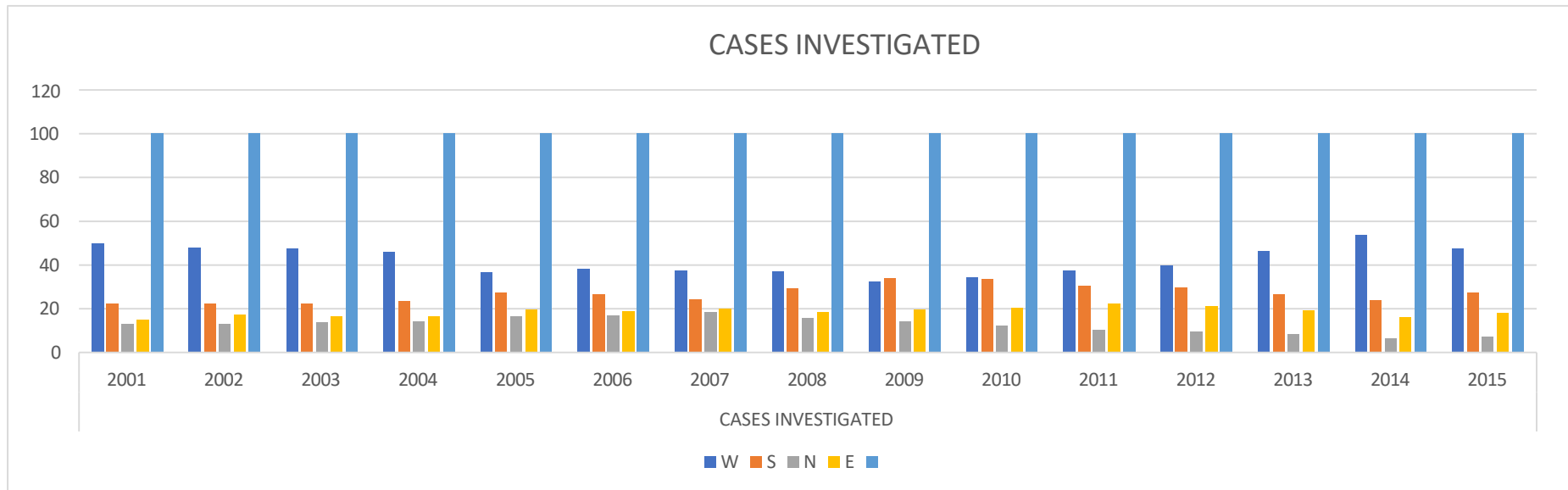
The "S" category was relatively stable between 2001 and 2004, fluctuating between 22.1% and 23.49%. There was a huge spike in 2005 to 27.19%, and the trend kept rising to 2009 when it reached a high of 33.85%. But after reaching this peak, "S" cases then began to diminish, falling to their lowest level of 23.92% in 2014 before increasing somewhat to 27.53% in 2015. This trend indicates that "S" cases became increasingly significant in the mid-to-late 2000s but then lost some of their importance, though still forming a majority of all cases analysed.

The "N" category followed a different course. In 2001, it constituted 12.85% of cases and experienced a minor growth, hitting a peak at 18.42% in 2007. But since 2008, "N" cases gradually decreased, reaching as low as 14.06% in 2009, 12.07% in 2010, and ultimately reaching their lowest point at 6.24% in 2014. In 2015, there was a minor rebound to 7.16%, but the overall pattern continued to decline heavily over the years. This means that while "N" cases were investigated more often during the early and mid-2000s, they lost importance later.

The "E" category had a largely flat trend with fluctuations. It began at 15.09% in 2001 and continued to rise steadily, reaching a peak of 22.44% in 2011. After this, though, they began to decline, falling to 19.22% in 2013 and hitting their lowest point at 16.16% in 2014 before rising slightly again to 17.74% in 2015. This indicates that "E" cases became more significant in the late 2000s and early 2010s but then declined.

In general, the trends indicate that "W" cases initially declined but then rose strongly to become the largest category again by 2014. "S" cases gained significance in the mid-2000s but then steadily fell, with a minor recovery in 2015. "N" cases increased initially but then fell sharply after 2007, indicating a lack of focus in investigations. "E" cases increased consistently up to 2011 but began declining thereafter. These adjustments reflect changes in focus of investigation and potential external influences on how cases were allocated over time.

	CASES INVESTIGATED														
	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015
W	49.94	47.78	47.45	46.03	36.7	38.27	37.48	36.96	32.481	34.26	37.21	39.84	46.35	53.66	47.55
S	22.1	22.26	22.23	23.49	27.19	26.42	24.23	29.2	33.85	33.48	30.25	29.67	26.32	23.92	27.53
N	12.85	12.79	13.82	14.12	16.41	16.65	18.42	15.55	14.06	12.07	10.09	9.49	8.1	6.24	7.16
E	15.09	17.15	16.49	16.34	19.68	18.64	19.85	18.27	19.6	20.18	22.44	20.98	19.22	16.16	17.74
	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100



Heading: Trends in Total Cases Not Investigated in India

Cases Not Investigated relate to legal or criminal complaints not actively investigated by law enforcement or investigative bodies. A high ratio of cases that are not being investigated could point to inefficiency in the judicial system, limited resources, or outside forces such as political motivations or corruption. A low percentage of cases reflects that most of them are well investigated, reflecting a better investigating process.

This table will show the total no Cases Not Investigated in India in all the regions of it.

The data represented is of different regions- W, E, S, N. These regions represent different geographic areas and the rate of Cases Not Investigated During the Year, for the years 2001-2015.

Table No. 12: Trends in Cases Not Investigated During the Year in India, 2001-2015

Analysis of cases not investigated

The present study shows that, Data for cases not investigated between 2001 and 2015 reveal considerable variations between the four groups (W, S, N, and E), reflecting shifting trends in cases not examined. The "W" group started at a very low proportion in 2001 (0.66%) but increased to 3.7% in 2002 and reached the highest percentage of 4.76% in 2003. Interestingly, there were no uninvestigated cases within this group between 2004 and 2007, indicating a period of full investigation for "W" cases. But beginning in 2008, uninvestigated cases recurred, peaking at 10.52% in 2009 before declining to 7.69% in 2010. In the subsequent years, there were no uninvestigated cases occurring from 2011 to 2013, with minor variations in 2014 (1.76%) and 2015 (0.68%). This means that although the majority of "W" cases were generally investigated, there were a few lapses, particularly in 2008 and 2009.

The "S" category had more fluctuation. It began at 3.08% in 2001 and rose steeply to 12.69% in 2003. Having fallen to 6.36% in 2005, the percentage exploded in 2006 to 56.25%, indicating there were numerous cases that went uninvestigated in that year. This figure reduced in subsequent years but remained relatively high, from 14.81% in 2008 to 21.05% in 2009. In 2010, it fell to 7.69%, a low of 2.22% in 2011. Yet another significant increase occurred in 2012 when 23.68% of "S" cases were not followed up. This figure rose sharply in 2013 to 66.66%, the highest figure for this category in the data set. In 2014, it declined to 17.4%, and in 2015, it dropped to 10.2%. What this indicates is that although most "S" cases were, in

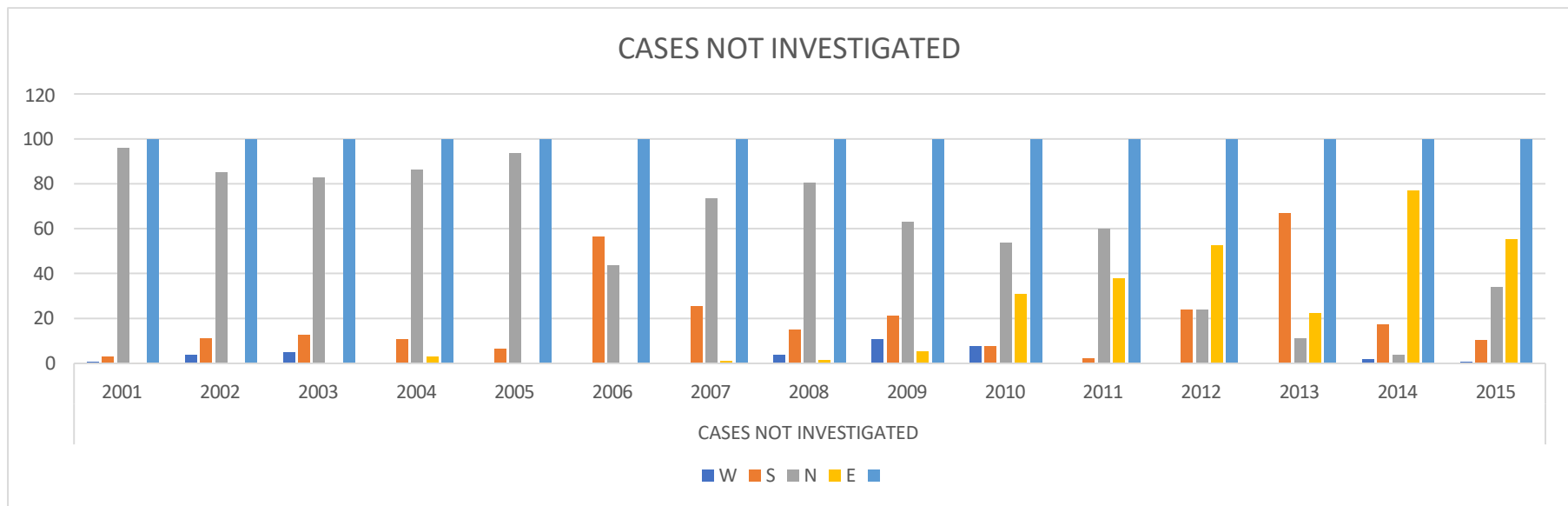
general, investigated, there were some years—particularly 2006, 2012, and 2013—in which a considerable number remained unaddressed.

The "N" group was always the largest percentage of cases that remained uninvestigated. In 2001, an enormous 96.03% of "N" cases remained uninvestigated, falling slightly in the following years but remaining at over 80% through 2004. In 2005, the rate increased once more to 93.63%, indicating nearly all "N" cases were not examined. Yet, beginning in 2006, there was an acute decline, dropping to 43.75% and fluctuating from 63.15% in 2009 to 53.84% in 2010. There was a notable decline in 2012 (23.68%) and an even more severe one in 2013 (11.11%), reaching the bottom at 3.83% in 2014. The percentage rose again in 2015 to 34.01%, showing inconsistency in the trend of investigations for "N" cases. The general trend indicates gradual but steady reductions in uninvestigated "N" cases with each passing year, albeit with some years recording surprise increases.

The "E" category also recorded quite low levels of uninvestigated cases in the initial years, at 0.22% in 2001 and zero uninvestigated cases in 2002, 2003, and 2005. The rate, however, increased in 2004 to 3.03% before remaining quite low until 2009, when it was 5.26%. A steep increase followed in 2010 (30.76%), again reaching a high in 2012 at 52.63%. The greatest spike occurred in 2014 when 76.99% of "E" cases went uninvestigated, the highest neglected category that year. Yet in 2015, the percentage fell slightly to 55.1%, although it was still high. This means that although "E" cases were primarily investigated during the initial years, from 2010 onwards, there was an increasing trend of uninvestigated cases, which peaked sharply in 2014.

These trends indicate shifting priorities in investigations of cases, where some categories receive extra attention in some years and others are neglected. The large increases in cases that were not investigated in particular years may indicate persistent problems, policy shifts, or insufficient resources that affect the investigation process.

CASES NOT INVESTIGATED															
	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015
W	0.66	3.7	4.76	0	0	0	0	3.703	10.52	7.69	0	0	0	1.76	0.68
S	3.08	11.11	12.69	10.6	6.36	56.25	25.49	14.81	21.05	7.69	2.22	23.68	66.66	17.4	10.2
N	96.03	85.18	82.53	86.36	93.63	43.75	73.52	80.24	63.15	53.84	60	23.68	11.11	3.83	34.013
E	0.22	0	0	3.03	0	0	0.98	1.23	5.26	30.76	37.77	52.63	22.22	76.99	55.1
	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100



E. Arrested Persons Disposal

Sub Heading: Trends in persons arrested in India

The phrase "disposal of arrested persons" refers to the various conclusions or terminations of cases regarding individuals who have been arrested. The idea encompasses the final determinations issued by the court or judicial authorities regarding the charges against these individuals. Understanding disposal of arrested persons is necessary for assessing the effectiveness and efficiency of the criminal justice system. It provides transparency in the resolution of cases as well as accountability in law enforcement and court proceedings.

This table will show the total no of persons arrested in India in all the regions of it.

The data represented is of different regions- W, E, S, N. These regions represent different geographic areas and the rate of persons arrested During the Year, for the years 20015-2022.

Table No. 13: Region and gender wise details of persons arrested in India between 2016-2022

Analysis of persons arrested

The present study shows that, the data depicts information regarding male and female arrests from 2016 to 2022 in four regions: West (W), South (S), North (N), and East (E). From this data, we can observe trends due to gender in the police department, alterations in the crime rate, and potential social influences on these trends.

1. Male Arrests (2016–2022)

West (W): The proportion of male arrests fluctuated between 20.69% (2016) and 26.62% (2021) before decreasing to 21.50% in 2022. The peak in 2021 indicates either increased crimes or more stringent policing, but the decline in 2022 could indicate improved law enforcement tactics or fewer male offenders.

South (S): The arrest rate of males remained relatively stable between 2016 and 2021 (20.63% to 23.83%), but in 2022, it increased to 33.55%, indicating a significant rise in police action against men in the South.

North (N): This region witnessed a sudden decline in male arrests, from 34.93% in 2016 to 24.63% in 2022. The decline may either mean fewer crimes by males or variations in police priority over time.

East (E): The male arrest percentage was largely consistent, ranging from 22.75% (2016) to 24.23% (2021) before falling to 20.29% in 2022. This decline may reflect effective crime prevention or shifts in crime trends in the region.

Important Male Arrest Insights

North recorded the highest male arrest rate in 2016 (34.93%), but it declined drastically by 2022 (24.63%). South registered a considerable increase in male arrests in 2022 (33.55%), implying an upsurge in crimes by men or police activity targeting men. West and East maintained relatively stable male arrest levels, with limited fluctuations.

2. Female Arrests (2016–2022)

West (W): The percentage of female arrests declined continuously from 35.3% in 2016 to 24.26% in 2022. This could reflect a reduction in women-related crimes or possibly a shift of attention to male criminals in the region.

South (S): Female arrests here increased consistently, beginning at 38.01% in 2016 and increasing to 53.76% in 2022. The South reported the highest rate of female arrests in 2022, which could indicate a potential rise in women's criminal activity or more enforcement against women.

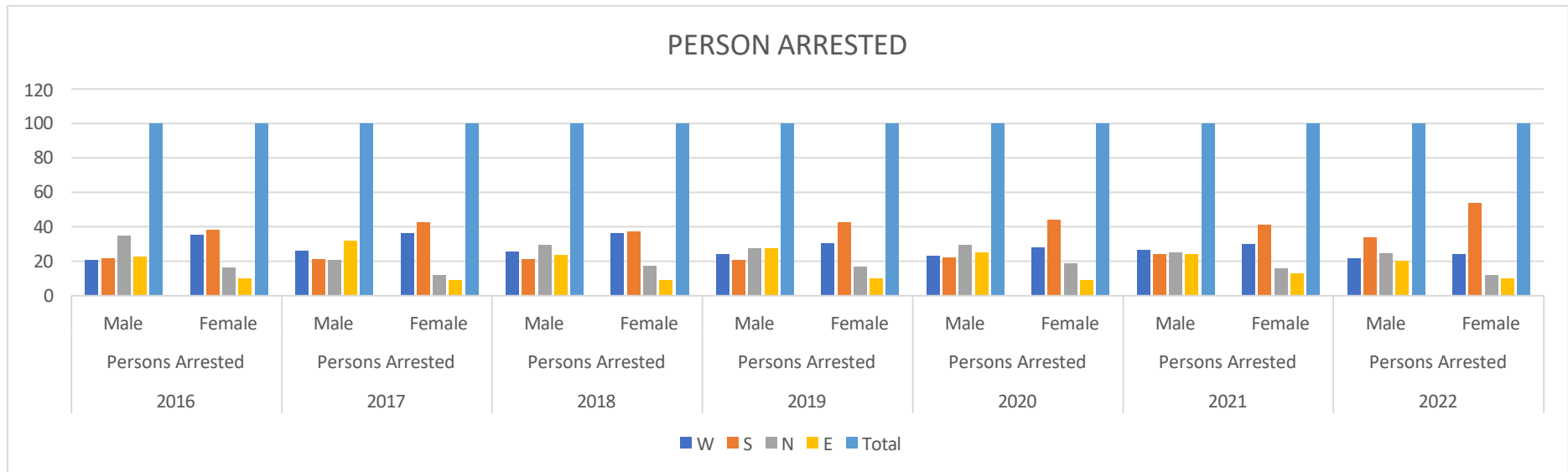
North (N): The number of female arrests in the North plummeted, from 16.40% in 2016 to just 12.01% in 2022. This indicates either fewer women offending or the shift in priorities among law enforcement within the area.

East (E): Female arrests fluctuated at comparatively low rates, from 10.18% in 2016 to 13.04% in 2021, before declining slightly to 9.95% in 2022. The East had the lowest rate of female arrests throughout, reflecting a lower prevalence of female crime in this region.

Key Observations on Female Arrests

The South recorded the largest percentage of women arrests in 2022 at 53.76%, and this may mean that there are more crimes relating to women or that there has been targeted policing. There was a progressive decline in females being arrested, which contrasts with the increase recorded in the South. North and East have the lowest arrest percentages for females, which might indicate fewer females being involved as offenders in those regions or distinct policing practices.

	2016		2017		2018		2019		2020		2021		2022	
	Persons Arrested		Persons Arrested		Persons Arrested		Persons Arrested		Persons Arrested		Persons Arrested		Persons Arrested	
	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female
W	20.69	35.3	25.81	36.30	25.59	36.49	24.32	30.40	23.30	28.26	26.62	30.13	21.50	24.26
S	21.61	38.01	21.37	42.66	21.11	36.90	20.63	42.73	22.10	43.97	23.83	41.14	33.55	53.76
N	34.93	16.40	20.67	11.81	29.58	17.50	27.52	16.72	29.53	18.57	25.31	15.67	24.63	12.01
E	22.75	10.18	32.13	9.21	23.69	9.08	27.52	10.13	25.05	9.19	24.23	13.04	20.29	9.95
Total	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100



Sub Heading: Trends in persons charge sheeted in India

Individuals who have been charged are those against whom a formal charge sheet, or an indictment, has been filed by law enforcement agencies with a court. This means that after conducting an investigation, the authorities have gathered sufficient evidence to formally accuse the person of a crime and start legal proceedings.

This table will show the total no of persons charge-sheeted in India in all the regions of it.

The data represented is of different regions- W, E, S, N. These regions represent different geographic areas and the rate of persons charge-sheeted During the Year, for the years 2015-2022.

Table No. 14: Region and gender wise details of persons charge-sheeted in India between 2016-2022

Analysis of persons arrested

The present study shows that, the data indicates the total number of males and females charged between 2016 and 2022 across four regions: West (W), South (S), North (N), and East (E). Comparing this information allows us to observe trends on the basis of gender in law enforcement, shifting patterns in crime prosecution, and potential societal factors behind these trends.

1. Male Chargesheeted (2016–2022)

West (W): Males charged percentages ranged from 25.68% in 2016 to 21.64% in 2022, peaking at 26.79% in 2021. That the figure went down in 2022 is an indication there could be fewer male offenders who are officially accused or there might be a shift in attention towards female cases.

South (S): The rate of males charged remained relatively constant from 21.82% in 2016 to 28.85% in 2020, then increased to 34.5% in 2022. This dramatic increase in 2022 indicates increased legal proceedings against male perpetrators in the South.

North (N): The rate of males charged reduced from 30.83% in 2016 to 24.0% in 2022, indicating a gradual decline in male prosecutions across the years.

East (E): Male charges ratio remained consistent, varying from 21.64% in 2016 to 24.18% in 2019, before it declined to 19.78% in 2022. East registered the lowest rate of male charges in 2022, implying lower male criminal cases or shift in legal attention.

Key Findings on Male Charge sheeting

North had recorded the highest percentage of male charges in 2016 (30.83%), which dropped consecutively until 2022. South witnessed a big spike in charges of males during 2022 (34.5%), revealing more official legal proceedings against males. West and East witnessed declining percentages of charges of males with time, suggesting perhaps a trend change in the crime or mode of law enforcement.

2. Female Chargesheeted (2016–2022)

West (W): The proportion of females charge sheeted substantially reduced from 42.70% in 2016 to 19.02% in 2022. This reflects a decline in official legal proceedings against female criminals over the years.

South (S): Female charge sheeted percentage increased from 31.81% in 2016 to 44.82% in 2018–2019, then decreased to 36.18% in 2022. The South recorded the highest rate of female charge sheeted in some years, showing numerous female criminal cases were officially dealt with.

North (N): Female chargesheet percentages remained low, between 10.76% in 2018 and 23.76% in 2022. Increased charge sheeting in 2021 and 2022 hints at more legal proceedings against women offenders.

East (E): The rate of females charge sheeted ranged between 9.31% in 2018 and 21.02% in 2022. Increased charge sheeting in 2022 signifies increased legal proceedings for women offenders in the East.

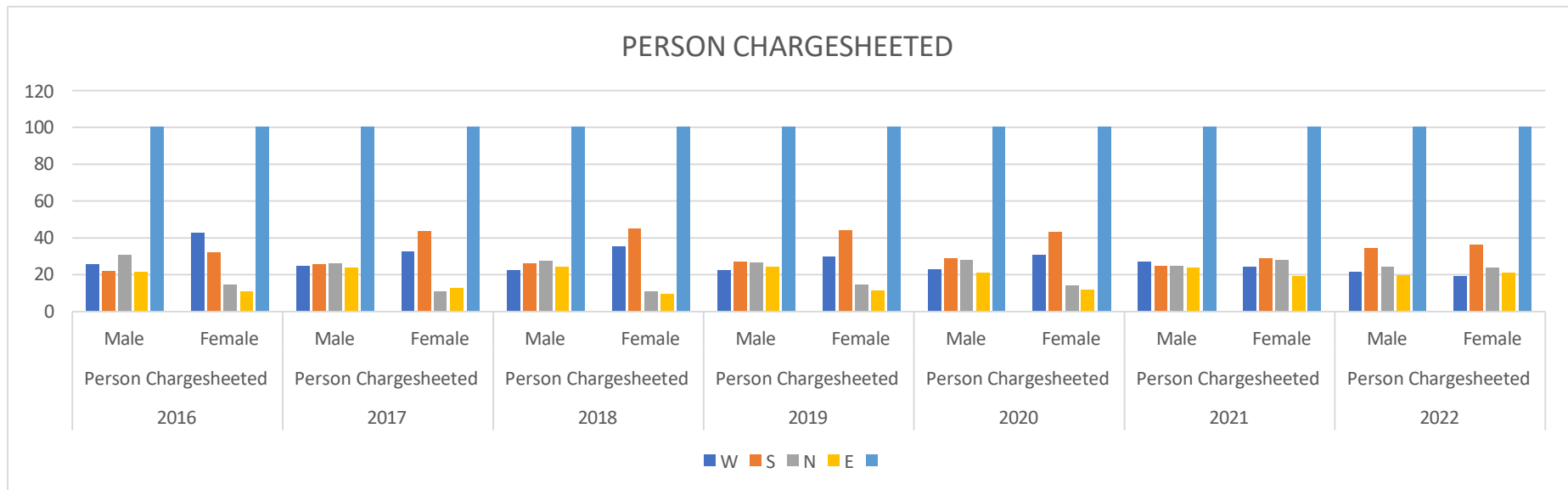
Key Observations on Female Charge sheeting

West saw the biggest decline in female charge sheeting, from 42.70% in 2016 to 19.02% in 2022. South recorded the highest percentage of female charge sheeting in several years,

reflecting a greater number of female cases being formally prosecuted. North and East recorded lower percentages of female charge sheeting, but both saw an increase in 2022, reflecting a potential increase in female-related cases in these regions.

The statistics reflect obvious regional and gender variations in trends in charge sheeting. Male chargesheet rates have largely remained constant or reduced in most regions, though the South registered a steep increase in male as well as female charge sheeting during 2022. The West, earlier registering the highest rates of female charge sheeting, recorded a sharp decline, whereas North and East recorded female prosecutions increases over recent years.

	2016		2017		2018		2019		2020		2021		2022	
	Person Chargesheeted		Person Chargesheeted		Person Chargesheeted		Person Chargesheeted		Person Chargesheeted		Person Chargesheeted		Person Chargesheeted	
	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female
W	25.68	42.70	24.46	32.76	22.44	35.09	22.33	29.84	22.69	30.60	26.79	24.14	21.64	19.02
S	21.82	31.81	25.81	43.74	25.97	44.82	27.14	44.23	28.85	43.10	24.67	28.55	34.5	36.18
N	30.83	14.49	25.91	11.02	27.45	10.76	26.33	14.48	27.67	14.33	24.84	27.93	24.0	23.76
E	21.64	10.98	23.80	12.47	24.12	9.313	24.18	11.43	20.77	11.94	23.68	19.36	19.78	21.02
	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100



Chapter 6: POLICY IMPLEMENTATION

In order to stem economic offenses in India, implementing new policies and reforms are important, including bettering transparency, strengthening enforcement frameworks, increasing accountability, and deploying technology for observing, pre-emption, and tracking financial crimes. Some of the following suggested policies and initiatives have the potential to reduce economic offenses in India:

1. Improving the Anti-Corruption Framework

Independent Anti-Corruption Agency: Create an independent national anti-corruption agency separate from the government to deal with corruption-related offenses in public as well as private sectors.

Enhancing Whistleblower Protections: Although the Whistleblower Protection Act exists, expanding its scope, making whistleblower protections stronger, and resolving complaints expeditiously will motivate more people to report corruption and financial crimes without fear of being retaliated against.

Incentive-Based Reporting: Establish a system that provides monetary incentives to those reporting economic crimes, similar to schemes in other nations (e.g., the U.S. SEC whistleblower program), to encourage more individuals to come forward.

2. Speeding Up Legal Proceedings for Economic Crimes

Fast-Track Courts for Economic Crimes: Establish more fast-track courts exclusively for economic crimes, such as corruption, financial fraud, and money laundering. These courts must be manned by judges with special training in dealing with economic crimes to provide speed and correct justice.

Time-Bound Prosecution: Create a framework under which all economic crime cases, especially those with huge financial fraud, are under time constraints, where there must be a verdict within a specific timeframe (e.g., 1-2 years), with sanctions imposed against delay in investigations and trials.

3. Improved Leverage of Technology and Data Analytics

Artificial Intelligence (AI) for Fraud Detection: Use machine learning techniques and AI-powered tools to find trends and irregularities in financial transactions, such as odd corporate financial reports, odd tax filings, or suspicious money transfers. Early and accurate fraud detection may be made possible by these technologies.

Blockchain for Greater Transparency. Encourage the use of blockchain technology in the financial and public sectors to improve transparency and lessen dishonest behaviors like embezzlement, tax evasion, and data manipulation. Additionally, blockchain can simplify the auditing process and guarantee the accuracy of financial records.

Digital Transparency of Public Expenditures: Create a cutting-edge online platform to monitor government spending in real time, ensuring that all data about public spending is open and transparent. This would be a step toward giving the public, media, and non-governmental organizations the ability to examine government spending and sound the alarm about any misuse.

4. Corporate Governance Reforms

Mandatory Independent Auditors: Require independent auditors who have no prior affiliations to perform audits and ensure that regulations are followed, particularly those pertaining to financial reporting and fraud prevention, for both public and large private companies.

Corporate Transparency and Accountability Adopt new corporate governance guidelines that require executive compensation, asset distribution, and complete disclosure of all related-party transactions. There should be harsh consequences for breaking these disclosure requirements.

Whistleblower Protection Mechanisms in Corporations: Promote the creation of anonymous whistleblower reporting systems in businesses so that staff members can expose internal fraud or poor management while still having adequate protection.

5. Improved Reporting and Transparency

Forced Public Disclosure of Political Donations: Establish a rule requiring all political parties to disclose their funding sources and political contributions at least once a year in order to combat corruption and money laundering. More transparency and a reduction in the influence of black money in politics would result from this.

Real-Time Monitoring of Tax Filings: Create an online platform that will enable businesses and individuals to track tax filings in real time. This would hinder tax evaders' ability to carry out their duties and enable tax authorities to promptly identify any irregularities.

6. Equipping Financial Institutions to Combat Economic Crimes

Greater Monitoring of Financial Institutions: To make sure financial institutions are not engaged in fraud, money laundering, or other economic crimes, strengthen their monitoring and auditing procedures. To ensure that they meet regulatory standards, financial institutions must undergo stringent audits and stress tests.

Compulsory Training for Financial Sector Staff: Establish mandatory training programs for employees of financial institutions so they can identify and discourage financial crimes like investment fraud, money laundering, and fraud. Employees should have the right resources to spot and report questionable activity.

7. Public Awareness and Participation

Anti-Fraud Awareness Campaigns: Launch national campaigns to inform the public, business entities, and government officials on the consequences of economic offenses and the importance of ethical financial operations. These can reduce ignorance and promote a culture of compliance.

Digital Literacy Programs: Promote digital literacy among citizens and small businesses to reduce the chances of cyber-financial crimes like phishing, cyber scams, and e-commerce-related fraud.

Chapter 7: CONCLUSION

Economic crimes in India are quite a challenge to the country, not just the financial stability, but also social, political, and economic institutions. These crimes, such as corruption, evasion of taxes, money laundering, corporate frauds, and cybercrimes, undermine public faith, distort the market forces, and hinder the progress of the nation. These crimes lead to the misallocation of resources, reduced government coffers, and increased inequality that disproportionately affect vulnerable groups.

Even after introducing numerous regulatory legislations like the **Prevention of Corruption Act, PMLA, Companies Act**, economic crimes continue to pose a recurrent threat, supported by delayed judicial processes, political interference, and loopholes in the existing system.

Understanding financial crimes can be quite complicated, especially when they involve cross-border activities, tech exploitation, and organized crime. Still, India has made some notable strides in tackling these issues. Initiatives like fast-track courts, protective measures for whistleblowers, and the formation of agencies such as the Enforcement Directorate (ED) and the Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) are all steps in the right direction. Plus, advancements in technology—like using AI for fraud detection and blockchain to enhance transparency—hold great promise for battling these offenses. Moving forward, we need a well-rounded approach that strengthens our judicial system, uses tech more for monitoring, enhances corporate governance, and raises public awareness. It's also essential to boost international cooperation to deal with cross-border crimes, and adopting preventive measures like tax reforms and tightening corporate laws could lead to major improvements. Eventually, effectively fighting economic crimes in India requires a comprehensive strategy that combines strong policies, practical enforcement, and a commitment to real change.

Chapter 8: REFERENCES

- Government of India, (2023). NCRB. Data sources and the same were used in the research analysis (2020 uploaded data). <https://ncrb.gov.in>.
- <https://www.legalserviceindia.com>
- Thangavel, V. (2023). The Repercussion of Economic Offences in India. *J Invest Bank Finance*, 1(1), 21-44
- Shankar, A. (2023). Economic Offences in India: A Critical Analysis. *Issue 3 Int'l JL Mgmt. & Human.*, 6, 3032.
- Saddiq, S. A., & Abu Bakar, A. S. (2019). Impact of economic and financial crimes on economic growth in emerging and developing countries: A systematic review. *Journal of Financial Crime*, 26(3), 910-920.
- Ray, Sarkar, Panigrahi, Trisha, Sanskruti & Dr Snigdha (2023). ECONOMIC OFFENCES AND ITS ROLE IN DEVELOPING INDIA: A CRITICAL ANALYSIS. *International Journal of Research and Analytical Review*. <https://doi.org/June>
- Sachdev, V. (2020, October 7). The growing challenge of economic offences in India. *Hindustan Times*.
- Madhukar, Samota, V. A. (2021). ECONOMIC OFFENCES: A CONCEPTUAL PERSPECTIVE. *International Journal of Creative Research Thoughts*. <https://doi.org/January>