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## **Praja Foundation annual report, 2021: '98% cases of serious offence pending trial'**

The study is based connected accusation obtained nether the Right to Information (RTI) Act and information from the National Crime Records Bureau (NCRB). (Representational/File)

In the six-year span betwixt 2016 and 2021, trials (judgment/withdrawal) were completed in, connected an average, lone 2,401 cases of Class II superior offences successful Mumbai, according to the Praja Foundation's yearly report, 'State of Policing and Law and Order successful Mumbai, 2022', released connected Tuesday. The study states that astatine this pace, it volition instrumentality different 34 years to supply judgement successful each the cases pending for proceedings arsenic connected 2021.

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Class II superior offences see murder, execution attempt, crimes against women and cases nether Protection of Children from Sexual Offences (POCSO) Act, among others.

As of 2021, a full of 82,108 Class II superior offences, oregon 98% of full cases, were pending for trial. Trial was completed successful lone 1,240 cases and 485 cases were either withdrawn, transferred, abated oregon quashed. In the 1,240 cases wherever trials were completed, 86% ended successful an acquittal oregon discharge. While the complaint of condemnation was lone 14%, condemnation rates for crimes similar execution was comparatively amended astatine 45%, rape astatine 24%, molestation astatine 21% and kidnapping/abduction astatine 20%.

Further, the study connected Class II superior offences states that different 25,841 cases are pending astatine the constabulary probe stage, including 16,713 from the erstwhile year. This means 68% cases are pending and the pendency has accrued by 8%, compared to 2017 erstwhile it was 60%. Vishwas Nangre Patil, associated commissioner of police, instrumentality and order, told The Indian Express, "This twelvemonth (2022), we person disposed of pendency connected a ample scale."

Apart from the backlog successful the judiciary, the pendency owed to constabulary investigations tin besides beryllium attributed to vacant posts successful Mumbai Police. Sources successful Maharashtra Police said the sanctioned spot for the full unit was accrued for the past clip betwixt 2007 and 2012.

"The vacancy successful Mumbai Police accrued from 22% successful 2018 to 28% successful 2022. The vacancy successful posts of constabulary officers who analyse cases is besides worrying. It's 24% for constabulary sub-inspector posts and 13% for adjunct constabulary inspector posts. The manpower crunch affects the duration and prime of investigation," said Milind Mhaske, CEO of Praja Foundation.

Link: <https://beatlyzer.com/praja-foundation-annual-report-2021-98-cases-of-serious-offence-pending-trial-61677.html>