



# Using data to understand the state of child-protection legislation in Assam

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CivicDataLab

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*in collaboration with*



Open Government Data Platform India



# **USING DATA TO UNDERSTAND THE STATE OF CHILD PROTECTION LEGISLATION IN ASSAM**

**DATA DIALOGUES | 2022**

# Part 1 - Tracking laws using data

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6. **Timely Justice**

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4. NCRB started computing data for cases registered under the POCSO Act from 2014 onwards
5. The latest data available on the NCRB website is from 2020.

# POCSO related indicators in the NCRB dataset

# Indicators - For Persons Arrested

- Persons Arrested
- Persons Chargesheeted
- Persons Convicted
- Persons Discharged
- Persons Acquitted

# Indicators - For Courts

- Cases Pending Trial from the Previous Year
- Cases Sent for Trial during the year
- Total Cases for Trial
- Cases Abated by Court
- Cases Withdrawn from Prosecution
- Cases Compounded or Compromised
- Cases Disposed off by Plea Bargaining
- Cases Quashed
- Cases Disposed off without trial
- Cases Stayed or Sent to Record Room
- Cases Convicted Out of Cases from Previous Year
- Cases Convicted Out of Cases during the Year
- Cases Discharged
- Cases Acquitted
- Cases which Trials were Completed
- Cases Disposed off by Courts
- Cases Pending Trial at End of the Year
- Conviction Rate
- Pendency Percentage

# Indicators - For Police

- Cases Pending Investigation from Previous Year
- Cases Reported during the year
- Cases Reopened for Investigation
- Cases Not Investigated Under 157\_1\_b CRPC
- Cases Transferred to Other State or Agency
- Cases Withdrawn by the Govt during Investigation
- ChargeSheets Submitted
- Total Cases Disposed Off by Police
- Cases Quashed at Investigation Stage
- Cases Stayed at Investigation Stage
- Cases Pending Investigation at end of the year
- Chargesheeting Rate
- Pendency Percentage

# Indicators - For Police (Contd.)

- Cases Ended as FR Non Cognizable
- Cases Ended as Final Report False Cases Ended as Mistake of Fact or of law or Civil Dispute
- Cases True but Insufficient Evidence or Untraced or No Clue
- Cases Abated during Investigation
- Cases Charge sheeted Out of cases From Prev. Year
- Cases Charge sheeted Out of Cases during the year

# Is data from NCRB enough to track laws

## Where it helps

1. The only official source of crime statistics in the country
2. To understand larger patterns of crime within a geography
3. Disaggregated data, at the district levels, might be available through the State Crime Records Bureau.
4. Data is available in machine readable formats
5. A few indicators are available for several years. This helps in identifying trends over a period of time.
6. Data is available in Hindi and English.

## Where it doesn't

1. Frequent changes in the methodology for capturing data for certain indicators. This makes it difficult to compare indicators across years.
2. The exact methodology to capture each indicator is not documented.
3. Data is available after a gap of at-least an year and sometime more.
4. Data not available for all states and districts.
5. Disaggregated data, at the police station level, is hard to procure.

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A few important features of data maintained by courts:

1. **Granularity** - Data is available for each case
2. **Timeliness** - Data is available on a near real-time basis
3. **Coverage** - Data is available in a standard format across all courts
4. **Ease of access** - Data for any case can be easily accessed through the e-Courts portal
5. **Availability of tools and resources** - Platforms like the [National Judicial Data Grid](#) can be used to explore and analyse data curated by courts

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6. Information for older cases might be harder to obtain from certain courts.

# Case indicators on e-Courts

**E-COURTS**  
OFFICIAL WEBSITE OF DISTRICT COURTS

Case Details	
Case Type	: ST - SESSIONS TRIAL
Filing Number	[REDACTED]
Registration Number	[REDACTED]
CNR Number	[REDACTED]

date_name	date_of_filing	Case Status
[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
date_first_list	date_of_decision	disp_name
[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
Case [REDACTED] judge_position	CAUSE DISPOSED	[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]	Contingent Judgment Delivered Accepted	[REDACTED]
Court Number and Judge	44 Additional District and Session Judge	[REDACTED]

Petitioner and Advocate	female_petitioner
1) State Government	[REDACTED]
2) [REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
Representative of Plaintiff	female_defendant
2) [REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
Representative of Defendant	female_adv_def
2) [REDACTED]	[REDACTED]

act_sections.dta: act	Acts	act_sections.dta: section
Under Act(s)	[REDACTED]	Under Section(s)
Indian Penal Code 1860	[REDACTED]	302,294,323.34

List of indicators

# How we used data from e-Courts to track POCSO Act in Assam

# About the project

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- We were able to create a dataset of **19,783** cases. Out of which, **5,786 (29%)** cases are from Assam.

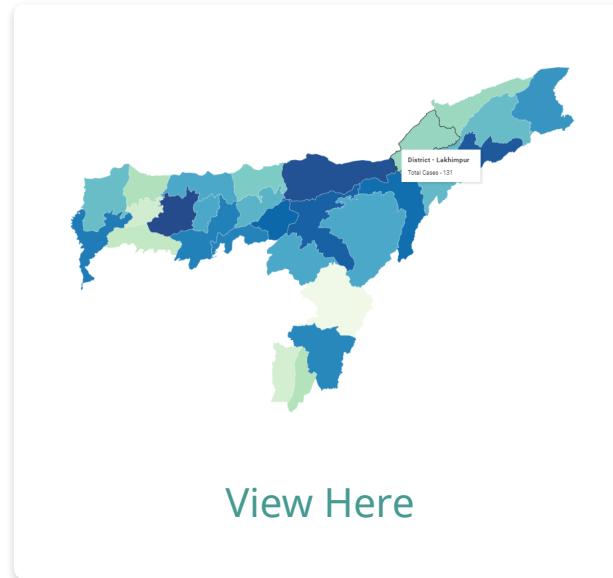
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- Judgments were available in **1,152** (42%) of disposed cases.

# Assam - Factsheet



## Part 3 - Way Forward. What's next.

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6. Other important indicators around **Shelter and Witness** protection support, **Medical Support**, **Educational support**, **paralegal support**, etc are not captured

# We need more indicators

To really understand how each and every POCSO case is dealt with is currently impossible. Data coming from Police and Courts are important components but they don't tell the complete story.

Without robust data coming in from other systems as well, it will be hard to design initiatives that lead to better implementation of these laws.

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4. Finding ways to collaborate with the Child Protection Commissions, Legal Aid authorities, etc on enhancing their internal data capacity to improve the state of data which is captured by their internal systems.

# All Resources



The logo for Justice Hub, consisting of a red stylized 'J' icon followed by the text 'Justice Hub' in white.

<https://bit.ly/jh-pocso>

Research Report

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Datasets

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Data Codebook

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Assam - Factsheet

# We need your support and feedback

1. How data can address important gaps and challenges faced stakeholders in implementing the POCSO Act?
2. How we can support other stakeholders for better tracking and monitoring of child protection legislation in Assam?

