

Crime in Raipur District: A Historical Analysis(1956-1975)

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Abstract: *This Research Paper deals with various aspect of crime in Raipur District. Crime and Police seem to go hand in hand from time immemorial. The study on crime relates to police in context to population, distance of police station from place of crime and availability of police force in the area. Chhattisgarh is basically a place of peace loving people. Its geographical location and history has made it almost secluded from neighbouring states but even then no society of the modern world can claim to be free from crimes.*

The study has been based on the data of crime for the years 1956 to 1975. Statistics on Indian Crime originate in Police Stations. They are collected from district reports found at the office of the Superintendent of Police. The natural interpretation is that crime rate is directly proportionate to urbanization and industrialization.

Key Words: *Murder, Riots, Burglary, Minor Act, Heinous offence, Witchcraft, Police Station, Industrialization*

The nature of crime and the motives of crime in Raipur district during the period of 1956 to 1975 have been discussed in this research paper. Offences like riots, kidnapping, robbery and dacoity were mostly registered in urban areas of Raipur district, whereas heinous offences like murders were registered in the rural areas.

Research Methodology- The present research work is based on both

primary and secondary data. Most of the Primary sources have been collected from National Archives of India, New Delhi, which is repository of Government documents; a number of Libraries, Record Rooms and Personal Libraries of Senior Police Officials. Data related to crime is collected from the libraries of Police Head Quarter, Superintendent of Police, Vallabh Bhavan Library, Bhopal, Madhya Pradesh; Pt. Sunder Lal Sharma library, Raipur,(C.G.) and Central Jail Record Room, Raipur. The data thus collected has been verified, analyzed and interpreted.

Introduction : About Chhattisgarh

During the period of the study Chhattisgarh was a part of Madhya Pradesh. Situated at the heart of India, Chhattisgarh is endowed with a rich cultural heritage and attractive natural diversity. It is just of the right size, and is fortunate to have a low population density. The South-Kosala - the modern Chhattisgarh - is so situated as to form a compact unit fit for developing a culture and a civilization of its own. Chhattisgarh was being considered as one of the most underdeveloped and backward regions of India. The area under consideration consisted of the Raipur and Bilaspur Divisions of the state of undivided Madhya Pradesh of India. It includes six eastern districts of Madhya Pradesh viz. Raigarh, Bilaspur, Raipur, Durg, Rajnandgaon and Bastar.¹ Chhattisgarh extends over on an area of 1, 35,191 Sq.Kms, between 17°46' N and 24° 5' N and 80°14'E and 84°25'E. It is traversed by the Bombay-Culcutta National Highway and Trankline. Before independence, the central portion of the region was under direct control of the British Government, while the rimland i.e. the surrounding upland, was ruled over by a number of feudatory chiefs. After the adulation of proprietary states were merged with the pre-existing districts of Bilaspur, Durg and four states were merged together to form new districts Raigarh and Surguja. Durg district was later, in 1973, bifurcated into Durg and Rajnandgaon districts.²

It is popularly believed that Chhattisgarh had 36 forts under the Ratanpur and the Raipur branches of the Haihayas.³ Raja Kalyan Sai's account seen by Mr. Chisholm in 1869, showed 48 forts. The numbers 18 and 36 have some significance as the Hindu numerous system allots 6 for the enemy or some difficulty. However, the name Chhattisgarh has not been mentioned in a single record and the word seems to have a comparatively recent origin.

Nelson suggests⁴, with more probability that the name Chhattisgarh is derivative form of Chedisgarh, meaning the forts of Chedi. The Haihaya dynasty of Tummana or Ratanpur was a younger generation of the Chedi family of Tripuri, whose name they continued to cherish. Inscriptions of⁵ the King Jajalladeva II, eighth from Kalinga Raja, depicts 'the leader of the princes who delight in keeping up the Chedi family.'

Raipur district forms part of the Raipur Commissioner's Division in the Chhattisgarh Region and occupies the south eastern part of the Mahanadi basin and a large belt of hilly areas to the east and south. This demarcates the district in the east and invests it with its own pattern of culture as distinct from the Oriya culture. The district is situated between the parallels of latitude 19°47' North and 21°53' North and the meridians of longitude 81°25' East and 83°13' East.⁶ The district is bounded on the north by Bilaspur district, on the east by Koraput district of Orissa and by Sambalpur and Kalahandi district of the same state and by Durg district on the west. Saranggarh tahsil of Raigarh district and Kanker tahsil of Bastar district lie to north-east and south west directions, respectively.⁷

The total area of the Raipur district is 21,334 Sq.Kms.⁸ It occupies about 5% of the state's area and is the third largest district. It is more than double average size of a district in M.P. Its greatest length from north to south almost from end to end is about 227 km. and the greatest width from east to west, a few miles north of Raipur city, is about 114 km. Raipur is the most populous district in the state with a population of 2,611,183.⁹ The most densely populated areas are in the north-western valley division whereas the southern, excluding the Tel river valley of the district, has the lowest density of population. The district is divided into 5 tahsils, such as Raipur, Baloda Bazar, Dhamtari, Mahasamund and Bindranawagarh (Gariaband). The shape of the district is fairly compact, except for the projections by Saraipali and Deobhog areas in the north east and south east respectively, which make it appear like a large crescent with its hollow in the east.¹⁰

The Raipur district derives its name from the headquarter city of Raipur. It had also been the capital of the Junior Branch of the Haihayas. Nelson's District Gazetteer (1909) mentioned that the town had been in existence since the 9th century, the old site lying to the southwest of Purani Basti and the ruins of the fort and extending to the river. According to him, the

inscriptions of Kalchuri King Bramhadeva, one dated 1402 A.D. and the later dated 1414 A.D. refer to reign of Kalchuri king Laxmideva, his son Simhana and king Simhana's son. It is commonly believed that Raipur got its name from king Simhana's son Rai Ramchandra.¹¹

History of The District as an Administrative Unit :

Raipur was the seat of the junior branch of the Kalchuri kings over the southern 18 garhs or Chhattisgarh for a very long time. The Maratha rule in this part of the country, from 1750 to 1818 was reduced merely to a paragana headquarter.¹² Even then the town was an important one in the whole of Chhattisgarh. Captain Blunt¹³ who journeyed through Chhattisgarh to Rajmundry in the year 1795 recorded in his diary that Raipur was the second next principal town in Chhattisgarh but which might be justly ranked the first for its population and commerce. After the escape and deposition of Appa Sahib Bhonsla of Nagpur the administration of the territory was assumed by the British Government during the ministry of Reghuji Bhonsla. Edmonds took over the charge of Chhattisgarh at Ratanpur.¹⁴ He was succeeded by Colonel Agnew who removed the Headquarter of the then Chhattisgarh to Raipur. Raipur was also made the headquarter of the political agent of the Chhattisgarh state. The Khalsa lands (excluding the feudatory states and zamindaries) comprised formerly into 27 divisions were formed into 9 Paraganas by Colonel Agnew. The British protectorate lasted up to 1830 during which period Colonel Agnew continued as superintendent. Under the Bhonsla administration, from 1830 to 1854, Maratha Subhadars were placed at Raipur who were superior to the Kamavisdars or sub-collectors posted in each paragana or cluster of talukas.¹⁵

On the lapse of the Nagpur principality to the British Government in 1854, Chhattisgarh formed separate Deputy Commissionership with its headquarter at Raipur. The first officer appointed in charge of Chhattisgarh was Captain Elliott. The limits of his jurisdiction was the same as in the time of Colonel Agnew including Bastar. In 1856 the territory was divided into three tahsils, viz. Raipur, Dhamtari¹⁶ and probably Bilaspur. Introduction of a more regular system began. In 1857 Durg was made a tahsil and Bilaspur was separated from Raipur to form a district in 1861¹⁷. In 1863 a fourth tahsil at Simga was created in Raipur district.¹⁸ Raipur which had been the seat of the commissioners was abolished in the old Madhya Pradesh in

1948. However, it was revived on the 1st November, 1956, with the re-organization of states and the creation of Madhya Pradesh. The jurisdiction of the present commissioner extended only over the three districts of Raipur, Durg and Bastar.¹⁹

The total area and population of each of the 5 tahsils of Raipur district as per the 1961 and 1971 census is given below.²⁰

S.No.	Tahsil	Area in Sq.Kms.	Population 1961 - 1971
1.	Raipur	2895.4	495392
2.	Baloda Bazar	3580.2	499665
3.	Mahasamund	3674.2	456209
4.	Dhamtari	2076.4	328920
5.	Bindranawagarh	2268.5	221818
6.	District of Govt. Forest	6778.5	
	District Total	21213.2 Sq.Kms.	2002004

Crime in Raipur District :

The primary responsibility of the Police force is to control crime. Nature and magnitude of crime differs with space, time and society. David Baley has rightly said that "crime is socially defined its content shifts among societies and within a single society over time".²¹ Crime may be defined as violation of rules and regulations framed by the state or the society. It has its origin in the conflict of the self seeking habits of the individual with the common customs of any social group.

Statistics of crimes for the preceding years, 1956-75, will perhaps reveal gradual increase in their number. But considering the size and population of the Raipur district, one cannot say that the incidence of crime in Raipur was of grave concern. To put it in other words, it may be attributed to the general awareness of the public in reporting all offences to police. Crimes of a serious nature like dacoity, gang robbery, murder, etc. were not frequent in the Raipur district in the said period.

Prominent among other crimes were murders, riots, housebreaking and

thefts. Figures under these offences show a rapid fluctuation. As in other cases also this may be ascribed to the impact of a sudden rise in population in the adjacent areas of industrial nature like Bhilai, etc.

The growth of crime in this period (1956-75) was due to many factors. Most important among them were -

- a) Growth of Industrialization in Raipur District,
- b) More political interference in day to day police administration,
- c) Slow disposal of cases in the courts,
- d) Decreasing respect for law by citizens &
- e) More engagement of police in security duties, law and order and preventive measures.

Process of industrialization started in early sixties. The subsidiary industries, however, were started in seventies only. Easy availability of power attracted subsidiary industries in and around Korba and Bilaspur. Limestone is available in plenty in Raipur district. With sufficient availability of power and limestone, number of cement plants were opened in private sector mostly by Century (Baikunth) Raipur, Raymond (Hirmi) and Cement Corporation of India, Mandhar. This industrial climate also attracted entrepreneurs from other states to establish variety of consumer goods industry.

Raipur was benefited by new ventures. Migration from villages to new growth centre was very high. Migrated people settled around place of work without proper planning and hence a large number of slums developed. All the vices of slums like drinking, gambling and prostitution became common offences.

Volume of Crime in Context of Area of Police Station :

The variation in the volume of crime for one square kilometer of area was noticed in the city and rural police stations. The urban centre with high density of population were bound to have high volume of crime in limited area. Police stations like Civil Lines Raipur, Ganj, Kotwali Raipur and Dhamtari had registered more than 5 IPC offences per square kilometer. The density of population in these police stations were high. Medium volume of crime in respect of area was found in Abhanpur, Mahasamund, Arang, Rajim, Basana and Saraipali Police Stations. Some of the police stations were urban in nature with sufficient numbers of villages attached to them. Others were purely rural with small area and high density of population.

Low and very low volume of crime per square kilometer was registered in rural areas. The forest area and mountainous land had sparse settlements. Density of population was low and sometimes headquarters of police stations were even 40 kilometer away from some interior villages.

Population in any area is the most important factor to influence the volume of crime. Police stations were mostly made for protecting the need of population in relation to crime. The volume of crime for every 1000 population in city police stations was very high. Civil Line Raipur, Kotwali Raipur, Ganj Raipur Police Stations registered 5 to 6 IPC offences for every 1,000 population.

The medium volume of crime per 1000 population was registered in Abhanpur, Mahasamund, Arang, Rajim, Basana and Saraipali Police Station which had registered 2 to 4 offences per 1000 population. There were either city police stations or rural police stations with small population. Low volume of crime per 1000 population was registered in semi-urban and rural police stations. Palari, Kasdol, Magarlod, Pithoura, Kurud and Simga represented the police stations of this category.

Very low volume of crime in respect of population was registered in police station with very large area. Sihawa, Tungaon, Kharora, Chhura & Bilaigarh etc. were the interior Police Stations. People were mostly aboriginal. Distance was very important factor for low volume of crime.

Crime Registered in the year 1974²² in the districts of Chhattisgarh

Raipur	Durg	Bilaspur	Bastar	Surguja	Raigarh	Rajnandgaon
6493	6455	5103	2770	2705	2332	2210

District wise variation indicates that Raipur registered the highest percentage of crime while Rajnandgaon and Raigarh registered the lowest percentage of crime. The increase in crime in the Raipur district was mostly due to industrialization, more political interference in day to day police administration, lack of adequate resources with police, increasing social tension in rural areas and better system of crime registrations.

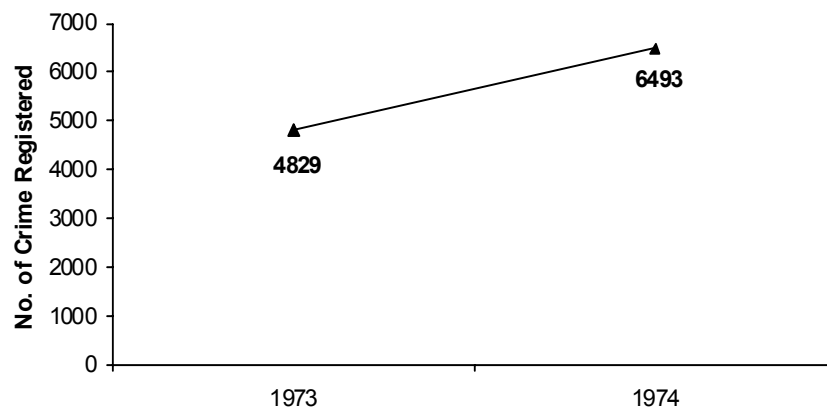
The police stations having industrial units in their jurisdiction had registered very high rate of growth of crime. City Police Stations were the next, after the Industrial Police Stations where crime increased substantially. Civil Lines, City Kotwali & Ganj Raipur were examples of City Police

Stations. Tahsil head quarter and town police station of rural area had registered moderate growth of crime.

The analysis shows that crime is basically an urban phenomenon. Villages had developed a system where offences were reported. Minor offences were mostly settled by Panchayats. Distance played an important role in reporting the offences. Police stations were often located 40 to 50 km away from a village. It was seen that people settled in the nearby villages of the police station tend to contact police more for help than for registration for crimes. In villages every person was known to each other. Lack of unanimity also played very important role in keeping the society free from crime.

Incidence of Crime in Raipur District for the Year 1973²³ & 1974²⁴

Districts	Raipur
Crime in 1973	4829
Crime Registered in 1974	6493
Increase or decrease	1664
Percentage (%)	34.30



The above table depicts the incidence of reported crime in Raipur district during the year 1973 and 1974. This shows that the growth of crime between the year 1973 and 1974 was 34.30% in Raipur district.

Crime registered under Indian Penal Code under following heads :

1. Murder,
2. Riots,
3. Kidnapping,
4. Property Offences— a) Dacoity, b) Robbery, c) Theft, d) House Breaking

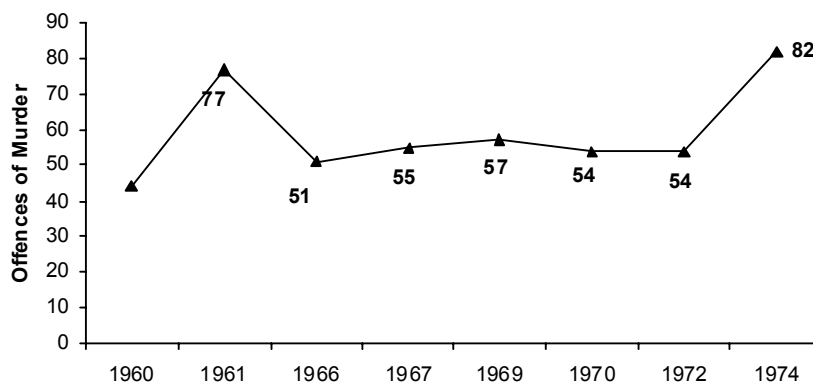
Murder :

Murder is by and large the most shocking crime against human being and is naturally ranked as the greatest offence under the Indian Penal Code. The severest possible punishment is assigned this crime. A deterrent punishment produces a feeling of fear on the general public and thus serves as effective check on the prospective wrong-doer.

Murder is considered as the most heinous offence in Chhattisgarh region too. Violence is the one thing which people detest most. Enmity, property disputes, land disputes, sex intrigues, witchcraft, sudden provocation and human sacrifice were the main causes of murder in Raipur district.

Offences of Murder in Raipur District, 1960-1974

District	1960	1961	1966	1967	1969	1970	1972	1974
Raipur	44	77	51	55	57	54	54	82



In the year 1961 & 1972 the highest number of offence of murder (77 & 82) was registered in Raipur district. In the year 1960 & 1966 the lowest number of offence of murder (44 & 51) was registered in Raipur district.

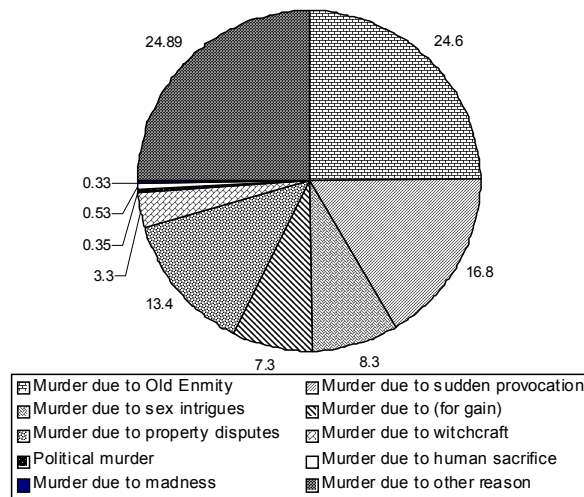
Offences of Murder in Raipur District(1960-61 to 1974-75)—A Comparison

District	1960 - 61 ²⁵	1974 - 75 ²⁶	Number/ Increase	Increase %
Raipur	44	82	38	86.36

The above table shows that during the period 1960-61 to 1974-75 offences of murders increased 86.36% in Raipur district.

Motives of The Murders in Raipur District (for the year 1974)

S.No.	Motives of Murder	Percentage
1	Murder due to Old Enmity	24.60
2	Murder due to sudden provocation	16.80
3	Murder due to sex intrigues	08.30
4	Murder due to (for gain)	07.30
5	Murder due to property disputes	13.40
6	Murder due to witchcraft	03.30
7	Political murder	00.35
8	Murder due to human sacrifice	00.53
9	Murder due to madness	00.33
10	Murder due to other reason	24.89
	Total (for the year 1974)	100



Enmity was perhaps the motive in quite a few cases under this head. The spirit of revenge born out of grudge, was rather a common motive for murders in India. Such murders were well planned. This cause of enmity might have arise from various reasons e.g. civil suit, land-dispute, family fend, party faction, religious bigotry, fanaticism, racial hatred etc.

Old enmity was the most important factor contributing 24.60% of the murders in this region. In the homogenous society of the region, the enmity continued from generation to generation, one murder was the cause of the other and thus the chain continues.

A large number of murders were committed due to sudden provocations. Such murders were unpredictable and were mostly committed in the wake of a sudden quarrel. This was the second important factor contributing 16.80% of murders. Since the climate was of the region was warm and unhealthy, food habits were not favourable, the resistance power was minimum in the people of this region. Even small hurt causes death.

Property disputes were also one of most important reason for murder in Raipur District. Property disputes were third important factor contributing 13.4% of murders in this region.

A sexual intrigue was another important factor contributing 8.30% of murders. Murder for gain was rather the most important cause from the point of view of police. Some gain was always treated as a dominating intention of the murderer and such murders were usually associated with robbery. It was all the more shocking to human conscience as the criminal committed this crime in cold blooded manner simply for the sake of petty personal gains.

Superstition was also one of the causes of gruesome murders in this region. Murder of *tonhi* was the most gruesome murder in this region. People believed that some persons, mainly women, possessed supernatural powers to harm their enemies. Sometimes alleged persons performed *tantrik puja*. In the event of some misfortune, disease, or death, they suspected that *tonhi* was responsible for such evils. In retaliation relatives and friends of those people sometime killed the so called *tonhi*. In these cases the entire village punished the *tonhi*.

Only three offences were registered under the head of murder due to madness. *Narbali* was not very common but in Bastar district 2 or 3 cases of *Narbali* (human sacrifice) had been registered. Murder due to other

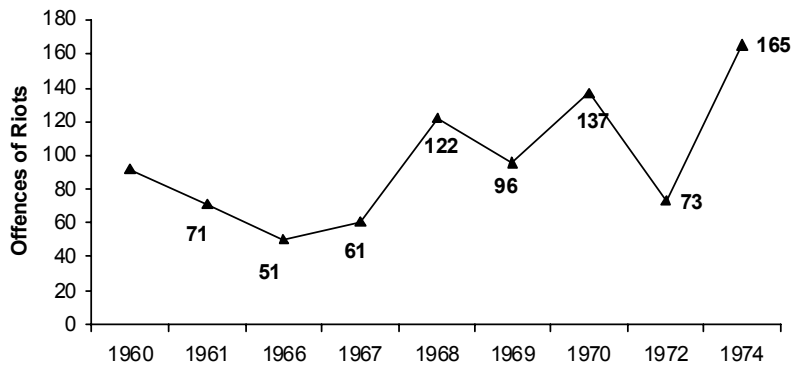
reasons constituted 24.89% of the total number of murders. This is to be noted that the offences of murder were mostly registered in rural police stations.

Riots :

Rioting is defined as an offence where force or violation is used by an unlawful assembly. People of Chhattisgarh region were generally peaceful. Except in certain pockets, rural areas were almost free from riots. Urban police station however had registered high concentration of riots.

Offences of Riots in Raipur District(1960-1974)²⁷

District	1960	1961	1966	1967	1968	1969	1970	1972	1974
Raipur	92	71	51	61	122	96	137	73	165



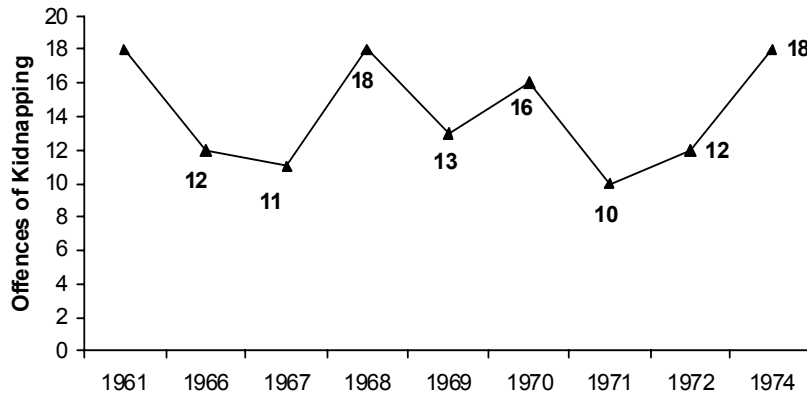
In the year 1974 the highest number of offence of riot (165) was registered in Raipur district. In the year 1966 the lowest number of offence of riot (51) was registered in Raipur district.

Kidnapping :

Kidnapping is defined as an offence when some takes or entices any minor from his/her lawful guardianship. Kidnapping was not very common offence in Chhattisgarh region.

Offences of Kidnapping in Raipur District(1960-1974)²⁸

District	1960	1961	1966	1967	1968	1969	1970	1971	1972	1974
Raipur	-	18	12	11	18	13	16	10	12	18



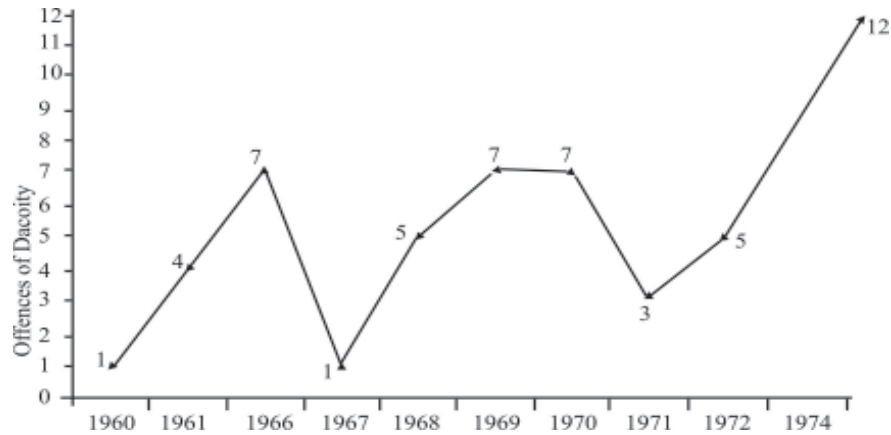
In the year 1961, 1968 & 1972 the highest number of offence of kidnapping (18, 18 & 18) was registered in Raipur district. In the year 1967 & 1971 the lowest number of offence of kidnapping (11 & 10) was registered in Raipur district.

Dacoity :

In all robbery there is either theft or extortion. When the offender use force or shows fear of force then extortion and theft becomes robbery. Dacoity is defined as robbery committed by five or more persons. Offences of dacoity were not very common in the fifties and sixties in Raipur district. But in mid seventies it became common in Raipur district.

Offences of Dacoity in Raipur District(1960-1974) ²⁹

District	1960	1961	1966	1967	1968	1969	1970	1971	1972	1974
Raipur	1	4	7	1	5	7	7	3	5	12



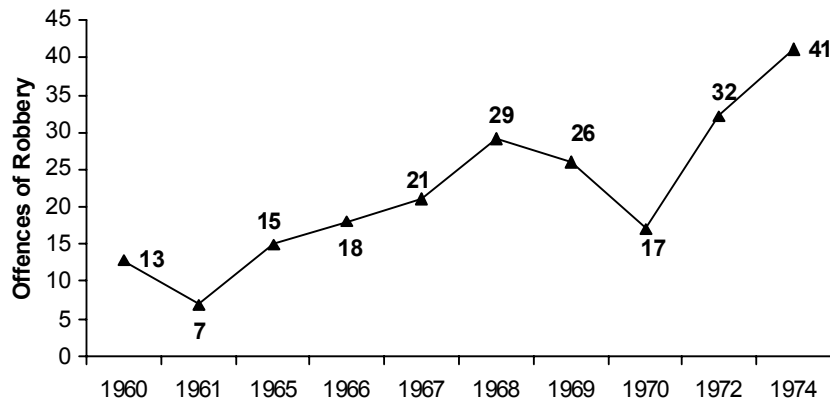
In the year 1974 the highest number of offence of dacoity (12) was registered in Raipur district. In the year 1960 & 1967 the lowest number of offence of dacoity (1 & 1) was registered in Raipur district.

Robbery :

When the offender use force or shows fear of force then extortion and theft become robbery. Robbery was an offence which was unknown in the interior areas of Raipur. The cases of this type of crime is shown in the table and the graph below.

Offences of Robbery in Raipur District(1960-1974)³⁰

District/ Year	1960	1961	1965	1966	1967	1968	1969	1970	1972	1974
Raipur	13	7	15	18	21	29	26	17	32	41



In the year 1974 the highest number of offence of robbery (41) was registered in Raipur district. In the year 1961 the lowest number of offence of robbery (7) was registered in Raipur district.

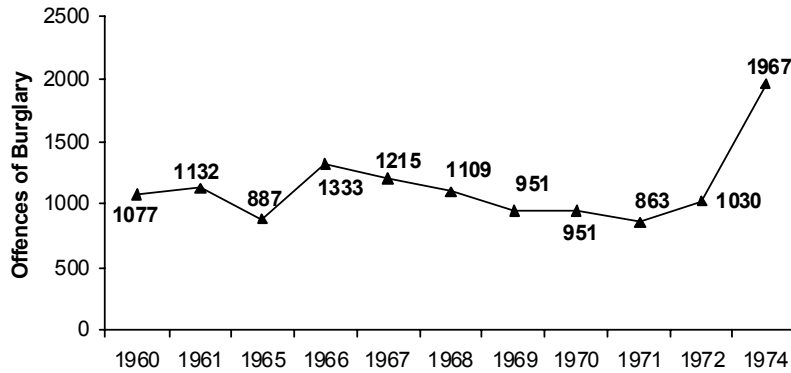
During the period (1960-61 to 1974-75) the increase in number of offences of robbery was 68.29 %.

Ordinary theft or theft/house breaking :

Theft is defined as an offence where some one intends to grab dishonestly any movable property out from the possession of any person without his consent . Theft becomes house breaking or burglary when the offence is committed in any building, tent or vessel. Burglary is an act of illegal entry into a building in order to steal its contents. Theft and burglary were the most frequent offences which engaged greater portion of the criminal work of police stations of Raipur district.

Offences of Burglary in Raipur District(1960-1974)³¹

District	1960	1961	1965	1966	1967	1968	1969	1970	1971	1972	1974
Raipur	1077	1132	887	1333	1215	1109	951	951	863	1030	1967

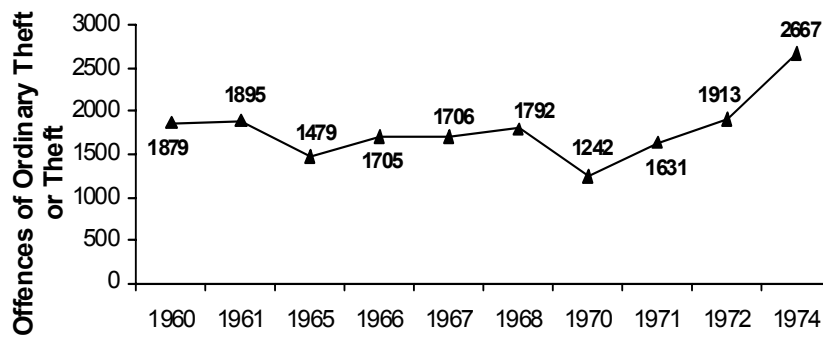


In the year 1974 the highest number of offence of burglary (1967) was registered in Raipur district. In the year 1971 the lowest number of offence of burglary (863) was registered in Raipur district.

During the period (1960-61 to 1974-75) the increase in number of offences of burglary was increased by 45.24 %.

Offences of Ordinary Theft in Raipur District(1960-1974)³²

District	1960	1961	1965	1966	1967	1968	1970	1971	1972	1974
Raipur	1879	1895	1479	1705	1706	1792	1242	1631	1913	2667



In the year 1974 the highest number of offence of ordinary theft (2667) was registered in Raipur district. In the year 1970 the lowest number of offence (1242) was registered in Raipur district.

During the period (1960-61 to 1974-75) the increase in number of offences of ordinary theft was 29.54 %.

Offences under the Minor Act :

The offences registered under the Acts other than Indian Penal Code are known as Minor Acts. In police terminology these acts mostly concern under following heads:

a) Arms Act, b) Opium Act, c) Excise Act, d) Gambling Act, e) Motor Vehicle Act, f) Police Act, g) Prevention of Debtors Act, h) Explosive Act, i) Essential Commodities Act, j) Suppression of Immoral Traffic in Women and Girls Act, and k) Prevention of Corruption Act. The cases registered under Excise Act, Gambling Act and prohibition Act are shown in the table below.

Cases Registered Under Minor Act (Special Act) in Raipur District(1956-1974)³³

Year	Excise Act	Gambling Act	Prohibition Act
1956	538	586	921
1961	596	512	1276
1966	217	377	868
1967	349	503	326
1968	413	772	-
1969	469	740	-
1970	408	1145	-
1974	532	1479	-

Offences under the Minor Act were mostly registered in Kotwali Raipur, Civil Line Raipur, Ganj Raipur, Dhamtari, Mahasamund, Bhatapara and Abhanpur. Gambling was prevalent in rural areas of Raipur district region. But it was not fully reported. On the information, sometimes local police raided the villages. Sometimes local police turned eye on offenders.

High volume of excise offences were reported in city police stations like Kotwali, Ganj Raipur, Dhamtari, Mahasamund, Bhatapara and in rural police stations like Bagbahara, Kasdol and Palari. Excise offences were

reported in large number from industrial areas. Production and consumption of illicit liquor was a common practice in this region. Government had allowed tribal people to prepare their own liquor. Contractor and smugglers had taken advantage of this benefit and carried the illicit liquor in towns. Excise offences were common in labour colonies and poor localities.

Police Act cases were registered mostly in town police stations. Highest volume was noticed in Kotwali Raipur, Dhamtari, Ganj Raipur, and Bhatapara Police Station.

Conclusion :

However, simple peaceful and honest society can claim of being free from crime. There are simple crimes like theft, burglary; fearful crimes like murder, kidnapping and heinous crimes like *narbali* and *tonhi*. Raipur district been located around rural and tribal belts witnessed different nature of crimes in different areas depending upon the nature of place (rural, urban or tribal). Low volume of crimes were registered in rural areas. The settlements in forest areas and mountain lands were sparse and sporadic and hence the crime role was low. Besides the density of population, the distance of a village from the police station was an important factor for registration of crimes . In case of a major distance between the place of crime and the police station, crimes could not be registered. In Raipur district there had been villages even at a distance of forty kilometers from police headquarters or thanas. Probably for that reason, both occurrence and registration of crime was found to be very low in those areas. No registration of crime does not always mean lack of crime. Among the registered crimes, there were mainly simple crimes such as theft and burglary, the cases of murder and *tonhi* were also registered there, though not very frequently.

As far as urban areas are concerned, the rate of crime was always high because of the obvious reasons, such as the concentrated and dense population, migration from other areas for education and jobs and industrialization etc. The crime rate in urban areas of Raipur district was high. Industrial centre with slums, generated high frequency of crime in ratio to the population and area of the town. Raipur, Dhamtari, Mahasamund, Bhatapara and Abhanpur towns were the centers, where total volume of crime was very high. These centres had concentrated population, high percentage of migrant labours and large number of industrial units. These

were centres of trade and commerce and administration. Political and religious activities were concentrated in these towns. Educational centers were located here. These towns were well connected with rail and road to other parts of the country. Interaction of different people with number of subculture was very common here. The volume of crime in these centers was almost at the same level as was noticed in other urban centres of India.

We may conclude that the industrialization and modernization leads to the increased crime rates and the nature of crime was heinous like murder, riot, kidnapping etc. This does not mean that one should not opt for modernization. If the society and administration provide proper facilities, better opportunities and infrastructure, the picture may change with proper counseling .

Notes and References :

1. Imperial Gazetteer of India, Vol. X, p. 202.
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