CRIME TRENDS AMONG YOUTH (15-29) IN GUJRAT, PAKISTAN

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ABSTRACT

This study was launched to explore crime trends among youth in one of the districts of Pakistan (Gujrat) with the collaboration of District Police Department. The purpose of this study was to find out the crime trends among youth (15-29) with respect to age, caste, gender, religion, residential area and professions in the district Gujrat. Quantitative research method was used in this study, criminal record of offenders (last 12 months) was obtained from Crime Scene Cell, Gujrat to analyze crime trends among youth ages (15-29) on aforementioned selected variables. About 14500 criminals were sent to prison during January 2010 to February 2011 in the district Gujrat. Criminal biography of 3 percent offenders was separated from the record and reviewed randomly. Analysis of selected crime cases determines that 59.2 percent criminals were belonged to age group of 15-29 years and crime incidents were significantly higher among young people aged (25-29). Most common crimes committed by youth (15-29) were Theft, Murder, Abortion, Robbery, Offences relating to Intoxicants, Offences related to Weapons and Firing with Criminal Intent. Crime trends among youth (15-29) were higher in rural areas. The majority of young criminals (15-29) was belonged to “Jutt” caste and “Laborer / Worker professions (blue collar)”.

Keywords: Crimes, Trends, Youth, Intoxicants, Caste