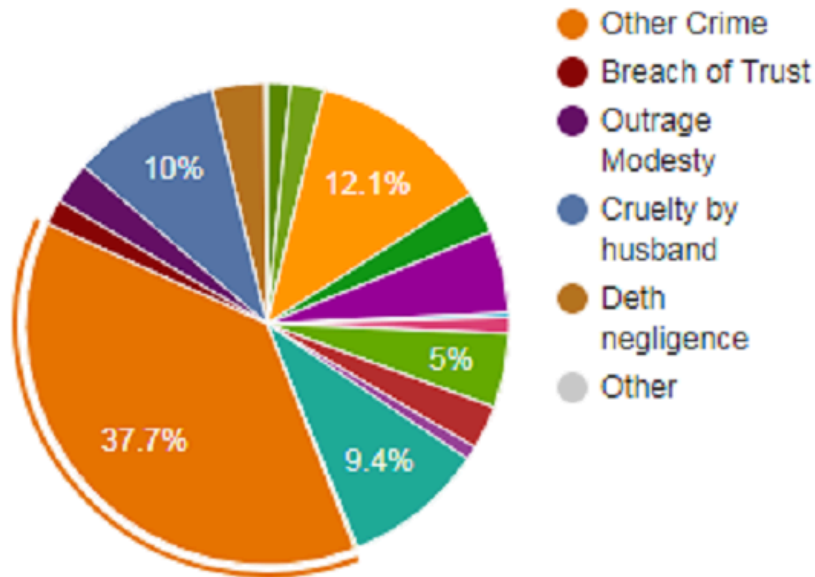


Land disputes, eloping top the crime trend of Silchar



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A paradigm shift is taking place in crime [trends](#) of Assam and surprisingly, Cachar has crawled up to the 5th position in the district wise crime rate of the [state](#). According to statistical data provided by a website linked to the [National](#) Records Crime Bureau, Cachar stands at the 5th position in district wise crime rate. Property disputes, land grabbing and eloping which is mostly reported as kidnapping is rapidly rising the crime [trends](#) of Cachar and particularly that of Silchar.



The police department has admitted to the fact that land grabbing and property disputes have raised in a phenomenal manner in the Cachar District and out of which Silchar has registered the most number of cases. Talking to Eastern Chronicle, the officer in-charge of the Sadar Police Station, S Chakraborty said, “Silchar is registering a very high number of property disputes and land grabbing. This [trend](#) has come in the past few years and we are registering increasing number of property disputes. There is another interesting thing about this new [trend](#). A variety of other cases are often registered in the backdrop of the main case which remains the property issue by both the parties. Several cases like threatening, [criminal](#) intimidation, forced trespassing or burglary are slammed on each other between both the parties.”



He further added that, “with a rapid expansion and development of Silchar, real estate and property has become very lucrative business. The huge amount of money involved has lured anti-social elements to overtake the business and hence property dispute are common crime these days.”

According to current NCRB reports, Assam has registered a total of 15,599 registered cases of property disputes out of which 33 percent is alone registered in Cachar with a high number from Silchar.



Another interesting fact is that kidnapping cases which are mostly cases of eloping has a national average of 5.41 percent while the Assam [state](#) average is 15.39 percent as recorded by the NCRB. Out of the 4,801 cases of kidnapping reported a high number of cases are from [Barak](#) Valley and that of Cachar. Cases of eloping which are registered as cases of kidnappings by the parent have also seen a rise recently.

On the issue of eloping, Officer in-charge Chakraborty commented, “most of the kidnapping cases registered turns out to be of eloping. Teenagers are very volatile due to their fluctuating and immature nature. They take such steps that mostly end them up in troubled [waters](#). Teenagers face a lot of hardship and opposition from the parents and society that ultimately hampers their domestic lives. In my career I have seen many cases where the [girls](#) face tremendous hardship and ultimately take drastic steps like committing suicide. It is sad that they [don](#)’t think practically and end up in trouble.”

“The biggest need of the hour is to have NGOs which can raise awareness amongst such youth and counsel them, raise awareness and explain them about the dangers and risks involved before its too late.” Chakraborty added.

Siddharth Deb

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