

Crime Against Women In Modern Progressive Society: Analytical Study With Special Reference To Acid Attack

Riya Tomar, Research Scholar

Department of law

Bishamber Sahai (PG) Institute, Roorkee

Dr Amit Choudhary, Assistant professor

Department of law

Bishamber Sahai (PG) Institute, Roorkee

Abstract

The phrase "violence against women" (VAW) refers to the commission of acts of physical or sexual abuse against women or girls carried out mostly or totally by men or boys. This abuse may take the form of either physical or sexual assault. Because they are intended only towards women and girls based on gender, these actions, which may take various forms, are often categorized as hate crimes. This is because they are committed against women and girls. Violence against women (VAW) has been present for a long time, yet, the frequency and severity of occurrences have historically varied amongst cultures and continue to do so now. This kind of violence is often linked to women's subjugation in various settings, including social and personal relationships. It is possible that the aggressive nature of the attacker, as well as his sense of entitlement, superiority, or misogyny, was to blame for the victim's treatment at the hands of the aggressor. According to the United Nations Declaration on the Elimination of Violence Against Women, "The perpetuation of gender power imbalances is reflected in the prevalence of violence against women.," and "violence against women is one of the crucial social mechanisms by which women are forced into a subordinate position compared to men." The United Nations Declaration on the Elimination of Violence Against Women contains both claims. "Acid assaults often include the victim having acid smeared on their face on purpose by the aggressor. The fact that it is committed against women makes it all the more heinous. Victims of acid assaults sometimes lose sight in one or both eyes and suffer emotional pain and permanent deformities. When someone "throws acid or uses acid in any form on the victim with the intention or the knowledge that such

person is likely to cause to the other person permanent or partial damage or deformity or disfigurement to any part of the body of such person," the National Commission of India considers this to be an acid attack. An acid attack is committed when a person "throws acid or utilizes acid in any form on the victim with the intention or the knowledge that such person is likely to cause to the other person..." There has been an uptick in acid attacks on females, particularly those between the ages of 11 and 30. Sulfuric acid, nitric acid, and hydrochloric acid are often used in these assaults. All levels of government are making significant efforts to raise public awareness about this heinous crime via various public awareness programmes. The research aimed to shed light on the struggles of acid attack survivors and investigate the root causes of violence against women.

Keywords: violence against women, sexual, gender-based violence, Acid Attacks

Introduction:

The phrase "violence against women," also known as "gender-based violence" and "sexual and gender-based violence" (SGBV), describes acts of physical or sexual abuse committed chiefly or exclusively by males or boys against females or girls. These acts of violence, which may take various forms, are often defined as hate crimes since they are committed against women and girls because of their gender. Violence against women (VAW) has a long and storied history, even though the frequency and intensity of violent actions done by VAW have changed throughout history and continue to do so even today. The employment of such harsh methods is sometimes blamed for the subjugation of women, either in general or in a particular relationship. The aggressor's aggressive personality, especially toward women, may be the foundation of the problem; however, he may also be motivated by entitlement, superiority, misogyny, or similar ideas. Violence against women is "an outward sign of male dominance over females throughout history," and "violence against women is one of the crucial social mechanisms by which women are forced into a subordinate position compared to men," as stated in the United Nations Declaration on the Elimination of Violence Against Women. When a person is hit with acid, usually on the face, it is called an acid attack. A heinous crime perpetrated on the

grounds of gender against females. Acid attacks are traumatic for victims on many levels: physically, emotionally, and spiritually. They inflict severe agony, permanent deformity, secondary infections, and, in most cases, permanent blindness in one or both eyes. When someone, "anyone, with the desire to or knowledge that the other person is likely to suffer permanent or partial injury, deformity, or disfigurement to any portion of the body, throws acid or uses acid in any form on the victim.," that's considered an acid attack, according to the National Commission of India. In India, acid assaults are considered an act of domestic violence. Acid attacks on women are on the rise, with most victims being young women between the ages of 11 and 30. Acids like sulfuric acid, nitric acid, and hydrochloric acid are often utilized in such assaults. Authorities and government organizations in the area have launched various public education efforts to raise awareness of this heinous crime. The research aims to shed insight into the causes of the acid attack on defenceless women, its aftereffects and the victims' limitations due to the attack.

India

At least one female victim was reported in at least 72% of acid assaults, according to media analyses. Acid attacks in India also include a gendered element, much as those in Bangladesh. However, in contrast to Bangladesh, India has seen a rise in the frequency of chemical attacks over the last decade, with a peak of 27 cases in 2010. Between January 2002 and October 2010, 153 acid assaults were reported in India's print media, while 174 were filed with the courts that year.

A third of the 110 news articles in India between January 2002 and October 2010 that motivated the assault cited the victim's rejection of sex or marriage offers as the catalyst. The impetus for acid assaults in India is the same as that which drives them in Bangladesh. Acid attacks on religious minorities or Muslim women have also been recorded as acts of revenge or visas. Two women whose stories include the ban on acid sales are featured in the Bollywood film *Chhapaak*: Sonali Mukherjee in 2003 and Laxmi Agarwal in 2005.

It was also claimed that Indian police officers used acid to blind suspects, explicitly targeting their eyes. The well-known Bhagalpur blindings included pouring acid into

the eyes of 31 suspects or convicted perpetrators. Other sources claim that the suspects were already on trial or had been found guilty. Numerous human rights organizations have discussed, debated, and harshly criticized the incident at length. The Indian Supreme Court has never compensated victims of a human rights violation before the Bhagalpur blinding case. This landmark decision is now recorded in the history of criminal law. **(Peters and Wolper)**

What Does It Mean When Someone Attacks You with Acid?

The "uses any sort of acid intending to or knowledge that it would inflict permanent or partial damage, deformity, or disfigurement to any portion of the other person's body. An "acid attack" occurs when one person uses acid on another with the intent to or knowledge that some part of the victim's body would be permanently damaged, deformed, or disfigured in some manner. Acid is defined as any material that might cause "bodily harm resulting to scars or deformity or temporary or permanent impairment", according to Explanation 1 of Section 326B of the Indian Penal Code, 1860. The National Commission of India, July 2009, Criminal Law (Amendment) Act, 2013, inserted this provision. An acid attack occurs when someone throws acid or uses acid in any form on another person with the intent or knowledge that it would cause serious damage, deformity, or disfigurement to the victim's body. **(Menon and Allen)**

Objectives of The Study:

1. To understand Law enforcement and the significance of acid attacks
2. To examine what acid attack survivors have to deal with
3. To highlight government measures made to address problems

Research Methodology:

Data were collected using a descriptive research strategy, with the majority coming from secondary sources, including government-issued publications like journals, books, papers, and reports and the online archives of relevant government agencies.

Literature Review:

Acid assaults are a kind of gendered violence committed against women to silence and subjugate them. There was a rise in the number of events in which acid was used as a weapon in several developing nations, especially in South Asia. In 1982, the first documented acid attack occurred in India. Acid attacks on women and children are a kind of hidden violence that affects many countries. The accurate scale of these atrocities is seldom revealed since many of these assaults are never discovered.

The Only Thing Worse Than Dying:

Many acid attacks in India go unreported to Police because of "social stigmatization" and "leniency of laws in penalizing offenders," according to an essay titled "Prithwish Roy Chowdhury and Aishwarya Deb's"Acid Attack Violence in India: A Critical Exploration" was published in 2015.

Toxicology and Forensic Medicine:

"Social stigmatization" and "leniency of laws in penalizing criminals" are two of the main reasons why many of these violent episodes are not reported to the Police, as the authors of "A Critical Exploration of Acid Attack Violence in India" (2015) points out.

Acid Attacks on Women:

Many acid attacks in India are unreported to Police, according to "A Critical Exploration of Acid Attack Violence in India" (2015) by Aishwarya Deb and Prithwish Roy Chowdhury, who cite "social stigmatization" and "leniency of laws in penalizing offenders" as two of the leading causes.

Reasons Why Acid Attacks Occur

Peer Jealousy

One of the significant factors that has led to these tragic outcomes is jealousy. Everyone in today's ruthlessly competitive culture has one goal: to achieve more success than anybody else. It might be in the business, service, or even academic fields. When going ahead at high speeds, seeing someone approaching from behind is impossible. The fact that such occurrences have happened out of nothing more than jealousy to put a damper on another person's promising career is a source of great dishonour. It is a source of shame and disgrace that such occurrences have occurred, and it is a source of shame and humiliation that they have occurred. **(Ahmad)**

Cruel retaliation from the rejected and scorned Falsely Accused Lovers

The emotion of jealousy is another crucial factor that has played a role in escalating horrific events. In this competitive setting, everyone is looking to advance at the cost of others. It might be in the realms of business, services, or academia. One cannot observe fellow travellers while moving at very high speeds. That such occurrences have happened on account of sheer envy is a source of shame and disgrace, as is the fact that such tactics have been deployed just to shock and halt the brilliant and lucrative career of another individual.

Male-domineering Society

Males have traditionally been socialized to assume leadership roles, while females have been trained to be silent. The notion of women being emotionless has existed for a very long time. A woman was first owned by her father, then by her husband once she was gifted to him, and lastly by her son after she died as a widow. Men who have traditionally had power in their society may struggle with hearing the word "no" for the first time. Acid attacks happen when men, socialized from childhood to be dominant in this male-dominated society, suffer tremendous emotional distress when a woman rejects them. **(Oberman)**

Access to Acids Is Simple and Cost-Effective

One element in the prevalence of acid attacks is the ease with which one may get acids from retailers. It's widely available in places like pharmacies, flea markets, jewellery shops, auto repair shops, and more, and acquiring it requires little to no effort. It also has a wide variety of other uses around the house. This makes obtaining it a breeze. Not only that, but it's affordable for the ordinary person.

Domestic Violence

Family members dumping acid on defenceless, browbeaten women is a severe problem, often traced back to domestic violence. Men and their families sometimes misinterpret a woman's refusal of their requests or her outspoken personality as defiance and rebellion, which may lead to abusive and painful experiences. It may have to do with dowry, infertility, disobedience, sexual immorality, suspicion, property conflicts, family strife, etc. **(George and Dahiya)**

The Consequences of Violent Acts Involving Acid:

1. Economic and Social Consequences:

Because of their many disabilities, including blindness, deafness, and other challenges, the unmarried victims will likely never marry. Our society isn't open-minded enough to accept a disabled person as a bride. They are qualified but cannot get employment because they lack the necessary "personality" to meet their employers' expectations. Because we can't bear to stare at their faces for long periods, we make their lives more miserable by soothing them. This adds more aggravation to their predicament. However, this approach has to be altered since the victims are not responsible for their plight; instead, the wild animals freely roaming the area are to blame. **(Luthra)**

2. Physical consequences:

Contact with acid causes extreme pain and tissue destruction because it eats away at the skin or flesh from the inside out. In severe cases, it destroys the outer and inner layers of skin, the fatty tissue and muscle underneath, and even the bone itself. The intensity of the burn increases with the concentration of the acid and the duration of skin contact; the pain doesn't go away until the acid is thoroughly washed off with water. Splashing someone with acid may destroy their eyes, ears, nose, and mouth. A razor-sharp, burning fire slashes through the victim's body, causing severe pain. Eyelids and lips may be completely ingested. Ears might become smaller, and the nose can melt, closing the nostrils. The rapid destruction of the eye by acid may soon cause blindness. The forehead, cheeks, and chin may all suffer from a softening of their skin and bone. It is common for the acid to splash or drip into the victim's skin, inflicting excruciating agony wherever it lands. Eighty-seven per cent of victims had their faces scorched, while another 67 per cent had their heads and necks burned, 60 per cent had their upper limbs burned, and 60 per cent had their chests burned. An acid assault often results in burns covering 14% of the victim's body, according to one research (54 per cent). Almost a third of victims suffered from some blindness,

either total or partial (31 per cent). **(Aithal)**

3. Psychological Consequences:

Psychological stress occurs when the sufferer realizes her skin is being burnt off. The deformities and restrictions the victim must live with forever after the incident also cause psychological distress. Acid attack survivors often struggle with physical symptoms like headaches and exhaustion and psychological issues, including insomnia, night terrors, depression, anxiety, and a fear of facing the outside world. Because they feel they have been cast out of society, they are overwhelmed with despair and fear. Whenever the victim looks at herself in the mirror, she is reminded of how helpless she feels about her current situation and future. Her life gets derailed as a result of this. **(Yee)**

Perspectives On The Law Regarding Acid Attacks In India:

Acid assaults are common in India, and when they occur, they often make national news. Before the passage of the Criminal Law (Amendment) Act in 2013, India did not have a specific piece of law in place to deal with acid assaults. The Indian Penal Code sections 320, 322, 325, and 326, as well as section 307, were all violated during the incident (I.P.C.).

Intentionally Inflicting Great Bodily Harm With A Deadly Weapon Or Means (Section 326):

Except as provided in Section 335, anyone who intentionally causes great bodily harm by shooting, stabbing, or cutting, or by using any object that, when employed as a weapon of offence, is likely to result in death, or by using fire or any heated substance, or by using poison or any corrosive substance, or by using explosive substances, or by using any sense that is harmful to the human body if inhaled, shall be punished by imprisonment for life.

Section 320 - Grievous Hurt:

Only the following categories of suffering are considered "grievous": To begin, there is emasculation. Second is the complete and irreversible vision loss in one or both eyes. Thirdly, the total and permanent loss of hearing in either ear. Fourthly, the privatization of any member or joint. Fifthly, the destruction or long-term impairment of the abilities of any member or joint of the organization. The sixth category is an irreversible deformity to the head or face. The seventh place is a bone or tooth that has been broken or displaced; Eighthly: Any injury that poses a threat to the victim's life or results in the victim experiencing significant physical discomfort for twenty days or preventing the victim from engaging in their regular activities.

Section 322 - Voluntarily Causing Grievous Hurt:

A person is said to "voluntarily inflict serious injury" if the harm he intends to cause, or is aware he is likely to do, is grievous and if the harm he produces is grievous. If the damage he inflicts is severe, this expression may also be used. To explain, one must intend or know that he would cause serious harm for his actions to be classified as "willful infliction of extreme suffering." Only then can we say that someone intentionally wounded another individual? However, he really causes severe injury of another type, even though he intended or knew he was going to do awful damage of one kind. He intentionally inflicts tremendous suffering on others. (Welsh, Jane)

Section 325: The Penalty For Causing Serious Harm on Purpose:

Except Section 325, anyone who hurts someone seriously on purpose by shooting, stabbing, or cutting, or by using a weapon that is likely to kill when used as a weapon of offence, or by using fire or a hot substance, or by using poison or a corrosive substance, or by using an explosive substance, or by using a sensor that is bad for the body if you inhale, swallow, or touch it, is guilty of a serious crime.

Section 307 - Attempt To Murder:

Whoever, with malice or reckless disregard for the safety of others, commits an act that, if it killed someone, would be considered murder, shall be punished with either

imprisonment or a fine for a term that may last up to ten years; and anyone who injures another as a result of such an act shall be subject to life in prison or the punishments specified above. Experiments conducted by convicts with life sentences - If a person serving a life sentence for violating this provision commits another crime while inside, they may be subject to the death penalty. The revisions to the Indian Penal Code were made by the Criminal Law (Amendment) Act, 2013, passed on April 2, 2013. Two new sections, 326A and 326B, were introduced to the code as a direct result of the rewrite; they focus only on acid violence. (Swanson)

Section 326 A states:

If someone gets hurt as a result of such an act, the person who did it could go to prison for life or get the other punishments listed above if they did it with such intent or knowledge and under such circumstances that if the act caused death, the person would be guilty of murder. Prisoners with life sentences try to escape - A person sentenced for breaking this clause may be put to death if they commit another crime while incarcerated. The Indian Penal Code was updated due to the passage of the Criminal Law (Amendment) Act 2013 on April 2, 2013. As a direct result of the changes, new sections 326A and 326B were inserted into the law focusing only on acid violence.

Lacuna In The Indian Penal Code (Ipc):

The Indian Penal Code, Sections 320, 322, 325, 326, and 307, may provide some solace. It is evident, however, that the gravity of these acts requires a more nuanced approach than what is afforded by these Sections. There is no other definition of "acid attack," and the laws only apply to substances with an acidic pH. Since it adopted the UNGA Declaration on the Elimination of Violence against Women in 1993, India is responsible for ensuring that it is implemented. Article 4(f) of this declaration requires all signatory states to create legislation safeguarding women against assault. Victims of assaults should be paid exemplary damages following their criteria. Article 253 of the Indian Constitution says that Parliament has the

power to pass the laws needed to make these treaties work. Therefore, India must lessen the possibility of acid attacks.

As was previously stated, many forms of acid assaults do not satisfy the level of injuries that constitute "grievous damage," as listed directly in Section 322 of the Indian Penal Code. As a result, an acid attack is not considered very harmful if the offender destroys the skin and not any other significant organs. In addition, there is no compensation for the victim's lost wages. The maximum term for injury charges is three years in jail, which is disproportionately low given the victim's severe loss if the accused is not tried under serious damage. There was also a lack of clarity on the consequences for acid throwers. In light of the above, it was decided that new legislation protecting victims of acid attacks was necessary to fill in any loopholes. After the Verma Committee Report brought attention to the gravity of the problem, the Criminal Amendment Act 2013 was passed to change the existing law regarding acid attacks. It added sections 326A and 326B to the Indian Penal Code. Therefore, the proposed change is a step in the right direction towards combating this kind of crime. Section 357A of the Criminal Procedure Code, 1973, allows victim compensation to be used for rehabilitation. The Criminal Amendment Act of 2013 added Section 357C to the Code of Criminal Procedure, which is a step in the right direction.

Hospitals in India (both public and private) are required to treat and report victims of crimes covered under Sections 326A, 376, 376A, 376B, 376C, 376D, and 376E of the Indian Penal Code without delay. Although acid attacks make it easy to prove men's rea, this may not always be the case with other forms of murder. Acid-throwing is a deliberate act of violence. The attacker's need to get the acid shows that the attack was well-planned. The perpetrator then throws acid in the victim's face, well aware of the dire implications of their actions. This proves that the attacker's activities were deliberate. This might be a convincing case for increasing the punishment for acid attacks. **(Karmakar)**

Important Indian Acid Attack Decisions:

In *Devanand v. State*, the accused husband threw acid on his ex-wife after she refused to return to the household. The wife's eyes were permanently damaged, leaving her with a disfigured face. As required by Section 307 of the Indian Penal Code, the court imposed the minimum penalty of seven years upon the defendant, who was found guilty. In the case of *Jalahalli Police Station v. Joseph Rodrigues* (August 22 2006), the court found the defendant guilty of breaching Section 307 of the Indian Penal Code and sentenced him to life in prison. The trial court imposed a total fine and restitution of Rs. 3,00,000, with the latter amount going to Haseena Hussain's parents. Joseph Rodrigues, the woman's former supervisor, is accused of dumping 1.5 litres of sulphuric acid on her after she quit her job. The acid blasted a hole in her skull, dissolved her face, fused her fingers, fused her shoulder and neck, and rendered her permanently blind. The victim, who had cosmetic surgery due to this unprecedented incident, was awarded a large sum to cover their medical bills. However, in many cases throughout India, punishment solely hinged on the technicalities of injuries rather than the deliberate and horrifying aspect of the attack.

State (Delhi Administration) v. Mewa Singh, The victim had previous interactions with the offender. The victim and her father confronted him because of the vulgar statements he made to them. On the evening of May 19, the defendant became enraged and threw acid on the victim while sleeping in a bed she shared with a relative. She was scorched over 40% of her body. The judge at Sessions Court believed the accused and declared him not guilty. On appeal, the Delhi High Court reversed the Sessions Court's ruling. The court ruled that it would be unreasonable to disregard Gita's sworn testimony under the current circumstances. The accused, Mewa Singh, is the one who flung the liquid in Gita's face. Thus, we find him guilty. The storey told by Laxmi Agarwal is often used as an example of such heinous acts. Laxmi, a 27-year-old woman from Delhi, is a victim of a similar heinous incident. She was waiting for a bus on Tughlaq Road in 2005 when two males threw acid at her. She was just 15 at the time. One of her assailants traumatized her for life because she refused to marry him. She had suffered terrible burns over her whole face from the acid. She had seven individual procedures. She is from a low-income family and needs the kindness of a stranger to pay almost Rs. 2.5 lakhs in medical fees. She had

never had another carefree childhood since she quit school and rejected her peers. She was the target of mockery and pointed fingers as onlookers speculated that she must have done something to merit the man's fury. She avoided the spotlight for a whole eight years. India, however, became stronger after an outburst of rage in 2012 in response to a gang rape on a bus. Although the effects of acid have irrevocably altered Laxmi's appearance, she continues to inspire other women in her situation. She maintained her strength and led the fight to prevent acid assaults by gathering 27,000 signatures on a petition to the Supreme Court of India. Her P.I.L. also asked that criminal laws, including the Indian Penal Code, the Indian Evidence Act, and the Criminal Procedure Code, be updated or made more stringent to punish those responsible for the crime. She argued for a statewide ban on acid sales, citing the rise in acid attacks against women as evidence. The Supreme Court's landmark decision upholding the constitutionality of acid sales limits was prompted by her appeal to the court. Under the new law, a person convicted of acid attack faces a minimum of ten (10) years and a maximum of life in prison. She has just assumed the role of executive director of the Indian charity Chhanv Foundation. Michelle Obama, then the First Lady of the United States, honoured Laxmi with the International Women of Courage Award in 2014. She also took home the honour of "Indian of the Year" from NDTV.

Sabana Khatun v. State of West Bengal & Others, Acid was poured into the victim's mouth, causing severe burns and other damage. After being refused compensation by the Chief Secretary of West Bengal, the victim filed a writ case with the High Court. The court rejected the state government's argument that the victim's family should only get compensation if the State Legal Service Authority recommended it. Instead, it ruled that the victim and her family receive 0.3 million in compensation.

Suresh Kumar @ Appu v. State, A software engineer lady, was involved in a lawsuit where she had to explain why she had turned down a marriage proposal. The accused was a construction worker interested in marrying the victim. She and her dad both said no to the proposition. They went to the Police with their complaint as well, and the accused was disciplined as a result. A little later, he splashed acid on the

dead, causing her to lose sight in one eye. The illness ultimately proved fatal for her. The Sessions Court found the defendant guilty and sentenced him to 2 years in jail under Section 326, I.P.C., and the life sentence he received under Section 302. A 0.1 million fine was also imposed.

The Judicial And Police Role:

In a perfect world, the police force of a nation would protect its citizens and actively pursue criminals for punishment. However, this viewpoint is more theoretical than practical in India. The police reaction to violence against women is shockingly inadequate and inappropriate, even in modern India, where more and more women hold positions of power. The Police often assume that women who experience assault do it on purpose. They keep asking the victim questions that have nothing to do with the situation, such as what they should be wearing or why they are out so late. Despite the Supreme Court's strict directions on the topic, they are cruel in how they treat victims of rape and other types of violence against women. Many acid attack survivors don't come to the Police for fear of further persecution and ridicule. When looking into charges of acid attacks against women, investigators may think about the victim's sexuality and any moral dilemmas she may be experiencing. Several victims of acid attacks told authorities that their attackers had suborned them to influence the investigation. To combat police apathy to domestic abuse cases, Section 154 of the Criminal Amendment Act of 2013 mandated the recording of the First Information Report. In violence against women, the victim's statement must be recorded in the presence of a female police officer. However, there are surprisingly few women serving in law enforcement. Female police officers need training on how to handle sensitive situations. Because the individuals accused of the acid attack were only charged under harm, which carried a minimum term of 3 years and were quickly freed on bond before the Criminal Amendment Act 2013 was passed, it is essential to emphasize the importance of their employment and to emphasize the importance of their moral training. The victims were also under-compensated.

Case in point: **Syed Shafique Ahmed vs the State of Maharashtra**, in which the aggressor husband attacked his wife and another individual with acid after an ongoing dispute. The wife's right eye was removed, and the second victim had facial

damage. After finding the defendant guilty of breaching Sections 326 and 324 of the Indian Penal Code, the court issued a sentence of Rs. 5,000 and three years in prison. Again, this case shows that the punishment meted out is often determined by the technicalities of injuries rather than the intentional and vicious nature of the attack. This demonstrates how callous and thoughtless the justice system can be. However, once Laxmi Agarwal filed her P.I.L., the Supreme Court made several important suggestions.

1. Reselling acid without a transaction record that includes the buyer's name is illegal.
2. No one under the age of 18 should ever buy acid. Acid buyers are required to provide government-issued photo identification.
3. The merchant must verify All acid stock with the appropriate Sub-Divisional Magistrate within 15 days. The Sub-Divisional Magistrate will take the property and issue an Rs. 50,000 fine if the claim is not verified.
4. The federal or state government responsible for caring for an acid attack victim must provide them with at least three million rupees. Within 15 days after such an incident, the sufferer must get one lakh rupees (\$15,000) to cover the cost of emergency medical care, and the remaining two lakhs rupees (\$300,000) must be delivered to the victim as quickly as possible (but no later than two months).

Victims' rights to financial restitution and other forms of relief:

In Article 21 of the Indian Constitution, the right to life and freedom are explicitly guaranteed. Reading this, it's clear that victims of acid attacks have the same right to live with respect as anybody else. The state shall, within the limits of its economic capacity and development, make adequate provision for the security of the right to work, education, and public assistance in the event of unemployment, old age, sickness and disability, and other cases of underserved want, as outlined in Article 41 of the Constitution. Rehabilitating those who have been harmed is also essential.

Directions of Supreme Court

An order from July 18, 2013, says that the state or union territory responsible for the care and rehabilitation of an acid attack victim must pay at least Rs.3 lakhs. Within 15 days after the event, the victim is entitled to Rs. 1 lakh to help pay medical bills.

The court also decided that people who had acid thrown at them could file claims for money. These claims would be heard by the district legal service authority, which comprises the district judge, the district magistrate, the superintendent of Police, and the civil surgeon or chief medical officer for that district or their choice. The Central Victim Compensation Fund got its first deposit of Rs. 200 crores on August 21, 2015. The fund's primary goal is to help people attacked with acid get up to Rs. 5 lakhs in specific financial help to pay for their medical bills. This is on top of what the state and union territories already give as compensation. People exposed to silica should get the same amount of money from states and union territories. The difference between the two should also be closed. On December 7, 2015, the court told all states and union territories to think about what these victims are going through and what they need to do to get their names on the list of disabled people. After hearing Renu Sharma's case, the Delhi High Court ruled in her favour and told the Delhi government to pay her medical bills and help her find a job that values her skills and education. Razia Sultana, the minister of Punjab Social Security, told Amanpreet from Bathinda, Punjab, that he could get Rs. 8,000 monthly from the state for social security. The state government has set up a programme to help people attacked with acid. Part of this programme is giving them a Rs. 8,000 payment every month. The victim only has to show that they are at least 40% impaired to get the prize. The federal government's Department of Personnel and Training (DoPT) says that people with sensory, motor, cognitive, and intellectual disabilities must be given 1% of all open jobs. People with poor eyesight, cerebral palsy, leprosy, dwarfism, acid burns, and muscular dystrophy are among those in this group (including blindness and low vision). After the Rights of Persons with Impairments Act 2016 was signed into law and the rules were made public, more work was done to increase the reservation quota for people with learning disabilities and victims of acid attacks. Prime Minister Narendra Modi said the acid attack victim would get an extra Rs. 1 Lakh from the Prime Minister National Relief Fund. The Center and the National Legal Services Authority (NALSA) have been working together to make a programme, and this grant from PMNRF will help with that. **(Lodhia)**

Conclusion

An order from July 18, 2013, says that the state or union territory government where an acid attack happened must pay at least Rs.3 lakhs to victims to cover the cost of their rehabilitation and care after the attack. Within 15 days of what happened, the victim must get Rs.1 lakh (about \$1,500) to pay for medical bills. The court also said that the district legal service authority, which is made up of the district judge, the district magistrate, the superintendent of Police, the civil surgeon, or the chief medical officer of that district, or their nominee, would be in charge of hearing any claims for compensation made by victims of acid attacks. The Indian government set up the Central Victim Compensation Fund (CVCF) on August 21, 2015, with an initial capitalization of Rs. 200 crores. Its main goal is to encourage targeted financial help of up to Rs. 5 lakhs for victims of acid attacks to cover medical costs, in addition to the compensation offered by the state and union territories. Different states and union territories pay victims of silica exposure different compensation amounts. This needs to be fixed. The court gave its order on December 7, 2015, telling all states and union territories to consider the victims' situation and put their names on the disabled register. Renu Sharma won a case in the Delhi High Court. The court said that the Delhi government must pay for her medical care and help her find a job that uses her skills and education. Razia Sultana, the minister of social security for the Punjab government, promised Amanpreet from Bathinda Punjab Rs. 8,000 every month, which the state policy says people should get. The state government has implemented a complete plan to help people who have survived an acid attack regain their health and independence, including giving them Rs. 8,000 every month. For a disability certificate to be valid, it must show that the victim is at least 40% impaired. The Department of Personnel and Training (DoPT) has told all federal agencies to set aside 1% of all open positions for people with severe physical disabilities (such as those caused by cerebral palsy, leprosy recovery, dwarfism, acid attack, or muscular dystrophy). After the Rights of Persons with Impairments Act of 2016 was passed, and the rules were put in place, efforts were made to increase the reservation quota for people with learning disabilities and victims of acid attacks. Prime Minister Narendra Modi gave an extra Rs. 1 Lakh from the Prime Minister National Relief Fund to help the victim of the acid attack right away. The PMNRF

will help pay for a programme made by the Centre and the National Legal Services Authority (NALSA).

References

- Ahmad, N. "Female feticide in India." *Issues in Law & Medicine*. PMID 20879612., 2010. 26 (1): 13–29. .
- Aithal, U. B. "A statistical analysis of female foeticide with reference to kolhapur district." *International Journal of Scientific Research Publications*, (2012): 2(12), doi: ISSN 2250-3153.
- George, Sabu M. and Ranbir S Dahiya. "Female Foeticide in Rural Haryana." *Economic and Political Weekly*. (1998): 33 (32): 2191–8. JSTOR 4407077.
- Karmakar, R.N. "Forensic Medicine and Toxicology. ." Academic Publishers. ISBN 81-87504-69-2., 2003.
- Lodhia, Sharmila (. "From 'living corpse' to India's daughter: Exploring the social, political and legal landscape of the 2012 Delhi gang rape". ." *Women's Studies International Forum*. doi:10.1016/j.wsif.2015.03.007., 2015. 50: 89–101.
- Luthra, Rashmi. "A Case of Problematic Diffusion: The Use of Sex Determination Techniques in India" (PDF). *Science Communication*. doi:10.1177/107554709401500301. hdl:2027.42/68396. S2CID 143653663., 1994. 15 (3): 259–72.
- Menon, Suvarna V. and Nicole E Allen. *American Journal of Community Psychology*. (2001): 62 (1–2): 51–61. . doi:10.1002/ajcp.12249. ISSN 1573-2770. PMID 29693250.
- Oberman, Michelle. "A Brief History of Infanticide and the Law". In Margaret G. Spinelli. *Infanticide Psychosocial and Legal Perspectives on Mothers Who Kill* (1st ed.). ." American Psychiatric Publishing. ISBN 1-58562-097-1., 2005.
- Peters, Julie and Andrea Wolper. "Women's Rights, Human Rights. ." doi:10.4324/9781315656571. ISBN 978-1-315-65657-1., 2011.
- Swanson, Jordan. "Acid attacks: Bangladesh's efforts to stop the violence". *Harvard Health Policy Review*. , 2002. 3 (1): 1–4.
- Welsh, Jane. "It was like a burning hell': A Comparative Exploration of Acid Attack Violence (Thesis)." University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. OCLC 950539215., 2009. pp. 19–21.
- Yee, Amy. "Reforms urged to tackle violence against women in India". ." *The Lancet*. (2013): 381 (9876): 1445–1446. doi:10.1016/S0140-6736(13)60912-5. PMID 23630984. S2CID 40956164.