
URBAN CRIME:-A STUDY OF DIBRUGARH TOWN IN ASSAM

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ABSTRACT

In this paper an attempt has been made to depict the trend and pattern of urban crime in Dibrugarh town. Crime is a complex social problem. Crime is an inevitable part of human society, crime exists and increasing in every society. It is generally believed that the criminals are not born but the circumstances and social surroundings make a man criminal. However, taking the social point of view crimes as is evident from the fact that the rate of crime is higher in larger cities and in urbanized areas as has been proved by many empirical studies. But due to some causes crime become rampant in society, such as urbanization, migration from neighboring places, increasing slum areas, poverty, unemployment etc. but there are many other determinates alongside urbanization closely related to it, that have significant impact in the rising trend of crime in urbanized areas. But very often, the question is to why there are more crimes in cities as compared to rural areas. It could be due to the fact that rural crimes are not properly reported, so to which a common perception perpetuates that the crime rate is more in cities.

KEYWORD: crime, criminal, cyber crime, women crime, police

INTRODUCTION:

Crime is a complex social problem. Unlike the problem created by urban growth, international tensions and possible nuclear war, Crime has long been with human societies. Crime it is an act which the group regards as sufficiently mancing to its fundamental interest to justify formal reaction to restrain the violation(E.N.Johnson).crime is a relative concept, its varies from society to society, country to country and also time to time in the same society. There is no society can free from the act of criminality. Therefore, it is an act or omission prohibited by law for the protection of public and made punishable by the state in a judicial proceeding in its own name (Marshall and Clark 1962)

According to Durkheim (1947) crime is an act that offends certain very strong collective sentiments (Borbora 2007:1)

Durkheim (1950) contends that crime is present not only in majority of societies of one particular species but in all societies of all types. There is no society that is not confronted with the problem of criminality (Barbora 2007:2)

The problem of crime is an anti-social behavior. A man in normal conditions generally does not commit crime. There are some factors such family background, socio-economic condition and social disorganization etc. which are responsible for involved a person became criminal. Criminal are the individuals that defined in the criminal code. According to the nature of crime against the persons includes such illegal acts as murder, assault, rape, crime against property includes burglary, larceny, forgery, automobile theft and crimes against public order consists of such behavior as prostitute gambling, drunkenness disturbing the peace and the use of narcotics(holt, Rinehart and Winston 1967)

OBJECTIVES OF THE STUDY:

1. To trace out the Aggregative trends of crime in the town last five years.
2. To examine the Nature of crime in the Town
3. To examine the ecology and crime against women in last five years.
4. To trace out the role of police in crime prevention and Detection.

METHODOLOGY:

In the present study the researcher has been attempted to studied urban crime trend in Dibrugarh Town. The data for the study were collected from both primary as well secondary sources. The primary data were collected by conducting face to face interview with the respondent through interview schedule and secondary data were collected from the sources like the police official records(Khatiyan) P.I.Court(Registered)Newspaper, Internet etc .In this study the respondent has drawn from the police administration, District authorities deputy commissioner(DC)addl.deputy commissioner(ADC),district transport officer(D.T.O), Excise Superintendent, Municipality Chairman, Crime branch of Dibrugarh, District Session Judge, Chief Judicial Megistrate(CJM), Prosecuting Inspector(P.I.) and their views towards the crime scenario of Dibrugarh Town, For primary data the interview method has been used to collect data from the respondent. So all collected data and gathered information are presented and generalized in Chart .on the other hand Editing, Classification and Tabulation were done with the help of appropriate procedures and statistical measurement simple tabulation and diagram were done according the needs and demands of analysis.

FINDINGS AND DISCUSSION

1. To trace out the Aggregative trends of crime in the town:-Crime is an inevitable part of human society. The human nature is selfish which comes in conflict with the general welfare of the people and some of the acts which come in conflict with societal norms are labeled as crimes. It is generally believed that the criminal is not born but the circumstances and social surroundings make a man criminal. Crime exists and increasing in every society .But its varies from society to society in different period of time. For example, Dowry is a custom in marriage ceremony which was given by the bride and bridegroom but today it's a very severer crime; in the tend of punishment. So if we show the crime trend of the Dibrugarh. It was found that, it has been continuously increased, due to different causes like socio-economic condition, urbanization, migration from neighboring places, unemployment; growth of slum areas etc. has developed the attitude of the individual towards crime. On the other hand, the impacts of Globalization the entire world like a small village. For instance people were mostly migrated from rural to urban areas for better opportunities employment potential, education, earning money, engaged them in newly growth of Industry etc and several other factors, people generally move to urban areas and settled there. In the town at contemporary period various types of crime are not available but at the same time some new crimes were emerged i.e. cyber crime. The crime figure indicating the number of crime rate and cases were reported in the police record in the town last five years. In the town there is one police station (Sadder Thana) and five outposts. In the last five years the trend of crime in the town has increased. In the following table it was shows the crime rate in year wise.

TABLE NO-1
Cases reported in the police station

Year	Reported cases	Total (increase and decrease per year)
2011	912	0
2012	1210	-298
2013	1353	-143
2014	1040	313
2015	1067	-27

Source: Statistical record of Dibrugarh police Station

The following table indicates that in every year crime has been increased. In 2011 the rate of reported cases was low as compared with 2015 crime rate it has 1067. The above findings revealed that in every year crime rate kept on rising though the rise was gradually. So the table shows the trend of crime gradually has increased in the town last five years and it has been continuing still 2017.

2. To examine the nature of crime in the town: In Dibrugarh the town this has under Municipality area, the population of the town According to the 2011 census 1,326,335 of Where male 676,434 female 649,901 respectively. There are 22 wards in the town. The crime pattern in the town was significant area of study. The recorded statistics data from police statics defines the incidence of crime exhibits a general increased in the rate of criminality in the town. The nature of crime pattern seems to have increased in the town (from recorded data). So it was necessary to understand what the major crimes are has increased in last five years. The crime or offence divided into two categories such as property offenses and offences against person. The table shows the pattern of crime in the town.

Table no-2
Distribution the nature of crime

Types of crime	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015
Violent crime	323	314	34	83	109
Murder	89	81	80	12	13
Rape	54	50	65	6	2
Domestic violence	23	25	34	26	24
Kidnapping	135	134	149	39	70
Riots	22	24	16	-	-
Property	535	700	805	236	216
Theft	437	560	662	168	156
Dacoity	1	8	11	4	3
Burglary	98	117	123	64	57
total	2529	2.997	3.529	319	325

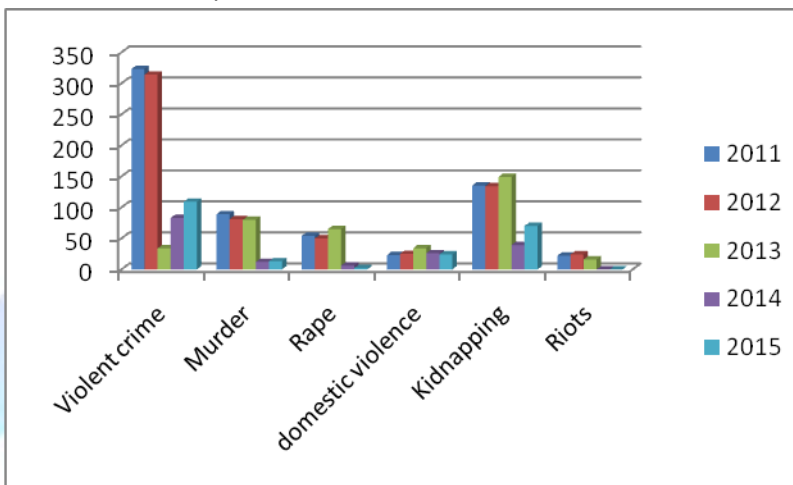
Source: Dibrugarh police stations

The above table no-2 reveals that the nature of crime in the town different in town. The crime like theft, burglary cases has increased last five years. The above findings also indicates that the crime against women cases such as kidnapping, domestic violence has been increased, in 2011the violent crime rate less in comparison to property crime .but in the town the crime against property has been increased last five years.

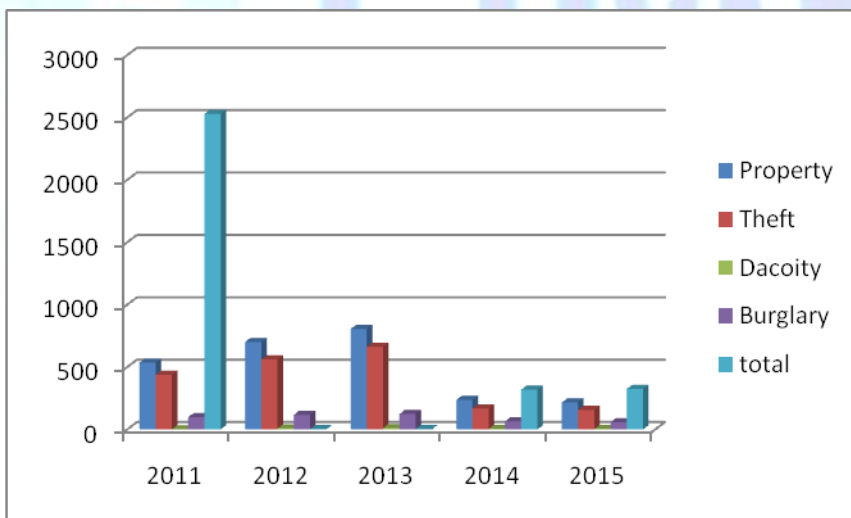
Nature of crime: violent crime and property crime

The following graph presented the nature of **violent crime**

Graph no-1



The following graph presented the nature of **Property crime**



3. To examine crime against women and ecology of the town: Ecology distribution of crime is an important part of this study. Crime presents itself basically as a manifestation of the dysfunctioning of social system. According to the ecology the crime was divided as offences against person and offence against property. The table shows the significant of ecological distribution of crime in the town.

Table 3
 Ecology and types of offence

2011-2015	Offence against person			Offence against property	
Ecology	Murder	Rape	Women crime	Theft	Burglary
Urban	63	43	230	753	197
Rural	12	12	30	40	37
Tea garden	15	8	22	34	25
Total	90	63	282	824	259

Source: Dibrugarh police station

The above table no-3 indicates that offences against person and property have increased in urban areas. The offence against person less in compared to offence against property was a significant phenomenon in urban areas; then in rural areas. The theft crime increased in urban area i.e.753, in rural areas it was 40 and in tea garden area it was 34, which was very less comparatively in urban areas. So, by all means that ecology has significant impact on growth of crime in the town.

On the other hand, the global campaign for elimination of violation against woman in the recent years indicates the enormity as well as the seriousness of the atrocities committed against women that are being Present witnessed the world over. In present study crime against women has increased in Dibrugarh town. But in contemporary period crime against women was increased not only in the town but all over the India. As per a recent statistics revealed by the National Crime Record Bureau (NCRB) 2015 report, Assam has the highest number of 2468 cases registered in terms of crime against women that includes attempt to commit rape, assault on women with intent to outrage her modesty and insult to modesty of women etc. Due to different causes, the crime against women was increased in the town. The table has made an attempt to focused crime against women in the town.

Table 4

Crime against women (2011-2015)

Types	Cases reported	Cases submitted	Trial	total
Rape	30	26	26	82
Kidnapping	196	172	172	540
Crime against women(498 A)	65	47	65	117

Source: Dibrugarh police station and crime branch

The above table no-4 analyzed that crime against women like rape, dowry death, Kidnapping, Women trafficking, domestic violence cases were increased in the town. In the whole period all total 739 cases were reported and only few cases were ended in chargesheet(trial).Due to the fear of society some cases were not reported and victims not justice.

4. To trace out the role of police in crime prevention and Detection: Police are one of the most ubiquitous organizations of the society (Banerjee, s2010). Police play twin role in society i.e. maintenance of law and maintained of order. In urban areas policeman responsibilities may include the apprehension of felons, the serving of warrants, the issuance of tickets for traffic violation, intervention in domestic disputes, the checking of licensed establishment of orderly conduct follow up investigation writing accident behavior and complains and many more. So police responses to events are circumscribed by their mandate of maintain public order and preventing crime. In the town there was one police Thana (Sadder Thana) and five outposts such as Gabharupathar, Gramebazer,(AMC) Colony, Chandmarighat under Borbari outpost, Amulapatty. If particular incidence were held in an area the outpost officer in charge (oc) firstly report, than it should be transferred to Dibrugarh town main Thana (sadder Thana) for properly registered. Here the organization structure of Dibrugarh police station

TABLE 5
Structure of Dibrugarh Police Station (Sadar Thana)

Rank of officers	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	Total
Inspector(OC)	1	1	1	1	1	5
Sub inspector(SI)	14	16	16	17	17	80
Women sub inspector(WSI)	1	1	1	1	1	5
Asst.sub inspector(ASI)	9	9	11	11	12	52
Head constable(HC)	6	6	7	7	7	33
Women head constable	1	1	1	1	1	5
Nayak(NK)	6	6	7	7	7	33

Source: Dibrugarh police station

Therefore, police becomes the overt organ of the state in mandated with maintaining status quo since early (Holdaway, S.and S.parker, 1998)

The major findings highlighted below:-

1. The study revealed that in Dibrugarh town the urban crime rate has been gradually increased. Due to increased population rate through migration for different purpose such as Educational Purpose, for job, growth of slum areas, Socio- Economic condition, unemployment etc .has significant impact on increasing crime rate in the town.
2. In this present study it has been observed that with the advancement of technology the town becomes more urbanized. In the town due to influence of urbanization, modernization, westernization etc that people are become more advanced but some people used modern technology for wrongful offences such Cyber crime, day by day the cyber crime rate has increased not only the town but entire Assam.
3. Form the above discussion it is found that there are number of factors were responsible for increasing criminal activities in the town, such as Poverty, Unemployment, growth of Slum areas, Migration .We observed that the above factors are directly or indirectly related with crime.
4. In the present study it has been observed that the town supervises under municipality areas and there are 22 wards. An increasing number of crime rates according to the place of occurrence, where most of criminal commit crime.
5. Keeping in view the increasing rate of crime against women has been increased in the town as from recorded data. The crime against women such as domestic Violation, Rape (its less in number), Dowry etc.
6. From the above discussion it has been found that according to the nature of crime, there are different types of crime such as crime against property (theft, Robbery, Buglary), Crime against person (Murder,

Rape). But due to changes of society some new kind of crime has been emerged such Cyber Crime, which has been increased the crime rate.

7. In this above discussion it was found that police play a significant role in crime detection and prevention. During field study observed that due to lack of manpower in the police department they did not properly investigate a case. But sometime due to the negligence or mental torture towards criminals basically young criminals conveyed that the discriminative nature of the police also lead to forming the negative attitude towards the police.

Conclusion:

Form the above discussion it has been found that crime is a complex social problem across time and space, the kinds of activities that are crimes vary widely. We observed from the recorded data that crime and criminality are rampant our society. In every year registered of cases such as people migrated into town for education, better employment opportunities, unemployment, growth of slum areas poverty etc. We observed that the town has supervised under municipality areas and it's have 22 wards. To proper detection of crime the police station is in the central town (Sadder Thana) at Thana chariali and out of the town there are five outposts they detected the crime under their area. In every outpost there is one officer in charge (OC) in every outpost.

From the study also that in Dibrugarh town day by day the crime rate has been increased, that evidences from Primary and Secondary data. In the crime scenario of the town some new kind of crime was also been emerged such as Cyber crime, but presently crime against women, cyber crime has also been increased. So, for prevention of such crimes the police department should be increase patrolling in the town, Increasing man power in police department because to minimize the rate of crimes of such nature increasing of population and urban area. Besides in police vigilance, all kind of equipment of modern technology made available for proper investigation. On the other hand, the law awareness among the masses and the role of Government is also essential for control and prevention of crime in the town.

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