

Victim Compensation in Rape Cases: A Socio-Legal Analysis of Policy Implementation in India

Harendra M. Sevak ^{1*}, Prof. (Dr.) Rugvendra Vyas ²

ABSTRACT

Sexual violence remains one of the most serious violations of human rights and personal dignity. In India, rape is not only a criminal offense but also a profound social issue that leaves long-lasting psychological, physical, and economic consequences for victims. Recognizing the need to support survivors, the Indian legal system has introduced several victim-centric provisions, particularly compensation mechanisms aimed at providing financial assistance and facilitating rehabilitation. Victim compensation serves as an important component of restorative justice, seeking to acknowledge the suffering of victims and help them rebuild their lives. The legal framework for compensation to rape victims in India primarily operates through provisions under the Code of Criminal Procedure (CrPC), especially Sections 357 and 357A, along with the Victim Compensation Schemes implemented by State Legal Services Authorities. These provisions empower courts to award compensation to victims and mandate the establishment of state-funded schemes to ensure financial support even when the offender is not identified or convicted. In addition, the Supreme Court and various High Courts have played a crucial role in strengthening these provisions through progressive judicial interpretations and guidelines. Despite the existence of these legal mechanisms, the practical implementation of compensation policies remains inconsistent across states. Several challenges such as lack of awareness among victims, bureaucratic delays, inadequate compensation amounts, and social stigma continue to hinder effective access to justice. A socio-legal analysis is therefore necessary to understand how these policies function in practice and how they impact survivors' recovery and social reintegration. This study examines the legal provisions, policy framework, and implementation of victim compensation schemes in rape cases in India. It also evaluates the social and psychological significance of compensation for survivors and identifies the gaps between law and practice. The research aims to highlight the importance of strengthening institutional mechanisms, improving awareness, and ensuring timely and adequate compensation to promote justice and dignity for victims of sexual violence.

Keywords: *Victim Compensation, Rape Law in India, Criminal Justice System, Victim Rights, Socio-Legal Analysis*

Sexual violence is a grave violation of human rights and a serious social problem affecting individuals and communities worldwide. In India, rape is recognized as one of the most heinous crimes, causing profound physical, psychological, and emotional trauma to

¹ Research Scholar, Faculty of Law, Gokul Global University, Siddhpur, Gujarat, India

² Dean, Faculty of Law, Gokul Global University, Siddhpur, Gujarat, India

*Corresponding Author

Received: January 10, 2026; Revision Received: February 06, 2026; Accepted: March 05, 2026

Victim Compensation in Rape Cases: A Socio-Legal Analysis of Policy Implementation in India

victims. Beyond the immediate harm, survivors often face long-term consequences such as social stigma, economic hardship, loss of opportunities, and psychological distress. The criminal justice system therefore carries a significant responsibility not only to punish offenders but also to ensure justice, protection, and rehabilitation for victims. In this context, victim compensation has emerged as an essential component of the justice system aimed at providing financial assistance and supporting the recovery of survivors.

Historically, the Indian criminal justice system primarily focused on punishing offenders, while the needs and rights of victims received comparatively less attention. Victims were often treated merely as witnesses in criminal proceedings rather than as individuals who required support and rehabilitation. Over time, however, growing awareness of victims' rights and international human rights standards led to a shift toward a more victim-centric approach. This shift emphasized the importance of recognizing the suffering of victims and providing them with adequate legal and financial support.

In India, the concept of victim compensation is primarily governed by provisions under the Code of Criminal Procedure (CrPC). Section 357 of the CrPC allows courts to order the offender to pay compensation to the victim as part of the sentencing process. However, in many cases—particularly in rape cases—the offender may be unable to pay compensation or may not be identified or convicted. Recognizing these limitations, the Indian legislature introduced Section 357A through the Criminal Procedure Code (Amendment) Act, 2008. This provision mandates the establishment of Victim Compensation Schemes by state governments in coordination with State Legal Services Authorities. These schemes aim to provide financial assistance and rehabilitation support to victims of crimes, including rape, regardless of whether the offender is apprehended or convicted.

The issue of compensation for rape victims gained significant attention following several landmark judicial decisions and social movements demanding stronger protection for women. The Supreme Court of India has emphasized the importance of victim compensation as a fundamental aspect of justice and has directed both central and state governments to implement effective compensation schemes. Various High Courts have also issued guidelines to ensure timely disbursement of compensation and to safeguard the dignity and rights of survivors. Despite these progressive legal developments, the practical implementation of victim compensation policies continues to face numerous challenges. One of the major issues is the lack of awareness among victims regarding their rights to compensation. Many survivors are unaware that they can apply for financial assistance through state-sponsored schemes. Additionally, procedural complexities, delays in approval, inadequate compensation amounts, and variations in schemes across different states often create barriers for victims seeking support. From a socio-legal perspective, victim compensation is not merely a financial remedy but also a form of social recognition of the harm suffered by survivors. Compensation can play a vital role in helping victims access medical treatment, psychological counseling, legal assistance, and rehabilitation services. It can also contribute to restoring dignity and confidence, enabling survivors to reintegrate into society. Therefore, understanding how compensation policies operate in practice is crucial for evaluating their effectiveness and identifying areas for reform.

This study aims to examine the legal framework governing victim compensation in rape cases in India and to analyze the implementation of these policies from a socio-legal perspective. It explores the role of statutory provisions, judicial interventions, and institutional mechanisms

Victim Compensation in Rape Cases: A Socio-Legal Analysis of Policy Implementation in India

in ensuring compensation for victims. The study also highlights the social and psychological significance of compensation and identifies the gaps between policy formulation and practical implementation. By analyzing these aspects, the research seeks to contribute to the ongoing discourse on strengthening victim rights and improving the justice delivery system in cases of sexual violence.

REVIEW OF LITERATURE

The issue of victim compensation in rape cases has received increasing attention in legal and socio-legal scholarship in recent decades. Researchers, legal scholars, and policy analysts have examined the evolution of victim compensation frameworks, the role of the judiciary, and the social impact of compensation policies on survivors of sexual violence. The literature highlights both the progress made in recognizing victims' rights and the challenges that persist in the effective implementation of compensation schemes.

One of the earliest discussions on victim compensation in India can be found in the work of **Ratanlal and Dhirajlal (2017)**, who analyzed provisions under the Code of Criminal Procedure (CrPC) related to compensation for victims of crime. Their work emphasizes that Section 357 of the CrPC allows courts to direct offenders to pay compensation to victims as part of the sentencing process. However, they observed that courts often exercised this power inconsistently, and in many cases victims received little or no compensation due to the financial incapacity of offenders. The authors argued that compensation should not depend solely on the offender's ability to pay and recommended the creation of state-funded compensation schemes.

Similarly, **K.I. Vibhute (2004)** discussed the need for a victim-oriented approach in the criminal justice system. His analysis highlighted that traditional criminal justice systems focus primarily on punishing offenders rather than addressing the needs of victims. According to Vibhute, compensation plays an essential role in restorative justice because it acknowledges the harm suffered by victims and provides support for their rehabilitation. He emphasized that legal reforms should ensure that victims of serious crimes such as rape receive timely and adequate financial assistance.

Another important contribution to the literature is the study by **Flavia Agnes (2013)**, who examined the legal responses to sexual violence in India. Agnes analyzed various legislative reforms, including amendments to rape laws and the introduction of victim compensation schemes. Her work highlights that compensation mechanisms are crucial for supporting survivors who often face social stigma, economic hardship, and emotional trauma. However, she also pointed out that many victims are unaware of their legal rights, and bureaucratic barriers often prevent them from accessing compensation.

The landmark **Justice J.S. Verma Committee Report (2013)** significantly influenced discussions on victim compensation in cases of sexual violence. The committee was established after the 2012 Delhi gang rape incident and recommended several reforms to strengthen laws related to sexual offenses. One of its major recommendations was the establishment of comprehensive victim compensation schemes funded by the state. The report emphasized that compensation should cover medical treatment, rehabilitation, and psychological support for survivors. It also stressed that compensation must be provided promptly and without unnecessary procedural hurdles.

Victim Compensation in Rape Cases: A Socio-Legal Analysis of Policy Implementation in India

In addition to legal scholarship, several empirical studies have examined the implementation of victim compensation schemes across different states in India. **Kapur and Cossman (1996)** explored the intersection of law, gender, and social justice, emphasizing that legal reforms alone are insufficient without effective implementation mechanisms. Their work highlights that social attitudes, patriarchal norms, and institutional inefficiencies often limit the effectiveness of legal protections for women. They argued that compensation policies must be supported by awareness programs and institutional accountability to ensure that victims benefit from these provisions.

More recent research by **Aparna Chandra and Mrinal Satish (2016)** analyzed the functioning of victim compensation schemes introduced under Section 357A of the CrPC. Their study found significant variations in the implementation of these schemes across different states. Some states provided relatively higher compensation amounts and quicker disbursement processes, while others faced delays due to administrative inefficiencies. The authors emphasized the need for uniform guidelines and stronger monitoring mechanisms to ensure consistent implementation across the country.

Scholars have also examined the psychological and social impact of compensation on survivors of sexual violence. **Madhumita Pandey (2018)** highlighted that financial assistance can play an important role in helping survivors access healthcare, legal aid, and counseling services. Compensation can also support victims who may have lost employment or educational opportunities as a result of the crime. However, Pandey argued that monetary compensation alone cannot address the deep psychological trauma experienced by victims. Comprehensive rehabilitation programs, including counseling and social support, are necessary to facilitate long-term recovery.

International perspectives on victim compensation have also influenced policy discussions in India. **Andrew Ashworth (2010)** emphasized that modern criminal justice systems should adopt a victim-centered approach that balances the rights of the accused with the needs of victims. He noted that compensation schemes are widely recognized as an essential component of justice systems in many countries. Such schemes not only provide financial assistance but also symbolize societal acknowledgment of the harm suffered by victims.

Despite these developments, several scholars point out that challenges remain in ensuring effective access to compensation. **Pratiksha Baxi (2014)** highlighted issues such as delays in processing compensation claims, lack of awareness among victims, and inadequate coordination between law enforcement agencies and legal services authorities. She argued that the success of victim compensation schemes depends on efficient institutional mechanisms and a sensitive approach toward survivors. The existing literature indicates that victim compensation is a crucial element of justice in rape cases. Legal reforms, judicial activism, and policy initiatives have contributed to the development of compensation mechanisms in India. However, significant gaps remain between the legal framework and its implementation in practice. Scholars consistently emphasize the need for greater awareness, improved administrative efficiency, and stronger institutional support to ensure that victims receive timely and adequate compensation. These insights form an important foundation for further socio-legal research on the implementation and impact of victim compensation policies in India.

Victim Compensation in Rape Cases: A Socio-Legal Analysis of Policy Implementation in India

LEGAL FRAMEWORK AND POLICY IMPLEMENTATION

The legal framework for victim compensation in rape cases in India has evolved significantly over the years with the objective of ensuring justice, rehabilitation, and support for victims of sexual violence. Traditionally, the criminal justice system in India focused primarily on punishing the offender rather than addressing the needs and suffering of victims. However, with increasing awareness about victims' rights and the need for restorative justice, the legal system has gradually incorporated provisions that provide financial assistance and rehabilitation support to victims of serious crimes, including rape.

One of the earliest legal provisions related to victim compensation is found in **Section 357 of the Code of Criminal Procedure (CrPC), 1973**. This provision empowers courts to order the accused to pay compensation to the victim when imposing a sentence of fine or other punishment. The purpose of this provision is to provide financial relief to victims for the harm or loss they have suffered due to the crime. In rape cases, courts may direct the offender to compensate the victim for physical injury, mental trauma, medical expenses, and other related damages. However, the effectiveness of this provision has often been limited because it depends on the financial capacity of the convicted offender. In many cases, offenders are unable to pay the required compensation, leaving victims without adequate financial support.

Recognizing this limitation, the Indian legislature introduced **Section 357A in the Code of Criminal Procedure through the Criminal Procedure (Amendment) Act, 2008**. This provision marked a significant shift toward a victim-centered approach by establishing the **Victim Compensation Scheme (VCS)**. Under this scheme, every state government is required to prepare and implement a compensation program in coordination with the State Legal Services Authority (SLSA). The scheme ensures that victims of crimes, including rape survivors, receive financial assistance from state funds regardless of whether the offender is identified, arrested, or convicted.

The implementation of Section 357A has strengthened the rights of victims by making the state responsible for providing compensation. According to this provision, when a court recommends compensation or when the victim or their dependents apply for relief, the State or District Legal Services Authority examines the case and determines the amount of compensation to be awarded. This financial assistance is intended to support victims in meeting medical expenses, rehabilitation needs, and other essential requirements that arise as a consequence of the crime.

Following the **2012 Delhi gang rape incident**, there was a significant transformation in laws related to sexual offenses and victim protection. The **Criminal Law (Amendment) Act, 2013** introduced several changes to strengthen the legal response to sexual violence. One important development was the emphasis on providing immediate medical treatment and support to victims. The law also reinforced the importance of victim compensation as part of the broader framework for protecting survivors' rights.

The legislative provisions, the judiciary has played a crucial role in shaping the implementation of victim compensation policies. The Supreme Court of India, through various judgments, has emphasized that compensation is an essential component of justice for victims of sexual violence. Courts have directed state governments to ensure timely payment of compensation and have recognized the importance of financial support in helping survivors rebuild their lives.

Victim Compensation in Rape Cases: A Socio-Legal Analysis of Policy Implementation in India

Judicial activism has thus contributed to strengthening the implementation of victim compensation schemes across the country.

Another important policy initiative is the **Nirbhaya Fund**, established by the Government of India in 2013 to support projects aimed at enhancing the safety and security of women. A portion of this fund has been used to support victim compensation and rehabilitation programs for survivors of sexual violence. The fund has helped state governments improve their victim compensation schemes and provide higher financial assistance to victims in serious cases such as rape and acid attacks.

The **National Legal Services Authority (NALSA)** has also played a vital role in standardizing compensation schemes across different states. In 2018, NALSA introduced the **Compensation Scheme for Women Victims/Survivors of Sexual Assault and Other Crimes**, which provides guidelines for determining compensation amounts for victims of rape and other sexual offenses. This scheme aims to ensure uniformity in compensation across states and to reduce disparities in the assistance provided to victims.

Despite the existence of these legal provisions and policy initiatives, challenges remain in the effective implementation of victim compensation schemes. Many victims are unaware of their rights to claim compensation, and bureaucratic delays often hinder timely disbursement of funds. Additionally, differences in compensation amounts and procedures across states sometimes lead to inconsistencies in the delivery of justice. The legal framework for victim compensation in rape cases in India reflects a growing commitment to victim-centered justice. Through provisions such as Sections 357 and 357A of the CrPC, judicial interventions, and policy initiatives like the Nirbhaya Fund and NALSA guidelines, the state has taken significant steps to support survivors of sexual violence. However, effective implementation, increased awareness, and administrative efficiency remain crucial for ensuring that victims receive timely and adequate compensation as part of the broader process of justice and rehabilitation.

METHODOLOGY

The present study adopts a **socio-legal research methodology** to analyze the legal provisions relating to compensation for rape victims in India and to examine their social implications and effectiveness in practice. Socio-legal research combines legal analysis with social science perspectives, enabling a comprehensive understanding of how laws operate within society. This approach is particularly relevant for examining victim compensation policies because it not only evaluates statutory provisions and judicial interpretations but also considers their practical impact on victims and society.

Research Design

The study follows a **descriptive and analytical research design**. The descriptive aspect focuses on explaining the existing legal framework related to victim compensation in rape cases, including statutory provisions, government policies, and judicial decisions. The analytical component critically evaluates the effectiveness of these legal measures and their social and psychological impact on victims. By combining these approaches, the research aims to assess whether the legal mechanisms for victim compensation adequately address the needs of rape survivors.

Victim Compensation in Rape Cases: A Socio-Legal Analysis of Policy Implementation in India

Nature of Data

The research primarily relies on **secondary data**. Secondary data is used to examine the legal framework, policy implementation, and social implications of compensation schemes for rape victims. This type of data is suitable for socio-legal research because it provides access to authoritative legal documents, policy reports, academic studies, and statistical data related to the subject.

Sources of Data

The data for this study has been collected from multiple credible sources. These include:

1. **Statutory Laws and Legal Provisions** – Relevant provisions such as Sections 357 and 357A of the Code of Criminal Procedure (CrPC), provisions of the Criminal Law (Amendment) Act, 2013, and guidelines issued by the National Legal Services Authority (NALSA) have been examined to understand the legal framework for victim compensation.
2. **Judicial Decisions** – Important judgments delivered by the **Supreme Court and various High Courts** have been analyzed to understand how courts interpret and implement compensation provisions in rape cases.
3. **Government Reports and Policy Documents** – Reports published by the Government of India, the National Legal Services Authority (NALSA), State Legal Services Authorities, and other governmental agencies have been used to examine the implementation of victim compensation schemes.
4. **Academic Literature** – Books, research articles, journals, and previous studies related to victimology, criminal justice, gender justice, and compensation policies have been reviewed to understand theoretical perspectives and scholarly debates on the subject.
5. **Reports of National and International Organizations** – Publications from organizations such as the National Crime Records Bureau (NCRB), United Nations agencies, and women's rights organizations have been consulted to provide statistical data and broader insights into the issue.

Method of Analysis

The collected data has been analyzed using **qualitative and doctrinal methods**. The **doctrinal method** focuses on examining legal texts, statutes, and judicial precedents to interpret the legal provisions governing victim compensation. This method helps in understanding the legal intent, scope, and interpretation of compensation-related laws. In addition, a **qualitative analytical approach** has been used to examine the social impact of compensation schemes. This involves analyzing the effectiveness of policy implementation, the level of awareness among victims, and the broader socio-psychological implications of financial assistance for survivors of sexual violence.

Scope of the Study

The study primarily focuses on **rape cases in India** and examines the legal and policy mechanisms for providing compensation to victims. It also explores the role of institutions such as State Legal Services Authorities and the judiciary in ensuring that compensation is provided

Victim Compensation in Rape Cases: A Socio-Legal Analysis of Policy Implementation in India

effectively and fairly. The research seeks to highlight both the strengths and limitations of existing legal provisions and policy frameworks.

Limitations of the Study

Like most socio-legal research based on secondary data, this study has certain limitations. The research relies mainly on available literature, legal documents, and policy reports, and therefore may not capture all real-time experiences of victims. Furthermore, variations in the implementation of victim compensation schemes across different states may not be fully represented due to differences in available data.

Conclusion of Methodology

Overall, the socio-legal methodology adopted in this study enables a comprehensive analysis of both the **legal framework and the social realities** associated with victim compensation in rape cases. By integrating legal analysis with social perspectives, the research provides a deeper understanding of how compensation policies function in practice and how they contribute to justice, rehabilitation, and empowerment of survivors.

FINDINGS AND DISCUSSION

The present socio-legal study examines the legal provisions, policy implementation, and social implications of victim compensation in rape cases in India. Based on the analysis of statutory provisions, judicial decisions, government schemes, and academic literature, several important findings emerge regarding the effectiveness, challenges, and social impact of compensation mechanisms for victims of sexual violence.

One of the key findings of the study is that **India has developed a significant legal framework for victim compensation**, particularly through Sections 357 and 357A of the Code of Criminal Procedure (CrPC). These provisions empower courts to grant compensation to victims and mandate the establishment of Victim Compensation Schemes by State Governments in coordination with State Legal Services Authorities. The introduction of these provisions reflects an important shift in criminal justice policy from a purely offender-centered approach to a **victim-oriented justice system**, recognizing the rights and rehabilitation needs of victims of crime.

Another important finding is the **active role played by the judiciary** in strengthening victim compensation mechanisms. Several judgments of the Supreme Court and High Courts have emphasized that compensation is not merely a discretionary relief but an essential component of justice for victims of sexual violence. Courts have also directed governments and legal authorities to ensure timely payment of compensation and to adopt victim-sensitive procedures. Judicial activism in this area has contributed significantly to expanding the scope and effectiveness of compensation schemes.

Despite these progressive legal provisions, the study finds that **implementation remains inconsistent and uneven across different states**. Victim Compensation Schemes vary widely in terms of the amount of compensation, eligibility conditions, and procedural requirements. In some cases, delays in processing applications, lack of coordination among authorities, and bureaucratic obstacles prevent victims from receiving timely assistance. This inconsistency highlights the gap between legal provisions and their practical implementation.

Victim Compensation in Rape Cases: A Socio-Legal Analysis of Policy Implementation in India

The research also reveals that **awareness among victims regarding their compensation rights is relatively low**. Many survivors of sexual violence are unaware that they are entitled to financial assistance under the law. Limited legal literacy, social stigma, fear of retaliation, and lack of access to legal aid often prevent victims from claiming compensation. This indicates the need for stronger awareness programs and legal aid initiatives to ensure that victims can effectively exercise their rights.

Another important finding relates to the **social and psychological impact of compensation on victims**. Financial compensation can play a crucial role in supporting victims' rehabilitation by helping them access medical treatment, psychological counseling, education, and livelihood opportunities. In many cases, compensation provides victims with a sense of recognition and acknowledgment of the harm they have suffered. However, the study also indicates that monetary compensation alone cannot fully address the emotional trauma and social stigma associated with sexual violence. Comprehensive support services, including counseling, social rehabilitation, and community support, are essential for the long-term recovery of victims.

The study further highlights that **institutional mechanisms such as State Legal Services Authorities play a vital role** in the implementation of victim compensation schemes. These bodies are responsible for processing applications, verifying claims, and disbursing compensation. Where these institutions function efficiently, victims are more likely to receive timely assistance. However, inadequate resources, administrative delays, and lack of trained personnel sometimes limit their effectiveness.

From a broader socio-legal perspective, the findings suggest that victim compensation schemes represent an important step toward **restorative justice and victim-centered criminal justice policy**. They acknowledge the state's responsibility to support victims and provide them with financial and social assistance. At the same time, the effectiveness of these schemes depends on strong institutional frameworks, transparency, and proactive implementation. The study finds that while **India has established a progressive legal framework for compensating rape victims**, significant challenges remain in terms of awareness, accessibility, and uniform implementation. Addressing these challenges requires coordinated efforts from the judiciary, policymakers, legal institutions, and civil society to ensure that compensation mechanisms truly serve their purpose of supporting victims and promoting justice.

CONCLUSION

The issue of victim compensation in rape cases represents an important dimension of victim-centered justice in India. Traditionally, the criminal justice system primarily focused on punishing offenders, often overlooking the needs and rehabilitation of victims. However, with the introduction of provisions such as Sections 357 and 357A of the Code of Criminal Procedure (CrPC) and the establishment of Victim Compensation Schemes by State Governments, the legal system has gradually shifted toward recognizing the rights and welfare of victims of crime. These developments reflect a broader commitment to ensuring that victims of sexual violence receive financial assistance and institutional support for their recovery and reintegration into society.

The socio-legal analysis conducted in this study highlights that the existing legal framework provides a strong foundation for victim compensation in rape cases. The judiciary has also played a proactive role by emphasizing the importance of compensation as a fundamental aspect of justice and by directing authorities to ensure timely support for victims. Judicial

Victim Compensation in Rape Cases: A Socio-Legal Analysis of Policy Implementation in India

interpretations and policy initiatives such as the NALSA Compensation Scheme for Women Victims/Survivors of Sexual Assault have contributed to strengthening the institutional mechanisms for victim support. Despite these positive developments, several challenges remain in the effective implementation of compensation schemes. Variations in compensation amounts across states, procedural delays, lack of coordination among authorities, and bureaucratic complexities often limit the accessibility of these benefits. Furthermore, low levels of awareness among victims regarding their legal rights and compensation provisions hinder the effective utilization of these schemes. Social stigma, fear, and limited access to legal assistance also discourage many victims from seeking compensation.

The study also demonstrates that financial compensation plays a significant role in supporting victims' rehabilitation by helping them meet medical, psychological, educational, and livelihood needs. However, monetary assistance alone cannot fully address the trauma and social consequences experienced by survivors of sexual violence. Comprehensive support systems, including psychological counseling, legal aid, and community rehabilitation programs, are necessary to ensure the long-term well-being of victims. The victim compensation schemes represent a crucial step toward achieving restorative justice and strengthening the protection of victims' rights in India. For these mechanisms to be truly effective, policymakers and legal institutions must focus on improving awareness, ensuring uniform implementation across states, simplifying administrative procedures, and strengthening institutional accountability. By combining legal reforms with social support and educational initiatives, India can move closer to creating a more responsive and humane justice system that prioritizes the dignity, safety, and rehabilitation of survivors of sexual violence.

REFERENCES

- Baxi, U. (2008). *The Future of Human Rights*. Oxford University Press.
- Bhattacharyya, R. (2015). Understanding the issue of rape in India: A socio-legal perspective. *Journal of Social Justice Studies*, 9(2), 45–60.
- Code of Criminal Procedure, 1973. Government of India.
- Government of India. (2013). *Criminal Law (Amendment) Act, 2013*. Ministry of Law and Justice.
- Justice J. S. Verma Committee. (2013). *Report of the Committee on Amendments to Criminal Law*. Government of India.
- Kaur, R. (2017). Victim compensation and restorative justice in India. *Indian Journal of Criminology*, 45(1), 78–92.
- Ministry of Women and Child Development. (2015). *Nirbhaya Fund Guidelines*. Government of India.
- National Crime Records Bureau. (2022). *Crime in India Report*. Government of India.
- National Legal Services Authority (NALSA). (2018). *Compensation Scheme for Women Victims/Survivors of Sexual Assault/Other Crimes*. New Delhi.
- Nipun Saxena v. Union of India, (2018) Supreme Court of India.
- Rattan Singh v. State of Punjab, (1979) Supreme Court of India.
- Singh, A. (2018). Victim compensation scheme in India: An evaluation. *Indian Journal of Criminology and Criminalistics*, 39(2), 23–40.
- State of Rajasthan v. Sanyam Lodha, (2015) Rajasthan High Court.
- Tiwari, R. (2020). Socio-legal analysis of sexual violence laws in India. *Law and Social Justice Review*, 14(1), 55–72.

Victim Compensation in Rape Cases: A Socio-Legal Analysis of Policy Implementation in India

- United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC). (2014). *Handbook on Justice for Victims*. UNODC.
- United Nations. (1985). *Declaration of Basic Principles of Justice for Victims of Crime and Abuse of Power*.
- Verma, A. (2019). Victimology and criminal justice reforms in India. *Indian Journal of Law and Society*, 10(1), 112–126.
- Walklate, S. (2011). *Handbook of Victims and Victimology*. Routledge.
- World Health Organization. (2013). *Global and Regional Estimates of Violence Against Women*. WHO Press.
- Yadav, S. (2016). Legal protection for rape victims in India: Issues and challenges. *Journal of Legal Studies*, 12(1), 95–110.

Acknowledgments

The author(s) appreciates all those who participated in the study and helped to facilitate the research process.

Conflict of Interest

The author declared no conflict of interest.

How to cite this article: Sevak, H. & Vyas, R. (2026). Victim Compensation in Rape Cases: A Socio-Legal Analysis of Policy Implementation in India. *International Journal of Social Impact*, 11(1), 259-269. DIP: 18.02.28/20261101, DOI: 10.25215/2455/110128