

VIOLENCE AGAINST CHRISTIANS CONTINUE TO BE AT HIGH

101 incidents in 5 months covering 75% territory of India

As if, there is a predetermined notion, 20 incidents of violence against Christians have taken place consistently every month since January till end May 2018. June reports are still being studied.

UCF Helpline, launched in January 2015, has recorded 101 incidents of violence against

Christians across India in first 5 months of 2018. The year 2018 began with 21 incidents in January followed by 19 in February, 20 in March, 17 in April and 24 in May.

The dangerous trend of threatening and intimidating cases by mob attack on peaceful gathering of Christians for prayer services has increased from 68 in April to 90 in May. Similarly, the attacks against Christian women and children have increased from 93 in April to 124 in May. Filing of FIRs against culprits continues to get tougher. Out of 101

incidents, we have been able to file FIRs only in the cases of 13 only.

The worsted affected by this mob violence against Christians in Tamil Nadu have reached 23 incidents in May from 17 in April. And Uttar Pradesh has increased to 22 in May from 16 in April.



Number of states wherein attacks against Christians are taking place have also increased from 18 states in April to 22 states in May. The 4 states which

witnessed violence against Christians for the first time in the year 2018 are Delhi, Goa, Puducherry and Rajasthan. Which in fact means Christians living in the region of almost 75% territory of India are at risk to practice their faith freely as guaranteed under the constitution of India in May 2018 as against 60% in April 2018.

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Classification of secular and non-secular forces or parties makes no difference when it comes to attacks on Christians as there are 8 states governed by so called secular forces out of 22 States, which are witnessing violence against Christians. 14 States are ruled by BJP and its allies.

According to the World Watch List 2018, India is now ranked 11th in the list of countries where the practice of the faith is a high-risk activity and placed under the category of 'very high persecution'. India was ranked 31 just four years ago. And in last four years over 750 incidents of violence against Christians were reported on UCF Helpline.

Last year (2017), 242 incidents were recorded and year before (2016) was 216 incidents. In 2015 it was 183 and 148 incidents in 2014.

Categorization	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Total
Physical Violence	06	07	08	11	04	36
Threats & Intimidation	17	18	20	13	22	90
Restrictions on Religious assembly	12	14	14	15	17	72
Women	11	12	13	12	18	66
Children	12	11	12	10	13	58

About ADF India

ADF India is an alliance building Christian Ministry that advocates for religious freedom and sanctity of life. Since its inception in 2012, ADF India have successfully challenged and won over 70 cases including four before Supreme Court, thirty-three in different High Courts. Currently ADF India is handling about 90 ongoing cases including those at Supreme Court and various High Courts.

ADF India also conducts legal awareness trainings for lawyers, law students and community leaders. Till date over twenty thousand persons were trained in Constitutional Law and Minority Rights.

ADF India is an Indian Chapter of ADF International with its registered office in Delhi and legal aid centers in Andhra Pradesh, Assam, Bihar, Chhattisgarh, Karnataka, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Odisha, Tamil Nadu and Uttar Pradesh.

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