

**CONTEMPORARY RELEVANCE OF NEW CRIMINAL LAW -BALANCING JUSTICE
AND REFORM**

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ABSTRACT:-In 2023, the Parliament of India has moved three highly consequential bills that are intended to replace the colonial criminal justice system: The Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita (BNS), 2023, to replace the Indian Penal Code; The Bharatiya Nagarik Suraksha Sanhita (BNSS), 2023, to replace the Code of Criminal Procedure; and The Bharatiya Sakshya Adhinyam, 2023, to replace the Indian Evidence Act. These legislative changes are intended to ensure that the efficiency and transparency of the Indian legal system are preserved while also increasing its ability to deal with the challenges of unification and diversification in a dynamic society. The legislative changes bring in provisions that are focused on citizen-friendly policing, the use of technology in the investigative process, and the speedy delivery of justice without procedural delay. The changes also bring in provisions that strengthen the protection of women, children, and other vulnerable sections of society, including provisions that seek to reduce unnecessary arrests and give priority to compensation to victims. Minor offenses have also been decriminalized, allowing the judiciary and law enforcement agencies to focus more effectively on serious crimes. These changes are a major step towards better accountability and responsiveness, requiring the replacement of colonial language and the harmonization of legal provisions with the constitutional values of India and international standards. However, the achievement of these goals is critically dependent on effective implementation, training of staff, and cooperation between police departments, the judiciary, and government agencies. The above discussion highlights the broad objectives and possible implications of these criminal law reforms and provides a glimpse into their possible impact on the Indian legal and social landscape. Taken together, the newly enacted criminal laws signal a major shift towards an open, efficient, and responsive criminal justice system that is capable of dealing

The study is based on the analysis of the landmark Supreme Court cases that made these legal changes a necessity. The study examines how previous cases revealed loopholes in the colonial legislation, which are now filled by the new legislation:

Mob Lynching: The study examines **Tehseen S. Poonawalla v. Union of India**, where the Court demanded anti-lynching legislation, but the new BNS has finally filled this loophole by introducing specific legislation for it.

Sexual Harassment: The study refers to **Vishaka & Ors. Vs State of Rajasthan**, which pioneered the legislation against workplace harassment, now further strengthened by the BNS.

Mandatory FIRs: The study cites **Lalita Kumari v. Govt of UP** on the mandatory registration of FIRs, now formally codified and further expanded by the BNSS with the concept of "Zero FIRs."

Digital Evidence: The study refers to **Shafhi Mohammad v. State of Himachal Pradesh** and **State of Maharashtra v. Praful B. Desai** as the legal precedent for the proper recognition of electronic records and video conferencing, now formally admitted under the BSA.

Research Problem: -

The problem identified is that the criminal justice system in India was working under the "dark veil" of colonial laws (IPC 1860, IEA 1872, CrPC 1973), which were outdated and had no relevance to the Indian society.

Colonial Mindset: -The laws were made by the British to "govern" the subjects, not to serve the citizens. The laws were more about punishment than justice.

Inefficiency: The old laws were "cumbersome," resulting in huge delays and a lack of transparency.

Technological Gap: The old laws did not take into consideration the advancements in technology, which made the process of investigation and trial slow and less accurate.

SCOPE:-

The scope of the research study includes a detailed review of the three new criminal laws passed in 2023 to abrogate the colonial system:

Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita (BNS): Abrogating the Indian Penal Code.

Bharatiya Nagarik Suraksha Sanhita (BNSS): Abrogating the Code of Criminal Procedure.

Bharatiya Sakshya Adhiniyam (BSA): Abrogating the Indian Evidence Act.

The study is limited to the review of the new laws, the new major criminal offenses (such as community service, e-FIRs, and forensic directives), and their effects on society.

Objectives:

The primary objectives of this research study are to explain how these laws attempt to:

Decolonize the System: Remove the colonial language and system, thus changing the basic approach from punitive to restorative (justice/rehabilitation-based).

Ensure Speedy Justice: Evaluate the new tough time limits for police investigations and court decisions (such as decisions to be made within 30-60 days of hearings).

Integrate Technology: Show how the directives for technology use, such as electronic trials and forensic analysis, improve procedural speed.

Protect Vulnerable Societies: Review how the laws improve the safety of women and children and provide victim-sensitive sections, such as witness protection.

Hypothesis: -

The guiding hypothesis of this research is that although the new legislation is a great step forward towards a transparent and efficient system, its effectiveness is dependent on certain conditions.

The prediction states that the legislation has the potential to transform the system and speed up justice.

The conditional qualifier states that this is “solely dependent on proper implementation,” which includes staff development and investment in infrastructure. Without these pre-requisites in place, the new legislation could face difficulties in the form of the police’s “suspicion culture” or lack of resources.

Research Question

In essence, the inquiry is based on the following questions:

1. How do the newly introduced BNS, BNSS, and BSA address the contemporary dilemmas and the colonial legacy in the Indian criminal justice system?

2. Can the introduction of stringent timelines and rules for digital evidence mitigate the problem of “justice delayed is justice denied” that was prevalent in the old system?
3. What are the implementation challenges, specifically related to police training and infrastructure that could impede these reforms?

Methodology

The research adopts a doctrinal and comparative methodology. In particular, it makes use of the following:

Comparative analysis: The research makes use of tables to compare the "Old Criminal Laws" and the "New Criminal Laws," focusing on differences in underlying philosophies (punitive as opposed to restorative), sentencing regimes, and the admissibility of evidence.

Statutory analysis: The research analyzes specific provisions of the new law (for instance, pointing out that the IPC's 511 sections were reduced to 356 in the BNS) and lists provisions that have been deleted or introduced.

Critical analysis: The researcher analyzes the statutes by pointing out concerns and criticisms, such as the lack of consultation with stakeholders and the possible extension of police powers.

1.Enforcement of new criminal laws: -

Three major criminal laws have been renamed by the ruling Bharatiya Janta Party (BJP) with names in Sanskrit. Even as all the colonial names are being repealed, there is a newly provided vernacular name for the laws, which are:

The Indian Penal Code, 1860 (IPC) was repealed and re-enacted as ‘Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita’ (BNS), which literally translates to the ‘Indian Justice Code’;

The original Indian Penal Code of 1860 has been repealed and re-promulgated as 'Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita' ('Indian Justice Code').

The Code of Criminal Procedure, 1973 (CrPC) has been repealed and replaced by the Bharatiyanagarik Suraksha Sanhita (BNSS), which literally translates to the 'Indian Citizen Safety Code'. The Indian Evidence Act, 1872, was abrogated and re-statued as 'the Bharatiya Sakshya Adhiniyam', which literally means the 'Indian Evidence Law'.

2. Key Features of the New Laws²

Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita (BNS):-

Simplified Structural Framework: The Indian Penal Code, which was divided into 511 sections, has been reduced to 356 sections in the new law, with the intention of improving clarity and relevance.

Other Offences that Have Been Revised: The offence of sedition has been struck down. However, the (BNS) make it criminal to act in a manner that is likely to affect the unity and integrity of India by encouraging separatist ideology and armed rebellion.

Terrorism and Organized Crime: The law clearly defines terrorism and organized crime and ensures harsh penalties to discourage these acts.

Increased Protection for Women: The BNS ensures harsh penalties for crimes committed against women, including the death penalty for gang rape of minors, and heavy fines and imprisonment for sexual crimes committed by frau

Bharatiya Sakshya Adhiniyam (BSA):

Updated Evidence Rules: The BSA will modify the rules regarding the admissibility of evidence, replacing the Indian Evidence Act. The new rules will specifically

² SUPRANOTE1

include electronic and digital records, giving them equal status alongside physical documents.

Expanded Definitions: The Act expands the definition of what a document is to include electronic communications like emails, text messages, and server logs, among other new forms of electronic communication.

Removal of Colonial References: The BSA will eliminate colonial references that are no longer relevant in order to bring the law up to date with the times.

Bharatiya Nagarik Suraksha Sanhita (BNSS):-

Repealed sections: Section 8, 10, 16, 17, 18, 27, 144A, 153, 166AB, 197 3B, 355 are repealed in the new bill of the Criminal Procedure Code (CRPC). On the other hand, Sections 86, 105, 112, 113, 336, 356, 398, and 473 are newly introduced in the bill.

Improved procedural efficiency: The Act, which modernizes the Criminal Procedure Code, brings in 533 new sections, making electronic trials and inquiries compulsory, thus improving procedural efficiency in the judicial system.

Forensic inquiries: For crimes that carry a punishment of seven years of imprisonment or more, forensic inquiries are now mandatory, thus making evidence presented in court more reliable.

Timelines defined: The BNSS lays down strict timelines for the police and judicial systems. Medical examiners are required to file rape case reports within seven days, and courts are required to give judgments between 30 to 60 days after the conclusion of arguments....³

³ The Indian police journal (Volume 71, Number 1 & 2 ISSN 0537-2429 January-June, 2024)
https://bprd.nic.in/uploads/pdf/1725273999_10c3ed6ede64b4c3cf6b.pdf, visited on 26 august 2024

S NO	Description	IPC	BNS	CRPC	BNSS	IEA	BSA
1	ORIGINAL NUMBER OF SECTIONS	511	358	485	531	167	170
2	SECTION INSERTED IN OLD LAWS (WITHIN THE ORIGINAL NUMBERING SCHEMES) THROUGH SUCCESSIVE AMENDMENTS	64		51		16	
3	NUMBER OF SECTIONS REPEALED THROUGH SUCCESSIVE AMENDMENTS	21				1	

3. Importance of the Acts

Decolonization of Law: The newly formed laws represent a move away from colonial traditions, instead aiming for a justice system that is balanced and focused on the protection of citizens' rights.

Citizen Empowerment: The laws aim to ensure the protection of citizens' rights as stated in the constitution and are a representation of the democratic ideals.

Transparency and Accountability: The laws, in their focus on digitization, aim to make the criminal justice system more transparent, from the moment of filing an FIR to the time of judgment delivery.

Timely Justice: The laws, in their focus on set timelines, aim to ensure that justice is not delayed, which has long been a criticism of the Indian justice system.

4. Concerns and Critiques

Lack of stakeholder consultation: It is argued that the process of drafting the legislation did not sufficiently allow for stakeholder engagement, leading to a perception of secrecy and the possible exclusion of beneficial insights.

Increased Vigilance and Control: The new system has been described as encouraging a culture of suspicion where people feel they are under increased observation, thus replicating the colonial mentality through the encouragement of vigilance.

Expansion of Police Powers: The BNSS has faced backlash for increasing police authority, allowing for longer periods of custody and potentially enabling abuses of power, rather than promoting genuine reform.

Omissions in Police and Prison Reform: Despite the intent to modernize, there is little focus on reforming the police and prison systems, which remain largely unchanged and reflective of colonial structures.

5. Why new criminal laws?

The old criminal laws of the country and more specifically, the Indian Penal Code, 1860 and Indian Evidence Act, 1872 were often cited as being a dark veil of strong colonial coloring was cast over it by its pre-independence psyche in which was reflected from the bare reading of certain provisions. After much debate and criticism and to do away with the colonial mindset from the British era, the three new criminal laws viz., the Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita ('BNS'), Bharatiya Nagarik Suraksha Sanhita ('BNSS') and Bharatiya Sakshya Adhiniyam ('BSA') replaced the Indian Penal Code, 1860, Criminal Procedure Code, 1973 and the Indian Evidence Act, 1872 respectively on July 1, 2024. Criminal Procedure Code, 1973 and the Indian Evidence Act, 1872 respectively on July 1, 2024. It was during the colonial regime that the old system came to be thought and imposed on the land. Despite all these amendments after independence, the laws of the colonial era are still prevalent in many parts of India. They were proving to be cumbersome for effective and quick judicial dispensation. All Multiplayer laws are today becoming unified in the reality of society and thus in uniform application. These reforms have the objective of bringing a more an efficient and just legal system. Under the new regime additional crimes it has been added like mob lynching, terrorist act, snatching, organized crime and sexual intercourse by fraudulent means. It introduces a procedural approach with timelines and standardizes the adoption of Technology in some inquiry and judicial procedures. In the BNS which since it replaces the IPC, offenses falling under somewhat related natures have been assembled together. Thereby streamlining the statute, and a few new offenses such as organized crime, Mob lynching and terrorist acts have been added.⁴

6. ⁵COMPARISON OF OLD VS NEW CRIMINAL LAWS

BASIS	OLD CRIMINAL LAWS	NEW CRIMINAL LAWS
Laws and Philosophy	The laws included the Indian Penal Code, the Code of Criminal Procedure, and the	The Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita, Bharatiya Nagarik Suraksha, and Bharatiya Sakshya

⁴ ibid

⁵ New Criminal Laws in India lexis Nexis (<https://www.lexisnexis.in/blogs/new-criminal-laws-in-india/>) accessed on 14 November 2025

	Indian Evidence Act. The Philosophy adopted is punitive and the retributive Justice.	Adhinyam represent the laws. The philosophy in these acts is mainly the provision of restorative justice, with a bias for rehabilitation and victim-centred.
Ideology	Created by the Britishers under British ideology	For Modern India, under a very dynamic legal body.
Sentencing	There existed punishments and penalties as fixed for all types of crimes.	Along with fixed sentences, restorative justice mechanisms like community service or rehabilitation are also provided.
Admissibility of Evidence	The acts provided strict and rigid rules for testimonies of witness and sometimes relied upon unreliable circumstantial evidence. The admissibility of electronic evidence was limited.	Expanding the scope of admissibility to include digital evidence and records to provide strength to investigations.

<p style="text-align: center;">Trial Procedure</p>	<p>Exhaustive, lengthy and cumbersome due to which people face delays and backlogs in courts.</p>	<p>The idea is to move the process faster by imposing a timeframe and using technology to enhance efficiency.⁶</p>
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7. Redefining Justice: The Twelve Core Aspects of Criminal Law Reform

1. Vision for True National Identity -: Britishers made laws to govern us, while we it made laws to establish rule of law. The concept of nationhood is not new to anyone existing in this world. Love for the nation is today accepted as most precious concept conceived by the universe. The three Criminal laws instill into the people the Nationhood Feeling with the aid of Awareness of the fact that it is written by "We, the people" for "We, and the people".

2. A transition of paradigm shift from Colony-rule to 'Swaraj': - The term 'Swaraj' has been promoted for End Mahatma Gandhi himself. Father of the nation was a votary of own rule and hence independence in the real and full sense. The three new Criminal laws carry the term 'Bharat' in their titles themselves. This, in itself, means a relevant Change and reflects the objective behind these new laws-the declaration that we completely to denounce the colonial laws in word and spirit.

3. Valuing time, place, and circumstances: - India was talking about knowledge, philosophies and spirituality when other countries were trying to an undeniable fact is that they fulfill the basic needs. A very popular philosophy of this nation is giving value to time, place and circumstances ("kaal," Samay aur Paristhiti se bada koi nahi. The new criminal laws are apt to this philosophy. They have it was introduced at the right moment in the right place and obviously in the circumstances that It needed it as an imperative.

⁶ Ibid

4. Respect for technology - Time is the best teacher: an inescapable truth. It has taught us yet another thing technology ought to be accounted for. Innovations and inventions have brought us to a place where technology can't. "It cannot be ignored, even a bit. We should therefore work in complement with technology and should not hesitate to take its help whenever and wherever needed. The new criminal laws bring the following: Provisions relating to inculcation of technology that will help implement Laws easy and effective. This shall pave a path towards the practical attainment of justice.

5. Speedy justice and greater accountability: - "Justice delayed is justice denied" is perhaps the most relevant aspect within the delivery of justice system and the law enforcement machinery. The new Crime laws have always taken this into consideration. This is well gauged from the point that new timelines have procedures to be performed have been introduced. To aid in swift justice and also enhance the accountability of the people involved.

6. Introduction of new offences: -Law is for the society and character of the society it is dynamic wherein many changes have taken. Place that boasts innovation in the form of Technological advancements. To keep pace with the changing nature of society is hence a sine qua non. The new criminal laws have adapted themselves abreast with the changing technology. For Better Conditions in Society, New Criminal offences which have evolved from technological advancements and other developments taking place have also been introduced.⁷

7. Victim Centric approach: - In a welfare state, the victim may get satisfaction the end desired behind any sanction is the end. This is spiritual nation; there has always been that belief. Justice and revenge should differ. Welfare itself represents the final justice. This vision has now been directed positively by a new criminal. India laws are very victim oriented.

8. Terrorism as a crime: -This was the other key focus, countering organized crime and terrorism using tougher punishment alongside more high-tech surveillance techniques. It introduced clearer definitions and provisions on organized crimes and had special courts in place to ensure judicial remedy for all cases of national security through fast and quick mechanisms for case solving.

9. FIR and e-FIR: -Registration of an FIR has always been held as an arduous task by the people of this country. People have always tried to keep Distance of this task. The problem was EN

⁷ IBID

effectively dealt with by new criminal laws is: The menace of the non-reporting of offences shall surely come to an end with the concepts of Zero FIR and FIR.

10. Mob Lynching and Snatching: - The new offences introduced in the new criminal laws are a symbol of the respect and care that the legislature has shown towards the citizens of India (particularly senior citizens who have been the prime target of snatching). By trying to put an end to mob lynching through its introduction as an offence, the unity of the nation and hence its integrity as a result has thereby been preserved and maintained.

11. Organized crimes and petty offenses: - The new criminal laws in India have also addressed the seriousness of the situation of introducing organized Crimes and minor offenses within its jurisdiction. These are the ones that deserved immediate attention they found no place in possibly any legislation in India. The problem has finally been taken up and expected to be effectively dealt with in future.

12. Community Involvement: Communities may have a more active role in supporting offenders' rehabilitation and reintegration, fostering a collective sense of accountability. Another Indian philosophy is being reflected by the introduction of this new punishment. The ancient Indian Philosophy- "The offender should get a Punishment with which the society also benefits. Benefited" has been accomplished by this act of the parliament.

8. CASE LAWS:-

a) Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita (BNS) Bill, 2023 - Replacing the Indian Penal Code, 1860: -

Tehseen S. Poonawalla v. Union of India⁸ The Supreme Court issued guidelines on preventing mob lynching, prompting states to enact anti-lynching laws. However, the absence of a central law on mob lynching was a gap the BNS Bill has now addressed.

⁸ AIR 2018 SC 3354

Vishaka & Ors. Vs State of Rajasthan⁹ The Vishaka Guidelines laid the groundwork for laws addressing sexual harassment, which inspired the stricter provisions in the BNS Bill on workplace harassment.

Lalita Kumari v. Government of Uttar Pradesh¹⁰ the Court directed that FIRs should be registered as soon as information about the commission of a cognizable offense was received. The BNS Bill goes further to provide fast-track procedures in certain cases and to make registration of complaints compulsory in certain cases.

b) Bharatiya Nagarik Suraksha Sanhita (BNSS) Bill, 2023 - Replacing the Code of Criminal Procedure, 1973: -

Hussainara Khaton & Ors. V. Home Secretary, State of Bihar¹¹ This case drew attention to the plight of under-trial prisoners by laying down the rule that speedy trials are a fundamental right.

D.K. Basu v. State of West Bengal¹² - It underlined the protection accorded to the accused and established guidelines to prevent police harassment. The BNSS Bill prioritizes dignity for both the victim and the accused.

Shafhi Mohammad v. State of Himachal Pradesh¹³ - The Supreme Court recognized the requirement of digital technology in court procedures, which is a foundational aspect of the provisions under the BNSS Bill regarding electronic documentation.

c) Bharatiya Sakshya Bill, 2023 - Replacing the Indian Evidence Act, 1872:-

State of Maharashtra v. Praful B. Desai¹⁴ The Supreme Court allowed video-conferencing for witness testimonies, which paved the way for digital evidence admissibility under the new Bill.

⁹ AIR 2014 SC 187

¹⁰ AIR 2(014) 4 SCC1

¹¹ AIR 1980 SCC (CRI) 40

¹² AIR 1997 1 SCC 416

¹³ AIR (2018) 5 SCC 311

¹⁴ AIR 2003 SC 20225

Ram Singh & Ors. V. Col. Ram Singh¹⁵The Court set guidelines for admissibility of voice and video recordings, which form the basis of the Bill's sections on electronic evidence.

Nirbhaya Case (Mukesh &Anr. v. State for NCT of Delhi &Ors.¹⁶ In this landmark case, the victim's testimony played a critical role, emphasizing the importance of victim statements in sexual offense cases. The Bharatiya Sakshya Bill's provisions emphasize giving due weight to victim testimony.

9. THREE NEW CRIMINAL LAWS BIGGEST REFORMS OF 21STCENTURY: -

Amit Shah, the union home minister, described the new three criminal laws as the "biggest" reform of the 21st century as he said that they are aimed at ensuring justice to people. In his words, "And then becomes the whole corpus of enactment BNS, BNSS, and BSA: India will wear the crown of having the most modern and technologically advanced criminal justice system in the world".¹⁷ Shah spoke on this occasion at a function held immediately after several digital tools, including e-evidence, Nyaya Setu, Nyaya Shruti and e-summon-designed to upgrade criminal justice machinery here. The BNS, the BNSS and the BSA, effective from July 1, replace the British-era Indian Penal Code, Code of Criminal Procedure and the Indian Evidence Act respectively. These new laws through which the criminal justice system is run are the "biggest" reform of the 21st century, says he. "Technologically we will be ahead in the world when these laws will be implemented fully. As per the spirit of the Constitution, these citizen-centric laws have framed," he further said. These BNS, BNSS and BSA are a set of laws framed through elected representatives in parliament by the people of India for them. It has some fragrance of Indian soil plus the culture of justice through our own, said he while emphasizing that factor.

People need to be given justice through such laws, Shah added, saying the registration of FIR would be possible through an electronic medium. The Union Home Minister said that this law contained serious provisions against mob lynching.

¹⁵ AIR 1986 SCR (2) 399

¹⁶ AIR 2017 SC 2161

¹⁷ With new criminal laws, India's system driven by justice rather than punishment: Amit Shah - The Economic Times. https://m.economictimes.com/news/india/with-new-criminal-laws-indias-system-driven-by-justice-rather-than-punishment-amit-shah/amp_articles/124521998.cms ACCESSED ON 16 NOVEMBER 2025

He indicated that attempting to leave the country after committing a crime there will be much easier now.

He made it clear that fleeing the country after committing a crime here won't be easy now.

a) **BHARATIYA NYAYA SANHTA 2023 {BNS, 2023} - INDIAN JUDICIAL CODE**

KEY REFORMS INCLUDE:

Offenses Affecting the Body

Death caused by negligence

Rape offenses committed against women

Sedition

Terrorism: Terrorism includes an act intended to:

Mob lynching

Community service: introduced as a new punitive measure (Sections 202, 209, 226, proviso to section 303(2), 355, and 356(2)).

Repeal of the provision relating to adultery

Abolition of the provision governing unnatural offenses.

b) **BHARATIYA NAGARIKA SURAKSHA SANHITA,2023: [BNSS, 2023]:**

INDIAN CIVIL PROTECTION CODE

KEY REFORMS INCLUDE: -

Arrest and detention of under-trials

Not applicable in crimes.

Punishable by death under Section 479.

This section will not apply to:

Offences punishable by life imprisonment, and

Persons accused of more than one offence.

Trial in electronic form

Medical examination of the accused

Forensic examination

Signatures and fingerprint others are due:

[i] Decision within 30 days after the closure of arguments Up to 60 days extendible.

[ii] The investigation progression shall be conveyed to the victim within 90 Days, and

Framing of charge by the sessions court within 60 days from first receipt

Hearing regarding the charges under Sections 258 and 392.

Other deadlines include

Trial in absence of offender

Proclaimed himself as a criminal `

First Information Report

'Preliminary inquiry' concept introduced

Zero FIR

General powers Conferred to attach and forfeiture of properties

Transparencies in Search and seizure recordings

Procedure about police custody has been amended

Rights of victims and witnesses 🚗 Use of technology

E-FIR

Cognizable cases

Mercy petitions

Sanction to prosecute

Samples without arrest

Power of police to detain or remove any person

c) BHARATIYA SAKSHYA ADHINIYAM, 2023[BSA, 2023]-INDIAN EVIDENCE**ACT****KEY REFORMS INCLUDE: -**

Documentary evidence

Oral test

Permissibility of Electronic or Digital Records as Evidence

Secondary evidence

New Adhiniyam expands secondary evidence to include;

[i] Oral and written confessions, and

[ii] Affidavit by a person who comes across this document and some who have expertise in the analysis of documents `

Joint trial.

10.Challenges and Suggestion: -

Challenge: The challenge of implementing new legal provisions is that it requires extensive training for law enforcement and judicial officials. A large number of law enforcement officials are used to the previous laws, and it may be daunting for them to adjust to the new laws, procedures, and online tools.

Recommendation: Extensive training and workshops for law enforcement and judicial officials on the new laws, specifically on the procedures. The procedures should be digital and victim-friendly.

Problem: The judicial and law enforcement system in India is resource-constrained, with outdated technology, no digital infrastructure, and insufficient staff in courts. This may hinder the effective implementation of reforms.

Proposal: Upgrading technology and improving the infrastructural setup to create a completely online system. Online tools for case filing, video conferencing, and case management should be developed. More budgetary allocation and improvement in the resource base, especially in rural areas, are required to fill the existing gaps.

The Challenge: Although the new law brings the nation closer to a rights-based approach, there may be a challenge in adopting the law due to the biases in the law enforcement agencies and societal structures, especially with regard to victim rehabilitation.

Offender rehabilitation: Fairness and justice in the administration of criminal justice will improve the success of the reforms.

Conclusion: -

The new criminal laws introduced in India are intended to create a victim-centric, transparent, and efficient criminal justice system in the country by upgrading the existing schemes, removing process delays, and using technology. But the actual implementation of these laws will require concerted efforts by the judiciary, police, and civil society to overcome the infrastructural, procedural, and resource-related challenges embedded in the laws. The new laws indicate a shift towards accountability, speedy justice, and adequate rights for victims and the accused. How well India is able to adjust to the new laws will depend on legal education and resource allocation to achieve the desired standards.