

**“A FORENSIC STUDY ON THE RECENT TREND IN
YOUNG PERSON RAPE CRISIS IN CHENNAI, INDIA”**

**1.Dr.A.Vinayagam
Assistant Professor
Department of Economics
Vels Institute of Science Technology and
Advances Studies,
Pallavaram,Chennai**

**2.Dr.S.Bhuvaneswari
Assistant Professor
Department of Economics
Vels Institute of Science Technology and
Advances Studies,
Pallavaram,Chennai**

**3.Dr.N.Devika
Assistant Professor
Department of Economics
Vels Institute of Science Technology and
Advances Studies,
Pallavaram,Chennai**

**4.Dr.V.Murugan
Assistant Professor
Department of Economics
Pachaiyappas College for Men (Kanchipuram)**

**5.Dr.R.Poongothai
Assistant Professor
Department of Business Administration
PERI College of Arts and Science,
Mannivakkam**

Abstract:

Child Sexual Abuse (CSA) encompasses genital penetration, inappropriate touching, groping and fondling, but most reported cases are those involving penetration and defilement. CSA has been recognized as a prevailing international problem of great magnitude that affects children of all generations, ages, sex, ethnicities and socio-economic strata. It entails pressing human rights issues, public health concerns and poses a sustained challenge to the justice system. Child abuse tantamount to be a silent emergency both for health and justice; but it often goes unnoticed and unreported; thereby making children more susceptible to repetitive exploitation and sufferings.

Keyword: Child Sexual Abuse, Sexual, Women, Children

Introduction:

Ever since the dawn of civilization, at global landscape, women and children continued to be the most vulnerable segments of society who suffered from a bundle of sexual exploitations. Child Sexual Abuse (CSA) encompasses genital penetration, inappropriate touching, groping and fondling, but most reported cases are those involving penetration and defilement. CSA has been recognized as a prevailing international problem of great magnitude that affects children of all generations, ages, sex, ethnicities and socio-economic strata. It entails pressing human rights issues, public health concerns and poses a sustained challenge to the justice system. Child abuse tantamount to be a silent emergency both for health and justice; but it often goes unnoticed and unreported; thereby making children more susceptible to repetitive exploitation and sufferings. Poverty is the mother of several social evils and CSA is one of such derivatives. Child trafficking further contemplates various kinds

of exploitations including sexual violence, flesh trade and forced marriages. Worldwide, there are a series of myths and stereotypes associated with CSA, resulting in further complications. (Cromer & Goldsmith, 2010) No community or jurisdiction so far could evolve any mechanism to ensure that none of their young ones shall be sexually violated.

To address the challenge of CSA, India has introduced the Prevention of Child Sexual Offences (POCSO) Act, 2012 in consonance with the provisions of the United Nations Convention on Child Rights (UNCRC), 1989, which came into operation on November, 14, 2012 (Children Day). The gender-neutral Special Act is child friendly and introduces “penetrative sexual assault” to avoid using the term ‘rape’. Especially construed provisions related to reporting of incidence, procedures for investigation, the anonymity of the identity of victim child, special courts, special prosecutors, disposal of trial in one year are few amongst various provisions ensuring justice and protection of the child from different variants of sexual exploitations. The literature review during this study has revealed various gaps in existing law and policy on CSA and execution of various legal provisions in India, which have been the basis of formulating the research problem and related research queries in this empirical exploratory sequential research.

This Research paper is deals with the analysis of socio status of the sample respondents in the study area. The socio factors such as sex, age, religion, education, family size, income etc of the sample respondents in the study area are presented in the paper.

Objectives of the study

1. To study the demographic variables in the study area.
2. To investigate young person sexual mistreatment in the study area.
3. To give policy and suggestions of the study.

Methodology

Designing a suitable methodology and selection of analytical tools are important for a meaningful analysis of any research problem. This section is devoted to a description of the methodology, which includes choice of the study area, sampling procedure, period of study, collection of data and tools of analysis.

Choice of the Study Area

The area chosen for the present study is Chennai, situated at the northern most tip of Tamil Nadu. Sixty three per cent of its population is residing in villages and 65.3 per cent of its working population is anchored in industry and its allied activities. This district stands a satellite town of Chennai among the districts in Tamil Nadu and is the administrative headquarters of Chennai. The real-estate's market has definitely shown an upward swing in this district. A report from financial institutions says that the demand for housing loans has risen from 53 percent against the all India level of 42 percent. The district is also known for industrial development. Hence, the Chennai as the selection of the present study.

Selection of forensic evidence in the study area

The following sectors are the investigating officers, Judges, and forensic experts in the region. Respondents were selected for the study through stratified sampling.

Selection of respondents in the study area

The selection of Respondents was made in two stages.

a. Selection of Cluster/region

All the high density regions were selected for the study. Hence six regions from Chennai region were selected purposely.

b. Selection of respondents

Randomly Selected Respondents per respondents in each of the 6 clusters totaling 63 were selected. Hence a total of 63 Respondents were selected through Stratified Random sampling for the study.

Period of Study

The field survey was conducted from January 2025 to April 2025 for the collection of primary data. The reference period of the survey is 2023-25.

Sampling Procedure

Chennai comprises 9 taluks. For the purposes of collecting primary data, taluk-wise lists were obtained from the Project Office, District Rural Development Agency, and Programme officer. There are 397 sample respondents selected for the study.

Collection of Data

The study requires both primary and secondary data.

Primary Data

In order to study the study issue in-depth, first-hand data were collected from the recipients of the funding agencies as well as from representatives of the organizations in the work area using different interview programs set up for the purpose. The primary data were generated in the Sampling method. The survey was conducted from January -April covering 388 respondents who gave all the required data and information. This survey could generate necessary primary data and information relating to their personal background, their opinion on the co-employees, administrative control, their perception of various information relating to respondents and to their opinion on the smooth functioning of the society. This survey was carried out.

Socio Condition of the Sample Respondents

The socio economic factors of the sample respondents are the major influencing factors in the present study..

Sex Wise Classification of Respondents

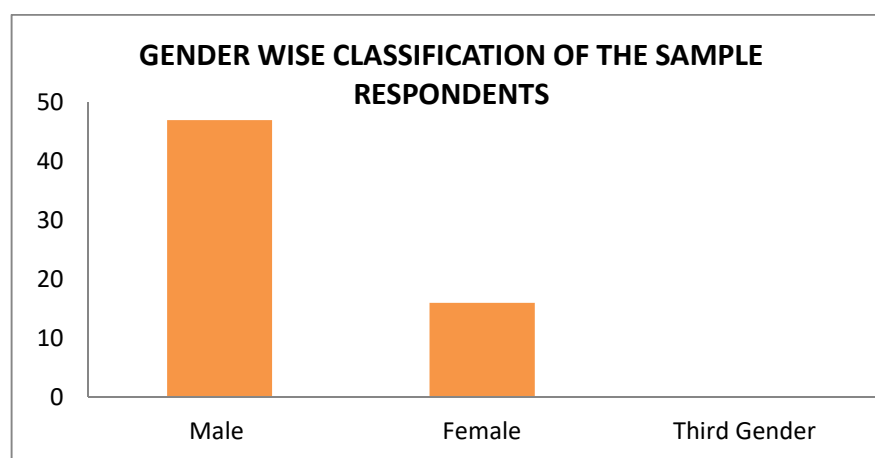
Sex is an important factor to study the socio economic conditions of the respondents. The sex wise distribution of the sample respondents in the study area is presented in Table 1.

TABLE .1**GENDER WISE CLASSIFICATION OF THE SAMPLE RESPONDENTS**

S.No.	Gender	Number of Respondents	Percentage
1.	Male	47	74.6
2.	Female	16	25.4
3.	Third Gender	-	-
Total		63	100

Source: Primary data

It is understood from the table 5.1 that, 47 (74.60 percent) respondents are found to be Male and the remaining 16 respondents (25.40 per cent) are female in the study area.

Diagram .1

Distribution of Respondents According to Age

In the socio-economic characteristics age is regarded as an important factor. The distribution of the respondents according to their age is presented in Table .2.

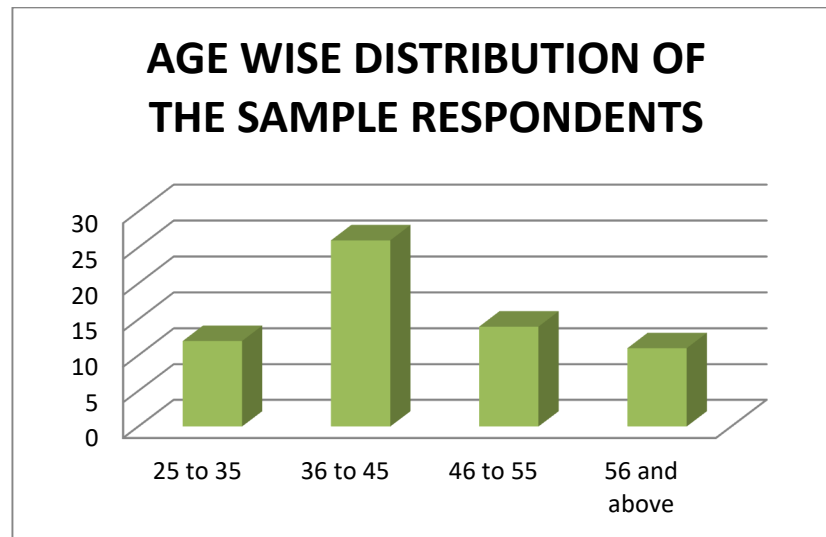
TABLE 2

AGE WISE DISTRIBUTION OF THE SAMPLE RESPONDENTS

S.N	Age	Number of Respondents	Percentage
1.	25 to 35	12	19.05
2.	36 to 45	26	41.27
3.	46 to 55	14	22.22
4.	56 and above	11	17.46
	Total	63	100

Source: Primary data

From the above table 4.2. it is observed that 12 (19.05 percent) respondents are in the age group of below 25 to 35 years, 26 (41.27 percent) respondents are in the age group of 36 to 45 years, 14 (22.22 percent) respondents are in the age group between 46 to 55 years , and 11 (17.46 percent) respondents are 56 and above years aged respondents in the study area.

Diagram 2

Distribution of Respondents According To currently service

In the socio economic characteristics service is regarded as an important factor. The distribution of the respondents according to their service is presented in Table 3.

TABLE 3

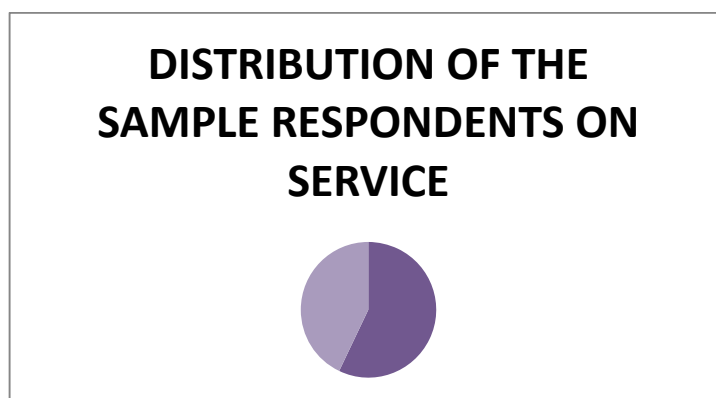
DISTRIBUTION OF THE SAMPLE RESPONDENTS ON SERVICE

S.N	Service	Number of Respondents	Percentage
1.	Yes	36	57.14
2.	No	27	42.86
	Total	63	100

Source: Primary data

From the above table 5.3. it is observed that 36 (57.14 percent) respondents are in the currently service, 27 (42.86 percent) respondents are in the no service in current situation respondents in the study area.

Diagram .3



Distribution of Respondents According to Service

In the socio-economic characteristics years of service is regarded as an important factor. The distribution of the respondents according to their years of service is presented in Table .4.

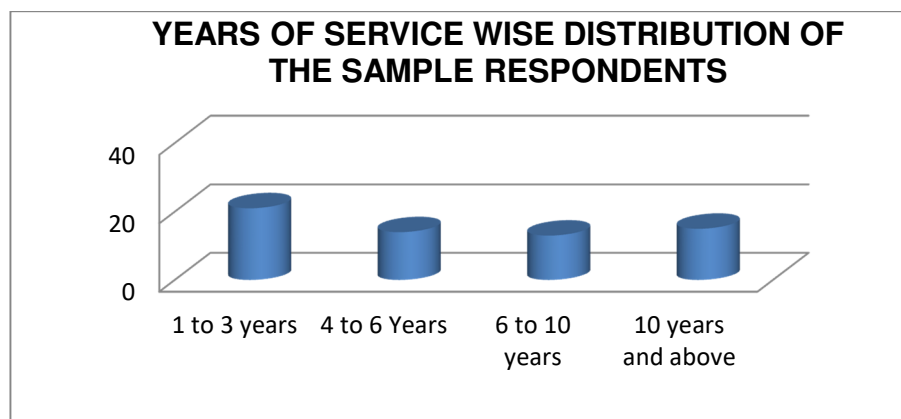
TABLE 4
**YEARS OF SERVICE WISE DISTRIBUTION OF THE SAMPLE
RESPONDENTS**

S. N	Years of Service	Number of Respondents	Percentage
1.	1 to 3 years	21	33.33
2.	4 to 6 Years	14	22.22
3.	6 to 10 years	13	20.63
4.	10 years and above	15	23.81
	Total	63	100

Source: Primary data

It is observed that 21 (33.33 percent) respondents are in the years of service of below 1 to 3 years, 14 (22.22 percent) respondents are in the years of service of 4 to 6 Years, 13 (20.63 percent) respondents are in the years of service of 6 to 10 Years, and 15 (23.81 percent) respondents are years of service 10 years and above respondents in the study area.

Diagram.4



Distribution of Respondents according to Court

In the socio characteristics court belongs to is regarded as an important factor. The distribution of the respondents according to their court belongs to is presented in Table 5.

TABLE .5

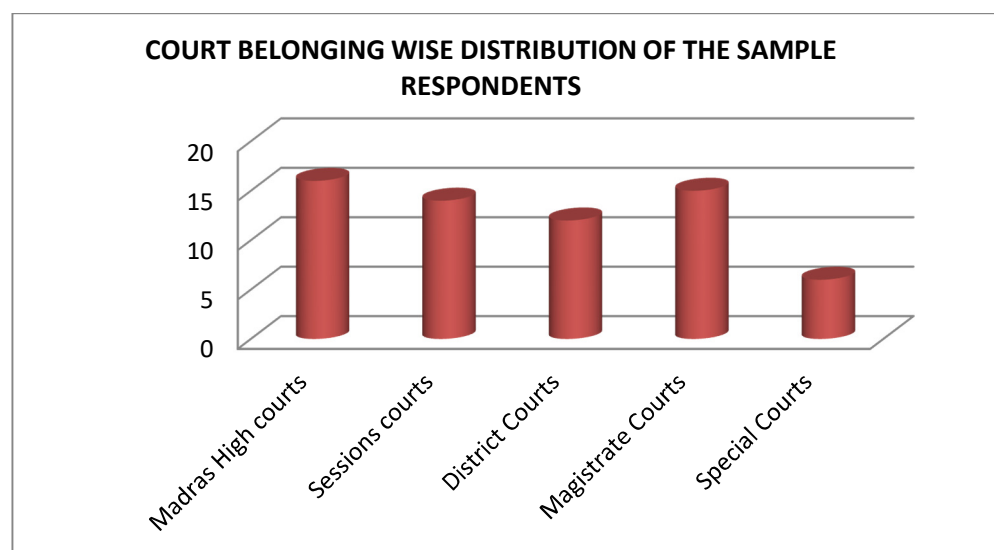
COURT BELONGING WISE DISTRIBUTION OF THE SAMPLE RESPONDENTS

S. N	Court	Number of Respondents	Percentage
1.	Madras High courts	16	25.40
2.	Sessions courts	14	22.22
3.	District Courts	12	19.05
4.	Magistrate Courts	15	23.81
5.	Special Courts	6	9.52
	Total	63	100

Source: Primary data

It is observed that 16 (25.40 percent) respondents are in the Madras High courts, 14 (22.22 percent) respondents are in the Sessions courts, 12 (19.05 percent) respondents are in the District Courts, and 15 (23.81 percent) respondents are Magistrate Courts respondents, 6 (9.52 percent) respondents are Special Courts respondents in the study area.

Diagram 5



Distribution of Respondents according to Designation

In the socio characteristics designation is regarded as an important factor. The distribution of the respondents according to their designation is presented in Table .6.

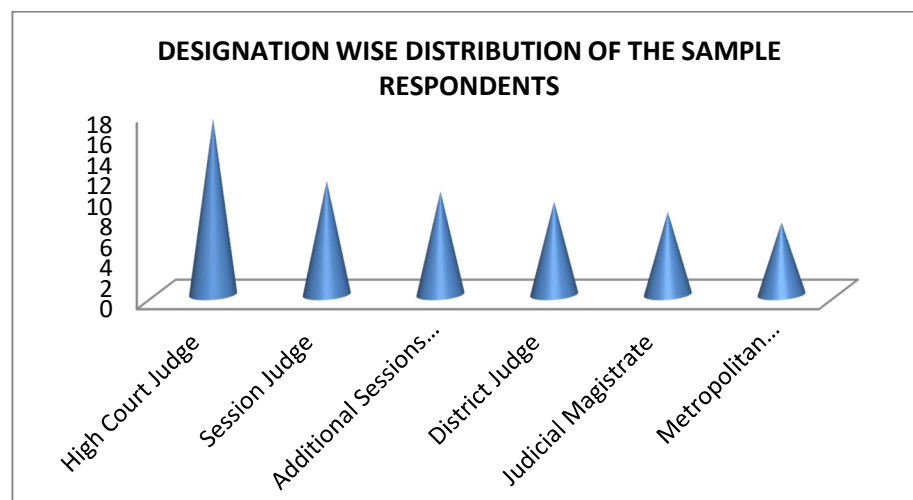
TABLE .6
DESIGNATION WISE DISTRIBUTION OF THE SAMPLE
RESPONDENTS

S.N.	Designation	Number of Respondents	Percentage
1.	High Court Judge	17	26.98
2.	Session Judge	11	17.46
3.	Additional Sessions Judge	10	15.87
4.	District Judge	9	14.29
5.	Judicial Magistrate	8	12.70
6.	Metropolitan Magistrate	7	11.11
	Total	63	100

Source: Primary data

It is observed that 17 (26.98 percent) respondents are in the High Court Judge, 11 (17.46 percent) respondents are in the Session Judge, 10 (15.87 percent) respondents are in the Additional Sessions Judge, 9 (14.29 percent) respondents are District Judge respondents, 8 (12.70 percent) respondents are Judicial Magistrate, and 7 (11.11 percent) respondents are Metropolitan Magistrate, respondents in the study area.

Diagram .6



Distribution of Respondents according to Indian Criminal Justice system

In the socio characteristics Indian criminal justice system is regarded as an important investigate experience Indian criminal justice system is presented in Table 7.

TABLE 7

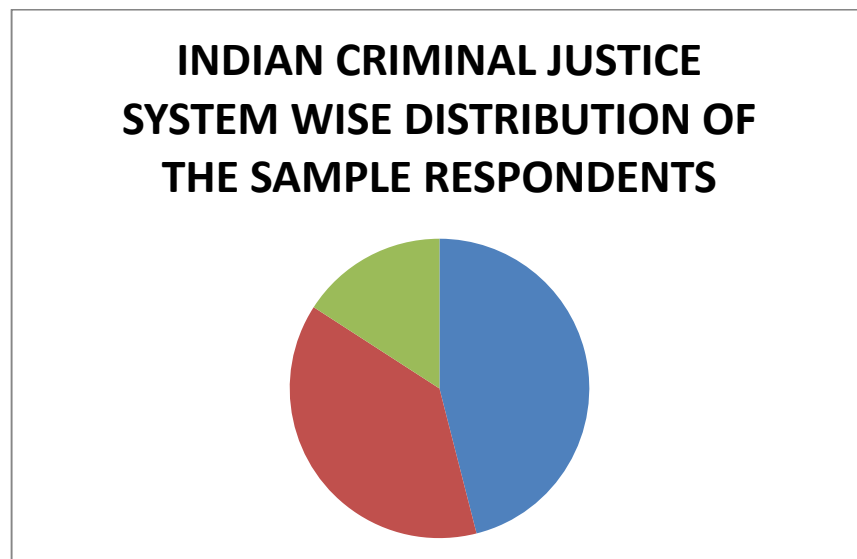
INDIAN CRIMINAL JUSTICE SYSTEM WISE DISTRIBUTION OF THE SAMPLE RESPONDENTS

S.No.	Indian criminal justice system	Number of Respondents	Percentage
1.	Yes	29	46.03
2.	No	24	38.10
3.	Not sure	10	15.87
	Total	63	100

Source: Primary data

It is observed that 29 (46.03 percent) respondents are in yes, 24 (38.10 percent) respondents are in the no, 10 (15.87 percent) respondents are in the not sure respondents in the study area.

Diagram.7



Distribution of Respondents according to Judicial Decisions

In the socio characteristics Judicial Decisions is regarded as an important Collection of forensic evidence delivery of Judicial Decisions is presented in Table 8.

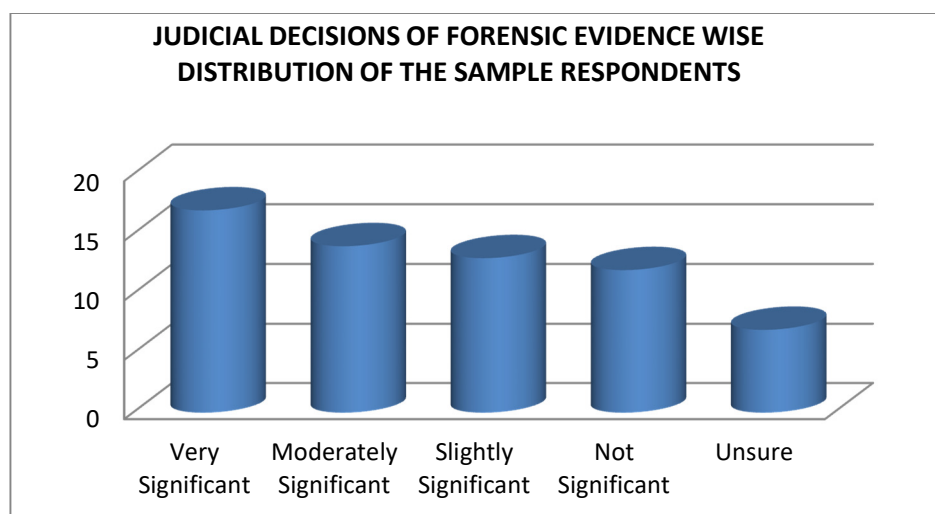
TABLE 8

JUDICIAL DECISIONS OF FORENSIC EVIDENCE WISE DISTRIBUTION OF THE SAMPLE RESPONDENTS

S. N	Judicial Decisions	Number of Respondents	Percentage
1.	Very Significant	17	26.98
2.	Moderately Significant	14	22.22
3.	Slightly Significant	13	20.63
4.	Not Significant	12	19.05
5.	Unsure	7	11.11
	Total	63	100

Source: Primary data

It is observed that 17 (26.98 percent) respondents are in Very Significant, 14 (22.22 percent) respondents are in the Moderately Significant, 13 (20.63 percent) respondents are in the Slightly Significant, 12 (19.05 percent) respondents are in the Not Significant, 7 (11.11 percent) respondents are in the Unsure in forensic evidence used judicial decisions during investigations respondents in the study area.

Diagram .8

Distribution of Respondents according to forensic evidence commonly encountered

In the socio characteristics forensic evidence commonly encountered is regarded as an important Collection of forensic evidence over the past two decades is presented in Table 9.

TABLE .9

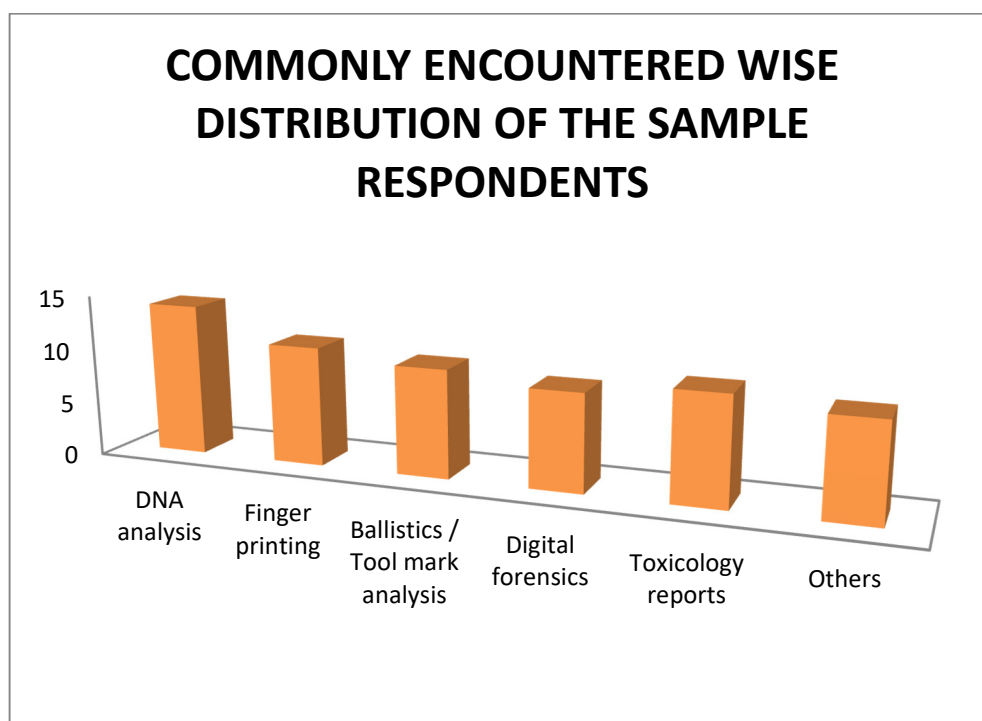
**COMMONLY ENCOUNTERED WISE DISTRIBUTION OF THE
SAMPLE RESPONDENTS**

S. N	commonly encountered	Number of Respondents	Percentage
1.	DNA analysis	14	22.22
2.	Finger printing	11	17.46
3.	Ballistics / Tool mark analysis	10	15.87
4.	Digital forensics	9	14.29
5.	Toxicology reports	10	15.87
6.	Others	9	14.29
	Total	63	100

Source: Primary data

It is observed that 14(22.22percent) respondents are in DNA sample, 11(17.46 percent) respondents are in the Finger prints, 10 (15.87 percent) respondents are in the Ballistics / Tool mark analysis, 9 (14.29 percent) respondents are in the Digital forensics, 10 (15.87percent) respondents are in the Toxicology reports, 9 (14.29 percent) respondents are others in forensic evidence used commonly encounter respondents in the study area.

Diagram .9



Distribution of Respondents according to forensic in cyber-crime related cases

In the socio characteristics forensic in cyber-crime related cases is regarded as an important forensic in cyber-crime related cases is presented in Table 10.

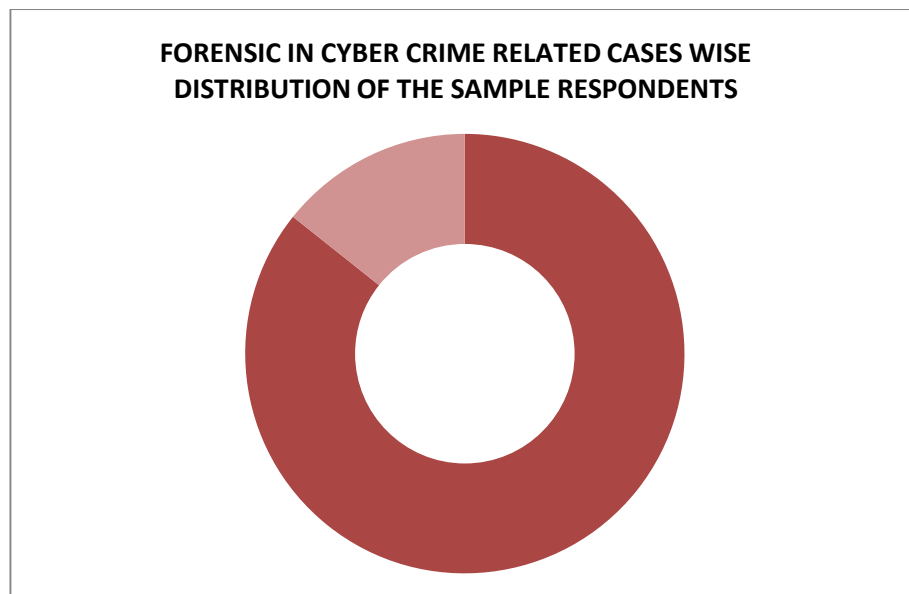
TABLE .10

**FORENSIC IN CYBER CRIME RELATED CASES WISE
DISTRIBUTION OF THE SAMPLE RESPONDENTS**

S. N	Forensic in cyber-crime related cases	Number of Respondents	Percentage
1.	Yes	54	85.71
2.	No	9	14.29
	Total	63	100.00

Source: Primary data

It is observed that 54 (85.71 percent) respondents are in yes Forensic in cyber crime related cases, and 9 (14.29 percent) respondents are in the No in the Forensic in cyber crime related cases of respondents in the study area.

Diagram .10

Distribution of Respondents according to forensic science benefits cases

In the socio characteristics forensic science benefits cases is regarded as an important forensic science benefits cases is presented in Table 11.

TABLE 11

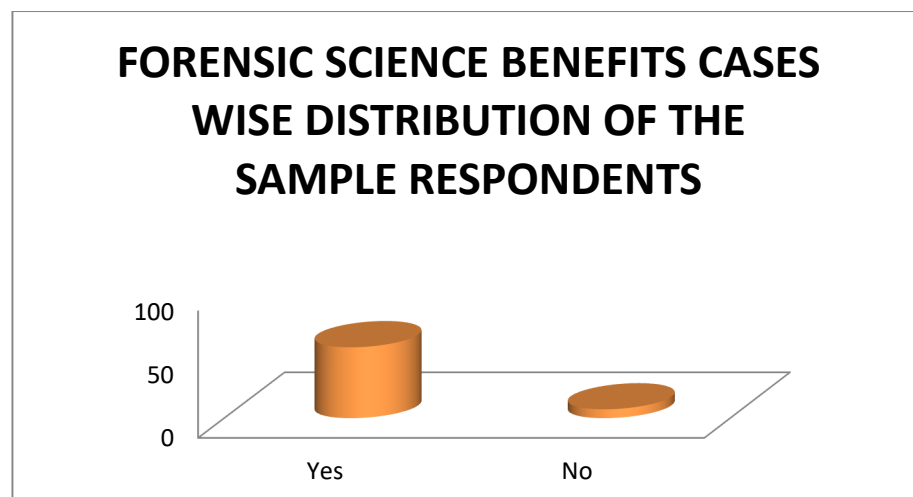
FORENSIC SCIENCE BENEFITS CASES WISE DISTRIBUTION OF THE SAMPLE RESPONDENTS

S.No.	Forensic science benefits cases	Number of Respondents	Percentage
1.	Yes	56	88.89
2.	No	7	11.11
	Total	63	100.00

Source: Primary data

It is observed that 56 (88.89 percent) respondents are in yes Forensic in science benefits cases, and 7 (11.11 percent) respondents are in the No in the Forensic in science benefits cases of respondents in the study area.

Diagram .11



Distribution of Respondents according to forensic evidence among judicial officers

In the socio characteristics forensic science benefits cases is regarded as important forensic evidence among judicial officers is presented in Table .12.

TABLE .12

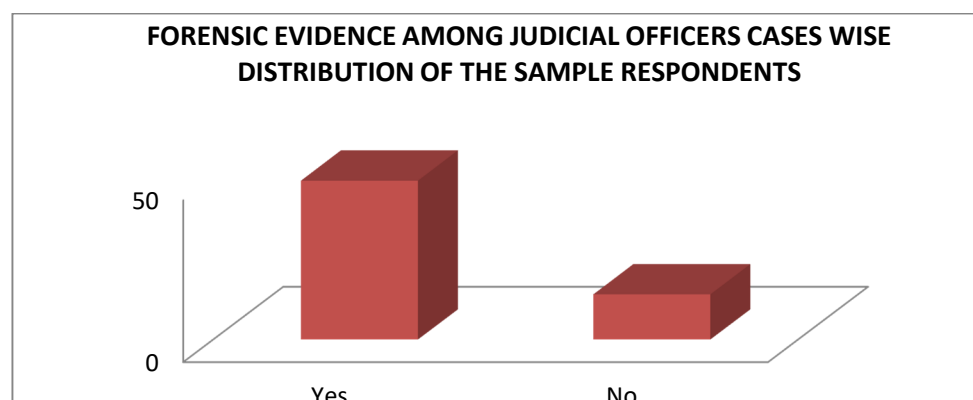
FORENSIC EVIDENCE AMONG JUDICIAL OFFICERS CASES WISE DISTRIBUTION OF THE SAMPLE RESPONDENTS

S.No.	Forensic evidence among judicial officers	Number of Respondents	Percentage
1.	Yes	49	77.78
2.	No	14	22.22
	Total	63	100.00

Source: Primary data

It is observed that 49 (77.78 percent) respondents are in yes Forensic evidence among judicial officers, and 14 (22.22 percent) respondents are in the No in the Forensic evidence among judicial officers in the study area.

Diagram 12



Conclusion

The sexual violence leaves a multiplied effect especially when it leads to pregnancy or when the violence is passed from one generation to the other. Only few victims actually report the offence and seek medical and legal support making it difficult to determine the prevalence of Child Sexual Assaults. It requires an empowered victim, a supporting reporting environment, and a responsive legal system to report such offences. Age was found to be an influential factor associated with disclosure of offence. Further investigation is required in cases where children of minor age are involved as those with developmental complications who are sexually assaulted may experience continuing problems due to lack of coping resources and increased chances of revictimisation, thus facing further barriers to disclosure . Accidental disclosure was found more common in victims aged below 10 years rather than purposeful disclosure. As observed in the present study, In the age group 14-17 years (n = 51), it was found that in 48 cases, the girl had consensual sexual intercourse and in few cases even eloped with him. Since the relationship is not approved by her parents or guardians, they file the case at the Police Station. In few other instances, the boyfriend performs sexual intercourse with the girl by giving false assurance of marrying her but later refuse to marry which force the girl to lodged complaint against him, in such cases semen identification and pregnancy have been proved to be diagnostic for sexual contact. There have been few reported cases where women misused the laws for her personal gains . All these allegations questions the authenticity of above said cases as they unnecessarily burdens the legal system and also leads to defamation of innocent man. In number of other cases, due to long interval between the act

and Medico legal Examination, the vital trace evidence of sexual intercourse gets lost. So, medical examination and reporting of sexual assault cases are important without delaying. All concerned for this purpose should be properly trained for prompt reporting starting from the victim to the legal authority.

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