

General Police Procedure

1. Online FIR / Complaint via TN Police CCTNS Portal

1. Go to the **Tamil Nadu Police CCTNS website** (tnpolice.gov.in), then **Citizen Services → Register online complaint/e-FIR**.
2. Verify via OTP on your mobile number.
3. Fill in details: your info, date/time/place of incident, description, victim/accused details, and upload evidence.
4. Submit and note the **reference/FIR number** for tracking.
5. For emergencies, call **112** (ERSS) or **100**

2. In-Person Filing at Police Station

1. Visit the police station with jurisdiction over the incident location.
2. Tell the SHO or officer-in-charge about the incident (you can do so verbally or in writing).
3. They must register your FIR or complaint free of cost and provide a copy
4. Keep this FIR copy as proof.

3. For Serious or Unresolved Cases: Escalation

If your complaint isn't being resolved, escalate at these levels:

-  **District Superintendent of Police (SP)** – contact via phone/email (e.g., sp.tut@tncctns.gov.in for Tuticorin)
-  **Range Deputy Inspector General of Police (DIG)** – escalate further if needed
-  **Zonal Inspector General of Police (IG)** – Central/North/South/West zones
-  **Director General of Police (DGP)** – TN Police HQ (Chennai)

4. Public Grievance via CM Helpline (IIPGCMS)

If the issue concerns government agencies (like municipal bodies, police service delays, corruption), file a grievance through TN CM Helpline:

- **Website/app:** cmhelpline.tnega.org (or call **1100**)

- Register via mobile OTP → Fill form → attach documents → submit → receive grievance ID → track or escalate via the portal.

5. Cyber-Crime Complaints

If it's online harassment, fraud, or cyber offences:

1. Visit the **National Cyber Crime Reporting Portal** (cybercrime.gov.in)
2. Alternatively, call TN Cyber Crime Wing helpline: **1930**, or email adgpccw.dgp@tn.gov.in
3. Provide screenshots, URLs, date/time, offender info.
4. You can lodge anonymously for crimes against women/children

6. Anti-Corruption / Maladministration

If you suspect misuse of power, corruption, or want to file a complaint against officials:

- File before **Tamil Nadu Lokayukta** (set up in 2018)
en.wikipedia.org+15en.wikipedia.org+15thehindu.com+15.
- Or approach **State/District Police Complaints Authority**, established under TN Police Reforms (2019)

7. Emergency contact

   Service	 Phone Number
Police	100
Fire Department	101
Ambulance	102
Disaster Management	108
Women Helpline (24x7)	1091
Child Helpline	1098
Cyber Crime Helpline	1930
National Emergency Number	112

8. Here are some **key police stations in Thoothukudi District, Tamil Nadu:**

S.No	Police Station Name	Area Covered
1	Thoothukudi South Police Station	Downtown, Railway Station area
2	Thoothukudi North Police Station	Bryant Nagar, Palayamkottai Road
3	SIPCOT Police Station	SIPCOT Industrial Estate area
4	Tharuvaikulam Police Station	Coastal areas, fishing harbor region
5	Muthiahpuram Police Station	Near Tuticorin Port, Harbour colony

9. what is an FIR

An **FIR (First Information Report)** is a **written document prepared by the police** when they receive information about the **commission of a cognizable offence** (a serious crime that allows police to arrest without a warrant and begin investigation without court approval).

10. What is an IPC Section?

IPC stands for **Indian Penal Code**, which is the **main criminal code of India**, drafted in 1860. It defines various **offences and their punishments**.

Each "**Section**" in IPC refers to a **specific law** that deals with a particular type of crime, such as theft, assault, murder, cheating, etc.

1. **What is an FIR?**

An FIR is a First Information Report filed by the police when a cognizable offense is reported.

It initiates a police investigation and is a crucial legal document.

2. How to file a police complaint?

Visit the nearest police station or use the online complaint portal (if available). Provide a written or oral complaint; it will be recorded and acknowledged.

3. Can I file an FIR online?

In many states, yes.

Check the respective police department's website for online filing options.

4. What is a non-cognizable offense?

It is a minor offense where police cannot arrest without court approval. Examples include public nuisance or simple hurt.

5. What is a cognizable offense?

These are serious crimes like murder, rape, or kidnapping.

Police can arrest and start investigation without court permission.

6. Can FIR be withdrawn?

An FIR once filed cannot be easily withdrawn. The court's permission is usually needed.

7. What is a charge sheet?

It's a police report submitted after investigation.

It details the evidence and accused to be prosecuted in court.

8. What happens after FIR is filed?

Police begin an investigation, collect evidence, and may arrest the accused. A charge sheet is then filed in court.

9. Can police refuse to file FIR?

No, police cannot refuse to file an FIR for cognizable offenses. You can escalate to higher authorities if refused.

10. What are my rights during police questioning?

You have the right to remain silent and consult a lawyer. Police cannot force confessions or use illegal means.

IPC Sections & Legal Information

11. What is IPC Section 420?

It deals with cheating and dishonestly inducing delivery of property. Punishment is up to 7 years with fine.

12. What is IPC 376?

It refers to rape.

Punishment ranges from 10 years to life imprisonment.

13. What is IPC 307?

Attempt to murder.

Punishment may go up to 10 years or life.

14. What is IPC Section 498A?

Deals with cruelty towards a woman by husband or relatives.

It is a non-bailable offense with imprisonment up to 3 years.

15. What is IPC Section 302?

It is punishment for murder.

It carries the death penalty or life imprisonment.

Women & Child Safety

16. What is POCSO Act?

Protection of Children from Sexual Offences Act.

It covers sexual abuse, harassment, and pornography involving minors.

17. How to report child abuse?

Call Childline 1098 or visit the nearest police station.

POCSO mandates mandatory reporting.

18. Is domestic violence a crime?

Yes, under the Domestic Violence Act.

Victims can get protection, residence, and monetary relief.

19. Can a minor be arrested?

Minors are handled under the Juvenile Justice Act.

They're not arrested but taken into custody and produced before a juvenile board.

20. What is child trafficking?

Illegal trade or movement of children for exploitation.

It is a punishable offense under various laws like IPC and JJ Act.

Safety & Crime Reporting

21. What to do if mobile is stolen?

File an FIR and block the IMEI number via CEIR.

Track using police or telecom help.

22. How to check criminal record of someone?

You can't access this directly.

Police can do background checks under legal procedure.

23. How to track an FIR status?

Use the online portal of your state police.

You can also visit the concerned police station.

24. How to get police clearance certificate?

Apply online or in person with ID proof.

Useful for jobs, visas, or residence.

25. What is cybercrime and how to report it?

Online fraud, hacking, or cyberbullying.

Report on cybercrime.gov.in or local cyber cell.

Legal Documents & Proof

26. Is FIR needed for insurance claim?

Yes, especially in theft or accident cases.

It serves as official proof for insurance companies.

27. How to verify police ID?

Ask for name, badge number, and verify with the local station.

Genuine officers will cooperate.

28. What to do if summoned by police?

Attend and cooperate.

Take a lawyer if needed.

29. Can police enter my home without warrant?

Only for cognizable offenses or in emergency.

Otherwise, a warrant is required.

30. What are bailable vs non-bailable offenses?

Bailable means bail is a right; non-bailable means court decides bail.

Nature of the crime determines this.

Miscellaneous

31. What is Look Out Circular (LOC)?

An LOC prevents someone from leaving the country.

It's issued by police in criminal or legal matters.

32. Can I get a copy of FIR?

Yes, you are entitled to a copy free of cost.
Request it at the police station.

33. Can police take my phone?

Yes, if it is evidence.
They must give a proper receipt.

34. How to complain about police misconduct?

File a written complaint to higher police authorities.
You can also approach the human rights commission.

35. What is a police remand?

When police get court's permission to keep the accused in custody.
It helps in investigation.

36. How to apply for NOC from police?

Submit an application with reason and ID proof.
It may take a few days to process.

37. What is anticipatory bail?

It's bail in anticipation of arrest.
Apply through a lawyer before arrest.

38. Can a woman be arrested at night?

Generally, no arrest of women is done after sunset and before sunrise.
Exceptions need a magistrate's approval.

39. What is a zero FIR?

It can be filed at any police station regardless of jurisdiction.
Useful in emergencies like sexual assault.

40. Can police arrest without uniform?

Yes, plainclothes officers can arrest.
They must show ID and valid reason.

 **Safety Awareness**

41. How to stay safe while traveling at night?

Use verified cabs, share location with family, and stay alert.
Call 100 in emergency.

42. What to do if stalked?

Report immediately to the police.
Stalking is punishable under IPC Section 354D.

43. How to report harassment at workplace?

Inform HR and file a complaint with the Internal Complaints Committee.
You can also file an FIR under IPC 354.

44. Can a child file a complaint?

Yes, any person, including minors, can report a crime.
Police must take appropriate action.

45. How to get witness protection?

India has a Witness Protection Scheme 2018.
Request through court or police.

46. What if I accidentally dial 100?

Don't panic.
Explain it was a mistake; no action will be taken.

47. What is mob lynching?

Violent act by a group without legal trial.
Strictly punishable under various laws.

48. How to report bribery?

Contact anti-corruption bureau or vigilance department.
You can record proof if safe.

49. Can police check my vehicle randomly?

Yes, during special drives or suspicion.
But they must have a valid reason.

50. What is police verification for tenants?

It's a safety check by police before renting out.
Landlords should submit details at local station.

Crime Reporting & FIRs

51. What details are needed to file an FIR?

Date, time, place of incident, names (if known), and description of the crime.
Try to be as accurate and clear as possible.

52. Can I file FIR without knowing the accused?

Yes. FIR can be registered even if the offender is unknown.
Police will investigate and identify them.

53. Is FIR required for lost documents?

Yes, you should file a **loss report** or **non-traceable certificate** at the station.
This helps with reissuing official documents.

54. Can I file an FIR in a different city?

Yes, using **Zero FIR** you can file anywhere.

It will be transferred to the right jurisdiction.

55. What is the time limit for filing an FIR?

There's no strict limit, but file **as soon as possible**.

Delays may affect investigation quality.

Police Powers & Legal Rights

56. Can police search my home anytime?

Only with a warrant or during emergencies for cognizable offenses.

Otherwise, your consent is required.

57. Can I record my interaction with police?

Yes, for safety and transparency.

Ensure it doesn't interfere with their duties.

58. Can I get a lawyer before police questioning?

Yes, you have the **right to legal counsel**.

You can't be forced to speak without one.

59. What if police misbehaves or threatens?

File a complaint with senior officers or the Human Rights Commission.

Misconduct is punishable.

60. Can police seize my vehicle documents?

Yes, under certain rules.

Always carry a copy and ask for a seizure memo.

Women & Child Specific

61. What is child labor law in India?

Children below 14 years **cannot work** in any occupation.

Strict punishments exist for violators.

62. What is the punishment for molestation?

IPC 354 prescribes up to **2 years imprisonment** and fine.

It applies to any act that outrages modesty.

63. Is child marriage punishable?

Yes, under the Prohibition of Child Marriage Act.

Offenders may face up to **2 years in prison** and fines.

64. Can I report dowry harassment anonymously?

Yes, you can report anonymously to Women's Cell or 1091.

They'll begin inquiry discreetly.

65. Is marital rape a crime?

Currently not a punishable offense under IPC, except if the wife is under 18.

It is a debated issue in legal reforms.



Cyber & Tech Crime

66. How to report cyberbullying?

File a complaint on cybercrime.gov.in or visit cyber cell.

Include screenshots and chat logs.

67. Is online fraud punishable?

Yes, under IPC 420 and IT Act.

Punishment can go up to **7 years**.

68. What is identity theft?

Using someone's personal data without permission.

Punishable under IT Act.

69. What to do if social media account is hacked?

Report immediately on the platform and file a complaint.

Cyber police will track the IP address.

70. Can police track online crimes?

Yes, they use cyber forensic tools.

They can trace IPs, devices, and transaction logs.



Court & Legal Assistance

71. Can I get a free legal aid?

Yes, under the **Legal Services Authority Act**.

Contact Legal Aid Cell at District Court.

72. What is a bailable warrant?

It allows police to arrest and produce the person in court.

Bail is allowed immediately.

73. What is a non-bailable warrant?

Issued for serious offenses.

Bail can only be granted by a magistrate.

74. How to check if someone is in jail?

Enquire with the concerned police station or prison.

You may need legal permission in some cases.

75. Can I be arrested for a Facebook post?

Yes, if it incites violence, hate speech, or fake news.

Follow IT rules while posting.

Practical Safety & Civic Awareness

76. What number to call in emergency?

Call **100** for police, **1098** for children, and **112** as all-in-one helpline.

These numbers are toll-free and 24/7.

77. What is community policing?

Collaboration between police and local people.

Helps solve issues through trust and dialogue.

78. What is beat police system?

Police patrol a fixed local area regularly.

Improves safety and response time.

79. How can I join the police?

Apply through **state police recruitment boards** or **UPSC for IPS**.

Eligibility includes fitness and exams.

80. What is traffic challan?

It's a fine for breaking road rules.

Can be paid online or offline.

Government Rules & Transparency

81. What is RTI in police matters?

Right to Information Act lets you seek information from police.

Apply with a small fee.

82. What is CCTV law for public places?

Shops, banks, and some public places must install CCTV.

Police can request footage if needed.

83. Is police verification mandatory for passport?

Yes, in most cases.

Police verify your address and background.

84. What is Arms License and how to apply?

Permission to own firearms.

Apply at District Magistrate's office with reason and ID.

85. What if police don't act on complaint?

Approach Superintendent of Police or file a petition in court.

You can also go to the Lokayukta.

 **Legal & Citizen Services****86. How to check pending cases on my name?**

Use eCourts website or visit local court with ID.

You can search by name or case number.

87. Can I carry a knife for safety?

Small knives (below 9 inches) are usually allowed.

But using them for threats is illegal.

88. What is preventive detention?

Detaining someone before a crime is committed.

Used in rare situations under laws like NSA.

89. What is Section 144?

It prohibits assembly of more than 4 people.

Used during riots, elections, or emergencies.

90. Can I protest without police permission?

No, public protests need police permission.

Illegal gatherings can lead to arrest.

 **Documentation & Assistance****91. What is tenant verification?**

Police check tenant's background.

Landlords must submit form at local station.

92. How to get lost bike verified by police?

File FIR, give RC copy and ID.

Police will issue a non-traceable certificate.

93. How long police keep evidence?

Until case is closed or court orders disposal.

Property is returned if proven innocent.

94. Can I visit someone in jail?

Yes, with prior permission and ID proof.

Timings and procedures vary by jail.

95. What if I lost a court summons?

Inform police or court immediately.

You can request a duplicate copy.

 **Awareness**

96. What is moral policing?

Unofficial restriction of individual freedom in the name of values.

It is not legally permitted.

97. Can I deny fingerprinting by police?

No, under CrPC, you must comply during investigation.

Refusal may lead to legal action.

98. How are criminals tracked?

Through CCTNS, fingerprints, CDRs, and surveillance tools.

Modern tech helps solve cases faster.

99. What is the punishment for drug possession?

Under NDPS Act, varies from **6 months to 10 years**, depending on quantity.

Strict laws are in place.

100. How to stay safe from scams?

Avoid sharing OTPs, verify links, and don't trust unknown calls.

Report frauds on cybercrime.gov.in.

101. 101. What documents are needed to file an FIR?

Typically, you need a government ID and details of the incident.

However, FIRs can be filed even without documents in emergencies.

102. 102. Can I file an FIR without visiting the police station?

Yes, e-FIR services are available in many states through official websites.

Otherwise, call 100 or visit the station.

103. 103. What is Zero FIR?

Zero FIR can be filed at any police station, regardless of jurisdiction.

It's useful for urgent or sensitive cases like sexual assault.

104. 104. How long does it take to get a copy of the FIR?

Usually within 24 hours.

You can request it from the police station or online if available.

105. 105. Can I withdraw an FIR once filed?

Only with court permission in non-cognizable or compoundable cases.

For serious offences, withdrawal isn't easy.

106. **106. Can FIR be filed anonymously?**

Yes, in certain sensitive cases, your identity can be kept confidential.
Speak to the officer-in-charge.

107. **107. What happens after I file an FIR?**

An investigation begins immediately.
The police may call you for statements and evidence.

108. **108. Can police refuse to file an FIR?**

They must file if it's a cognizable offence.
If they refuse, escalate to higher officials or file a complaint.

109. **109. Can I track FIR status online?**

Yes, many state police websites have FIR tracking systems.
You'll need your FIR number.

110. **110. Who can file an FIR?**

Anyone who has knowledge of a cognizable offence.
It need not be the victim.

111.

112.  Traffic & Road Safety (Q111–Q120)

113. **111. How to pay a traffic fine online?**

Visit your state traffic police website or Parivahan portal.
Enter vehicle number or challan number.

114. **112. What to do if I lose my driving license?**

File a lost report at the police station.
Apply for a duplicate license on the RTO website.

115. **113. Is helmet mandatory for pillion riders?**

Yes, in most Indian states it is mandatory.
Non-compliance can lead to fines.

116. **114. What is the fine for drunk driving?**

It ranges from ₹2,000 to ₹10,000 or imprisonment.
License suspension is also possible.

117. **115. What is the speed limit in city areas?**

Generally 40–50 km/h, but check local signage.
Speeding invites heavy fines.

118. **116. What to do if my vehicle is towed?**

Call the nearest traffic police helpline.
Pay the fine and collect your vehicle from the impound lot.

119. **117. What is the rule for parking in no-parking zones?**

It's illegal and attracts fines or towing.
Look for legal parking signs.

120. **118. Can I carry my driving license digitally?**

Yes, DigiLocker or mParivahan apps are valid.
They are accepted by police.

121. **119. How to report rash driving or road rage?**

Call 100 or use the traffic police app, if available.
Share vehicle number and location.

122. **120. Is seatbelt mandatory in rear seats?**

Yes, as per amended MV Act 2019.
Fines apply for non-compliance.

123.

124.  Child & Women Safety (Q121–Q130)

125. **121. How to report child abuse?**
Call Childline at 1098.
You can also file a complaint at the police station.
126. **122. What is the POCSO Act?**
It's the law for protecting children from sexual offences.
Strict punishments are prescribed.
127. **123. How to report domestic violence?**
Call 181 (Women's Helpline) or 100.
You can also approach a Protection Officer.
128. **124. What should I do if I feel unsafe while traveling?**
Use 112 or women safety apps like Kavalan/SHE Box.
Share your location with someone you trust.
129. **125. Is stalking a punishable offence?**
Yes, under IPC Section 354D.
Punishment can include jail and fine.
130. **126. Can I file a complaint via WhatsApp?**
Yes, many police departments accept complaints via WhatsApp.
Check local station's number.
131. **127. What is cyberstalking and how to report?**
Repeated online harassment or threats.
Report to cyber cell or on cybercrime.gov.in.
132. **128. What are my rights during police interrogation?**
You have the right to remain silent and get legal counsel.
Police must follow due process.
133. **129. Is marital rape illegal in India?**
Not criminalized under IPC yet, but civil protection is available.
Legal reforms are ongoing.
134. **130. How can I report dowry harassment?**
File a complaint under IPC Section 498A.
Call 100 or visit your local police station.

Cybercrime & Fraud (Q131–Q150)

- 131. How to report a cybercrime?**
Visit cybercrime.gov.in or call 1930.
File a complaint with details and evidence.
- 132. What is phishing?**
Fraudulent attempt to obtain sensitive info via email or SMS.
Never click suspicious links.
- 133. Can I recover money lost in online scams?**
It depends on how fast you report.
Call 1930 immediately after the fraud.
- 134. What is OTP fraud?**
Scammers trick you into sharing OTPs.
Never share OTP with anyone.

135. What to do if my account is hacked?

Change passwords and report to cyber cell.

Also inform your bank if financial data is compromised.

136. Is sextortion punishable?

Yes, it's a cybercrime and punishable under IPC & IT Act.

Report immediately to police.

137. What is SIM swapping fraud?

Scammer gets duplicate SIM to access your accounts.

Report immediately to your telecom operator.

138. Can I report fake profiles?

Yes, report on platform and to cybercrime portal.

Save screenshots as proof.

139. What is UPI fraud and how to avoid it?

Fraud via fake payment links or QR codes.

Always verify before transferring.

140. What is identity theft?

Someone using your personal data illegally.

Report to police and alert your bank.

141. Is threatening someone online a crime?

Yes, it's cyberbullying or harassment.

You can file a complaint with the cyber cell.

142. What is ransomware?

A malware that locks files and demands payment.

Never pay; report to cyber police.

143. Can I report online lottery fraud?

Yes, most are scams.

Report to cybercrime portal immediately.

144. What if I get blackmailed with private images?

Don't give in.

Report it immediately to cybercrime police.

145. What is catfishing?

Pretending to be someone else online.

Report fake identity or fraud.

146. How to check a website's authenticity?

Look for HTTPS, verify domain, and reviews.

Avoid unknown or sketchy links.

147. Is impersonating someone on social media a crime?

Yes, punishable under IT Act and IPC.

Report to platform and police.

148. Can police trace social media abuse?

Yes, with help from platforms and cyber cell.

They can track IP addresses.

149. Can I complain anonymously?

Yes, most portals allow anonymous tips.

You can also write to senior officers.

150. Is online gambling legal?

Most forms are illegal unless state-authorized.

Check your state laws.

**Property & Theft (Q151–Q170)****151. How to report house theft?**

Call 100 and file an FIR.

Provide photos or videos if available.

152. Can I get back stolen goods?

Yes, if police recover them.

Keep receipts or ownership proof.

153. What is a non-cognizable property case?

Minor offences like trespassing.

Police need magistrate's order to investigate.

154. What if someone encroaches my land?

File a complaint at the police station.

Also file a civil case for possession.

155. Can tenants file theft cases?

Yes, if personal belongings are stolen.

Landlord cannot block police access.

156. What is burglary vs. robbery?

Burglary happens in absence; robbery involves force.

Both are serious crimes.

157. Can I report lost items to police?

Yes, for lost mobiles, documents, etc.

This helps in retrieval or getting duplicates.

158. What is chain snatching?

A sudden theft of gold chains from women.
File FIR immediately.

159. What is Section 457 IPC?

House-breaking at night to commit theft.
Punishment includes up to 14 years jail.

160. How to report ATM theft?

Call bank and police immediately.
Provide transaction details.

161. What if someone fraudulently sells my land?

Report forgery and criminal breach.
Police will investigate with revenue officials.

162. Is vandalism a crime?

Yes, damaging property is punishable.
You can file a police complaint.

163. What is criminal trespass?

Entering property without permission.
Punishable under IPC Section 447.

164. Can police help in tenant disputes?

Yes, only if there is criminal behaviour.
Otherwise, it's a civil matter.

165. What is Section 380 IPC?

Theft in dwelling house.
Punishment: up to 7 years.

166. What is Section 420 IPC?

Cheating and dishonestly inducing delivery of property.
Punishment: up to 7 years + fine.

167. What is theft vs. extortion?

Theft is without consent.
Extortion uses threats to gain property.

168. What is Section 454 IPC?

Lurking house-trespass or house-breaking.
Punishment: up to 10 years + fine.

169. Can police stop illegal construction?

Yes, if there's a violation.
File a complaint with proof.

170. What is snatching vs. pickpocketing?

Snatching is forceful and sudden.

Pickpocketing is stealthy.

 **Online Harassment (Q171–Q185)****171. What is cyberbullying?**

Repeated online harassment, threats, or defamation.

Report to cyber cell.

172. Can I block abusive messages legally?

Yes, and you should report to police with screenshots.

It's a crime.

173. What is online defamation?

Publishing false content to harm someone's reputation.

Punishable under IPC 499/500.

174. How to report harassment by ex-partner online?

Gather evidence and report to cyber police.

Also block them.

175. What if someone shares my private photos?

File an FIR under IT Act and IPC 354C/D.

Strict action will be taken.

176. Can police trace anonymous messages?

Yes, they work with platforms to trace the IP.

Report all details.

177. How fast will police act in online harassment?

In sensitive cases, action is immediate.

Follow up with FIR.

178. What if someone posts my morphed photos?

That's a crime under cyber laws.

Report with proof.

179. Can a minor be punished for online abuse?

Yes, under JJ Act.

Reform-based punishment is given.

180. What is trolling?

Harassing or provoking someone online.

Repeated trolling is a punishable offence.

181. How to report WhatsApp threats?

Take screenshots and call 100 or visit cyber cell.
Provide chat details.

182. Can I sue for harassment on social media?

Yes, civil and criminal options are available.
Talk to police and lawyer.

183. Is creating fake memes about someone legal?

If defamatory or obscene, it's illegal.
Legal action can be taken.

184. What is revenge porn?

Sharing private content without consent.
It's a serious cyber offence.

185. Can I report online hate speech?

Yes, it's punishable under IPC and IT Act.
Provide evidence.

 **Police Procedures & Rights (Q186–Q200)****186. Can police arrest without a warrant?**

Yes, for cognizable offences.
Otherwise, warrant is needed.

187. Do I have to answer all police questions?

You can stay silent.
Right to remain silent is legal.

188. Can police enter my house without permission?

Only in emergencies or with a warrant.
Otherwise, they need your consent.

189. Do I need to go to police if called?

Yes, for investigation or witness.
Take a lawyer if unsure.

190. Can I record police interaction?

Yes, it's legal if done openly.
It helps ensure transparency.

191. How to report police misconduct?

Write to senior officers or SP office.
You can also file RTI.

192. What is a police complaint vs FIR?

Complaint is informal; FIR starts investigation.
Both can be in writing.

193. Can I refuse to go to police station at night?

Yes, especially women.
Police must follow protocol.

194. What is anticipatory bail?

A legal remedy to avoid arrest.
Available in non-bailable offences.

195. Can I get a copy of my statement?

Yes, ask for a copy of your statement.
It's your right.

196. Can women be arrested at night?

Only in exceptional cases with magistrate's permission.
Otherwise, it's prohibited.

197. What is Section 144 CrPC?

Prohibits unlawful gatherings.
Imposed to maintain law and order.

198. Can police track my phone?

Yes, but only with legal orders.
Used in serious cases.

199. What is judicial vs police custody?

Judicial = Jail; Police = Interrogation.
Duration depends on court orders.

200. What to do if police refuse to file complaint?

Approach SP or magistrate.
Also file a complaint online.

201:Can I withdraw a police complaint after filing?

Yes, you can withdraw a police complaint, but it depends on the nature of the case.
For non-cognizable or compoundable offences (like minor disputes), you can submit a written withdrawal request.
For serious offences, the court's permission is required before the complaint can be withdrawn.

Legal Procedures & Complaint Filing

1. How do I track the status of my police complaint?

You can visit the local police station or check the official state police website.

Provide your complaint number or FIR number for tracking.

Some states also offer SMS or online updates.

2. Is anonymous complaint allowed?

Yes, you can file an anonymous complaint in some cases.

However, without identity verification, action may be limited.

Serious issues may still be investigated if enough evidence is present.

3. Can I file a complaint via WhatsApp or email?

Many police departments accept complaints via WhatsApp or email.

Ensure you mention your name, contact, and full details.

Follow-up at the station may be required for FIR registration.

4. What happens after I file a complaint?

Police verify the facts and register an FIR if it's cognizable.

An investigation is initiated, and you may be contacted.

You'll get a copy of the FIR and updates as the case progresses.

5. Can I get a copy of my complaint?

Yes, you're entitled to a copy of your FIR or complaint.

Ask the officer-in-charge after it is filed.

No fee is charged for FIR copy.

FIR, Arrests & Bail

6. What is a Zero FIR?

A Zero FIR is registered at any police station regardless of jurisdiction.

It's useful in emergencies like rape, accidents, etc.

Later, it's transferred to the appropriate station.

7. How long can police detain without FIR?

Without an FIR, police can't detain you beyond a few hours.

They must justify any prolonged detention.

Illegal detention is a violation of your rights.

8. Who grants bail in police cases?

For bailable offences, the police can grant bail.

For non-bailable offences, you must apply through court.

Legal assistance is advised in such cases.

9. What is anticipatory bail?

It's a legal protection you can seek **before** arrest.

Apply to the Sessions Court or High Court.

It's helpful if you fear arrest in a false case.

10. What is the difference between arrest and detention?

Detention is temporary holding during questioning.

Arrest means formal custody for legal proceedings.

Arrest requires legal grounds and documentation.

Laws & Rights

11. What is a cognizable offence?

Police can arrest without a warrant and begin investigation.
These include serious crimes like murder, rape, theft.
FIR is mandatory in such cases.

12. What is a non-cognizable offence?

Police need magistrate's permission to investigate.
Examples: public nuisance, defamation, minor assault.
FIR is not registered directly by police.

13. What rights do I have after arrest?

You have the right to remain silent and consult a lawyer.
You must be produced before a magistrate within 24 hours.
You can inform your family or a friend.

14. Can police search my house without a warrant?

Only in urgent cases or hot pursuit situations.
Otherwise, a search warrant is required.
Unlawful search can be challenged legally.

15. Can I record police officers during interaction?

Yes, if you're in a public space or your own property.
Recording can protect you from misconduct.
Avoid obstructing police duties.

Women & Child Safety

16. Can a male officer arrest a woman?

Only in the presence of a woman officer and preferably before sunset.
Special procedures apply under CrPC Section 46(4).
Women have enhanced protections during arrest.

17. Can I file a harassment complaint at night?

Yes, every police station must accept complaints anytime.
Women can file FIRs at any time of day or night.
You can also use women helplines.

18. Are children allowed to testify in police cases?

Yes, children can testify if they understand the situation.
Their statements are taken in a sensitive manner.
Courts ensure child-friendly environments during trials.

19. What is a Child Welfare Police Officer?

An officer specially trained to handle juvenile cases.
Every police station must have one under JJ Act.
They protect children's rights during police interaction.

20. Can I report online child abuse to police?

Yes, file a cybercrime complaint or visit police station.
Use <https://cybercrime.gov.in> for online reporting.
Immediate action is taken in serious cases.

Cybercrime

21. What to do if someone hacks my Instagram?

Report the issue to the platform and take screenshots.
File a cybercrime complaint with details and evidence.
You can also visit <https://cybercrime.gov.in>.

22. Is sending abusive messages on WhatsApp a crime?

Yes, it can be cyberbullying or harassment.
File a complaint with screenshots and message history.
IPC and IT Act sections may apply.

23. How do I report phishing or fake calls?

Report to the National Cybercrime Portal or 1930 helpline.
Submit call details and any money lost.
Your bank and telecom provider should also be informed.

24. What is Section 66A of IT Act?

It punished offensive messages online but is **struck down** in 2015.
Police cannot register cases under this now.
Always check with legal aid if wrongly charged.

25. How to identify a fake police email or SMS?

Official communications use govt domains and IDs.
Fake ones demand money or ask for OTPs.
Don't share personal details without verification.

 **Traffic & Road**

26. What if I don't pay my traffic fine?

Your vehicle may be seized or license suspended.
Fines may increase over time.
Pay online or at traffic counters.

27. Is it mandatory to carry hard copy of license?

Not anymore.
Digital DL via DigiLocker or mParivahan is valid.
But keep it accessible when driving.

28. Can police take away my car keys?

No, unless there's a criminal act or safety issue.
You can report misuse to senior officers.
Always stay calm and cooperate.

29. Can I be fined twice for the same offence?

No, for the same incident, only one challan applies.
Double penalty is illegal under traffic rules.
Keep the receipt safely.

30. What to do if my vehicle is towed illegally?

Take photos, note the place/time, and talk to the traffic officer.
File a complaint with local police or RTO.
You may be eligible for compensation.

Police Stations, Helplines & General Assistance

1. How do I find the nearest police station?

Use Google Maps or call 100 for assistance.

You can also visit the state police website for station listings.

Location-based mobile apps can help too.

2. What is the helpline number for women in India?

Dial **1091** — it's the women's helpline number.

Some states also have 181 or mobile women patrol units.

You can also use apps like '112 India'.

3. What to do in case of domestic violence?

Call 100 or the women's helpline (1091) immediately.

You can also file a complaint under the Protection of Women from Domestic Violence Act.

Legal and shelter support will be provided.

4. What is the emergency number in India?

Dial **112** for all emergencies — police, fire, ambulance.

It is the national emergency response number.

Works across India 24x7.

5. Can I meet the SP or Commissioner directly?

Yes, with an appointment or during public grievance hours.

They handle serious or escalated complaints.

You can visit the district police office.

Legal Processes & Awareness

6. What is a charge sheet?

It's the final police report after completing investigation.

It lists all evidence, accused persons, and charges.

Filed before the court for trial.

7. What is Section 144 of CrPC?

It prohibits assembly of 4 or more people in an area.

Used to prevent riots or unrest.

Violating it can lead to arrest.

8. Can I take back my statement in a case?

Yes, but only under legal procedures.

Changing your statement may weaken the case.

Inform your lawyer or court first.

9. What is the punishment for fake FIR?

Filing a false FIR is a punishable offence.

IPC Section 182 or 211 applies.

It may lead to jail or fine.

10. What is Section 376 IPC?

It deals with punishment for rape.

Punishment ranges from 10 years to life imprisonment.

Severe consequences apply for repeat or gang offences.

Property & Theft

11. How to report a stolen mobile phone?

File an FIR at the nearest police station.

Give IMEI number, brand, date/time, location of theft.

Also register on <https://ceir.gov.in> to block the device.

12. Can I get back stolen items after recovery?

Yes, after verification and court approval.

You may have to produce receipts or ownership proof.

Police give a 'superdari' receipt.

13. What to do if landlord locks me out?

Call local police or dial 112 immediately.

Illegal eviction is a civil and criminal offence.

You can file a complaint for harassment.

14. Is chain snatching a bailable offence?

Usually **non-bailable** under IPC 392 (robbery).

Police will investigate and arrest if evidence exists.

Immediate complaint increases chances of recovery.

15. What happens after police seize property?

It's stored as case property.

A panchnama is prepared and submitted to court.

Return is possible only after court permission.



Missing Persons & Kidnapping

16. How do I report a missing person?

Visit the nearest police station and file an FIR.

Provide full details and photo if possible.

Police will start a search and issue a lookout.

17. Is there a waiting time before filing missing person report?

No, there is **no waiting time**.

You can report immediately once someone is missing.

Time is crucial, especially for children.

18. What if my child is kidnapped?

Call 112 or go to the police station **immediately**.

Filing an FIR is mandatory under POCSO and IPC.

Police start rescue operations urgently.

19. What is the punishment for kidnapping?

IPC Section 363-366 apply depending on the case.

Punishment ranges from 7 years to life.

Stricter laws for child kidnapping.

20. Can police trace someone using their phone?

Yes, under legal procedure and with telecom assistance.

Used in missing person or criminal tracking cases.

Court order may be required.



Family & Matrimonial Disputes

21. Can police help in child custody disputes?

Only enforce court orders or prevent violence.
They don't decide custody rights.
You need to file in family court.

22. How to file complaint against in-laws for abuse?

File under Section 498A IPC (cruelty).
Include evidence and witness statements.
Women Cell or Mahila Thana can also help.

23. Is desertion a criminal offence?

No, it's a **civil ground** for divorce.
But if it involves abuse or cheating, police may be involved.
Legal advice is recommended.

24. Can husband file complaint for domestic violence?

Protection of Women from DV Act is for women.
But husband can file under IPC for cruelty or injury.
Police treat both genders fairly with proof.

25. Can police stop forced marriage?

Yes, especially if the person is a minor or unwilling.
You can approach police or Child Welfare Committee.
POCSO and Prohibition of Child Marriage Act apply.



Cyber Safety

26. What is the punishment for cyberstalking?

It's punishable under Section 354D IPC and IT Act.
First offence: 3 years jail.
Repeat offence: up to 5 years.

27. How to protect children from online abuse?

Use parental control apps and educate children.
Report abuse on cybercrime.gov.in or dial 1098.
Schools also have child protection policies.

28. What to do if someone leaks my private photos?

Immediately file a complaint with police or cybercrime portal.
It's punishable under Section 66E and 67 IT Act.
Action is taken swiftly for such cases.

29. Is online gambling illegal in India?

Yes, in most states under Public Gambling Act.
Some states permit licensed platforms.
Check local laws before participating.

30. Can police track WhatsApp or Instagram chats?

Yes, under serious investigation with court orders.
Platforms share metadata, not content without legal request.
End-to-end encryption limits access.



Mental Health & Harassment

31. Can I report mental harassment at workplace?

Yes, especially if it's sexual or discriminatory.
File with Internal Complaints Committee or police.
You're protected under POSH Act and IPC.

32. What is stalking under IPC?

Repeated following, watching, or contacting a person.
Punishable under Section 354D.
Women can file FIR directly.

33. Can I file complaint against school for bullying?

Yes, especially if it causes harm.
Approach school authorities and local police.
Juvenile Justice Act may apply.

34. Is verbal abuse a crime?

Yes, under IPC Sections 294 or 504.
Repeated insults, threats, or abusive language is punishable.
Audio evidence strengthens the case.

35. How to report elder abuse?

File FIR or call 14567 helpline.
Police and social welfare officers assist.
Protection of Senior Citizens Act applies.

 **Documents & Certificates**

36. How do I get a police verification certificate?

Apply online or at your local station.
Submit ID proof and purpose (job, passport, rent, etc.).
It's usually processed within a week.

37. Is police clearance required for passport?

Yes, for most applicants.
Verification is done at your address by police.
Report truthfully to avoid delays.

38. What is an NCR (Non-Cognizable Report)?

Filed for non-cognizable offences.
No direct investigation without court order.
Used for record-keeping.

39. What is the use of a General Diary (GD) entry?

It's a daily record of incidents at the police station.
You can file for lost items or minor issues.
Useful for insurance or proof.

40. Can I get lost document report online?

Yes, some states offer e-reporting for lost documents.
You'll receive a digitally signed copy.
Useful for banks and institutions.

 **Miscellaneous & Sensitive Topics**

41. Can I report police misconduct?

Yes, to senior officers, DGP, NHRC, or online portals.

Video proof or witnesses help.

Every department has an internal inquiry system.

42. Are LGBTQ+ persons protected by law?

Yes, under SC rulings and IPC protections.

Discrimination or violence against LGBTQ+ persons is punishable.

Police must act without bias.

43. What if someone blackmails me with video?

Report immediately under IPC Section 384 & IT Act.

Police will help trace and stop the person.

Never pay the blackmailer.

44. Can a juvenile be arrested?

Juveniles are taken into custody, not arrested formally.

Handled under Juvenile Justice Act.

No handcuffs or harsh treatment allowed.

45. What is the difference between bailable and non-bailable offence?

Bailable: You can get bail easily from police.

Non-bailable: Bail must be granted by court.

Depends on severity of offence.

46. What happens after FIR is quashed?

The case is closed legally.

No further investigation or trial happens.

Court orders FIR quashing under CrPC 482.

47. Can I file complaint against traffic police?

Yes, at the local police office or SP office.

Record proof if available.

Police misconduct is taken seriously.

48. Are police allowed to use force during protest?

Only if protest turns violent or unlawful.

Minimal force must be used.

Lathi charge or tear gas needs justification.

49. What if someone fakes being a police officer?

Impersonation is a crime under IPC Section 170.

Report it with evidence or suspicious behavior.

Police will take immediate action.

50. Can I get help if I'm stranded at night?

Yes, call 112 or go to the nearest police station.

They are obligated to help with safety or transport.

Stay in well-lit, public areas if waiting.

Online Financial & Scam-related Crimes

1. Someone tricked me with a fake UPI payment, what do I do?

🔴 Report the fraud immediately to your bank and dial 1930 or visit cybercrime.gov.in.

The faster you act, the better the chances of recovery.

2. I received a fake job offer asking for money. Is this legal?

✗ No, asking for money to process job applications is illegal.

File a cyber complaint with all proof.

3. **A fake loan app is threatening me. What should I do?**
🚫 Do not pay. Take screenshots and lodge a complaint at cybercrime.gov.in. Such apps often operate illegally.
 4. **I clicked on a suspicious link. Will my bank account be hacked?**
🚫 Possibly. Change passwords immediately and inform your bank. Use anti-virus software and avoid clicking unknown links.
 5. **Someone hacked my WhatsApp and is asking money from my contacts.**
🔒 Inform your contacts not to send money. Report the number and regain access using OTP.
-

Crime Reporting & Legal Actions

6. **How do I file a cybercrime complaint in India?**
📝 Visit cybercrime.gov.in and log your complaint. You can also call 1930 for help.
 7. **Can I file an FIR online?**
✅ Some states allow online FIRs for specific crimes. Check your state police website or use cybercrime.gov.in.
 8. **Do I need to visit the police station for online fraud?**
🚘 Not always. Start with an online complaint, then visit if required. Carry digital proof when visiting the station.
 9. **Can I remain anonymous while reporting a crime?**
👤 Yes, anonymous complaints are accepted for safety-related issues. However, for legal action, identity may be needed.
 10. **Can a minor file a police complaint?**
👶 Yes, with the help of a parent or guardian. POCSO-related complaints must be taken seriously.
-

Social Media & Sextortion

11. **Someone is blackmailing me with private photos. Help!**
🔴 Immediately block and report the account.
Do not pay money. File a cybercrime complaint urgently.
12. **A fake Instagram profile is using my photos.**
📸 Report the profile on Instagram and collect screenshots.
File a complaint with police or cybercrime cell.
13. **I got a call asking for nude video verification for KYC. Is it fraud?**
🚫 Yes, it's a scam. No bank asks for such videos.
Report to police and ignore such calls.
14. **Can police trace fake Facebook accounts?**
🔍 Yes, police can trace IP and login details through legal procedure.
Filing an FIR is necessary for action.

15. I'm being threatened on WhatsApp. Can I take action?

-  Yes, threats over messaging apps are criminal offenses.
Take screenshots and file a report.
-

Banking & ATM Crimes

16. My card got cloned at an ATM. What now?

-  Block your card immediately.
Inform your bank and file a complaint at the nearest police station.

17. A fraudster called as bank staff and took OTP. What do I do?

-  Call your bank and 1930 right away.
You may be able to reverse the transaction if acted fast.

18. How to know if a loan has been taken using my PAN?

-  Check your credit score on CIBIL or Equifax.
If found, report identity theft to the police.

19. Someone used my Aadhaar and took a SIM card. What action can I take?

-  File a complaint with the police and visit UIDAI site to lock Aadhaar.
Also inform the telecom operator.

20. Can scammers withdraw money from my Paytm/PhonePe without OTP?

-  Generally no, but through social engineering it's possible.
Enable 2FA and never share your OTP.
-

Tech & App-related Crimes

21. My phone has spyware installed. What should I do?

-  Reset the device and update the OS.
Report the matter to the cybercrime unit.

22. I got tricked into installing a fake app. Is my data at risk?

-  Yes, uninstall the app and scan your device.
Change all passwords and notify your bank.

23. Is it legal to use someone's Wi-Fi without permission?

-  No, it's unauthorized access and punishable.
It may be treated as hacking.

24. Can police track online betting app users?

-  Yes, betting is illegal in most Indian states.
IP address and transaction details are traceable.

25. My child lost money on a gaming app. Can I report it?

-  Yes, especially if the app didn't have parental controls.
Submit details to cybercrime portal.
-

E-commerce Fraud & Delivery Scams

26. I didn't receive my online order. Seller is not responding.

 Report to the platform and consumer forum.

If it's a scam site, file a cyber complaint.

27. I received an empty box instead of a phone. What now?

 Record proof, file complaint with seller and cybercrime portal.

Request chargeback if paid online.

28. I paid via QR code and got scammed. Can I get refund?

 If reported early to 1930, chances of reversal are higher.

Act immediately and file a complaint.

29. Is it safe to buy from Instagram ads?

 Be careful. Many are scams with fake pages.

Verify seller, reviews, and payment terms.

30. The courier guy asked OTP and money. Now I lost ₹. Is this fraud?

 Yes, it's a known scam. Report to courier service and police.

General & Law-based Questions

31. What is cyberbullying and is it punishable?

 Yes, insulting, threatening, or spreading hate online is punishable.

You can file under IT Act & IPC.

32. Someone made a deepfake video of me. What can I do?

 Deepfake videos used to harm reputation are illegal.

Save proof and file cyber complaint.

33. Can I be arrested for forwarding fake news on WhatsApp?

 Yes, if it causes public disorder or panic.

Always verify before forwarding.

34. I received a call saying I won a lottery. Real or scam?

 It's most likely a scam. Never pay to claim a prize.

Block and report the number.

35. A dating app user is blackmailing me. What should I do?

 Report the user on the app and to cyber police.

Do not give in to threats or demands.

Location/Police Station Related

36. How do I know the police station for my area?

 Visit your city police website or call 100.

They will help you locate the jurisdiction.

37. Can I get FIR copy online?

 Many states offer online FIR copy download.

Check state police portal.

38. Can I withdraw my complaint later?

 Yes, but it depends on the type of case.

Some serious crimes cannot be withdrawn easily.

39. How long does police take to act on FIR?

 Immediate for serious crimes.

Otherwise, preliminary inquiry may be done.

40. Can I file a complaint without visiting police station?

 Yes, many complaints can be filed online via portals.

 **Emergency & Sensitive Issues**

41. What to do if I get rape threats online?

 Treat it as a serious offense.

File a cyber FIR and keep evidence.

42. My nudes were leaked without consent. What action can I take?

 It's a criminal offense under IPC & IT Act.

Lodge a cybercrime complaint with proof.

43. Can I report cybercrime on someone else's behalf?

 Yes, especially if the victim is a minor or vulnerable.

Be ready to share details and evidence.

44. What is the punishment for online child abuse?

 Child abuse (even online) is punishable under POCSO Act.

Jail up to 7 years or more.

45. Can police take action against fake astrologer scams?

 Yes, if it involves money cheating or blackmail.

Submit proof and complaint.

 **Recovery & Legal Support**

46. Can lost money in UPI fraud be recovered?

 Sometimes, if reported to 1930 in time.

Banks can freeze or reverse if early.

47. How long does it take to trace online fraud?

 Depends on case complexity.

May take days to weeks for digital trails.

48. Do I need lawyer to file cyber complaint?

 No, you can file it yourself.

Lawyers help if it escalates legally.

49. What is Section 66D of the IT Act?

 It deals with impersonation using computers.

Punishment includes jail up to 3 years and fine.

50. Is abusing someone online punishable?

 Yes, verbal abuse, slurs, and threats are punishable under IT & IPC sections.

