



NEW CRIMINAL LAWS, Cr.PC , IPC : POLITY

NEWS: *New criminal laws in force; Cr.PC, IPC applicable only for old cases*

WHAT'S IN THE NEWS?

Overview of New Criminal Laws in India

- Bharatiya Nagrik Suraksha Sanhita (BNSS)**
 - **Replaces:** Code of Criminal Procedure (Cr.PC)
 - **Key Aspects:** Procedure and conditions for arrest, bail, and custody.
 - **Implementation:** From July 1, replaces Section 154 of the Cr.PC with Section 173 for cognizable offences.
- Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita (BNS)**
 - **Replaces:** Indian Penal Code (IPC), 1860
 - **Update:** May include a section on sexual crimes against men and transgender persons.
- Bharatiya Sakshya (BS)**
 - **Replaces:** Indian Evidence Act, 1872
- Implementation Details**
 - **Start Date:** July 1
 - **Affected Entities:** Over 650 district courts and 16,000 police stations.
 - **Concurrent Laws:** IPC and Cr.PC will continue for pending cases and crimes reported after July 1 but committed before the new laws came into effect.
- State Amendments**
 - States can bring amendments to some provisions of BNSS.

Crime and punishment

The new Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita has 358 Sections against the 511 in the Indian Penal Code that it replaces. The Bharatiya Nagrik Suraksha Sanhita replaces the Code of Criminal Procedure, and the Bharatiya Sakshya Adhinyam comes in place of the Indian Evidence Act



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What is new?

- Provision for **Zero FIR** allowing filing of a first information report at any police station, regardless of jurisdiction
- **Online registration** of police complaints and mandatory videography of crime

scenes for all heinous crimes

- A person can now report incidents by **electronic communication**, without the need to visit a police station
- Judgment in criminal cases has to come **within 45 days**

of completion of the trial

- Provisions against false promise of marriage, gang rape of minors and **mob lynching**
- Statement of a woman rape victim will be recorded by a woman police officer

in the presence of her guardian or relative

- Death sentence or life imprisonment for **gang rape of a minor**
- **Sedition** has been replaced with 'secession' or 'act against the country's sovereignty, unity and integrity'

Source: https://epaper.thehindu.com/ccidist-ws/th/th_delhi/issues/88950/OPS/GQDD0DHKS.1+GHCD0FLF2.1.html