

Evangelical  
Fellowship of India



Religious Liberty  
Commission



# **HATE AND TARGETED VIOLENCE AGAINST CHRISTIANS IN INDIA**

## **YEARLY REPORT 2025**

**RELIGIOUS LIBERTY COMMISSION OF  
EVANGELICAL FELLOWSHIP OF INDIA**



# CONTENTS

1. Acknowledgements	01
2. Executive Summary	03
3. Incidents Photographs	04
4. Methodology	06
5. Key Findings	07
6. Illustrative Incidents	16
7. List of Incidents	19
8. Recommendations	95

# ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The Evangelical Fellowship of India Religious Liberty Commission (EFIRLC) expresses its deep appreciation to the many individuals and organisations whose contributions made this report possible.

We are grateful to the victims, families, pastors, and local Christian leaders across India who courageously shared their experiences and testimonies. Their willingness to speak despite fear, social pressure, and personal risk has been essential in documenting the realities reflected in this report.

We acknowledge the efforts of EFIRLC's nationwide network of coordinators, volunteers, legal advisers, and partner organisations who assisted in receiving, verifying, and documenting incident reports throughout the year. Their careful documentation, follow-up communication, and field verification work form the foundation of this report.

We also recognise the contribution of human rights defenders, lawyers, journalists, and civil society organisations who continue to monitor and raise concerns regarding violations of freedom of religion and belief.

Special thanks are extended to those within the Evangelical Fellowship of India who assisted in the compilation, analysis, and preparation of this report.

For reasons of safety and confidentiality, the names of several individuals who contributed to the documentation and verification process have not been disclosed. EFIRLC remains deeply grateful for their commitment to defending the constitutional rights and dignity of all citizens.



Report by:

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# India's Constitutional Vision of Religious Freedom

*"I know it was on this word that the Indian Christian community laid the greatest emphasis, not because they wanted to convert people aggressively, but because the word 'propagate' was a fundamental part of their tenet. Even if the word were not there, I am sure that under the freedom of speech which the Constitution guarantees, it will be open to any religious community to persuade other people to join their faith. So long as religion is religion, conversion by free exercise of the conscience has to be recognised. The word 'propagate' in this clause is nothing very much out of the way as some people think, nor is it fraught with dangerous consequences."*

**K. M. Munshi**

*Constituent Assembly Debates,  
6 December 1948*

*"All of us, to whatever religion we may belong, are equally the children of India with equal rights, privileges and obligations. We cannot encourage communalism or narrow-mindedness, for no nation can be great whose people are narrow in thought or in action."*

**Jawaharlal Nehru**

*Speech to the Constituent Assembly,  
14 August 1947*



# EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

In 2025, the Religious Liberty Commission of the Evangelical Fellowship of India (EFIRLC) documented 747 incidents of hostility, intimidation, violence, and discrimination against Christians across India. These incidents were drawn from more than 915 cases reported to the Commission during the year, each of which underwent a process of verification that included field assessment, interviews with victims and witnesses, review of available documentation, and follow-up communication with local authorities where possible.

The findings reflect a sustained pattern of hostility affecting both individual believers and congregational life across multiple regions of the country. Incidents documented during the reporting period included disruption of prayer meetings and church services, threats and harassment directed at pastors and believers, arrests and criminal complaints linked to allegations of religious conversion, social coercion against Christian families, and instances of physical violence and damage to property.

While certain states recorded higher concentrations of incidents, the data indicates that such hostility is not confined to any single region. Reports were received from numerous states across northern, central, southern, and eastern India, suggesting that pressures affecting Christian communities occur in varied local contexts.

The documented incidents reveal recurring patterns in the manner in which such hostility unfolds. In many cases, prayer meetings or worship services were interrupted following complaints alleging unlawful religious conversion. Pastors and congregants were sometimes detained or questioned by authorities after such complaints were filed. In other instances, mobs assembled outside places of worship, issuing threats or demanding that gatherings be stopped. Social pressure within villages and local communities also emerged as a significant factor in several cases.

Although many incidents involved actions by non-state actors, responses from local administrative and law enforcement authorities were frequently reported as delayed, inconsistent, or procedurally inadequate. Victims and church leaders in several cases reported difficulties in registering complaints or obtaining timely protection from authorities.

It is important to note that the incidents documented in this report do not represent the full scale of violations affecting Christian communities. Many incidents remain unreported due to fear of retaliation, social pressure, or lack of access to legal remedies. In rural areas in particular, victims often hesitate to pursue formal complaints. The documented cases should therefore be understood as indicative of broader patterns affecting religious freedom, rather than a complete record of all incidents.

Taken together, the incidents documented in 2025 raise continuing concerns regarding the protection of constitutionally guaranteed freedom of religion and the equal application of the law. The patterns identified in this report point to the need for consistent enforcement of legal protections, impartial administrative responses, and greater safeguards for communities exercising their right to practise and profess their faith.

Released by:

**Rev. Vijayesh Lal**

*General Secretary – EFI*

# **INCIDENTS PHOTOGRAPHS**



# METHODOLOGY

The Religious Liberty Commission of the Evangelical Fellowship of India (EFIRLC) has documented incidents relating to freedom of religion in India since 1998 and has published annual incident reports since 2009. Through a nationwide reporting and verification network, the Commission monitors incidents affecting the freedom of religion of Christian individuals and communities across the country.

Incident reports are received through multiple channels, including direct complaints from victims and church leaders, the EFIRLC religious freedom helpline, partner organisations, legal advocates, and media monitoring. Each reported case undergoes a process of verification that may include interviews with victims or their families, consultation with local Christian leaders, and communication with police or administrative authorities.

For an incident to be included in the final dataset, confirmation is normally obtained from at least two of the following sources: the victim or their family, local Christian leaders, or local police authorities. Reports that cannot be sufficiently corroborated through this process are excluded from the final list.

Where available, EFIRLC also reviews police records, First Information Reports (FIRs), and court filings related to reported incidents. In some cases, field visits and additional follow-up interviews are conducted to verify the circumstances surrounding an incident.

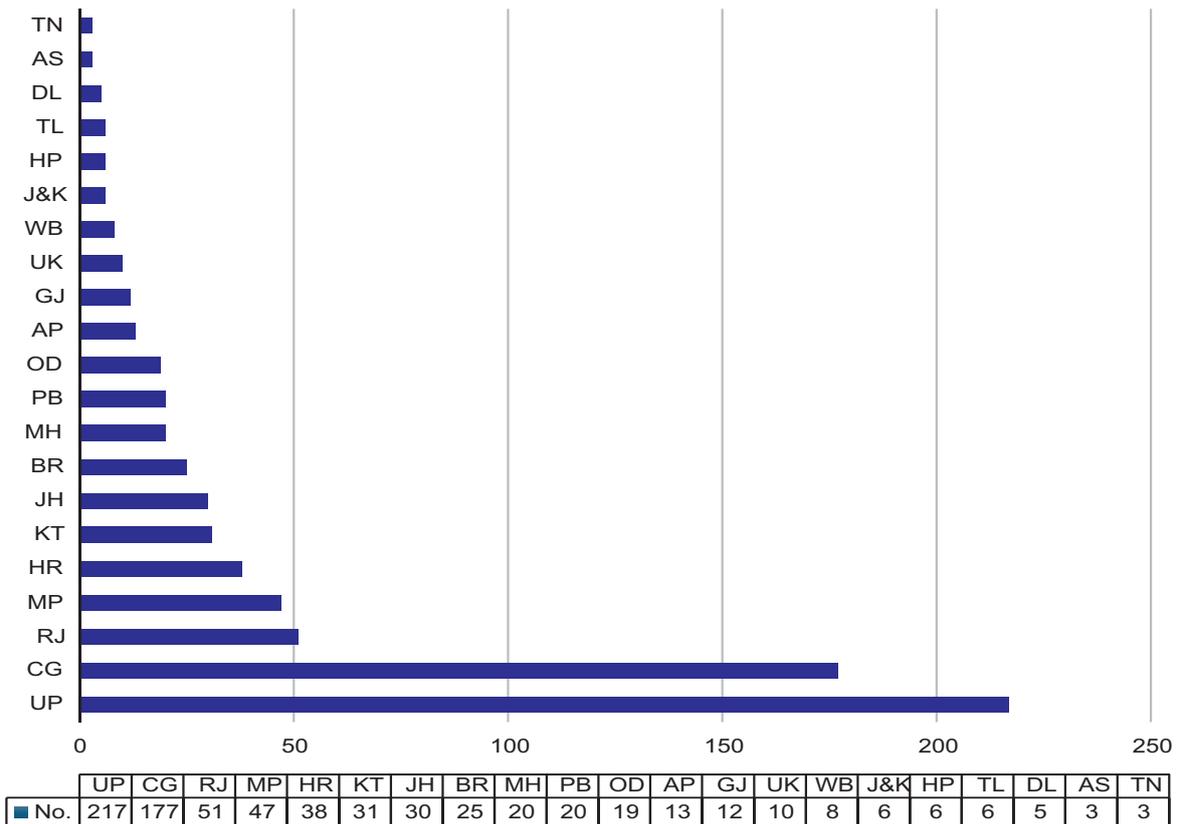
The figures presented in this report therefore represent verified incidents documented by EFIRLC during the reporting period. However, the Commission recognises that many violations remain unreported due to fear of retaliation, social pressure, or lack of access to legal remedies. The documented cases should therefore be understood as indicative of broader patterns affecting religious freedom rather than a complete record of all incidents.



# **KEY FINDINGS**

# STATE-WISE NUMBER OF INCIDENTS

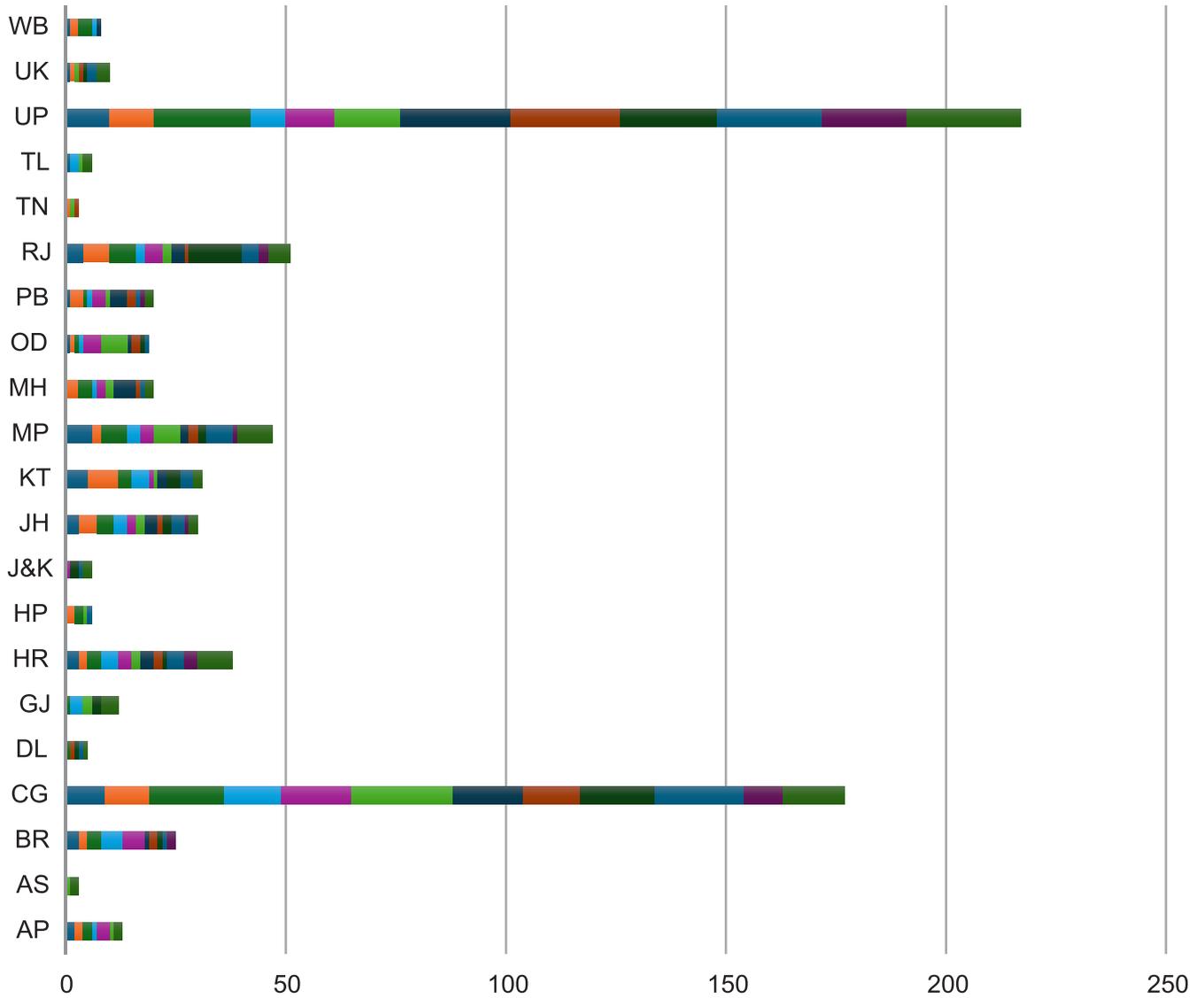
State	No. of Incidents
UP	217
CG	177
RJ	51
MP	47
HR	38
KT	31
JH	30
BR	25
MH	20
PB	20
OD	19
AP	13
GJ	12
UK	10
WB	8
J&K	6
HP	6
TL	6
DL	5
AS	3
TN	3
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>747</b>



# MONTHLY INCIDENTS ACROSS STATES

State	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	July	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
AP	2	2	2	1	3	1						2
AS						1						2
BR	3	2	3	5	5		1	2	1	1	2	
CG	9	10	17	13	16	23	16	13	17	20	9	14
DL			1					1	1	1		1
GJ			1	3		2			2			4
HR	3	2	3	4	3	2	3	2	1	4	3	8
HP		2	2			1				1		
J&K					1				2	1		2
JH	3	4	4	3	2	2	3	1	2	3	1	2
KT	5	7	3	4	1	1	2		3	3		2
MP	6	2	6	3	3	6	2	2	2	6	1	8
MH		3	3	1	2	2	5	1		1		2
OD	1	1	1	1	4	6	1	2	1	1		
PB	1	3	1	1	3	1	4	2		1	1	2
RJ	4	6	6	2	4	2	3	1	12	4	2	5
TN		1				1		1				
TL	1			2		1						2
UP	10	10	22	8	11	15	25	25	22	24	19	26
UK	1	1				1		1	1	2		3
WB	1	2	3	1			1					
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>50</b>	<b>58</b>	<b>78</b>	<b>52</b>	<b>58</b>	<b>68</b>	<b>66</b>	<b>54</b>	<b>67</b>	<b>73</b>	<b>38</b>	<b>85</b>

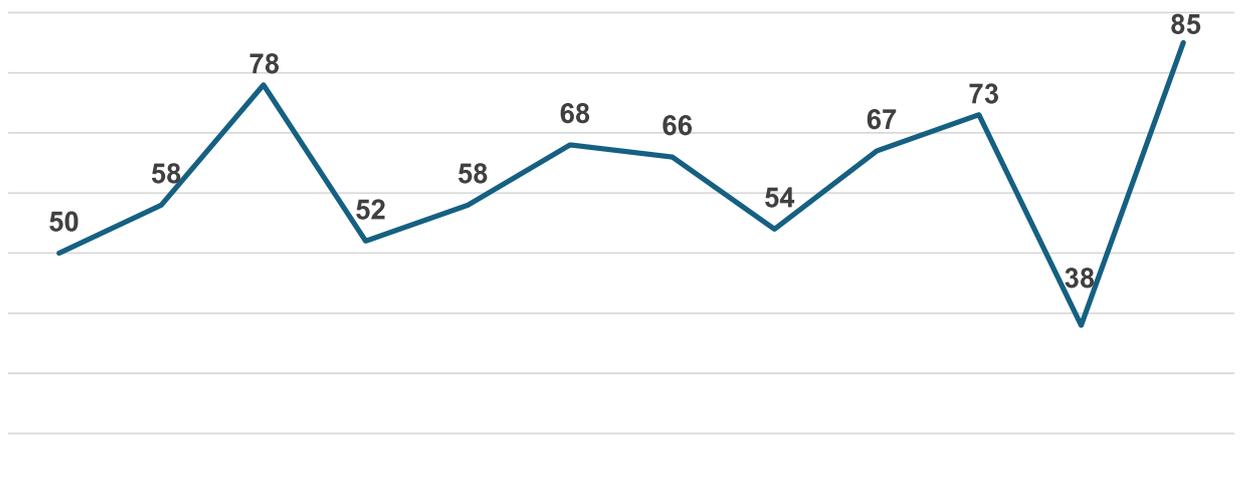
# MONTHLY INCIDENTS ACROSS STATES



	AP	AS	BR	CG	DL	GJ	HR	HP	J&K	JH	KT	MP	MH	OD	PB	RJ	TN	TL	UP	UK	WB
Jan	2		3	9			3			3	5	6		1	1	4		1	10	1	1
Feb	2		2	10			2	2		4	7	2	3	1	3	6	1		10	1	2
Mar	2		3	17	1	1	3	2		4	3	6	3	1	1	6			22		3
Apr	1		5	13		3	4			3	4	3	1	1	1	2		2	8		1
May	3		5	16			3		1	2	1	3	2	4	3	4			11		
Jun	1	1		23		2	2	1		2	1	6	2	6	1	2	1	1	15	1	
July			1	16			3			3	2	2	5	1	4	3			25		1
Aug			2	13	1		2			1		2	1	2	2	1	1		25	1	
Sep			1	17	1	2	1		2	2	3	2		1		12			22	1	
Oct			1	20	1		4	1	1	3	3	6	1	1	1	4			24	2	
Nov			2	9			3			1		1			1	2			19		
Dec	2	2		14	1	4	8		2	2	2	8	2		2	5		2	26	3	

# MONTH-WISE INCIDENTS

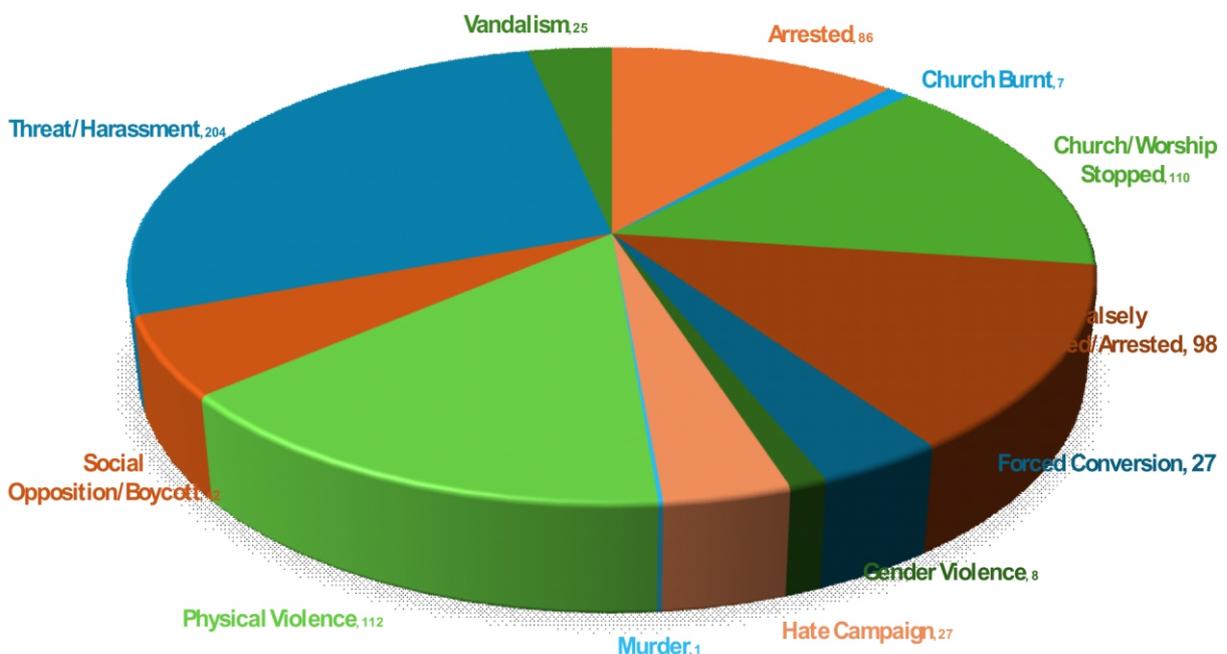
Month	# of Incidents
Jan	50
Feb	58
Mar	78
April	52
May	58
Jun	68
July	66
Aug	54
Sep	67
Oct	73
Nov	38
Dec	85
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>747</b>



Series1	Jan	Feb	Mar	April	May	Jun	July	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
—	50	58	78	52	58	68	66	54	67	73	38	85

# Category-wise incidents

Category	# of Incidents
Arrested	86
Church Burnt	7
Church/Worship Stopped	110
Falsely Accused/Arrested	98
Forced Conversion	27
Gender Violence	8
Hate Campaign	27
Murder	1
Physical Violence	112
Social Opposition/Boycott	42
Threat/Harassment	204
Vandalism	25
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>747</b>



# KEY FINDINGS

## **Geographic Distribution of Incidents**

The incidents documented by EFIRLC during 2025 show a clear geographic concentration in several northern and central Indian states, alongside a wider national spread.

Uttar Pradesh recorded the highest number of incidents with 217 cases, accounting for nearly one third of the national total. Chhattisgarh followed with 177 incidents, representing another significant proportion of the cases documented during the year. Together, these two states account for almost half of all incidents recorded during the reporting period.

Other states reporting notable numbers of incidents include Rajasthan (51 cases), Madhya Pradesh (47 cases), and Haryana (38 cases). Additional incidents were documented in Karnataka (31 cases), Jharkhand (30 cases), Bihar (25 cases), Punjab (20 cases), Maharashtra (20 cases), and Odisha (19 cases), with smaller but consistent occurrences recorded across several other states.

The distribution suggests that while certain states have emerged as significant hotspots, hostility toward Christian communities is not confined to a single region, with incidents reported from a wide range of states across the country.

## **Nature and Typology of Violations**

The incidents documented during 2025 reveal a range of violations affecting Christian individuals and congregations.

Threats and harassment remain the most common form of hostility, accounting for 204 incidents, the largest category recorded during the year. Legal pressure also emerged as a significant mechanism, with 86 arrests and 98 cases involving false accusations or legal complaints, reflecting the repeated use of criminal allegations, particularly those linked to claims of unlawful religious conversion.

Physical violence was recorded in 112 incidents, indicating that confrontations frequently escalate beyond verbal intimidation. In addition, 110 incidents involved the disruption of church services or prayer meetings, highlighting the vulnerability of congregational worship gatherings.

Other forms of hostility included 42 incidents involving social opposition or boycott, 27 incidents involving organised hate campaigns, and 8 cases categorised as gender-based violence. The report also documented 24 cases of vandalism, 7 incidents involving churches being burnt, and one recorded murder during the reporting period.

Taken together, these figures indicate that hostility toward Christian communities frequently manifests through a combination of intimidation, legal pressure, social coercion, and periodic physical violence, rather than isolated acts of extreme violence.

## **Monthly Trends and Seasonal Patterns**

The monthly distribution of incidents indicates that hostility toward Christian communities was not evenly distributed throughout the year.

The highest number of incidents was recorded in December (85 cases), followed by March (78 cases) and October (73 cases). Elevated levels were also observed during June (68 cases), September (67 cases), and July (66 cases), while February (58 cases) and August (54 cases) also recorded substantial numbers of incidents.

Overall, the second half of the year showed sustained escalation, with incidents increasing from mid-year onwards.

The spike recorded in December coincides with the Advent and Christmas season, a period during which Christian worship services, community gatherings, and public celebrations become more visible. During the weeks surrounding Christmas, EFIRLC documented numerous incidents involving disruption of worship services, intimidation of congregations, police intervention following allegations of religious conversion, and vandalism of property or decorations.

This clustering of incidents suggests that periods of heightened religious visibility may increase the vulnerability of Christian communities to disruption, intimidation, and targeted hostility.

## **Regional Hotspots**

Analysis of the data reveals that certain regions experience recurring patterns of hostility.

In Uttar Pradesh, many incidents involved allegations of unlawful religious conversion that led to police intervention during prayer meetings or church gatherings. Pastors and believers were frequently detained or questioned following complaints filed by local groups, often under provisions of the Uttar Pradesh Unlawful Religious Conversion Prohibition Act.

Threats and harassment frequently preceded legal action. In several instances, mobs assembled outside prayer meetings, raised slogans, and pressured authorities to intervene. Physical violence was also documented in a number of districts, including assaults during worship disruptions and intimidation directed at pastors and congregants.

In Chhattisgarh, incidents were largely concentrated in tribal and rural districts, including the Bastar region and surrounding areas. Several cases involved large gatherings of villagers disrupting prayer meetings, issuing threats, or physically assaulting believers. Physical violence included severe beatings and attacks using sticks or rods, and in one particularly grave case an assault on a pregnant Christian woman resulted in miscarriage.

The state also recorded incidents involving vandalism and the burning of churches, as well as social pressure against Christian families. In several villages, believers faced threats of expulsion or social boycott if they continued to practise their faith.

These patterns suggest that incidents often arise at the intersection of local social tensions, allegations of religious conversion, and organised mobilisation by pressure groups, sometimes combined with administrative responses that are delayed or inconsistent.

### **Impact of Anti-Conversion Laws**

The incidents documented in 2025 indicate that anti-conversion laws have had a significant impact on incident patterns across several states.

A substantial number of cases involved arrests or legal complaints linked to allegations of unlawful religious conversion. In multiple instances, prayer meetings held in private homes were disrupted following complaints alleging inducement or coercion. Police intervention frequently resulted in detention or questioning before evidence was established.

In some cases, conversion-related provisions were invoked pre-emptively, placing the burden of explanation on pastors or believers conducting routine worship gatherings. These dynamics have contributed to a chilling effect in certain areas, where ordinary religious activities are vulnerable to criminal complaints or administrative intervention.



# ILLUSTRATIVE INCIDENTS

The following cases illustrate patterns of hostility, violence, legal harassment, and social coercion documented by the Religious Liberty Commission of the Evangelical Fellowship of India during 2025. These incidents are drawn from the larger body of verified cases recorded during the reporting period and demonstrate the range and severity of violations affecting Christian individuals and communities across different regions of the country.

## **2 January 2025 – Bade Bodal village, Bastar district, Chhattisgarh**

Kunika Kashyap, a 25-year-old Christian woman who was six weeks pregnant, was allegedly assaulted by village headman Ganga Ram Kashyap, his wife, and their adult daughter while visiting a neighbour. According to reports, she was beaten with a wooden stick, kicked in the chest and abdomen, strangled, and repeatedly struck in the stomach. She was taken to the Government District Hospital in Jagdalpur, where she suffered a miscarriage later the same day. A written complaint was filed by her husband and church leaders, though an FIR had reportedly not been registered at the time of reporting.

## **27 January 2025 – Chhindwada village, Bastar district, Chhattisgarh**

The burial of Pastor Subhash Baghel became the subject of prolonged legal proceedings after local opposition prevented his interment in the village graveyard. His son, Ramesh Baghel, sought to bury him among existing Christian graves in the village, but villagers and members of the Sarva Adivasi Samaj objected. After nearly three weeks in a mortuary, the Supreme Court directed that burial take place at a Christian cemetery approximately 25 miles away and instructed the state to demarcate Christian burial sites in the region.

## **9 March 2025 – Raipur, Chhattisgarh**

A worship service at a Church of God congregation was violently disrupted by a mob of 70–100 persons, including members of Bajrang Dal. The attackers cut electricity to the building, assaulted worshippers, and damaged vehicles and church property. An FIR was later filed against Rajesh Sharma, Abhishek Samson, Priyesh Kumar, and Munna Guard under provisions of the Bharatiya Nagarik Suraksha Sanhita and the Chhattisgarh Religious Freedom Act.

## **20 April 2025 – Ahmedabad and Surat, Gujarat**

During Easter services, two Christian congregations were attacked. In Ahmedabad, about 25 persons entered Pastor Dinesh Parmar's Western India Pentecostal Church and intimidated worshippers during the service. In Surat, attackers reportedly assaulted Pastor Ganesh Vijay Koli and Assistant Pastor Benjamin Gamit with sticks and damaged church property. Several churches in the state later reported continued pressure affecting regular worship gatherings.

## **24 April 2025 – Durandarbha village, Konta tehsil, Sukma district, Chhattisgarh**

About ten Christian families, comprising around 45 persons, were reportedly assaulted and

driven from their homes by villagers who accused them of abandoning traditional tribal religion. According to reports, Bibles and personal belongings were destroyed and the families fled toward nearby hills before seeking refuge at a church in Chintalnar. Villagers reportedly warned them not to return unless they renounced their faith.

#### **8 June 2025 – Borsi village, Dhamtari district, Chhattisgarh**

Worshippers at Peniel Prayer Fellowship were attacked during a church service when a group entered the building, vandalised the premises, burned Bibles and Christian literature, and assaulted congregants. Pastor Mannohan Sahu, aged 57, was beaten unconscious. Pastor Wakish Sahu and several other believers were injured, with some requiring hospital treatment.

#### **14 July 2025 – Kandhamal and Ganjam districts, Odisha**

Several pastors and believers were reportedly detained and assaulted following complaints of religious conversion during prayer meetings. Those named in reports include Pastor Prabin Nayak, Pastor Sanjay Sahu, Pastor Raj Kishore, Pastor Kusum Lohar, Pastor Suman Behera, Pastor Niranjana Sahu, and Pastor Ranjan Kumar. The incidents heightened fear among local congregations.

#### **20 July 2025 – Central-Eastern India (reported from Bhilai, Chhattisgarh)**

Five pastors, including Pastor Moses Logan of Bhilai in Durg District, were reportedly assaulted while in jail custody after being arrested on allegations of forcible religious conversion following disruption of worship services by Hindu nationalist groups. According to reports, jail authorities and guards inflicted lacerations and other injuries on the detained pastors.

#### **25 July 2025 – Durg Junction, Chhattisgarh**

Sister Preeti Mary and Sister Vandana Francis of the Assisi Sisters of Mary Immaculate congregation were detained by railway police after members of Bajrang Dal accused them of human trafficking and forced religious conversion. The nuns had been accompanying three adult Christian women travelling to Agra for employment. An FIR was registered against the nuns and Sukaman Mandavi, and they were remanded to judicial custody.

#### **15 September 2025 – Arugul village, Sundergarh district, Odisha**

Susan Majhi, a Christian woman, was reportedly raped by four unidentified assailants who entered her home late at night. When her mother, Puspa Majhi, attempted to intervene she was beaten unconscious and hospitalised. The family filed a complaint with police and an investigation was initiated.

#### **23 September 2025 – Pratap Nagar, Jaipur district, Rajasthan**

About 50 members of Bajrang Dal surrounded the Hindustan Bible Institute while two institute officials were conducting a routine inspection. The mob accused them of “forcible or fraudulent” conversions and staged an aggressive protest. Police from Pratap Nagar Thana detained the visiting officials for questioning and seized mobile phones, laptops, a landline phone, a pen drive, and property documents. The incident occurred shortly after the Rajasthan Prohibition of Unlawful Conversion of Religion Bill, 2025 was passed in the state assembly.

**28 September 2025 – Nohar city, Hanumangarh district, Rajasthan**

During a church service attended by local believers, a group of Hindu extremists forcibly entered the church and physically assaulted congregants. They demanded that Pastor Wazir Singh renounce Christianity and instead teach about Hindu deities and scriptures. When he refused, police were called and Pastor Singh was arrested. Charges were also filed against four other Christians named in the complaint.

**7 November 2025 – Titoli village near Rohtak, Haryana**

A mob of about 80–100 persons reportedly assaulted two Christian couples—Pastor Jehovah Das (65) and his wife, and Vinod Masih (42) and his wife—as well as their attorney Satish Arya. The group accused them of forced conversion while they were visiting a Christian home for prayer. According to reports, the mob beat the victims for several hours, forced them to burn Bibles and Christian literature, recorded videos, and held them inside a vehicle without food or water before police eventually intervened.

**18 December 2025 – Bedetevda village, Kanker district, Chhattisgarh**

District authorities exhumed the body of Chamru Ram Salam, a tribal resident of Bedetevda village, without the consent of his immediate family following violent opposition from villagers and Hindu nationalist groups to his burial on family-owned land. Salam had initially been buried on 16 December according to local tribal customs. More than 500 villagers reportedly objected to the burial, claiming it dishonoured a village deity because some of his sons are Christians. Following the burial, mobs attacked the bereaved family and approximately 150 visiting Christians, set fire to the family home and three church buildings, looted property and cash, and issued threats of further violence. Amid escalating tensions, the district administration ordered the body to be exhumed and relocated to a Christian cemetery in Dhamtari. Family members objected, stating that the deceased adhered to traditional tribal religion and that the burial had been conducted according to tribal customs. The family later challenged the administration's action before the High Court.



# LIST OF INCIDENTS

## ANDHRA PRADESH

**On 23 January in Kotthapalem, Sompeta Mandal, Srikakulam, Andhra Pradesh,** members of Calvary Baptist Church, Visakhapatnam, faced renewed attacks during gospel outreach activities. A community hall meeting was disrupted, police shut down the event, and videos were recorded and circulated online with misleading claims. Following police mediation, the matter was settled locally, and no formal complaint was pursued.

**On 26 January in Kotthapalem, Sompeta Mandal, Srikakulam, Andhra Pradesh,** a gospel outreach team of around 100 members from Calvary Baptist Church, Visakhapatnam, faced repeated harassment by extremist groups during outreach activities conducted across Sompeta, Kaviti, and Ichapuram. Followers of Christianity were forcibly marked with vermilion, meetings were disrupted, and police halted one gathering after inspecting sermon notes. The team chose not to file a police complaint.

**On 2 February in Madapalli, Ichchapuram, Srikakulam, Andhra Pradesh,** Pastor Bandari Prabhu Das was leading a prayer service when a man in poor health approached him. After offering to pray for him the following Sunday, an onlooker informed extremist groups. Soon, about 30 radicals surrounded the pastor, demanding he pay ₹5 lakh if the man wasn't healed in two weeks and refrain from church services. This was put in writing. Some followers of Christianity were physically assaulted, and the harassment continued for nearly two and a half hours, causing significant distress.

**On 13 February in Donkuru village, Ichchapuram Mandal, Srikakulam, Andhra Pradesh,** around 100 Christian fishing families, led by Pastor Emmanuel, faced a social boycott imposed by village elders after they declined to contribute to temple construction. Restrictions were placed on fishing, commerce, and social participation. Following representations to the Tahsildar and police, bind-over proceedings were initiated, counselling was conducted.

**On 9 March in Gorantla, Andhra Pradesh, Sri**

**Sathya Sai district, Andhra Pradesh,** at around 10:30 a.m., Jehovah Nissi Church, located near SKR School, was attacked during Sunday worship. Pastor Vijay Kumar reported that a mob forcibly entered the church, threatened him and the congregation, and warned them to stop all church gatherings and prayer meetings. Following police intervention, the matter was compromised at the police station between both parties.

**On 14 March in Gurrampalem village, Kakinada, Andhra Pradesh,** Pastor John Prasanna faced opposition while attempting to construct a permanent church building on his legally owned land. Despite written consent from local residents and surrounding properties belonging to church members, individuals opposing Christian activities threatened the pastor and objected to the construction. A complaint was submitted to the District Collector, following which KUDA officials declined to process the building permit.

**On 20 April in Visalakshinagar, Visakhapatnam, Andhra Pradesh,** a local Christian pastor and his wife were peacefully distributing Gospel tracts near a public salon when they were aggressively confronted and physically assaulted by unknown individuals. The attack caused public alarm and fear. A formal police complaint was drafted and submitted to the Commissioner of Police, based on which a first information report was registered for the victims.

**On 11 May in Mangapuram, Tuni area, Kakinada district, Andhra Pradesh,** a house church that has been functioning since 1999 was attacked during a prayer meeting by members of a religious extremist group. The prayer meeting was disrupted, and tension arose in the village. Following the intervention of village elders, the issue was later resolved amicably between both parties.

**On 29 May in Karrivanipalem, Srikakulam, Andhra Pradesh,** two Christian families constructing their houses were stopped by villagers. On 30 May, as the construction work resumed, villagers and other locals who opposed Christians intervened again, used abusive language, and assaulted family members.

**On 31 May in Mangalagiri, Guntur, Andhra**

**Pradesh**, a church building was on caught fire. No short circuit was found, and members suspect foul play, as security cameras and backup equipment were also destroyed.

**On 28 June in Rapaka, Srikakulam, Andhra Pradesh**, El'Shaddai Church team faced attacks from religious extremists during gospel outreach.

**On 7 December in Kothapeta, Gollaprolu mandal, Kakinada district, Andhra Pradesh**, Sunday worship services at Viswasa Suvatha Sangam and Little Pentecostal Church were attacked by religious extremists. Authorities closed both churches, issued notices, and directed the pastors to approach district authorities. Subsequent meetings with officials were initiated to resolve the issue.

**On 29 December in Anakapalli, Andhra Pradesh**, Pastor Peter Prince was celebrating Christmas in his house church with followers of Christianity and local pastors when extremist groups repeatedly disrupted the gathering by raising slogans, seizing the microphone, and later playing loud disc jockey music outside the church until late night. Police eventually intervened and stopped the disturbance. The following day, local pastors filed a complaint. After mediation by the DSP, the culprits were warned, written undertakings were taken, and the pastor was assured that regular services could continue peacefully, with permission required only for public microphone use.

## BIHAR

**On 5 January in Siwan, Bihar**, Pastor Joseph was conducting a Sunday worship service when police, acting on a false complaint from a religious extremist group, arrived and took him to the police station.

**On 26 January in Tarapur, Munger, Bihar**, Pastor Suraj Kumar from India Mission was conducting Sunday worship when extremists interrupted, called the police, and had him taken to Tarapur Police Station.

**On 9 February in Manika village, Mushahari Block, Muzaffarpur, Bihar**, Satendra Kumar, who serves with Mission India, was threatened by religious extremists who forcibly entered the mission campus, demanded he vacate the premises, and coerced him to chant religious slogans. The extremists also demanded support for temple construction and disrupted gatherings. Despite Mission India's compliance with administrative orders restricting religious activity on the campus, intimidation continued.

**On 23 February in Siwan, Bihar**, religious extremists brutally attacked Pastor Sunil Kumar, leaving him injured. The assault happened on Sunday during a church gathering. They punched and beat him mercilessly, causing severe injuries, including profuse bleeding from his nose. After the attack, the assailants fled the scene, and the incident was reported to the police. However, despite the gravity of the situation, the police have failed to take any action. Sunil remains deeply distressed and vulnerable in the aftermath of this attack.

**On 28 March in Bettiah, West Champaran, Bihar**, Punya Dev Prasad reported continuous threats over accused conversions. For two weeks, extremist elements warned him against holding worship gatherings. Fifty to sixty followers of Christianity meet at his house for prayer.

**On 28 March in New Nathchak, Barh, Patna district, Bihar**, Prabeen and his team, followers of Christianity, were attacked at a prayer meeting by extremist elements. Their vehicle was damaged and Prabeen physically was assaulted around 2:00 PM.

**On 28 March in Saran, Bihar**, Pastor Sanjay Kumar Singh was conducting a fasting prayer when miscreants attacked the gathering as attendees left. Injuries were reported and a police First Information Report was filed against the

attackers at the Amnor Thana.

**On 1 April in Simri Post, Buxar, Bihar,** Pastor Parshuram Prasad, also known as Raj Masih, who has led Yeshu Darbar A.G. Prayer Centre, reported ongoing threats from Sonu Dubey. The church has around 100 to 120 regular attendees. Two months ago, Sonu demanded Rs. 1 lakh to allow services to continue. When the pastor refused, Sonu resumed threats and filed a false conversion complaint. Police refused to register a first information report and instead asked the Pastor to obtain a Sub-Divisional Magistrate order. Despite the extortion threat, no protection or relief was provided.

**On 9 April in Chapra, Bihar,** Ramnath Manji of GEMS was summoned to the police station and informed about a first information report against him. Police did not provide a copy or share the charges, instead asking him to seek bail from court.

**On 12 April in Rajwada, Muzaffarpur, Bihar,** Pastor Rambabu reported that a group accompanied by police disrupted a prayer gathering at his residence. Although he called the police himself, the officers warned him to stop prayer meetings, stating that continuing would lead to legal consequences. He submitted a written complaint, but no action was taken till the time.

**On 13 April in Muzaffarpur, Bihar,** Pastor Manish of Brethren Church reported hostility from an extremist group and other local residents. Due to a nearby temple, the church is being pressured to vacate the area.

**On 13 April in Nayaganw, Saran district, Bihar,** Pastor Satya Prakash and his wife, Shanti, were attacked during a worship service by an extremist group. As a result, the prayer meeting was disrupted, and another pastor, Pastor Anand Kshatri, along with his wife, was also beaten. The police later released Pastor Anand Kshatri but kept

Pastor Satya Prakash and Shanti in custody. **On 13 May in Darbhanga, Bihar,** Pastor Vinod Yadav reported that Nirmala, a follower of Christianity, was harassed by neighbors due to her Christian faith. They filed a first information report against her, and she is now facing ongoing legal proceedings in Darbhanga court.

**On 18 May in village Kalauji, Manoharpur, under Gopalpur Police Station, Patna,** a Christian prayer meeting was disrupted. Police detained Shushma Kumari and four followers of Christianity: Rekha Devi, Sita Devi, Saroj, and Ashish.

**On 21 May in Sasaram, Bihar,** Pastor Akash, ministering to a small fellowship, is facing hostility from a local opposition group. This group has issued threats, used abusive language, and attempted to force the closure of the fellowship, creating a tense, fearful atmosphere for the pastor and his congregation.

**On 23 May in Saharsa, Bihar,** Ashish visited Pastor Sanjay Rawat's family, who have endured persecution and threats for years due to their Christian faith. The family continues to face harassment for practicing their beliefs.

**On 26 May in Kataiya, Supaul, Bihar,** Pastor Shobit reported that Shiv Nandan, a church member, was brutally assaulted over his faith. He was struck on the head with a rod, causing severe bleeding. A medical examination was later conducted for his injuries.

**On 13 July in Purnea, Bihar,** Pastor Anil Rai was arrested during a fellowship prayer meeting at a rented house after members of an extremist group falsely accused him of brainwashing and converting people under the guise of a prayer meeting. Pastor Anil Rai was taken into police custody and sent to Purnea Jail.

**On 10 August in Katihar district, Bihar,** a

mob of 40–45 religious extremists attacked the church of Pastor Peter Minz during Sunday service. Several followers of Christianity, including Pappu Uraon, Jhantu Oraon, Bikki Minj, Chaman Oraon, Manju Devi, Rubi Lakra, Rubi Kujur, Munchun Kumar, and Kundan Minz, sustained injuries and were hospitalised.

**On 31 August in Anand Nagar, Siwan district, Bihar**, members of extremist groups disrupted church proceedings before the service could begin by shouting slogans and creating unrest.

**On 28 September in Nawada district, Bihar**, Pastor Pintu Pandit was conducting a large prayer gathering when members of an extremist group disrupted the meeting and accused him of conversion. Police intervened, dispersed the crowd, and later released the pastor with a warning against holding further prayer meetings without permission.

**On 10 October in Aurangabad district, Bihar**, Pastor Uday Singh and his associate Sitaram Yadav were arrested by police and taken to the police station for questioning on account of their Christian faith.

**On 24 November in Mokama, Patna district, Bihar**, Pastor Laiju received threats warning him not to conduct Sunday worship at a local site.

**On 30 November in the Arwal–Aurangabad region of Bihar**, Rakesh Kumar, a follower of Christianity for several years, faced persistent harassment, caste abuse, and threats of false cases from a local temple priest due to his faith.

## CHHATTISGARH

**On 2 January in Bade Bodal village, Bastar, Chhattisgarh**, 25-year-old Kunika Kashyap, who was six weeks pregnant, was

brutally assaulted by tribal headman Ganga Ram Kashyap, along with his wife and adult daughter, because of her Christian faith. The attackers accused her of intending to pray for a sick relative and began filming her without consent. When she protested, they kicked her in the stomach, strangled her, and beat her with a bamboo stick, targeting her chest, abdomen, and head. Kunika managed to escape and was rushed by her husband to the Government District Hospital in Jagdalpur, where she suffered a miscarriage later that evening. Despite a written complaint being filed with the local police the same day, no First Information Report has been registered, and the authorities have taken no significant action. Kunika and her husband, longtime Christians, are among 50 Christian families in the village facing ongoing hostility.

**On 5 January in Dharsiwa, Raipur, Chhattisgarh**, Rajesh Rai was praying with other followers of Christianity when religious extremists stormed the prayer meeting, physically assaulted two followers of Christianity, and locked them inside the church for some time. The group had previously disrupted meetings as well.

**On 7 January in Chhindwara village, Bastar district, Chhattisgarh**, Pastor Subhash Bagael passed away, and when his family began preparations to bury him in the village graveyard, they were confronted and stopped by a group of religious extremists along with local villagers. The group stated that since the family were Christians, allowing the burial would “hurt village sentiments,” and therefore they would not permit the burial either in the common graveyard, on the family's own land, or anywhere else within the village. The family was further threatened with serious consequences if they attempted to proceed with the burial. As a result, Pastor Subhash's son, Ramesh Bagael, and the family were compelled to keep the body in

the mortuary while they continued to seek the right to conduct the burial with dignity in the village graveyard.

**On 18 January in Bansatank village under Lailunga Police Station, Raigarh district, Chhattisgarh,** a pastor from Odisha and six companions were detained by police during a healing prayer meeting. Members of an extremist group first intervened during the prayer gathering and accused the pastor and his associates of attempting to convert innocent villagers. Soon after, the police arrived at the spot, accompanied by members of an extremist group, and disrupted the meeting. Acting on complaints submitted by members of an extremist group and other local individuals, the police took the pastor and his six companions into custody for questioning at Lailunga Police Station.

**On 23 January in Dengpara village, under Badanji Police Station, Bastar district, Chhattisgarh,** a Christian woman, Subro Kashyap, passed away due to a heart attack. When her family, along with other followers of Christianity, began preparing for her burial, they were confronted and opposed by local villagers, supported by members of a right-wing political party, who objected to the burial on the basis of her Christian faith. Despite the resistance, the Christian community managed to conduct the burial at the Belar Panchayat Christian graveyard. During the incident, government officials including the Sub-Divisional Magistrate (Sub-Divisional Magistrate), Tehsildar, and officers from Badanji and Lohandiguda, along with police personnel, were present at the site. The situation escalated into violence, with Christians being assaulted by villagers in the presence of authorities. Following the incident, nine Christians were arrested and sent to jail under Sections 170, 191, 296, 115, and 351 of the Bharatiya Nagarik Suraksha Sanhita. A first information

report was registered against 21 Christians, and reports indicate that the remaining members of the community are now being actively searched for by the police.

**On 25 January in Bilaspur, Chhattisgarh,** Punam Sharma and Amrita were arrested while holding prayers at a fellow Christian's house. Religious extremists interrupted the meeting and called the police. Both women were presented before the Sub-Divisional Magistrate in Bilaspur court under Sections 126 and 135 of the Bharatiya Nagarik Suraksha Sanhita.

**On 25 January in Jagdalpur, Chhattisgarh,** Phulchand was arrested by local police over a fabricated rioting charge linked to a burial dispute. The Sub-Judicial Magistrate remanded him to Jagdalpur Central Jail.

**On 26 January in Raipur, Chhattisgarh,** Vikash John reported Pastor Kirti Sonwani was leading worship at The Lord at Church. Police, acting on a false complaint, detained him, his wife, and children. Later, his family was freed, but a first information report was filed against the pastor and two followers of Christianity.

**On 26 January in Basantpur, Balrampur, Chhattisgarh,** Pastor Ajay Kumar Ravi was leading prayers when extremists lodged a false conversion case against him. Police arrested him and three others, seizing Bibles and alleging promises of miracles and money.

**On 3 February in Deurgaon, Bastar, Chhattisgarh,** Piluram Nag's family faced resistance while burying him in the village graveyard after his death. Villagers blocked them from using the cemetery. Upon intervention by the Sub-Divisional Magistrate and police, instead of resolving the issue, officials pressured the family against burying him there, leaving them

distressed and without support.

**On 6 February in Bilaspur, Chhattisgarh,** a case was registered against Pastor Santosh Moses and his wife Anu under the State's Freedom of Religion Act. False allegations claimed they pressured villagers to convert. Uttra Kumar Sahu and Rameshwar Sahu, residents of Sambalpuri village, falsely complained that they were promised prosperity and threatened with divine punishment, prompting police action.

**On 8 February in Raipur, Chhattisgarh,** Arun Pannalal, the President of the Chhattisgarh Christian Forum, called out Adesh Soni's viral video in which he was speaking against Christians. As a result, a complaint had been filed against the Chhattisgarh Christian Forum President. A First Information Report was registered against Mr. Arun Pannalal. Also, based on the viral video, a COW Nyay Yatra was scheduled to be held on 1.3.25 in Balodabazar district, which raised concerns regarding potential violence and the security of Christians in the area.

**On 11 February in Kanker district, Chhattisgarh,** Ballu Sarva reported that a Christian fellowship group had planned to organize a Christian conference. However, members of an extremist group and others intervened and stopped the event from taking place.

**On 16 February in Bijapur, Chhattisgarh,** four Christian families under Farsegad Police Station limits faced harassment for their faith. Their only 'crime' was refusing to abandon their faith.

**On 16 February in Bastar, Chhattisgarh,** Mrs. Butki Bai, a 60-year-old woman, passed away at Dimrapal Medical College. Villagers refused her burial locally on account of her Christian faith, forcing the family to seek help. A social worker, along

with local pastors Samson and Pandu Baghel, intervened and arranged burial at Karakpal.

**On 16 February in Ayodhya Nagar, Amleshwar, Durg district, Chhattisgarh,** around 1 p.m., Dr. Vinay Sahu was conducting a Sunday worship service at his residence when a false complaint of forced religious conversion led to his arrest along with Dhalsingh Sahu and Krishna Kant Kurre. A few months ago, Dr. Sahu was attacked and threatened by religious extremists who warned him to stop running the church. On the day of the incident, religious nationalist groups from Raipur and Durg gathered in large numbers, attacked the church during the service, threw cow dung at the premises, and sang the Hanuman Chalisa at the gate. The mob also vandalized vehicles belonging to followers of Christianity, including a car.

**On 21 February in Deurgaon village, under Parpa Police Station, Bastar district, Chhattisgarh,** Christian woman Sono Baghel and her family were threatened by villagers, including Raitu, Sukhdas, and Biju, because of their Christian faith, pressured for Ghar Wapsi, denied access to the public water tap, and warned to abandon Christianity within a week.

**On 24 February in Netapur Panchayat, Chhote Godare village, Dantewada district, Chhattisgarh,** a Christian family—Borra Tati, Dasru Tati, Manki Tati, Kari Tati, and others—reported continued persecution and threats of Ghar Wapsi due to their faith; the family shared that Borra Tati and his son Dasru Tati had earlier spent over eight years in prison in a false criminal case, during which villagers offered to support their acquittal in exchange for renouncing Christianity, an offer they refused, and they were later fully acquitted by the Hon'ble High Court, Bilaspur.

**On 26 February in Bilaspur district, Chhattisgarh,** a false First Information Report was registered against a follower of Christianity involving allegations of domestic violence and conversion-related accusations, while the wife had herself filed a complaint alleging forceful conversion.

**On 1 March in Durg, Chhattisgarh,** Ajay Paul shared that a religious extremist group had planned a protest rally for 2 March, alleging that Christians were behind religious conversions. Ajay feared that the rally's slogans against Christianity and speeches would incite hostility and create a threatening atmosphere for local Christians.

**On 2 March in Urla, Raipur, Chhattisgarh,** around noon, while Pastor Bhuvesh Nishad was conducting Sunday prayers, religious extremists interrupted the prayer service. The police arrived after being informed by the extremists and took the pastor to Urla Police Station. Tensions rose as the congregation dispersed, fearing further targeting by extremist groups.

**On 9 March in Bilaspur, Chhattisgarh,** during church service at Koni Police Station limits, extremists attacked the congregation. They threatened the SHO, who insisted on proper investigation before action. IG Bilaspur visited the site following the attack.

**On 9 March in Raipur, Chhattisgarh,** a mob of 70–100 religious extremists attacked the Church of God during a Sunday worship service attended by around 120 followers of Christianity. The attackers cut the church's electricity, vandalized vehicles, damaged security cameras, and attempted to break down the church doors. Four Christians, including two women, sustained injuries from being beaten with chairs, sticks, and footwear. Pastor Praveen Lawrence and Junior Pastor Vipin Lawrence reported that

the assault took place in the presence of police, who were too few in number to intervene effectively. Additional police reinforcements later rescued the followers of Christianity. Following the attack, Rajesh Sharma, Abhishek Samson, Priyesh Kumar, and church watchman Munna Guard were falsely implicated in a police complaint filed under the Chhattisgarh Religious Freedom Act and sections of the Bharatiya Nagarik Suraksha Sanhita. Rajesh Sharma, who was not present at the incident, had his anticipatory bail rejected by both the lower and high courts and is now seeking relief from the Supreme Court.

**On 15 March in Durg, Chhattisgarh,** during Sunday worship in Bhilai, Pastor Nil Kumar Sahu and 25 followers of Christianity were attacked by religious extremists. They halted prayers, abused Christianity, and called the police. The police took house owner Mr. Mukesh and registered an FIR. Religious extremists gathered outside the police station, escalating tensions near the Durg Chikali church premises.

**On 16 March in Bilaspur, Chhattisgarh,** Pastor Vijay Soni's church was attacked by extremist elements during a Sunday worship. Though women from the church intervened, police took the pastor and elders to Koni Police Station. Discussions were scheduled with the Tehsildar and Sub-Divisional Magistrate.

**On 17 March in Champa, Janjgir, Chhattisgarh,** Pastor David Joseph was arrested following false allegations by locals who opposed Christianity. Pastor David is the president of Janjgir District Pastors' Fellowship.

**On 21 March in Bilaspur, Chhattisgarh,** during a prayer meeting in Lawar Potidihi village, police arrested Santosh Khute, Ravi Kawat, Motedas Miri, and Premdas Miri on false conversion charges. They were taken

to Sarkanda Police Station.

**On 21 March in Bilaspur, Chhattisgarh,** four followers of Christianity, Ravi Kumar, Santosh Khunte, Premdas Giri, and Motondas Giri, were falsely accused by religious extremists of carrying out religious conversion. They were booked under various sections of the Bhartiya Nayay Sanhita and the sections of the Chhattisgarh Freedom of Religion Act at Sarkanda police station.

**On 21 March in Ramanujganj, Balrampur district, Chhattisgarh,** Pastor Alvis Bara, along with Sukhdev and Guddy, was praying with followers of Christianity when Kusami police arrested them on a false complaint of religious conversion. They were charged under Section 299 of the Bharatiya Nagarik Suraksha Sanhita and Section 4 of the Chhattisgarh Freedom of Religion Act, and produced before the Magistrate Court the same day.

**On 22nd March 2025, Pastor Binu Mahanand reported that a church property in Raipur, Chhattisgarh—**located in the Railway Colony area of WRS—was being demolished by extremist groups. The railway administration intervened, halting the project and clarifying that construction on railway land without proper permission is illegal; those involved were instructed to present valid documents if they claimed authorization. The incident sparked protests and a sit-in, with demonstrators being surrounded by the Railway Security Force. Additionally, an official notice has been served to Rev. Pravin Lawrence.9575121849 Pastor Benu Mahanand. Vipin Lawrence 9993241057

**On 23 March in Raipur, Chhattisgarh,** Pastor Virendra Sahu faced slogans and protest by members of an extremist group outside his home. Mujgahan Police Station registered a first information report against

Christians after detaining three men and two women.

**On 23 March in Sarkanda, Bilaspur district, Chhattisgarh,** Pastor Manoj Kumar Samuel and his wife Anju Saimual were praying at home when police arrived following a false complaint of religious conversion. Both were arrested under Chhattisgarh Freedom of Religion Act and a case was filed at Sarkanda Police Station.

**On 23 March in Sarkanda, Bilaspur district, Chhattisgarh,** Yaroosha Kishore was praying with 30–35 women when a neighbor made a false complaint of religious conversion. Police arrested her and registered a case under Sections 3 and 4 of the the Chhattisgarh Freedom of Religion Act at Sarkanda Police Station.

**On 23 March in Sarkanda, Bilaspur district, Chhattisgarh,** Pastor Rahul Patel was arrested while leading prayer at Jaspal Ahirwar's home. A neighbor's false complaint led to charges under Sections 3 and 4 of the Chhattisgarh Freedom of Religion Act at Sarkanda Police Station.

**On 27 March in the Bachel and Kirandul area, Dantewada, Chhattisgarh,** several pastors were summoned to local police stations without any clear explanation. The police have not disclosed the reason for calling them, leaving the Christian pastors feeling uncertain and somewhat anxious about the situation.

**On 30 March in Domohani village, Bilaspur district, Chhattisgarh,** Pastor Mithilesh Bhargav was taken to the police station from the Torwa Police Station area without notice or explanation.

**On 1 April in Tikrapara, Raipur, Chhattisgarh,** local police visited the Hope Prayer Centre led by Pastor Ramesh Naag, who is affiliated with Vijay Ka Marg

Evangelical Society, Raipur. The police verbally advised him not to hold prayer meetings due to the prevailing hostile atmosphere in the area. However, no written notice or official order was issued to the church.

**On 5 April in Ransargipal, Bastar, Chhattisgarh,** an elderly Christian woman passed away due to old age. While preparing for burial, local villagers tried to obstruct the burial within the village.

**On 6 April in Penridihi, Jarahgaon, Mungeli, Chhattisgarh,** Pastor Rajesh Mathur and his church were threatened by villagers and members of extremists groups to stop church services. The pastor submitted complaints to the SP and Collector of Mungeli, who assured him of protection. Despite the threats, the situation remains tense and needs prayer support.

**On 6 April in Behtarai, Bilaspur, Chhattisgarh,** during a worship service led by Pooja Sidar, a follower of Christianity, extremist elements attacked the congregation. Police later arrived and took the leader and family members to Sarkanda Police Station.

**On 12 April in Janjgir-Champa, Chhattisgarh,** Jackson and other followers of Christianity were praying in a building when members of an extremist group arrived, accused them of religious conversion, and called police. Jackson, Ansuya, Hetal, and Yogesh Kumar were arrested and jailed.

**On 13 April in Kunkuri, Jashpur District, Chhattisgarh,** It was falsely accused against that a local nursing college on a non-christian student was pressured to convert to Christianity. The incident provoked strong reactions from the extremist groups. A first information report was registered against Sister Vincy.

**On 12 April in Karigundam village, under Kistaram Police Station jurisdiction in Sukma, Chhattisgarh,** seven Christian tribal families comprising 36 people were expelled from their homes during a village council meeting attended by about 2,000 villagers from eight villages, after refusing to renounce their faith despite threats of losing their homes, livestock, and work. Seven other families yielded to the pressure and abandoned their faith. Two days later, police officers visited the village, confronted the council leaders about the unlawful resolution, warned of legal consequences, and ensured the expelled Christians recovered their belongings.

**On 19 April in Taragaon village, Bastar District, Chhattisgarh,** villagers refused to allow the burial of a deceased elderly Christian in the village graveyard. Despite requests, the Sub-Divisional Magistrate and other local authorities have offered no support to the grieving Christian community.

**On 20 April in Sakargaon village, Bastar District, Chhattisgarh,** villagers refused to allow the burial of a Christian girl, despite an officially allotted Christian burial ground where 25 others have been buried previously.

**On 23 April in Jashpur District, Chhattisgarh,** Bishambar was arrested following a false complaint by a villager regarding a prayer meeting. Police charged him under Sections 170, 126, and 135 of the Bharatiya Nagarik Suraksha Sanhita. He was remanded to district jail by the Sub-Judicial Magistrate of Jashpur.

**On 23 April in Dongargarh, Rajnandgaon District, Chhattisgarh,** Pastor Liju George received a summons from the Executive Magistrate under Case No. 08/2025. He has been asked to appear under Sections 126/135(3) of the Bharatiya Nagarik

Suraksha Sanhita and submit a written response. Failure to appear may lead to arrest.

**On 24 April in Durandarbha village, Kanta tehsil, Sukma district, Chhattisgarh,** about 45 Christians from 10 families were assaulted by villagers practicing tribal religion, threatened, and forcibly expelled from their homes for following Christ. The attackers, armed with sticks, beat men, women, children, and the elderly, looted and burned Bibles and official documents, and warned that they would be killed if they returned without renouncing their faith. The families fled to nearby hills and forests before taking refuge in a church in Chintalnar. Police later issued verbal warnings to the attackers but made no arrests, and the displaced Christians remain in makeshift shelter under difficult conditions.

**On 2 May in Singhanpur village, Bastar, Chhattisgarh,** Mahadev and his family were issued a final warning by local villagers and religious leaders to undergo Gharwapsi by 5 May. They were threatened with consequences if they did not comply. The family stood firm, resulting in a complete social boycott by the villagers. Currently, they attend church in Deurgaon, Bastar.

**On 2 May in Dasapal village, Bastar, Chhattisgarh,** the family of a deceased Christian man, Gumju alias Ajay Bhagel, was denied burial rights in the village cemetery due to their faith. When the family protested, they were forced to sit with the body on the main road for three days. Despite police presence, no action was taken against those obstructing the burial.

**On 3 May in Nilamguda village, Sukma, Chhattisgarh,** Shankar and other Christian families were summoned by village leaders and told to abandon their faith. When they

refused, villagers beat them severely in public. The followers of Christianity said their faith had transformed their lives, but the leaders incited violence against them.

**On 4 May in Sipat under Masturi Police Station, Bilaspur district, Chhattisgarh,** a church gathering was disrupted by extremists and the pastor and one follower of Christianity were taken to the police station after villagers accused religious conversion.

**On 7 May in Dhuragaon village, Bastar, Chhattisgarh,** Padmani Kashyap, her husband Baldev, and their 2-year-old child were brutally attacked by villagers due to their Christian faith. The child was injured and hospitalized. Although the District Collector intervened and police temporarily assisted, attackers returned and vandalized their house again. No action has been taken against the assailants.

**On 7 May in Taragaon village, Lohandiguda police station area, Bastar district, Chhattisgarh,** Christian residents reported persistent obstruction in burying their deceased within the village. The community submitted applications to multiple administrative authorities requesting land for a Christian graveyard. Officials responded by directing the community to use existing Christian burial grounds in nearby areas, citing judicial precedents.

**On 10 May in Bilaspur, Chhattisgarh,** during a prayer meeting, followers of Christianity Abhishek Bansal and Bramha Paiksha were arrested by local police. The gathering was disrupted, and the two were taken to the police station.

**On 11 May in Bilaspur, Chhattisgarh,** Ranjana Pandey and Caroline Mary (Principal, DAV Chief Minister Public School, Kumhari Marwahi) were booked

following a complaint filed by Mayank Pandey, alleging coercion and inducement for religious conversion amid an ongoing family dispute; a first information report was registered and investigation was ongoing.

**On 14 May in Antagarh Block, Kanker District, Chhattisgarh,** villagers opposed the burial of Ankalu Potai, a Christian convert. He passed away due to illness but was denied burial space because of his faith.

**On 18 May in Kawardha, Chhattisgarh,** Pastor Jose Thomas and his family were attacked during a Sunday church service by members of the extremist groups. The mob assaulted his wife and sons and broke into a bathroom to target the hiding girls. Police detained the family and congregation, tried to force false conversion statements, seized CCTV footage, and refused to register the family's complaint. The Thomas family runs a Higher Secondary School, a Christian-managed CBSE-affiliated institution that has been running for over 35 years.

**On 23 May in Sarkanda, Bilaspur, Chhattisgarh,** Rajkumar Sahu and Vayashkumar Kurre were leading a prayer meeting at a follower of Christianity's home when police, acting on a false complaint by a religious extremist, booked them under sections of the Chhattisgarh Freedom of Religion Act for religious conversion.

**On 25 May in Salora, Korba, Chhattisgarh,** Ramnarayan Kewat, along with other followers of Christianity, was attending a prayer meeting at Jeevan Jyoti Church under Katghora Police Station. A group of extremists entered, disrupted the prayers, and falsely accused them of religious conversion. The mob vandalised property and assaulted members present. Police arrived and arrested Ramnarayan Kewat and Raja Kewat, charging them under Sections 170, 126, and 135 of the

Bharatiya Nagarik Suraksha Sanhita.

**On 25 May in Urkura, Raipur, Chhattisgarh,** Pastor Ramesh Nag was praying with his family at a follower of Christianity's house when a complaint alleging religious conversion was filed. Police arrived at the location and detained everyone present, taking them to the police station.

**On 26 May in Bhakhra, Dhamtari, Chhattisgarh,** around 12 noon, a Christian woman, Sakun Sahu, passed away, and the sarpanch incited villagers to deny her burial in the government cemetery. Christians attempted to contact police and administration for four hours without success. The daughter of the deceased fainted from grief and trauma under the sun. Christians eventually left the body on the road and returned home.

**On 29 May in Padmanabhpur, Durg, Chhattisgarh,** Pastor Mamta Dixit and fellow Christians had gathered at the home of Madhu Tandi in Raipur Naka, Ward 47, for prayer. Rajesh Patel and his family had also joined. A false police complaint accused conversion by inducement was leveled against them. Police arrived and arrested nine Christians — six women and three men — later sending them to Durg District Jail under the Chhattisgarh Freedom of Religion Act.

**On 29 May in Jhutmil, Raigad, Chhattisgarh,** Nirmal Sarthi was arrested by police. Formerly a temple builder, he had demolished the temple after converting to Christianity. Members of an extremist group gathered, summoned the police, vandalised a nearby church, damaged a cross, and hoisted saffron flags. Nirmal was detained and booked under the Bhartiya Nyaya Sanhita Sections 191, 192, 196(1)(2), 299, 302, 324, and 351(1).

**On 1 June in Sukma district,**

**Chhattisgarh**, 85-year-old Christian woman Bodke Jogi and her family were attacked while worshipping at their home. A group of 7–8 masked men forcefully entered and assaulted the family, accusing them of continuing in the Christian faith despite repeated warnings to renounce it. In a brutal act, the assailants murdered her son, Rama, by slitting his throat in front of the family. When Bodke and others tried to intervene, they were beaten as well.

**On 1 June in Bilaspur, Chhattisgarh**, Pastor Ajay Anchala from Silphari and Church leader Rajesh Nirala were arrested following a complaint by Religious Extremists alleging religious conversions.

**On 1 June in Semri Village, Bilaspur, Chhattisgarh**, During a Sunday service, members of an extremist group barged into a church shouting slogans, pressuring police to act. Followers of Christianity were detained, but released after local pastors intervened.

**On 01 June in Parsada, Bilaspur, Chhattisgarh**, During a church service led by Pastor Dayanand Jatav, religious extremists attacked the gathering, called police, and halted prayers. Police arrested the pastor and followers of Christianity, detaining them at Chakarbhata Police Station.

**On 5 June in Malingnaar, Narayanpur, Chhattisgarh**, Lakhmu, a Christian fellow Christian, consumed poison with suicidal intent. He was rushed to the hospital but declared dead on arrival. The family wished to bury him as per tribal tradition, but villagers objected because he had followed Christianity for six months before his death.

**On 7 June in Nainnar Kotwar Para, Chitrakoot Assembly, Bastar**, 70-year-old Christian woman Manto had passed away. However, villagers resisted burial despite

earlier agreements. Tehsildar supported villagers' refusal. Heavy police deployed; followers of Christianity barred from entry. Christians attempting another burial effort.

**On 8 June in Borsi village, Dhamtari district, Chhattisgarh**, a mob of religious extremists violently attacked the Peniel Prayer Fellowship during its worship service. Armed with wooden rods and shouting religious slogans, the attackers ransacked the church, destroyed furniture and musical instruments, and burned Bibles and Christian literature. They assaulted all 15 members present, including Pastor Wakish Sahu and his 57-year-old father, Pastor Mannohan Sahu. Pastor Mannohan lost consciousness after being struck on the head and sustained injuries to his head, ear, chest, hands, and back. Two women and five men suffered serious injuries requiring hospital treatment. Only a few of the attackers were locals; most were outsiders. Despite Pastor Sahu lodging a detailed complaint, police refused to register a formal first information report, saying they would "investigate first." Since the attack, most followers of Christianity have stopped attending worship out of fear, though the pastor's family continued to meet.

**On 11 June in Nagar Gaon, Dharsiwa, Raipur District, Chhattisgarh**, during Pastor Edwin Joseph's brother-in-law Rupender's wedding, villagers attacked. They poured petrol on a Mahindra SUV, vandalised vehicles, and threatened death for following Christianity. Family hid inside.

**On 11 June in Baganpal village, PS Lohandiguda, District Bastar**, 40-year-old Dundku Kashyap died during treatment. Villagers and police denied burial rights. Christians attacked in homes; properties vandalised. Some followers of Christianity fled. Prayers sought for peace and safety.

**On 12 June in Rahod Pampad, Korba, Chhattisgarh,** Pastor Sunil Mandavi's prayer meeting was disrupted by Religious extremists shouting slogans. Police took him to Darri Police Station for questioning.

**On 14 June in Jheet village, Tehsil Patan, Durg,** during a farewell gathering at Dhalsing Sahu and Rohit Sahu's home, neighbors secretly filmed prayers and incited unrest. Police detained both in a patrolling vehicle. Families denied meeting them. Current whereabouts unknown. A protest is planned at Kharrun river ground at 8-9 AM.

**On 16 June in Hichadi village, Narayanpur district, Chhattisgarh,** Parmeshwari Kawde and her family, followers of Christianity, were forcibly evicted from their home due to their Christian faith. The village chiefs summoned the community by beating drums and held a meeting at Gotlu, where it was collectively decided to expel Ayetu, Sarita and others (family members). The family's belongings were thrown onto the road between Narayanpur and the Kanker district boundaries, and the young girls were harassed. The family was pressured repeatedly to undergo Ghar Wapsi (reconversion to their former non-Christian faith). Though some villagers planned to demolish the house, the plan was dropped due to internal differences. The matter was first reported to Edka Police Station in Narayanpur, but it was later found that the village falls under Amabeda Police Station in Kanker. After the complaint redirection, police from Amabeda urged villagers to let the family return home. Villagers refused, declaring the family would not stay unless they reconvert to their former non-Christian faith. The issue remains unresolved. The family has been summoned to the police station, while their belongings remain abandoned by the roadside, exposed to the elements. They have taken temporary

shelter in a village 6 km away. The family has faced similar threats before and refused Gharwapsi even before the police. This was the fifth village meeting pressuring reconversion. Two other Christian families, Manglu Netam's and Lachhin Dugga's, were also expelled from this village for their faith and remain displaced. The family urgently needs food and basic relief.

**On 16 June in Kanker, Chhattisgarh,** followers of christianity Ayatu Kavde and Sakaru Kavde were evicted from their home by some villagers because of their Christian faith.

**On 16 June in Gopalpuri village, Dhamtari, Chhattisgarh,** Religious Extremists vandalized a prayer hall post-Sunday service around 11-12 AM. Approximately 40-50 people damaged property worth Rs. 70,000-80,000.

**On 18 June in Chindbahar, Bastar, Chhattisgarh,** Christians were forced to flee their village due to their faith. Villagers also seized their paddy land, preventing cultivation. The displaced followers of christianity have taken shelter at a church in Jagdalpur.

**On 19 June in Hirapur, Balod, Chhattisgarh,** a Sahu family, followers of Christianity, faced opposition after the death of a young girl, with villagers denying them space for cremation. Tensions escalated, and the family reconverted to their former faith, renouncing Christianity due to pressure from villagers.

**On 19 June in Chhindbahar village, Lohandiguda block, Bastar, Chhattisgarh,** villagers ousted Christians, including elderly and children, who were forced to sleep outside. An appeal is made for awareness and humanity.

**On 20 June in Kota village, Raipur,**

**Chhattisgarh**, religious extremists stormed a prayer meeting led by Pastor Amit, vandalized the church, and accused him of conversions. Police arrested Pastor Amit and another fellow Christian.

**On 22 June in Korba, Chhattisgarh**, extremist elements attacked Pastor Robert George's church during worship. Police took pastor and followers of christianity to Balco police station. Supporters asked to reach the station.

**On 27 June in Raipur, Chhattisgarh**, Police arrested three Christian women; Mamta Chouhan, Namrata Chouhan, Vibha Masihi, outside Madhavrao Sapre School for attempting religious conversion. Charged under Chhattisgarh Freedom of Religion Act and the Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita, police investigations continue.

**On 29 June in Sakargaon, Bastar, Chhattisgarh**, villagers denied the burial of 32-year-old Christian Manku Kashyap in the village graveyard following his death. Christians faced resistance and protest despite seeking assistance from the administration.

**On 29 June in Torwa, Bilaspur, Chhattisgarh**, members of an extremist group attacked a Sunday church service led by Pastor Vijay Singh. Christians were assaulted, and threats were issued. Local contacts reported ongoing tensions.

**On 29 June in Dhamtari district, Chhattisgarh**, a local church was attacked by extremist groups. During an ongoing church service, the incident occurred, worship was stopped, and police were called.

**On 1 July in Kudal village, Bhanupratappur tehsil, Kanker district, Chhattisgarh**, the burial of Dukhbatu Dugga, a Christian convert, led to severe

opposition from village authorities and residents. Her son Ishwar Dugga had buried her within village boundaries without traditional rites, triggering protests and threats of exhumation by villagers citing Fifth Schedule customs. To prevent escalation, the family exhumed the body and reburied it in the Bhanupratappur Christian cemetery. A Christian committee later met the District Collector and filed a complaint, following which the matter was resolved.

**On 8 July in Musurputta village, under Dudhwa police station, Chhattisgarh**, villagers staged a protest alleging that Anjor Sahu, a Christian resident, had desecrated ancestral religious sites. Demonstrators demanded his arrest and accused him of spreading unrest. Police initiated an inquiry and appealed for calm, while the situation in the village remained tense.

**On 10 July in Jamgaon village, Narharpur police station, Kanker district, Chhattisgarh**, some residents of Jamgaon village submitted an application to the Tehsildar demanding closure of a church prayer meeting in the village. They falsely allege villagers are lured and converted in this prayer meeting and that village customs and traditions are being destroyed.

**On 11 July in Raipur district, Chhattisgarh**, Simon Patras and other Christian leaders, previously assaulted during a religious gathering, appeared before authorities to record witness statements.

**On 13 July in Gopal Puri village, Dhamtari district, Chhattisgarh**, a church was attacked due to Christian faith. Pastor Thanuram Sahu and the church were disturbed during worship. Members of extremist groups shouted slogans against Christians. Pastor was beaten and

hospitalized. Contact: Mr Manish Sahu. Church vandalised.

**On 13 July in Bhanpuri area, Raipur district, Chhattisgarh,** Pastor Anil Nand faced disruption during a prayer meeting and was briefly detained by authorities. Following intervention by local Christian leaders, he was released the same day.

**On 14 July in Lohandiguda police station area, Bastar district, Chhattisgarh,** Laxman and his family faced continued harassment, threats, and denial of access to their agricultural land due to their Christian faith. Previously displaced from their village, they were forced to live in rented accommodation. A formal police complaint was filed regarding the ongoing persecution.

**On 14 July in Sakargaon village, under Badanji Police Station, Bastar district, Chhattisgarh,** Abhishek reported that local villagers began searching Christian households to force followers of Christianity to undergo Ghar Wapsi. Fearing violence, several Christian families fled the village. The followers of Christianity have been facing continuous harassment due to their faith. Following intervention, a group of Christians met the Superintendent of Police, Bastar, after which police provided protection and safely escorted the followers of Christianity back to their homes.

**On 15 July in Kohra Para (Chaniagaon) village, Dhanora, Kondagaon district, Chhattisgarh,** Sis. Shanti Dugga was severely beaten by villagers over a land dispute fueled by her faith in Jesus and refusal to undergo Ghar Wapsi despite severe pressure. She was severely injured and admitted to Kondagaon District Hospital. Also, her 20 year old daughter was also gang-raped. Due to a lack of facilities, she was rushed to Raipur Medical Hospital.

**On 17 July in Baganpal village, Bastar district, Chhattisgarh,** Kade Kashyap and five other Christians were arrested in connection with a 2023 case. Police filed a chargesheet in December 2023 without informing the accused and falsely marked all six as absconding. Sections 147, 294, 323, and 506(B) IPC were charged. Magistrate Court Jagdalpur issued arrest warrants, and on 17 July, all six were taken into custody and produced before the court. Victims: Kade Kashyap w/o Lathu, Somari w/o Sukhram, Jaisingh Morya, Sukhram Kashyap, Naman Kashyap, and Moharu Kashyap.

**On 20 July near Kailash Nagar Nalanda School, Bhilai, Chhattisgarh,** Abhinav Baksh was attacked by extremist elements who used derogatory language and falsely accused him of carrying out religious conversion. Following the incident, a complaint was submitted by the extremist elements, and a case was registered under Sections 191(2) and 221 of the Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita against the Christians.

**On 25 July at Durg Railway Station in Chhattisgarh,** two Catholic nuns from Kerala, Sister Preeti Mary and Sister Vandana Francis, were arrested on false allegations of religious conversion and human trafficking, along with Sukaman Mandavi, a tribal youth from Narayanpur district. They were accompanying three adult tribal women, aged 18–19, to Agra for employment at a Catholic-run hospital. Despite having valid identity documents and written parental consent, the group was detained following a complaint by a member of an extremist group. The nuns and Mandavi were charged under Section 143 of the Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita and Section 4 of the Chhattisgarh Religious Freedom Act, 1968, for human trafficking and forced religious conversion. Later, video footage showed Jyoti Sharma, a member of the extremist group Durga

Vahini Matrushakti, threatening the nuns inside the police station, while officers failed to intervene. One of the tribal women later reported being coerced into giving false testimony under threats to her family.

**On 27 July in Raipur, Chhattisgarh,** police informed Pastor Binu Mahanand that members of an extremist group planned to disrupt Sunday worship at his church. Police advised calm and promised presence but gave no assurance of protection.

**On 27 July in Majhgaon, Mungeli district, Chhattisgarh,** Pastor Badri Prasad Sahu was leading a prayer meeting of 25-30 people when members of an extremist group disrupted the gathering. He was falsely accused of conversion and arrested under Section 171 of the Bharatiya Nagarik Suraksha Sanhita. first information report under Section 299 of Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita and the state anti-conversion law were also registered. On 30 July, he was granted bail with help from local pastors who covered for legal expenses.

**On 28 July in Jamgaon village, Narharpur Block, Kanker district, Chhattisgarh,** a peaceful funeral for Somlali Rathore (53) was held on his own land. On 27 July, villagers tried to pressure the family to exhume the body but failed. However, the Church of God, a local church, in Jamgaon was attacked and vandalized. The atmosphere remained tense for the pastor and church community.

**On 30 July in Raipur district, Chhattisgarh,** a pastor and five followers of Christianity were detained during a house dedication ceremony disrupted by members of an extremist group. After overnight detention and investigation, no evidence of conversion was found, and all were released. A complaint regarding physical assault was filed.

**On 10 August in Raipur district, Chhattisgarh,** a prayer meeting at the residence of Pastor Vashisth was disrupted by members of an extremist group. followers of Christianity were taken to the police station, and later a first information report was registered under the Chhattisgarh anti-conversion law against some Christians. Local activists extended support, and legal actions were being considered.

**On 10 August in Swaroop Nagar, Raipur district, Chhattisgarh,** Pastor Vashisht Bharati was leading a prayer meeting when a mob of extremists disrupted worship, accused him of conversion, and injured followers of Christianity. first information report were filed by both sides. Anticipatory bail was later granted to Pastor Vashisht Bharati and Anjana Bagh by the High Court of Chhattisgarh.

**On 10 August in Hawachur village, Antagarh block, Kanker district, Chhattisgarh,** Christian followers of Christianity returning home after Sunday worship were attacked by extremists. Several women, including Shanti Bai Darro, were injured and hospitalised. A complaint was later filed with the Superintendent of Police, Kanker.

**On 12 August in Chindbaha village, Bastar district, Chhattisgarh,** Christian families, including Kamlu, faced systematic harassment. Villagers confiscated firewood, destroyed kitchen gardens, and threatened with ghar wapsi(re-conversion).

**On 17 August in Bilaspur district, Chhattisgarh,** Pastor Sukhnandan Sagar and members of his church were attacked by members of extremist groups. The pastor and followers of Christianity were taken to the police station, where a false first information report was registered against Pastor Sukhnandan under Sections 299 and

3(5) of the Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita and Section 3 of the Chhattisgarh Freedom of Religion Act.

**On 18 Aug in Bilaspur, Chhattisgarh,** a prayer meeting was going on at the Christians home when suddenly extremist elements came and verbally abused Christians.

**On 20 August in Jagdalpur, Bastar district, Chhattisgarh,** Christian youth Ajay Singh was arrested by Bodhghat police under Section 299 of the Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita. A bail application was initially rejected following pressure from extremist groups at the court premises. Subsequently, the Sessions Court granted bail with surety and personal bond.

**On 24 August in Balko township, Korba district, Chhattisgarh,** a Full Gospel Church prayer meeting was disrupted by members of extremist groups. Pastor Peter and other followers of Christianity were threatened and taken to the police station. Following the intervention of local Christian leaders, all followers of Christianity were released without charges.

**On 24 August in Sargaon village, Pathariya police station area, Mungeli district, Chhattisgarh,** Pastor Satyam and followers of Christianity were taken to the police station after members of extremist groups disrupted a prayer meeting. The followers of Christianity were released, but Pastor Satyam was sent to jail and charged under Section 299 of the Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita and Section 4 of the Chhattisgarh Freedom of Religion Act.

**On 27 August in Masturi block, Bilaspur, Chhattisgarh,** Pastor Sanjiv Kumar and followers of Christianity Gendram, Prasad, Pusau, Chandra, Narayan, Suresh, and Santu were threatened by members of extremist groups during a cottage prayer

meeting and warned to undergo forced "ghar wapsi."

**On 31 August in Mokhpal village, Dantewada district, Chhattisgarh,** Jagnath and his wife Boda were threatened and assaulted by relatives demanding ghar wapsi during a prayer meeting. A police complaint was filed, and the perpetrators were warned by authorities.

**On 31 August in Idripath village, Balrampur district, Chhattisgarh,** Pastor Eshwari Lal Xalkho and Pastor Erinuash Biriya were arrested following false allegations of religious conversion. A first information report was registered under Section 299 of the Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita and Section 4 of the Chhattisgarh Freedom of Religion Act. Both pastors were sent to district jail and later granted bail by the Sessions Court.

**On 31 August in Padmanabhpur, Durg district, Chhattisgarh,** Pastor Akash Besara and Pastor Manij Tandi were arrested after extremists disrupted a church prayer meeting and filed false conversion complaints. A first information report was registered, and both were sent to district jail. They were later granted bail by the Sessions Court, Durg, and released.

**On 1 September in Frezarpur village, Bastar district, Chhattisgarh,** Sundar Singh Netam and his relatives were stopped while returning after purchasing cattle and were falsely accused by members of religious extremist groups of transporting cattle for slaughter. They were taken to the police station, where pressure was exerted to register a first information report. Police later registered an first information report against Sundar Singh Netam, Dhaneshwar Goyal, Dilip Singh Netam, and Narsing Netam under relevant Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita provisions and the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals Act. Bail was granted by

the Magistrate Court in Jagdalpur, and a chargesheet has since been filed.

**On 3 September in Jagdalpur, Bastar district, Chhattisgarh,** members of an extremist group forcibly entered Nirmal Vidhyalaya, an English-medium school, and compelled the catholic principal to chant non-Christian religious slogans. The intrusion followed an earlier classroom incident and was accompanied by threats against school staff and pressure to perform religious rituals.

**On 4 September in Tikanpal village, Dantewada district, Chhattisgarh,** the families of Hunga Tati and Bandi Kunjam were assaulted and pressured by villagers to renounce their Christian faith. Upon refusal, both families were expelled from the village. Following a police complaint and intervention, the families were able to return home under police protection, and the perpetrators were warned against repeating the acts.

**On 7 September in a village under Gundardehi tehsil, Balod district, Chhattisgarh,** a group of individuals disrupted a Sunday worship service, abused and assaulted followers of Christianity, and obstructed prayers. Several Christians, including Sahu Sahu, Sudesh Patel, Stephenus Nishad, and Kaushalya Thakur, were booked under Bharatiya Nagarik Suraksha Sanhita provisions, and bail proceedings faced resistance from local authorities.

**On 7 September in Chainganj village, Gundardehi police station area, Balod district, Chhattisgarh,** members of extremist groups attacked a church and pressured police to detain followers of Christianity. Eight Christians were booked and initially denied bail due to mob pressure at the Sub-Divisional Magistrate court but

were released the following day after bail was granted.

**On 7 September in Godhna village, Navagarh police station area, Janjgir-Champa district, Chhattisgarh,** members of an extremist group disrupted a Sunday worship service, leading to the detention of Pastor Yash Sahu and Pastor Badri Sahu. Following a peaceful protest and legal assistance by local Christian leaders, both pastors were released on surety bail.

**On 7 September in Sukulkari village, Masturi block, Bilaspur district, Chhattisgarh,** members of an extremist group disrupted Sunday prayers at two house churches. Police registered a first information report against Pastor Eshwaran Mahilong, Pastor Vinod Mahilong, and Dilip Banjare under relevant IPC and state provisions, and the pastors were taken into custody.

**On 7 September in Kasiras village, Darbha tehsil, Bastar district, Chhattisgarh,** a Christian woman passed away during Sunday worship. Although villagers initially opposed her burial, discussions with village council members led to her being buried in the village graveyard according to Christian rituals.

**On 14 September in Bhilai, Durg district, Chhattisgarh,** a mob of around 150 members of an extremist group gathered at the Jesus Prayer Tower operating from the home of Lila Kunjluya with accused intent to demolish the prayer house. Youth leader Jonathan was assaulted and hospitalised. The first information reports were registered against both parties, and multiple Christian leaders were taken to the police station for questioning.

**On 14 September in Sipat police station area, Bilaspur district, Chhattisgarh,** members of extremist groups attacked

Christians during a Sunday worship service, physically assaulting followers of Christianity and forcing the prayer meeting to stop.

**On 22 September in Raipur district, Chhattisgarh,** Christian leader Prabhakar Soni was issued summons under Bharatiya Nagarik Suraksha Sanhita provisions by the Sub-Divisional Magistrate and directed to appear before the court in connection with a preventive case.

**On 22 September in Korea district, Chhattisgarh,** leaders of the United Christian Service Committee met the District Collector regarding objections raised against house churches. The Collector expressed support and advised follow-up with the Superintendent of Police. Further clarification meetings with police authorities were scheduled

**On 23 September in Patri Pada Basti near ITI Chowk, Korba district, Chhattisgarh,** a mob of approximately 300–400 extremist elements attacked Christian homes, pelting stones and assaulting women, some of whom sustained head injuries. Police intervened, medical treatment was provided, and formal complaints were written with support from community leaders.

In the month of August in Mainpat area, Sarguja district, Chhattisgarh, Arti Manjhi, a Christian woman, was arrested on false allegations of forced religious conversion. Police registered a first information report under the Chhattisgarh Freedom of Religion Act, and she was taken into custody.

**On 26 and 28 September in Chintalnar and Andhar Mokhram villages, Sukma district, Chhattisgarh,** fasting and prayer gatherings were disrupted by religious extremists who threatened followers of

Christianity and confiscated church materials. Police failed to intervene effectively during the incidents.

**On 28 September in Mukrao village, Chintalnar police station area, Sukma district, Chhattisgarh,** Sodi Deva, the only Christian in the village, was attacked by a mob that destroyed his home and threatened him with death unless he renounced his faith. Unable to obtain police protection locally, the family fled and later sought assistance from district authorities.

**On 28 September in Chhote Gudra village, Dantewada district, Chhattisgarh,** the house of Sonuram Mandavi was destroyed following his refusal to undergo Ghar Wapsi. Household articles were damaged, food supplies thrown out, and the family was threatened with violence.

**On 2 October in Bhanupratappur tehsil, Kanker district, Chhattisgarh,** four Christian families were compelled to participate in a Gharaapsi (reconversion) programme due to sustained pressure on account of their Christian faith.

**On 3 October in Bhilai, Durg district, Chhattisgarh,** members of extremist groups held a protest rally near private sector bank branch alleging promotion of Christian faith during festival publicity.

**On 4 October in New Rajendra Nagar, Raipur district, Chhattisgarh,** Pastors Kishore Senapati, Sikandar Singh, Chaudhary Besara, and Ashish Nag were detained while praying at a fellow follower of Christianity's house following false allegations of conversion. A first information report was registered, and later bail was granted.

**On 5 October in Sarona Krishi Mandi**

**area, Kanker district, Chhattisgarh**, non-Christian religious leaders from multiple villages held a meeting warning followers of Christianity to undergo Gharwapsi (reconversion ceremony) or face social consequences, including denial of burial rights. A complaint and memorandum were submitted to district authorities.

**On 7 October in Tangaras village, Sukma district, Chhattisgarh**, Somdi Madkam hosted a prayer meeting that was disrupted by members of extremist groups. Several pastors and followers of Christianity were taken to Kukanar police station. After intervention by Christian leaders, all were released and the matter was compromised.

**On 8 October in Durg district, Chhattisgarh**, several Christians were summoned under Sections 126 and 135(3) of the Bharatiya Nagarik Suraksha Sanhita to appear before the Sub-Judicial Magistrate. All concerned Christians appeared before the court and filed bail applications. A local advocate was engaged who represented the Christians, and bail was granted to five individuals by the Sub-Divisional Magistrate Court.

**On 17 October in Musurputta village, Kanker, Chhattisgarh**, Khelanram Sahu and his family, followers of Christianity, were faced with social ostracism for their Christian faith. During social ostracisation, the family's water pump, bore pipes, and machine were removed, and the family was threatened to stop prayer meetings or leave the village.

**On 14 October in Charbhatha village, Narharpur block, Kanker district, Chhattisgarh**, villagers passed a resolution banning the entry of followers of Christianity, pastors, and priests into the village. A signboard announcing the ban was installed at the village entrance,

prompting legal and administrative concerns.

**On 14 October in Konta tehsil, Sukma district, Chhattisgarh**, members of extremist groups disrupted a meeting organized by Pastor Philip Vetti, President of Pastor Fellowship of Sukma involving visiting Christian pastors and local leaders, threatened them against preaching the Gospel, and attempted physical assault. The matter was defused through dialogue.

**On 18 October in Jangaon village, Kanker, Chhattisgarh**, it was reported that Christians from the village and nearby areas were being denied entry into the weekly market due to their faith, and that some vendors found notices placed on their stalls restricting them from doing business.

**On 19 October in Bundiya village, under Bhatgaon police station, Surajpur district, Chhattisgarh**, a complaint was filed by Suresh Kumar, son of Kunwar Sai, alleging that Bajju Minj, Jivan Lakra, Shiva Toppo, and Diren Toppo were conducting a prayer meeting and inducing people to convert to Christianity. Based on the complaint, police registered Crime No. 168 under relevant sections of the Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita and arrested all four followers of Christianity. Bibles and a notebook were seized during the search. Following intervention by the Joint Christian Service Committee, Surajpur District, all four followers of Christianity were later released.

**On 22 October in Kachna village, Dhamtari district, Chhattisgarh**, villagers and members of an extremist group opposed the burial of a deceased Christian woman and prevented the family from taking the body to the burial ground, insisting burial take place inside the house. The incident caused severe distress to the family.

**On 24 October in Sirmur village panchayat, under Nangur police station, Bastar district, Chhattisgarh,** a banner was installed restricting the entry of pastors and followers of Christianity into the village. From the village, a local Christian resident was coerced into signing a document linked to the restriction.

**On 26 October in Godhi village, Korba district, Chhattisgarh,** extremist elements attacked a local church, causing damage to the premises and creating fear among followers of Christianity.

**On 26 October in Korar area, Kanker district, Chhattisgarh,** members of an extremist group forcibly entered the Church of God during Sunday worship and attacked the premises. Around 40–50 individuals raised aggressive slogans, damaged and uprooted the church signboard, and attempted to intimidate worshippers. Police intervened and prevented entry into the sanctuary. Pastor Komal Sahu, in charge of the church, was called to Korar Police Station for inquiry. Later, police informed the pastor that worship could continue with reduced sound levels.

**On 27 October in Hirrikala village, under Masturi Police Station, Bilaspur district, Chhattisgarh,** a church prayer meeting was disrupted following complaints by local elements. The Station House Officer detained the pastor and five followers of Christianity for questioning and later released them, warning that church services should not be conducted without prior permission from the Collector.

**On 27 October in Chintalnar village, Sukma district, Chhattisgarh,** two Christian families were threatened during a village meeting and pressured to renounce their Christian faith and undergo gharwapsi (reconversion ceremony). When they

refused, families of Basudev Kunjam, his wife Mate Kunjam, and their three children, and of Kummo Kunjam, his wife Lakhme Kunjam, and their child, were forcibly expelled from the village. The families spent two days in the forest before reaching a neighbouring village. Legal options are being explored.

**On 27 October in Bahatrai area, Bilaspur district, Chhattisgarh,** a prayer meeting led by Sister Mona was attacked by members of an extremist group. Around 20–25 followers of Christianity, including Munni Devi (50), were taken to Sarkanda Police Station, and some were assaulted. After intervention by local Christian leaders and community members, all followers of Christianity were later released.

**On 28 October in Anjar area, under Mardum Police Station, Bastar district, Chhattisgarh,** several Christian families were attacked because of their faith. Local leaders, including Rajaram Todem and Dashrath Kashyap, pressured the victims to undergo ghar wapsi. The injured followers of Christianity are undergoing medical treatment and plan to file a police complaint.

**On 28 October in Rajgamar–Ompur area, Korba district, Chhattisgarh,** the local administration partially demolished the boundary wall of Arogya Mata Catholic Church, following complaints by local villagers and members of an extremist group. The church has been functioning for nearly 50 years. Members of the Christian community later filed a formal complaint at the Korba Collectorate seeking investigation and protection.

**On 3 November in Simili village near Chintalnar, Kanta tehsil, Sukma district, Chhattisgarh,** the New Bethesda Church was demolished and set on fire by extremist

groups following earlier threats. The attack caused widespread fear among followers of Christianity in the area.

**On 7 November in Batsar area, Bastar district, Chhattisgarh,** three Christian families, those of Bodda Kashyap, Pandu Kashyap, and Photka Kashyap, were forcibly evicted by villagers. They were threatened with violence, crop seizure, and death if they refused to reconvert, leading to their displacement.

**On 19 November in Kanker district, Chhattisgarh,** villagers boycotted an Anganwadi centre after an assistant worker, a woman, embraced Christianity, alleging disruption to child welfare services. The woman faced sustained pressure, and representations were made to district authorities.

**On 22 November in Kamaroud village, Magarlod block, Dhamtari district, Chhattisgarh,** police personnel broke into the home of Pastor Dhanesh Sahu, assaulted him, and took him into custody between 11:30 a.m. and 12:00 p.m. for practicing and professing Christianity. Later in the afternoon, followers of Christianity, Nandkumar and Bhuneswar Sahu from Senhabhatha, were also detained, followed by the detention of Narayan Kashyap from Khairjhiti. Pastor Dhanesh had previously faced threats and attacks from villagers.

**On 22 November in Babu Salhetola village under Kanker police station limits, Kanker district, Chhattisgarh,** Pastor Simon Digbal Tandi and his family faced continued persecution due to their Christian faith. Villagers dug trenches near their house entrances, restricting access to their home.

**On 24 November in Ward No. 2, Tahsilbhatha, Katghora, Korba district,**

**Chhattisgarh,** residents submitted complaints against Pastor Bajrang Jaiswal alleging religious conversion and disturbance. His subsequent detention triggered a protest by Christians demanding action against the complainants. Following pressure, police registered a first information report, and the situation was later brought under control.

**On 29 November in Retawand village, Bastar district, Chhattisgarh,** villagers opposed the burial of Chandan Baghel, father of follower of Christianity Dinu, and pressured the family to undergo reconversion. Although police mediated and burial eventually took place, the family was excluded, and threats for reconversion continued afterward.

**On 30 November in Alnar village, Darbha block, Bastar district, Chhattisgarh,** villagers denied burial rights to Sukuni, a Christian woman, despite initial agreement. With police protection, her body was later buried at the Christian graveyard in Karkapal, Jagdalpur, resolving the immediate dispute.

**On 30 November in Jhartrai village, Bastar district, Chhattisgarh,** Pilabai, a follower of Christianity, faced pressure from her family to abandon her faith and convert back to their traditions. When she refused, they expelled her from her home and village, leaving her to seek shelter while continuing to practice Christianity.

**On 3 December in Bilaspur, Chhattisgarh,** a house prayer meeting was disrupted by extremist elements who called the police. Pastor Devdas and J. Prabhakar Rao were taken to Pachpedi Police Station, later released on personal bonds, but subsequently booked under Section 299 of the Bhartiya Nyaya Sanhita.

**On 5 December in Badeproda village, Bastar district, Chhattisgarh,** several Christians, including Govind Mandavi, Shobha Kashyap, and other Christianity followers were threatened with re-conversion (Gharwapasi) ceremonies and asked to recant their Christian faith.

**On 5 December in Korba district, Chhattisgarh,** members of an extremist group filed a false complaints against Rev. Seema Goswami, President of the Korba District Christian Fellowship, alleging misuse of SECL quarters for conversion activities and running a private school. Concerning the same, Rev Seema was visited by SECL for inspection but they found out that it was not the SECL on her private own land she was running a pre-nursery classes.

**On 14 December in Bomhanindih area, Champa district, Chhattisgarh,** Pastor Rahul Banjare was taken into police custody along with three others while conducting a prayer meeting at a fellow follower of Christianity's home. His wife Savita and another woman were later released, while Pastor Rahul Banjare and one follower of Christianity were formally charged.

**On 15 December in Bade Tevda village, Amabeda area, Kanker, Chhattisgarh,** the burial of Rajman Salam's father, the elected Sarpanch, was conducted according to Christian rites. Following the burial, a mob led by Sukdu Ram incited villagers, demanded exhumation of the body, and assaulted Christian tribals. Subsequent incidents included violent clashes, injuries to Rajman Salam, his elder brother, sister-in-law, Mansu, and Pastor Bishop Siddhnath Chandra, demolition of a village church, and the burning of Rajman Salam's house. Heavy police deployment and prohibitory orders were later imposed, while affected Christian families continue to live in fear.

**On 16 December in Murtunda area, Sukma district, Chhattisgarh,** Pastor Tejsingh Muchaki, along with followers of Christianity Muchaki Sanna, Muchaki Deva, and others, was implicated in A first information report registered on account of their faith. Bail applications were filed before the CJM Court, Sukma, and all named individuals were granted bail.

**On 16 December in Bilaspur district, Chhattisgarh,** Pastor Rajesh Masih was taken into custody by police while distributing packaged food under a temporary canopy in a leprosy-affected area. A false complaint of religious conversion was lodged after members of an extremist group were alerted. Local pastors intervened at the police station.

**On 22 December in Ermur village, Lohandiguda block, Bastar district, Chhattisgarh,** Christian families were forcibly evicted from their homes, properties were vandalised, food grains looted, and houses sealed. Women, including a pregnant woman, were assaulted. Police deployment was later made following the incident.

**On 22 December in Kuchmur village, Bhopalpattnam tehsil, Bijapur district, Chhattisgarh,** the Christmas program led by Pastor Daniel Bonta and Shankar Pottam, a follower of Christianity, was disrupted by villagers influenced by extremist groups. Followers of Christianity were threatened with not conducting any further prayer meetings.

**On 24 December in Magneto Mall, Raipur, Chhattisgarh,** a mob of around eighty to one hundred individuals linked to extremist groups vandalized Christmas decorations during a statewide bandh. Armed with sticks, they destroyed and burned festive items while shouting nationalist slogans.

## DELHI

**On 24 December in Usely village, Amabeda police station area, Kanker district, Chhattisgarh,** the house of Mr. Ramu Ram Taram, a Christian resident, was completely destroyed. The incident was reported as targeted violence against the victim's family.

**On 26 December in Amabeda and Pusa villages, Kanker district, Chhattisgarh,** newly converted followers of Christianity and Christian families faced severe persecution. Homes were vandalised, food supplies were looted, and families were physically assaulted and threatened with death. These acts occurred in the presence of the administration, causing widespread fear among the Christian community.

**On 29 December in Balod district, Chhattisgarh,** reports indicated that several Christian families were subjected to forced "Ghar Wapsi" (reconversion). Local contacts warned that the situation in the district is becoming increasingly sensitive and concerning.

**On 29 December in Ermuru village, Lohandiguda tehsil, Mardum police station limits, Bastar district, Chhattisgarh,** Christian families were violently targeted by opposing villagers. Houses were forcibly entered, followers of Christianity were assaulted, food grains, livestock, and household items were looted, and homes were locked from outside. A pregnant Christian woman was also beaten and left unconscious. The incidents occurred in the presence of police, who did not intervene. The victims, accompanied by Pastor Das Josh, submitted applications to the Superintendent of Police and the local police station. The affected families, including children, were forced to remain outdoors in severe cold until late night.

**On 9 March in Kamla Nagar, Shakti Nagar, Delhi,** around noon, a church service by Ankur Narola Ministries faced disruption by religious extremists. They called police, who detained two or three Christians attending the service at Roop Nagar Police Station.

**On 17 August in Shastri Park, North East Delhi,** Pastor George John Shastri of Sharon Fellowship Church was questioned by police during a prayer meeting following suspicious activity by unidentified individuals. The service was discontinued as a precaution. Police later summoned the pastor for inquiry, but after intervention by local pastors' fellowships, he was released without charges and returned home safely.

**On 21 September in Sarita Vihar, Delhi,** Pastor Shashi John, who conducts a house church, was taken to the Sarita Vihar Police Station following pressure from an extremist group-linked mob. After questioning, he and other followers of Christianity were released, with police advising against using the residence for organised activities. No first information report was registered at the time.

**On 19 October in Narela, Delhi,** Pastor Okesh reported that neighbours objected to the services and activities of Satya Marg Aaradhnyaya church, pressured and threatened the landlord, and demanded the church vacate the premises, resulting in the congregation being unable to hold physical services and shifting to online worship instead.

**On 7 December in Vikas Nagar, Delhi,** a prayer meeting conducted by Pastor Stephen at the home of follower of Christianity Novel Kishore was disrupted

by extremist elements. Police took Novel Kishore to the police station and later released him with instructions not to hold prayer meetings at the residence.

## GUJARAT

**On 18 March in Vadali, Sabarkantha, Gujarat,** Pastor Ratilal Parmar and Bhanwar Lal Pargi were detained after extremist groups disrupted a prayer meeting. FIRs were filed under conversion laws, and the victims were sent on a four-day remand.

**On 20 April in Surat, Gujarat,** about 15 religious extremists entered Yeshu Raja Satsang church and assaulted Pastor Ganesh Vijay Koli and Assistant Pastor Benjamin Gamit with wooden sticks. Pastor Koli sustained a bleeding ear injury, while Pastor Benjamin was beaten until he lost consciousness. A woman attempting to protect Pastor Koli was injured when struck by a guitar string. The attackers vandalized the church before accusing the pastors of forced conversions. Police detained both the assailants and the Christians for hours, then pressured them into a compromise, resulting in the withdrawal of the complaint. The landlord subsequently refused to allow further church gatherings, leaving Pastor Koli to hold small home meetings with only a few families.

**On 20 April in Odhav, Ahmedabad, Gujarat,** during the Easter service at Western India Pentecostal Church, about 25 members of extremist groups stormed the private hall where around 125 Christians had gathered. The extremists wielded wooden sticks, shouted non-Christian religious slogans, accused Pastor Dinesh Parmar of forced conversions, and intimidated the congregation, including

children. They struck the walls, pulpit, and pillars while interrogating attendees about their faith. Police arrived, after which the mob fled. Although the service was completed without physical injury, the incident left deep mental trauma. Following the attack, the church landlord refused further use of the property, forcing services online, which many members cannot access. Pastor Parmar has been denied other rental spaces and continues to receive threats.

**On 25 April in Ankleshwar, Gujarat,** a group of members of an extremist group disrupted a church service. The extremists chanted slogans of "Jai Shri Ram" slogans. The police were called and removed the extremists. Despite the disturbance, the service continued peacefully.

**On 8 June in Dindoli, Surat, Gujarat,** over 10 antisocial elements entered the Church of God prayer hall, interrupted worship, shouted slogans, and beat two followers of christianity away from the camera. After seven minutes, they left, locking the door. Police arrived, took followers of christianity to the station, blamed them for conversion. first information report was filed on 11/6 with minor charges. No investigation started; police pressured hall owner to evict. Jackson requests stay order and stronger charges under IPC sections.

**On 15 June in Padhdhari, Gujarat,** religious extremists disrupted Pastor Atul's church service, recorded videos, and called police accusing them of illegal conversions. Pastor Atul and others were detained, and police seized church records.

**On 9 September in Nadiad, Gujarat,** a Bible College operated by Pastor Steven Bhanubhai Macwan was raided following allegations of religious conversion involving minor students. Police detained Pastor Steven and others for questioning,

placed minor students in a government shelter, and later registered a first information report under the Freedom of Religion Act. Pastor Steven and Smithul were subsequently arrested and placed on police remand, and bail proceedings are underway.

**On 28 September in Khambhaliya, Devbhumi Dwarka district, Gujarat,** Pastor Deepak, his wife Deepa, and Mukesh were arrested following false complaints by extremist elements. A first information report was registered under the Gujarat Freedom of Religion Act against Christians. Their bail application was rejected by the lower court, and further proceedings are pending before the Sessions Court.

**On 18 December in Valsad district, Gujarat,** groups including Dev Birsa Sena and Adivasi Sanskriti Bachao Sena in the Dharampur and Kaprada areas publicly accused that Christmas programs were being misused for religious conversion among tribal communities and demanded that permission for Christmas events on 25 December be restricted only to individuals officially recorded as Christians in government documents.

**On 24 December in Ahmedabad, Gujarat,** members of an extremist group entered South International School and forced staff to remove all Christmas decorations, including classroom and common area displays. The group accused the school of promoting foreign religious practices within an educational environment. On the same day, members of extremist groups targeted four other schools in the city for holding Christmas-related activities such as carol singing and decorative displays.

**On 25 December in Jamnagar, Gujarat,** members of extremist groups entered a private gathering in the Pipliwadi area, also known as Jamnagar Wadi, alleging that

religious conversion activities were taking place under the guise of a Christmas celebration.

**On 27 December in Ahmedabad, Gujarat,** members of right-wing groups protested at the Palladium Mall on S G Highway, demanding the removal of Christmas decorations. Around four to five activists entered the mall and knocked down a large Christmas tree and other decorative items, claiming that they hurt religious sentiments.

## HARYANA

**On 5 January in Rohtak, Haryana,** Pastor Praveen was conducting a prayer meeting when a group of religious extremists disrupted the gathering by shouting slogans and reciting the Hanuman Chalisa outside the church. Although the police were informed, they did not arrive at the scene.

**On 8 January in Jodhka village, Sirsa, Haryana,** fellow Christian Ramesh organized a prayer meeting at his newly built home, but due to limited space, held it on a neighbor's empty plot. During the gathering, the village Sarpanch sent goons to disrupt the prayers and issued death threats to all present.

**On 28 January in Nathupur village, Sonipat District, Haryana,** Pastor Arun John and seven followers of Christianity faced an extremist mob's assault during a prayer meeting. The pastor called for police, invoking legal rights. Police reached the spot and dispersed the crowd. Christians who were attacked included Gopi, Sara Tyagi, and a few others.

**On 28 February in Babain, Kurukshetra, Haryana,** Pastor Dilpreet Kaur and his wife Krishan Singh were leading Sunday worship

when several people arrived, disrupted the prayers, verbally abused the couple, and issued threats of false allegations against them before leaving the church premises, leaving the congregation distressed and unsettled.

**On 1 March in Safidon, District Jind, Haryana,** Pastor Krishna Bhatia was in the process of obtaining his minority certificate. After securing the village sarpanch's signature, he visited the Patwari's office. Upon learning of his Christian identity, the Patwari refused service, misbehaved, evicted others from the office, and confiscated their mobile phones. The phones were later returned. Pastor Bhatia filmed the incident and lodged a complaint at the local police station.

**On 18 March in Gurgaon, Haryana,** Pastor Philip Rana informed that during their worship gathering, some individuals arrived, protested, and left, threatening to return. The incident has raised concerns for the safety of his church and family. Supporters and other churches have been asked to pray for protection and calm in Gurgaon.

**On 20 March in Rewadi, Haryana,** Pastor Praveen Singh's prayer convention faced opposition from an extremist group. A memorandum was submitted to the Sub-Divisional Magistrate to halt the event over conversion allegations.

**On 10 April in Jhajjar, Haryana,** Mamta and her family, living near Delhi Gate, were harassed after completing Bible training. Members of an extremist group forced them to vacate their house. Since then, they have been chased and threatened across three rental homes.

**On 16 April in Narnod, Hisar District, Haryana,** Pastor Satish was threatened by the brother of one of his congregants,

accompanied by members of an extremist group. They issued death threats and warned him to stop contacting the follower of Christianity, threatening church closure if he did not comply. Pastor Satish has previously faced similar harassment on six occasions.

**On 27 April in Sirsa, Haryana,** more than 20 individuals disrupted a prayer meeting led by Pastor Sandeep Kumar at his ministry on Kelaniya Road; following coordination with the Superintendent of Police, a formal complaint was raised, and the pastor has since shifted church activities to a different location.

**On 27 April in Kishangarh Tehsil, Meham, Rohtak District, Haryana,** Pastor Parveen of the Indian Missionary Society was leading worship at a rented house when religious extremists threatened him and ordered him to stop. Due to the nature of the threats and the rented property, he now fears further harassment.

**On 9 May in Khanpur Kalan village, Sonipat District, Haryana,** Reena and Gulshan from Dodwa village were reported to police by local villagers while engaging in outreach. A complaint was filed at Sadar Gohana Police Station accusing them of religious conversion.

**On 16 May in Ambala, Haryana,** Bharti received a notice from Padav Police Station on a complaint filed by her brother, accusing her of occupying his house and religious conversion. Bharti has been living separately for two years after disputes.

**On 24 May in Rewari, Haryana,** five followers of Christianity from Pastor Chandy Varghese's church were detained by authorities while they were engaged in prayer at a fellow Christian's residence.

**On 6 June in Madhuban, Haryana,** Pastor

Ravinder reported being attacked by a non-fellow Christian from a church family while visiting the Chairman's house. A police complaint was lodged but no action has been taken.

**On 15 June in Pratapgarh Village Colony Sector 56, Faridabad, Haryana,** extremist elements disrupted Pastor Jai Kishan Adhikari's Sunday service.

**On 7 July in Kharkhoda area, Sonipat district, Haryana,** Pastor Jayprakash of the IPC Church was summoned to the police station following protests and complaints by members of extremist groups. Local pastors accompanied him to the police station, where statements were recorded. Despite pressure and inflammatory remarks by complainants, no first information report was registered. Subsequent threats of an attack on the church were reported, after which police provided protection.

**On 24 July in Barsat village, Karnal district, Haryana,** Pastor Sunil Saini and his wife Gautam were assaulted during a house prayer meeting at the home of Devendra. Extremists surrounded the house, dragged the pastor outside, and beat both him and his wife. Complaints were filed by both parties, and the matter is under police consideration.

**On 27 July in Kaimri village, Hisar district, Haryana,** Father Subhash Singh faced threats from members of an extremist group during Sunday worship. The congregation asserted their constitutional rights, and the pastor indicated readiness to file a complaint if threats continued. The situation was defused without escalation.

**On 5 August in Kurukshetra, Haryana,** Pastor Sanjeev Kumar reported that a complaint of religious conversion was lodged by a nearby temple member. Police visited the church in the evening,

questioned the pastor regarding worship activities in a residential house, and summoned him to the police station for further inquiry.

**On 27 August in Ajmer Colony, Jind district, Haryana,** a large gathering assembled outside the residence of Pastor Karamvir during Foundation Day celebrations of one of the right-wing groups. Provocative and threatening speeches targeting Christians were delivered publicly and circulated online. Following a complaint filed with the assistance of National Christian Morcha, a first information report was registered against seven individuals for issuing threats and obstructing Christian worship.

**On 10 September in Mastlola village, Panipat district, Haryana,** a village panchayat was convened following allegations that school teacher Suresh had opposed the recitation of Hanuman Chalisa in a government school and was involved in religious conversion. Suresh denied the allegations, and as no evidence was produced, the matter subsided and school activities resumed.

**On 16 October in Uklana area, Hisar district, Haryana,** Pastor David reported continued harassment and damage near his church premises. CID personnel visited the site but took no action. The pastor has chosen not to pursue the matter further at present.

**On 19 October in Kaithal district, Haryana,** Saira Sharma, a follower of Christianity, was conducting a worship gathering on her own land when individuals disrupted the meeting with conversion allegations and threats. Following police intervention and dialogue with local pastors, the situation eased, and prayer meetings resumed.

**On 20 October in Kohlwas village, Charkhi Dadri district, Haryana,** Pastor Rajesh, along with his wife and other Christians, was assaulted by villagers during protests against Christians. He was later summoned to the police station and detained, after which local some of their known advocates visited Bond Kalan Police Station and pressed for their release.

**On 26 October in Kaithal district, Haryana,** Pastor Ashok Rana's church faced repeated hostility and targeting by members of an extremist group. Following police intervention and dialogue with local pastors, the situation subsided, and prayer meetings resumed.

**On 10 November in Rohtak, Haryana,** Jehovah Das, his wife Manikyam, Vinod and his wife, and Satish were assaulted during a house prayer meeting by members of Arya Samaj. Religious materials were burned, and the followers of Christianity were taken to the police station. Satish sustained serious injuries, and a formal complaint was submitted to senior police officials.

**On 11 November in Charkhi Dadri, Haryana,** a protest outside a church led to the temporary detention of Pastor Jagsar and another pastor. The matter was resolved peacefully the same evening, and both were released following intervention by a local church and various Christian leaders.

**On 17 November in Panipat, Haryana,** Pastor Abhishek faced harassment and opposition from neighbours due to his religious activities. He submitted a written representation to the local SHO, who assured follow-up with the opposing parties.

**On 7 December in Santosh Nagar, Faridabad district, Haryana,** Samuel Saseed (Delhi resident) and Sachin were

attending a prayer meeting when a false complaint was filed by Vijay Shankar alleging inducement and religious conversion. A first information report was registered under the Haryana anti-conversion law, and police seized religious books and a mobile phone. On 15 December, the Sessions Court, Faridabad granted bail to Sachin.

**On 7 December in Bilawal village, Charkhi Dadri district, Haryana,** Pastor Anil Kumar's prayer meeting was disrupted by extremist elements accompanied by police. He was summoned to the Ateli Police Station and instructed not to continue prayer meetings. A complaint was emailed to the Superintendent of Police.

**On 14 December in Kailash Nagar, Palwal district, Haryana,** religious extremists disrupted a Sunday worship service at an Assembly of God church by raising slogans. Police arrested Pastor Daniel Nag along with several followers of Christianity. While most were released by evening, the pastor remained detained for further questioning.

**On 15 December in Mangali Mohabbat village, Hisar district, Haryana,** Pastors Monu and David were conducting a Christmas gathering when extremist elements and police disrupted the event. Complaints were registered from both sides, and the pastors exercised their legal rights.

**On 21 December in Baba Colony, Sonipat district, Haryana,** Pastor Meena, her husband Shivanand, and around ten followers of Christianity were taken to Sadar Police Station after extremist elements disrupted a prayer meeting and called the police. A complaint was later filed, and the matter was settled.

**On 25 December in Hisar, Haryana,** extremist groups organized a Hindu Shakti Sangam event at Krantiman Park, located

opposite the 160-year-old St. Thomas Church. The program featured a recitation of the Hanuman Chalisa and a havan, which was presented in response to alleged religious conversions. The event affected Christmas celebrations at the church, leading to reduced attendance and disruption of local commercial activity.

**On 25 December in Jhajjar, Haryana,** Pastor Pramod lodged a complaint with the police after extremists elements began playing loud sound from a rooftop in a manner that caused disturbance and appeared intended to provoke tension. He contacted the police through the 112 emergency helpline, following which the police responded and provided protection, helping to prevent any further escalation of the situation.

**On 28 December in Teekli village, Sector 56, Gurugram (Gurgaon), Haryana,** an under-construction church building was vandalised two days after a local mahapanchayat opposed the project. Miscreants damaged CCTV cameras, electrical fittings, and cables, and took away surveillance equipment including the DVR and Wi-Fi router. Caretakers were threatened during the incident. Police have inspected the site, assured increased security, and are mediating between parties, though no First Information Report was immediately registered.

## **HIMACHAL PRADESH**

**On 21 February in Bilaspur, Himachal Pradesh,** Pastor Nirbhay, a native of Odisha, faced harassment and intimidation by antisocial elements since being detained at a prayer meeting in Raily village on 19 February. He's repeatedly called to the station, denied preaching rights, asked for

financial documents, and evicted by his landlord.

**On 23 February in Kotkhai, Shimla district, Himachal Pradesh,** Pastor Heeralal was leading a prayer meeting when a group of religious extremists barged in and disrupted the gathering. The intruders recorded videos of those present and issued threats, warning them not to conduct any further prayer meetings in the area.

**On 30 March in Pragtinagar Gumma, Kotkhai, Shimla district, Himachal Pradesh,** Manish was conducting a fellowship meeting when individuals accompanied by the SHO arrived and stopped the gathering, stating that prior permission was required; following coordination by Adv. Vijay and discussion by allied advocate Bhag Chand with the SHO, police assured their support and confirmed that Manish may continue the fellowship at the same location with assistance if required.

**On 30 March in Pragtinagar Gumma, Kotkhai, Shimla district, Himachal Pradesh,** Mr. Manish's fellowship was stopped by locals and the SHO citing lack of permission. Advocate Bhag Chand later spoke to the SHO, who assured police assistance and permission for continued meetings.

**On 22nd June, Tali, Kangra, Himachal Pradesh,** Ankur Narula Ministry opened a branch facing immediate opposition from locals and police, demanding permission papers. Panchayat called a meeting with threats and forced statements. Advocate Bhagchand offered assistance, but locals declined.

**On 14 October in Dehra Police Station, Kangra district, Himachal Pradesh,** First Information Report No. 114 was registered

against six Christians under Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita and provisions of the HP Freedom of Religion Act, and after communication with the police, authorities informed the team that the individuals would be released by extending the benefit of Section 35 the Bharatiya Nagarik Suraksha Sanhita.

## JAMMU & KASHMIR

**On 24 May in Pura, Jammu,** at around 11:00 AM, Pastor Akash Masih's church was attacked by miscreants. The attackers broke into the church, vandalised property, burned copies of the Bible, stole cash, and defiled the premises by defecating inside. Christian leaders met with the Police Post Kullian in charge and the Miran Sahib SHO, urging them to register an FIR. The SHO filed the case and assured prompt arrests.

**On 19–21 September in Samba district, Jammu,** a lawful prayer meeting organised by the Pastors' Association was disrupted by members of a religious extremist group. Although police initially dispersed the group, protests continued on subsequent days, pressuring authorities to register the first information report against the pastors despite valid permissions.

**On 26 September in Pandorian Brahmana village, Bishnah area, Jammu,** Praveen Kumar, a follower of Christianity and police personnel, was attacked by members of an upper-caste group using sharp weapons. A first information report was registered against the accused, though no arrests had been made at the time. Praveen Kumar was hospitalised and remains under medical care.

**On 23 October in Jakhol village, Kathua**

**district, Jammu & Kashmir,** a visiting FMBP Ministry (Christian faith-based organisation) team was stopped, assaulted, and verbally abused by locals while police were present. Their vehicle was damaged, and they were falsely accused of attempting religious conversion. A case was later registered against the ministry team, and three members, Jaipal, Kartar Chand, and Rajkumar, were arrested and subsequently released on bail.

**On 25 December in Jammu district, Jammu and Kashmir,** an extremist group forcibly entered the home of a pastor's family and assaulted Pastor Baby and his wife Bincy during Christmas. The attackers verbally abused and threatened women and children, while the pastor was beaten outside the house. The pastor's wife sustained injuries, and the family has sought immediate police action and protection against the identified assailants.

**On 25 December in Arniya, Jammu,** Pastor Ganesh was conducting a cottage prayer meeting at the home of Vinod, a follower of Christianity, when police detained five individuals and took them to the police station. They were later released.

## JHARKHAND

**On 12 January in Kairo Mahuari village, Lohardaga district, Jharkhand,** Jaony Oraon lost her husband, Dukha Oraon, after a prolonged illness. When the family attempted to bury him in the village graveyard, villagers objected. Following police intervention and mediation, another follower of Christianity offered private land for the burial, which was then conducted peacefully.

**On 19 January in Argora, Ranchi,**

**Jharkhand**, Pradeep Gari and Raj Tigga faced threats on account of their Christian faith from their relatives. Relatives tried fencing their land after Sunday worship, and Pradeep's wife was harassed the next day.

**On 21 January in Lawagara, Latehar, Jharkhand**, Mamita Kumari and her family, followers of Christianity, were attacked at home by Manoj Oraon and others, some of whom were intoxicated. Her brother was severely beaten unconscious, and her minor sister was verbally threatened. The attackers broke her uncle's leg and locked the family inside. Female perpetrators were also involved in the verbal abuse. The family fled the village due to fear and repeated threats.

**On 1 February in Chakradharpur, West Singhbhum district, Jharkhand**, Fulchand Mahto reported that Mecho Kerai, a widow and follower of Christianity, was under intense pressure from some family members to perform religious rituals. Mecho, who lives with her two daughters and one son, was threatened with eviction and a Rs.5,000 fine. Her government-installed water tap was also destroyed, forcing her to fetch drinking water from the river. She has been warned of being forcibly evicted from her home the next day.

**On 3 February in Morwaiy Kala, Barwadih, Latehar, Jharkhand**, Pramod Ram, Ramjan Ram, and 20 others have faced continuous discrimination from the village head for their faith. Over the past week, they were barred from accessing water, grazing cattle, shopping, and getting rations. When a fellow Christian arranged a rice mill at home, the worker was warned and driven away by the village head.

**On 8 February in Latehar, Jharkhand**, Monika Khajur, a follower of Christianity, faced opposition from extremist elements.

Monika was apprehending physical violence on her and her family.

**On 18 February in Manoharpur, East Singhbhum, Jharkhand**, Pastor Sahay Lugun was threatened by members of a religious extremist group, demanding that he stop conducting church services in the area.

**On 18 March in Khunti, Jharkhand**, Pastor Karamsing reported that Goga Purty and his family, followers of Christianity, were being threatened for refusing to contribute to local Puja donations. Villagers warned they would be evicted by Thursday if they did not contribute.

**On 19 March in Baliyapur, Dhanbad, Jharkhand**, Sukhlal and Sunita Hansda accepted Christianity after a personal tragedy. Disowned by Sukhlal's father and excluded from inheritance, the Sarna Panchayat announced action against them for leaving the tribal religion. The family remains firm in faith amidst a social boycott and intimidation threats.

**On 20 March in Hazaribagh, Jharkhand**, concerns escalated regarding church land historically under possession of the CNI Church, where administrative actions included demolition of church structures and a cross to construct a police facility.

**On 20 March in Tall-Panki, Palamu district, Jharkhand**, Pastor Om Prakash Bhuiya and followers of Christianity were threatened by villagers, including local leaders, during worship, with warnings of violence and arson. Pastor Anil organised a Zoom session with the followers of Christianity where legal rights were explained by Ashish, after which the group decided not to file a complaint and instead shifted worship to a nearby village.

**On 9 April in Akakumba, Hazaribagh,**

**Jharkhand**, Raju Hembrom was threatened by villagers planning a large meeting on 15 April. They warned that he and others would be assaulted and expelled if they did not renounce Christianity.

**On 25 April in Bagodhar, Hazaribagh District, Jharkhand**, Sanjeev Kumar hosted a house prayer with visiting pastors. Villagers filed a false complaint of religious conversion. Police detained Sanjeev, Pastor Biren, and six others. The pastors were also beaten.

**On 28 April in Hata village under Manika Police Station, Latehar district, Jharkhand**, four Christian families reported prolonged threats and harassment, physical assaults, and escalating hostility, including threats of murder. They have appealed to the Superintendent of Police for intervention, and it was also reported that one family member sustained a serious leg injury in the recent assault and was undergoing medical treatment.

**On 16 May in Chandwa, Latehar, Jharkhand**, Sandeep was informed by Aman about a planned three-day prayer meeting from 30 May to 1 June. Prem Barjo applied to the SDO, Latehar, after which the SDO issued a notice initiating an inquiry.

**On 29 May in Lepsar village, Ranchi, Jharkhand**, Pastor Naveen Tirkey from AG Church reported that Puja Tuti, wife of Rajesh Munda, and a follower of Christianity, was attacked along with her daughter following a dispute over crop damage. Puja's was struck on her head with an iron rod, causing serious injuries. Her daughter Priyayu was also assaulted while intervening. Fearing further attacks, the family sought refuge at Pastor Naveen's church.

**On 16 June in Chatara village, Bendi area of Koderma district, Jharkhand**, Rajesh

Bhuiya and other followers of Christianity faced sustained threats, land encroachment, denial of access to water, and restrictions on use of public spaces due to their faith.

**On 18 June in Kudra, Gumla, Jharkhand**, Pastor Naman Bage reported a family facing social boycott for their faith. The village panchayat ruled that converts would be denied water, hookah, and community ties. Eight individuals were reconverted while others left the village.

**On 12 July in Manika block, Latehar district, Jharkhand**, Lalita Kumari and her family were threatened and assaulted for their Christian faith. Villagers forcibly ploughed their paddy field and attempted to occupy their land. The family has faced harassment for over a year. A police complaint was drafted and submitted.

**On 23 July in Khanda village, Kero Police Station area, Lohardaga district, Jharkhand**, Kungi Oraon, wife of Gadu Oraon, faced harassment on account of Christian faith, while preparing her agricultural field. Villagers restricted her farming activities and later threatened her family. Police failed to act on complaints, and her son was assaulted at the police station. The family has faced prolonged harassment.

**On 23 July in Khanda Kairo village, Lohardaga district, Jharkhand**, Gandu Oraon, a follower of Christianity, was prevented by villagers from ploughing his agricultural land because of his Christian faith. Even external assistance arranged to help with the farming activities was blocked by the villagers.

**On 6 August in Narauli village, Jharkhand**, villagers obstructed the burial of a deceased follower of Christianity, locked the homes of followers of

Christianity, and prevented them from leaving. Police were later called by locals, and the burial was eventually conducted on the family's private land.

**On 21 September at Tatanagar railway station, Jamshedpur district, Jharkhand,** a Catholic nun, two NGO staff members, and 19 minors were detained by railway police following an extremist group's complaint alleging trafficking and conversion. After several hours of questioning, all were released and escorted to a Catholic Charities centre.

**On 28 September in Palandu village, Hazaribagh district, Jharkhand,** Geeta Devi and her husband were attacked and denied access to a government well due to their Christian faith. Villagers blocked the well and issued threats, including branding her a "witch."

**On 12 October in Palamu district, Jharkhand,** Pastor Mithlesh was conducting a prayer meeting at his house church when police forcibly entered, disrupted the service, and detained him along with followers of Christianity. All were later released, and police warned against continuing prayer meetings.

**On 24 October in Ranchi district, Jharkhand,** Mukti Mahotsav Samithi, led by Pastor David Topono, faced opposition to a legally permitted convention. Police issued notices under Section 126 of the Bharatiya Nagarik Suraksha Sanhita. After legal coordination and compliance, the convention proceeded successfully with police protection.

**On 30 October in Ara, Chandwa area, Latehar, Jharkhand,** four Christian families belonging to the GEL Church faced social boycott after refusing to participate in traditional rituals. Their electricity supply was cut, access to water and forest

resources was restricted, and further harassment occurred in November. Complaints were filed with the police and Superintendent of Police.

**On 29 November in Senha area, Lohardaga district, Jharkhand,** Pastor Dilip reported disruption of a Christian burial after villagers opposed funeral rites on private land. The body was buried in another village, but the grave was later exhumed by villagers. Police intervened and restored the burial, preventing further escalation.

**On 28 December in Manatu, Garhwa district, Jharkhand,** Pastor Rajendra was organising a post-Christmas program when, while returning with a guest speaker, Pastor Shyam and Pastor Avishek were attacked by members of an extremist group. Both sustained injuries to their face and hands and were taken into police custody. They were later released and returned home safely. A complaint has been filed, though no receipt has yet been issued by the police.

**On 7 December in Fulsuri, Kuru block, Lohardaga district, Jharkhand,** Josmina Oraon and her family were threatened by villagers to undergo Gharwapsi rituals and offer sacrifices. Pastor Naveen Tirkey intervened and provided support. A complaint was submitted to the Deputy Commissioner, after which police deployment was made during a village meeting.

## KARNATAKA

**On 5 January in Sringeri, Chikmagalur district, Karnataka,** Pastor Mohan was attacked by around ten members of an extremist group who forcibly entered a prayer gathering and assaulted him, falsely

accusing him of religious conversion.

**On 6 January in Mundgod, Uttara Kannada district, Karnataka,** a Christian school faced repeated threats from members of an extremist group who falsely accused that the school was converting non-Christian children.

**On 6 January in Manavi, Raichur district, Karnataka,** Pastor Prasanna was praying in his church when some individuals disrupted the gathering, demanding that he stop conducting church services unless he obtained official permission to do so.

**On 15 January in Bagepalli Taluk, Chikkaballapura district, Karnataka,** Pastor Yesurathnam Garudadri of the ECI Church was laying the foundation of a new church building and had invited a few fellow pastors for prayer. During the gathering, members of an extremist group arrived and physically assaulted him.

**On 17 January in Shivamogga, Karnataka,** Pastor Philip faced harassment following the death of his wife. Local villagers opposed her burial in the area, insisting that a Christian should not be buried there. They also objected due to the absence of her Aadhaar and voter ID linked to the location. Religious extremist groups further obstructed the burial, complicating her last rites.

**On 3 February in Bangalore, Karnataka,** Pastor John Mendis and Joyce were falsely accused because of their ministry work. Subsequently, a First Information Report (FIR) was registered against them.

**On 16 February in Vijayapura, Karnataka,** Jyothibai was physically attacked on her way to church because of her faith in Christianity. Subsequently,

fearing further attacks and harassment from religious extremist groups operating in the area, she, along with a local Christian leader, reported the matter to the Superintendent of Police.

**On 16 February in Chitradurga, Karnataka,** Pastor Biju was detained and taken to the local police station. Police asked for church permission documents. Local leaders aimed to secure his release without an arrest entry and present documents the next day.

**On 17 February in Tarikere Taluk, Chikkamagaluru district, Karnataka,** Meghana Nagaraj, a church member associated with Pastor Manjunath, was brutally assaulted by members of an extremist group. The attackers, intolerant of her church attendance, falsely accused her of attempted murder and warned her not to engage in any form of debate. They also pressured her to contribute financially to the construction of a Hindu temple.

**On 19 February in Hubballi, Karnataka,** Christians requesting land for a burial ground were subjected to derogatory remarks from religious extremists, who conspired to attack the pastor leading the effort. The incident reflects growing hostility against Christians asserting burial rights locally.

**On 22 February in Kalagi, Kalaburagi, Karnataka,** at 7:00 PM, Evangelist Ashwini and her team ran a program at ANS Quarters, PHC Ratkal. Members of a right-wing group disrupted the event, alleging financial aid for religious conversion. Accusations of hate speech were made. Police, under pressure, registered FIRs against Ashwini, Rabika, and Abhishek.

**On 22 February in Lakshmeshwara, Gadag, Karnataka,** Pastor Lokesh Kalal

who has been leading prayer at the church of the AG denomination, became a target during Sevalal Jayanti celebrations event. During the public event, Kumara Maharaja made an inflammatory statement, calling for an attack on Pastor Lokesh.

**On 30 January in Chitradurga, Karnataka,** a government-allotted burial ground faced illegal encroachment and harassment against the Christian community, following which local pastors left with an option to seek legal guidance.

**On 30 March in Hirebidanur, Chikballapur district, Karnataka,** Pastor Suhas and other Love Race Church members were praying when a man named Tejas and a group of around 20 forcibly entered and assaulted five congregants.

**On 31 March in Pavagada, Karnataka,** during the dedication ceremony of a new IPC church building, a group of extremist elements disrupted the meeting, created a nuisance, and forced the proceedings to stop. Despite having all necessary documents and official permissions, the group locked the church and took away the keys. With timely police intervention, the situation was brought under control. The police reopened the church and returned the keys to Pastor Suresh. A First Information Report (FIR) was filed against the culprits.

**On 6 April in Koppa village, Koppa Taluk, Chikkamagaluru district, Karnataka,** Roopa, Jyothi, John Bitto, and Latha, followers of Christianity, were stopped and harassed while travelling to church and accused of following a "foreign religion." Later, due to pressure from extremists, their employers dismissed them from their daily-wage stone quarry jobs. The victims later filed a police complaint and requested emergency support assistance.

**On 10 April in Maradiyur, Kodagu, Karnataka,** Pastor Stenson of Rehoboth AG Church was assaulted while inspecting a church construction site. Locals opposed the building despite official permission and attacked him and his wife, who were hospitalised. Followers of Christianity trying to help were also injured.

**On 12 April in Srirangapatna, Mandya district, Karnataka,** a family dispute involving Srikanth escalated into allegations of religious conversion due to extremist elements, leading to the arrest of eight individuals including Srikanth, Harish, Ravi Kumar, Subramanya, Prabha, Prashanth, Sagara, Nagigni, and Krishna Veni, and a false first information report under religious law provisions.

**On 12 April in Hirebidanur, Chikballapur, Karnataka,** Pastor Suhas's Love Race Church was set on fire at midnight. Two men were seen burning banners. Followers of Christianity who questioned them were beaten. Some followers of Christianity were sleeping inside the church at the time.

**On 21 May in Laxmeshwara, Shiratti, Gadag district, Karnataka,** a group of 19 followers of Christianity, including R. Manappa Valappa Lamani, were violently attacked by a religious extremist group led by Jyotilal. The followers of Christianity were threatened with being burnt alive if they continued attending church. Several were physically assaulted, and later the attackers filed a counter-complaint against 30 followers of Christianity, accusing them of assault and threats.

**On 18 June in Chitadurga, Karnataka,** Pastor Harry shared that during a prayer meeting at a fellow Christian's home, Religious extremists disrupted prayers, called police, and five followers of

christianity were detained. Pastor Paul's wife and two others were later released, while two were held overnight.

**On 19 July in Shikaripura, Shivamogga district, Karnataka,** Pastor Yuvaraj of the Assemblies of God Church faced opposition from villagers while attempting to construct a church on his own land. Locals claimed there were no Christians in the village and objected to the construction. The pastor had to temporarily leave the area.

**On 22 July in Nagasandra village, Gauribidanur Taluk, Chikkaballapur district, Karnataka,** members of an independent church were threatened by members of an extremist group and pressured to reconvert to their former faith by recanting Christianity. Some were forcibly taken to a temple to perform rituals.

**On 2 September in Shivamogga district, Karnataka,** officials from KPTCL disrupted a prayer gathering led by Pastor Prem Kumar, alleging that the church building was constructed on encroached land. Following discussions with the local MLA, Superintendent of Police, and Tehsildar, assurances were given not to disturb worship, and services have since continued.

**On 10 September in Astappanahalli village, Channagiri taluk, Davangere district, Karnataka,** Pastor Yesudas Karunakaran faced protests by certain groups falsely accusing him of forced religious conversion and demanding demolition of the church. A police complaint was submitted, after which Pastor Yesudas was physically assaulted.

**On 28 September in Jogihalli village, Tumakuru district, Karnataka,** Pastor Krishna faced objections from members of

an extremist group who complained to the Deputy Commissioner alleging unauthorised church construction. Police issued a notice directing him to obtain permission before holding prayer meetings.

**On 10 October in Hubballi and Dharwad, Karnataka,** congregations led by Pastor Sunil Mahade, Pastor Peter, and Ganga, were attacked by religious extremists during their prayer meeting. Four churches were closed, and concerns were raised about coordinated efforts to shut down additional house churches.

**On 15 October in Tumkur district, Karnataka,** during the Beautiful Books exhibition at Murugarajendra School, right-wing political party worker Vasanth made derogatory and threatening remarks against Christians, including threats to burn the Bible. A police complaint was filed, and A First Information Report was registered.

**On 26 October in Bangalore Rural district, Karnataka,** Pastor Gangadhar faced opposition from family members and local individuals who pressured him to stop Christian worship and vacate his residence, threatening harm.

**On 27 December in Maralakunte area, Bengaluru district, Karnataka,** Janoba Mary was threatened by members of a religious extremist group, who warned her that she would be beaten if she continued praying on Sundays. She has been holding prayer meetings for nearly three years.

**On 28 December in Bagalur, Bengaluru district, Karnataka,** Pastor Manju Peter was conducting prayer when a panchayat member arrived, threatened the followers of Christianity, and questioned whether they had permission to pray.

## **MADHYA PRADESH**

**On 6 January in Sukhliya Extension, Indore, Madhya Pradesh,** Pastor Jolly and his wife were attending a prayer meeting at a fellow Christian's house when a group of extremists barged in, physically assaulted the pastor, and accused him of religious conversion. Both were later taken to Lasudiya Police Station.

**On 12 January in Seoni, Madhya Pradesh,** Pastor P. Devisingh from Uttar Pradesh, who had travelled to attend a prayer meeting, was arrested at Chapara Police Station following allegations of religious conversion.

**On 12 January in the Multai area, Betul district, Madhya Pradesh,** Pastor Ajay and other followers of Christianity were praying in a house when police arrived on a false conversion complaint, detaining the pastor and five others. A case was filed against Pastor Ajay and other followers of Christianity under Section 170 of the Bharatiya Nagarik Suraksha Sanhita.

**On 18 January in Thandla, Jhabua, Madhya Pradesh,** Nikhilesh Damor faced accusations of conversion. Police registered an FIR. Already jailed for a recovery issue, he's a journalist known for opposing extremists and has an active social media presence. He attends the local Catholic church.

**On 21 January in Bhainsaghat, Betul, Madhya Pradesh,** Shaju Thakre was praying in a house with others. Extremists accused them of luring tribals with jobs and filed a complaint. Police arrested Shaju and Ravi, taking them to Jallar Police Station. A first information report was lodged under the Freedom of Religion Act.

**On 26 January in Bijawar, Chhatarpur, Madhya Pradesh,** Yashwant Singh, Mihilal, and Nannu Ahirwar were praying when religious extremists burst in, disrupted prayers, and accused them of conversions. Three followers of Christianity were arrested and jailed under the Religious Conversion Act.

**On 8 February in Mauvakeda, Raisen, Madhya Pradesh,** AK Thomas, CC Thomas, and Ganpat held a prayer meeting with 40–50 followers of Christianity. Police, alongside religious extremist groups in two vehicles, stormed in, assaulted followers of Christianity, and detained three persons till 9 PM. Police confiscated Bibles, phones, and bikes, later filing a first information report under Section 35(3) of the Bharatiya Nagarik Suraksha Sanhita.

**On 16 February in Indore, Madhya Pradesh,** Sheela held a medical awareness event for children of domestic workers with St. Francis Hospital. Despite prior notice, neighbours objected, falsely alleging religious conversion activity. Police detained Sheela, the doctors, nurses, and children. Religious extremist groups staged protests, demanding FIRs and alleging inducement.

**On 12 March in Chhindwara, Madhya Pradesh,** Sejnath Suryavanshi and Vijay Tumraam were en route to Pathankot for a prayer meeting when a co-passenger accused them of conversion. a first information report was filed under the Madhya Pradesh Religious Freedom Act.

**On 16 March Pastor Kamlesh Saket and Arvind Saket were taken to the police station during worship in Singrauli, Madhya Pradesh.** They were later arrested under conversion charges.

**On 17 March in Behdavi, Jhabua District, Madhya Pradesh,** Pastor Kaliya and a

follower of Christianity named Madiya were accused of forced conversion during a house prayer. After police custody, they were harassed and assaulted by villagers. Their homes were looted, and they remain displaced despite filing complaints.

**On 21 March in Alirajpur district, Madhya Pradesh,** Pastor Chhagan and his companions were assaulted during a prayer meeting by members of extremists groups, after which he was taken to the police station and multiple FIRs were filed including under the Freedom of Religion law. Bail efforts were being coordinated by their families.

**On 31 March in Ranjhi Parish, Jabalpur, Madhya Pradesh,** Dr. Fr. Davis George, Vicar General of Jabalpur Diocese, was brutally attacked by the members of a religious extremist group during Pilgrimage Yatra in the presence of authorities.

**On 31 March in Jabalpur, Madhya Pradesh,** a bus was stopped by extremist vigilantes accusing passengers of religious conversion. IDs were checked based on religion; passengers were beaten and taken to the police station.

**On 11 April in Jhabua, Madhya Pradesh,** four Christian families in a remote village had their houses set on fire by groups opposing the Christian faith. Three homes were destroyed.

**On 18 April in Kathiwada, Alirajpur, Madhya Pradesh,** Pastor Gamesh was charged under the Madhya Pradesh freedom of religion Act while leading a prayer meeting at his home. A member of an extremist group filed the police complaint.

**On 20 April in Bichhiya tehsil, Mandla district, Madhya Pradesh,** Pastor Promod was served a notice by the Sub-Divisional Magistrate (Sub-Divisional Magistrate)

under Section 94 of the Bharatiya Nagarik Suraksha Sanhita, demanding that he produce official permission for conducting a prayer meeting at a follower of Christianity's house attended by around 35 people.

**On 10 May in Undwa village, Jhabua district, Madhya Pradesh,** Ashish and his father Gajju were arrested following a complaint filed by Ashish's wife Sangeeta, who falsely accused them of religious conversion after marriage. Subsequently, both victims were later granted bail.

**On 17 May in Mandla, Madhya Pradesh,** Pastor Singhram Markam peacefully held a prayer meeting at his house church. On 22 May, police sent a notice under Section 179 of the Bharatiya Nagarik Suraksha Sanhita to him and 21 others to appear on 31 May, over a complaint filed at Mawai Police Station.

**On 18 May in Full Gospel Church, Ranjhi, Jabalpur District, Madhya Pradesh,** a group led by a woman entered during Sunday worship, stood at the pulpit, and accused the pastor of conversions. Local leaders confirmed a first information report was filed against her. Authorities were cooperative and supportive.

**On 8 June in Sukhi Sevaniya, Bhopal, Madhya Pradesh,** Kaluram Gaud and two others were questioned by extremists, falsely accused of conversion, and detained by police. first information report filed against Kaluram.

**On 15 June in Balaghat, Madhya Pradesh,** stones were thrown at a car carrying Pastor Nandkishore Bopche, Santosh Waghade and Sonu Thakre in Katangi. The glass shattered, injuring Sonu. The attack was linked to local religious extremists angered by a relative's decision of faith.

**On 18 June in Jabalpur, Madhya Pradesh,** A newspaper reported that Nitu Raikwar from Gandhi Basti accused being lured into conversion by Manoj Pillai and Vinod Rajiv, who promised healing. She claimed she was given ration items. Police registered A first information report and initiated an investigation.

**On 20 June in Nimkhin, Dewas, Madhya Pradesh,** Vacation Bible School workers Manju, Kiran, Maitha, and Sachin were surrounded by extremist elements and were falsely accused of carrying out religious conversion work. Subsequently, they were taken to Sonkatch Police Station.

**On 22 June in Neapanagar, Burhanpur, Madhya Pradesh,** Pastor Baliram Kirade was praying when Religious extremists surrounded his home, accused him of conversions, and assaulted four followers of christianity, stripping them before police took them to the station. Pastor Baliram faces a third case under MP's conversion law.

**On 29 June in the Adhartal police station area, Jabalpur, Madhya Pradesh,** Pastor Hariom Kewat was leading a prayer meeting attended by several followers of Christianity. Following a complaint filed by Nikita Yadav, alleging inducement related to her child's medical condition, police registered A first information report under the state anti-conversion law against Pastor Hariom Kewat, Preeti Jain, Namita Raikwar, Kavita Raikwar, and Nikita Raikwar, and arrested all five.

**On 7 July in Thandla town, Jhabua district, Madhya Pradesh,** Pastor Kanji Damor was leading a house prayer meeting when religious extremists disrupted the gathering and lodged a false conversion complaint. Police detained Pastor Kanji Damor and his son Ravji Damor, registered a first information report, and sent both to jail.

**On 13 July in Hiranagar area, Indore district, Madhya Pradesh,** Pastor Shaji was detained after police, investigating an earlier theft complaint, accused him of religious conversion upon discovering a prayer gathering. Following intervention by senior officials, the pastor was released.

**On 17 August in Sehore district, Madhya Pradesh,** Pastor Jabbar Khan was leading a house prayer meeting when over 100 individuals linked to extremist groups forcibly entered the premises, assaulted followers of Christianity, and created a disturbance. Pastor Jabbar and a follower of Christianity named Virendra were detained and later released. Subsequently, a first information report under the Madhya Pradesh Freedom of Religion Act was registered against Pastor Jabbar and his wife Tahira Khan, and Pastor Jabbar was arrested and sent to jail. Despite interim protection granted by the High Court against demolition of his house, municipal authorities partially demolished the residence. Pastor Jabbar was later granted bail by the High Court, and legal proceedings were ongoing.

**On 24 August in Lakhnadon tehsil, Seoni district, Madhya Pradesh,** Pastor Bahadur Ahirwar was assaulted during a Sunday worship service after an unidentified woman accused him of attempted religious conversion. A first information report was registered under the Madhya Pradesh Freedom of Religion Act. Pastor Bahadur and others were later granted anticipatory bail by the High Court.

**On 5 September in Ratlam district, Madhya Pradesh,** Pastor Vikram was conducting a house church service when members of an extremist group arrived, recorded videos, and lodged a false complaint with the police of carrying out religious conversion. Pastor Vikram and others were taken into custody.

**On 9 September in Waidhan, Singrauli district, Madhya Pradesh,** Pastor Nathan Nayak was leading a prayer meeting with 25–30 followers of Christianity when a group disrupted the worship, assaulted attendees including women and children, and forcibly took around 20 followers of Christianity to the police station. Pastor Nathan and his wife were detained, and several followers of Christianity, Meena Nayak, Nandan Shah, Arpit Nayak, Pinki Sonwani, and others, were formally arrested. Pastor Nathan Nayak and four others were later granted bail by the Sessions Court in Waidhan.

**On 4 October in Sendhwa tehsil, Barwani district, Madhya Pradesh,** extremist elements disrupted a prayer meeting at the residence of Pastor Mohan Pavara. Several followers of Christianity, including Pastor Chiranjivi and Louiza Mohan Pavara, were taken to the police station. Victims were later released, and a complaint was submitted.

**On 5 October in Khalghat police station area, Khargone district, Madhya Pradesh,** Virendra Dabar and three women, followers of Christianity, were detained on false allegations of religious conversion. They were assaulted by members of an extremist group in the presence of police.

**On 26 October in Maihar, Madhya Pradesh,** Pastor Yogendra Kumar and members of A.G. Church were attacked during a church service and taken to the police station following allegations of religious conversion. Four individuals were arrested under the Religious Freedom Act and later granted bail by the Sessions Court.

**On 26 October in Gandhi Nagar area, Bhopal district, Madhya Pradesh,** eight Christian women belonging to Scheduled Caste communities were arrested under the Madhya Pradesh Freedom of Religion Act.

Regular bail applications were filed, and all eight women were later granted bail by the Sessions Court. Anticipatory bail was also filed for Pastor Prakash Paul.

**On 29 October in Manpur village, under Thandla Police Station, Jhabua district, Madhya Pradesh,** a Christians prayer meeting at the residence of Naru Damor was disrupted following a false complaint of accused religious conversion. Police arrested nine followers of Christianity and later booked ten individuals under the Madhya Pradesh anti-conversion law.

**On 30 October in Ichhawar tehsil, Sehore district, Madhya Pradesh,** Gopal Barela, Pyaar Singh Barela, and Mahesh were arrested after a prayer meeting was disrupted by religious extremists alleging conversion through inducements. All three were jailed. Bail was later granted by the Madhya Pradesh High Court, Jabalpur Bench.

**On 26 November in Indra Nagar, Dangi State Phase-2, Sehore district, Madhya Pradesh,** a Christian woman was accused of forced conversion during a home prayer meeting. She and her family were threatened with death and eviction, creating severe fear and insecurity.

**On 7 December in Khapabhat village, Chhindwara, Madhya Pradesh,** members of an extremist group attacked a church during Sunday worship and took five Christians to the police station. Some were later released, while others awaited bail hearings.

**On 7 December in Jabalpur, Madhya Pradesh,** a false complaint was of religious conversion made against a woman teacher and preists at St. Xavier school over involving a student.

**On 8 December in Patdi village, Thandla**

**police station limits, Jhabua district, Madhya Pradesh,** Ravaji Damor, a follower of Christianity associated with Shalom Mission, was brutally assaulted by Dilip Bahadur Medha, the son of the village sarpanch and a member of an extremist group. The assault followed repeated harassment and false conversion allegations. A first information report was registered against the accused after the incident went viral on video, though no arrests had been made at the time. Counter-cases under the state anti-conversion law are also being pursued against Ravaji.

**On 20 December in Jabalpur, Madhya Pradesh,** nearly twenty men led by right-wing political party Jabalpur district vice president Anju Bhargava disrupted a Christmas prayer meeting and lunch program for visually impaired children at a church in the Gorakhpur area. The group removed banners, damaged lighting, raised slogans alleging forced conversions, and harassed attendees, including a visually impaired woman named Safalta Kartik, causing panic among the children present.

**On 21 Decemebr in Piplipada, Meghnagar, Jhabua, Madhya Pradesh,** Pastor Ramesh, along with others, visited the home of a fellow Christian for carol singing on the occasion of Christmas. However, after the carol singing concluded, the pastor and two others were severely beaten by local residents from the neighbourhood because of their Christian faith. Pastor Vasuniya received the most severe beating after he was identified as the pastor.

**On 21 December in Shakti Nagar, Jabalpur, Madhya Pradesh,** Pastor Rajesh Chaudhary was leading a worship service at Prathna Bhavan Church when a mob of extremists of approximately 50–60 individuals, associated with a religious extremist groups, suddenly arrived and

launched an unprovoked attack on the church premises. The mob vandalised church property, physically assaulted followers of Christianity, and misbehaved with women and children present at the service. They also raised false allegations of religious conversion, creating panic and fear among the congregation.

**On 23 December in Sivanpani village, Udaynagar, Dewas district, Madhya Pradesh,** Pastor Dinesh Chauhan and two followers of Christianity, Ramesh Bhargav and Binu Jamle, faced disruption during a prayer meeting by members of extremist groups. Some individuals were taken to the police station, and a first information report was registered against three persons.

**On 25 December in Vidisha city, Madhya Pradesh,** Pastor Andreyas Bagh, his wife, two sons, and niece were assaulted by members of an extremist group during a Christmas prayer meeting. They were taken to Civil Lines Police Station, where they were falsely implicated in a conversion case. They were later produced before court, and bail was granted.

## MAHARASHTRA

**On 9 February in Kolhapur, Maharashtra,** Pastor Amar Tandle reported an incident where Pastor Anil Shirolkar, while leading a prayer, was asked for money by a boy for Shiv Jayanti. After refusal, 20–25 locals, including the society chairman, disrupted the meeting, claiming it lacked approval. The saffron-capped mob raised slogans and forcibly halted the church gathering.

**On 19 February in Jalgaon, Maharashtra,** Subhash Bhayanu Pavra and his relatives were offering prayers at their home when a

mob of 100 to 150 people stormed in, accusing them of carrying out religious conversions. As the family stated they solely believed in Jesus Christ and prayed to Him, the mob, in fury, assaulted the gathering and those present in the prayer meeting. They also vandalised six motorcycles belonging to the relatives and looted one and a half lakh rupees from the house.

**On 19 February in Jalgaon district, Maharashtra,** Pastor Praveen reported that a prayer meeting was being held with around 20 followers of Christianity when police officials, accompanied by members of an extremist group, arrived and forcibly stopped the gathering. Pastor Praveen was taken into custody and brought to Kusma Police Station for questioning. Following the disruption, police detained multiple individuals and took them to the local police station. Those detained included Pastor Nilesh, Subhash Barela, Pastor Sunil Barela, Pastor Gulab Aarya, and Pastor Pravin Barela. The incident caused fear among the local followers of Christianity and disrupted the normal functioning of the prayer fellowship.

**On 9 March in Solapur, Maharashtra,** a religious extremist mob attacked a local church. The pastor and women followers of Christianity were beaten, disrupting the Sunday worship service. All victims were taken to the police station.

**On 16 March in Chopda, Jalgaon district, Maharashtra,** Pastor Biju John reported that a prayer gathering was disrupted by extremists alleging conversion, and a few followers of Christianity were taken to the police station. Through coordination local advocate, all detained individuals were released without any charges.

**On 18 March in Sangamner, Ahmednagar district, Maharashtra,** Asha Dheeraj Chitale, Bharati Shantilal Chitale, and Vijay

Sawant from Nagar were physically assaulted by religious extremists in public view. The attack appeared to be targeted due to their religious identity.

**On 13 April in Umaraga, Osmanabad, Maharashtra,** Pastor Dutta Birajdar was attacked by religious extremists while leading prayer and taken to Umaraga Police Station under a false conversion accusation.

**On 1 May in Shirur, Pune, Maharashtra,** Pastor Moses David and his team were arrested following false accusations of forced religious conversions and disparaging remarks against another faith. A first information report was filed against them at Shirur Police Station, Pune Rural.

**On 21 May in Duliya City, Maharashtra,** Mrs. Sushma Yadav, wife of Pastor Ankur Varma, Mrs. Rekha Chandne, and Miss Shalome Chandne were taken to the police station after a complaint was filed while they were distributing tracts near a hospital. A first information report was registered under Section 196 of the Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita, and they were later granted bail.

**On 6 June in Moraji village, Maharashtra,** Pastor Dayaram Simon Pawra was assaulted by 30 people during a prayer visit to Shirpur at 8 PM. Sustained ear injury causing hearing issues. Police took him at 10 PM, detained for an hour, then released. He lacks funds for medical treatment.

**On 8 June in Ichalkaranji, Kolhapur, Maharashtra,** Bishop Sanjay's church service was attacked by extremist elements accusing them of carrying out forced conversions. Two women were assaulted in the attack. A first information report was filed with an advocate's help, but protests continued.

**On 13 July in Worli Koliwada, Mumbai,**

**Maharashtra**, Pastor Prakash Shetty's church was forcibly entered by a group of individuals who used abusive language, threatened worshippers, and questioned their faith. The group later left after issuing threats. Support and guidance were provided to the pastor.

**On 13 July in Sendriya Pada, Baglan tehsil, Nashik district, Maharashtra**, a prayer place was demolished by the Gram Panchayat. Despite repeated applications for regularisation, the structure—built on government land—was demolished without prior resolution.

**On 15 July in Diva, Mumbai, Maharashtra**, Pastor Alangaram and his wife were assaulted during a prayer meeting at their flat by unidentified individuals. Both sustained injuries. Their daughter Jemi, a youth leader, supported the family as they approached the police station to file a complaint. The family is seeking justice and medical recovery.

**On 17 July in Dodgir village, 7 km from Desilpeta town, Gadchiroli district, Maharashtra**, Adivasi Samaj Gondwana militants attacked 10 families. More than 50 tribal followers of Christianity were brutally beaten for their faith in Jesus Christ. They were given shelter in a church at Jimmalagatta town. Local pastors provided minimum supplies. The affected families include Bandu, Gundaiya, Korkaiya, Sudhakar, Laxman, Rupesh, Vishwas, Bentaiya, Keseiya, and Bengaiya.

**On 20 July in Malegaon, Nashik district, Maharashtra**, a crowd of about 100 to 150 unknown people arrived at a Christian prayer hall built two years ago, stopped the prayer meeting, and created chaos by shouting against religious conversion and the legality of the church. Police took Pastor Shimon Raut to the police station,

questioned him harshly, and checked his documents. He responded firmly and assertively. The accusers were eventually silenced and left the police station by 11 pm.

**On 28 August in Ravet, Pimpri-Chinchwad, Pune, Maharashtra**, Pastor Steven Vijay Kadam, along with a US national, Schaefer Javin Jacob and a minor, was detained by police on allegations of religious conversion. The minor was later handed over to his mother. Police registered a case under Sections 299 and 3(5) of the Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita and invoked provisions of the Foreigners Act against the US national.

**On 5 October in Bhiwandi, Maharashtra**, police arrested a foreign national and two locals on allegations of attempting religious conversion in Chimbipada village. The case was reported in local media, and investigations are ongoing.

**On 20 December in Benoda area near Amravati, Maharashtra**, Pastor Sudhir John Williams, his wife Jasmine Williams, and followers of Christianity Anand Kumar Benjamin Karri, Sangita Anand Karri, Vikram Gopal Sande, and Madhuri Vikram Sande were taken to Benoda Police Station on allegations related to conversion.

**On 25 December in Nala Sopara, Maharashtra**, Pastor Novel's Christmas worship service was disrupted by unidentified individuals, raising serious concerns within the Christian community about increasing hostility and insecurity surrounding public expressions of faith. The incident, which occurred during a significant festival gathering, has been perceived by many followers of Christianity as not merely an isolated disruption but a troubling indication of growing vulnerability for churches in the region.

## ODISHA

**On 25 January from Sanaburuda, Ganjam, Odisha,** it was reported by Ratnakar Bishoyi about a forced church closure after a series of harassments. From April 2024, thefts, vandalism, and threats escalated, peaking on Christmas Day when worship was attacked. A police complaint was lodged, but tensions persist.

**On 6 February in Bandiguda village, Malkangiri, Odisha,** Pastor Balram Karam, who had recently started a new prayer fellowship in the area, faced opposition from local villagers. He regularly visited the village for prayer meetings, he was physically assaulted and warned not to return. Despite ongoing threats, followers of Christianity continued to gather for prayers. During one such meeting, some villagers attacked the group, severely beating them and threatening to behead them if they continued their prayer activities. Christians went to the police station to file a complaint; however, the villagers also lodged a false complaint against the pastor. As a result, five followers of Christianity, Sureson Sodi, Maheswar Madkami, Adma Madi, Joga Madakami, and Sankar Sodi, were falsely accused of religious conversion and jailed.

**On 4 March in Siunaguda, Nabarangpur, Odisha,** the village saw tensions after 70-year-old Kesab Santra's death. His Christian family sought to bury him on their farmland, but locals protested. The police and Tahsildar intervened, while residents questioned the lack of burial grounds for minorities, worsening local religious disputes.

**On 15 April in Malbeda village, Nabarangpur region, Odisha,** Srabana Gond, son of Rama Chandra Gond, died

while working as a migrant labourer. When his body was brought home for burial, villagers obstructed the burial, alleging the family had converted to Christianity. Despite appeals to the Tahasildar and police, no protection was provided. The family buried him on private land, after which a mob assaulted Panchamati Gond and Sabita Gond, tore their clothes, and chased relatives. The following day, the body was forcibly exhumed and taken away to an unknown location, and the family was expelled from the village. A first information report was later registered, but no arrests have been made. The family remained displaced and under threat.

**On 4 May 2025 in Dhepasahi village, located in Jirang under Chandragiri Panchayat, Mohana block, Gajapati district, Odisha,** 38 Christian families comprising 182 individuals have been residing there since 1984. Although the government had earlier allotted land pattas to these families, their ownership is now being denied due to opposition from the village council head and other local villagers. The council head, along with others, has stopped the construction of a prayer hall and is threatening the Christian families with eviction unless they agree to undergo Ghar Wapsi (religious reconversion).

**On 18 May,** Bimal Khosla shared during a Persecution Relief Sunday service that Pastor Daniel Sirka faced persecution all week. His belongings were thrown out, and he was threatened to never return while ministering in a village in Koraput District, Odisha.

**On 23 May in Sambalpur, Odisha,** seven Christian families in Badapada village were persecuted by fellow villagers. The community demanded their permanent departure and physically assaulted followers of Christianity, forcing them to

flee or abandon their faith.

**On 27 May in Keonjhar district, Odisha,** Pastor Mansing Besera was attacked by individuals associated with an extremist group and forcibly taken to the police station.

**On 9 June in Antamedha village, Bandhugaon Block, Koraput District, Odisha,** persecution occurred on 9/6 evening. Families of Birji Hadka, Sitro Uika, Gopal Uika, Haro Uika, and Jena Melka were attacked, homes destroyed, and driven out. They are currently sheltering in mountain forests.

**On 13 June in Rajgangpur, Sundargarh, Odisha,** Pastor Vinod Kerketta and church members were attacked during a birthday prayer gathering. An unknown person recorded them, returned with a mob, beat them, and falsely accused them of conversion. Police released them at 2 PM. Counter first information report filed next day.

**On 15 June in Kontia Ichhapur village, Bhadrak district, Odisha,** Gouranga Bai and his wife reported facing serious threats to their life and livelihood due to their Christian faith; they have been subjected to harassment, social boycott, and sustained pressure to renounce their Christian faith. The situation worsened when villagers prevented Bai from cultivating his paddy fields, the family's only source of income, pushing them toward extreme hardship. A prior attempt to attack their home was averted due to the timely intervention of a local journalist and Rastriya Christian Morcha volunteer, after which a complaint was filed with the local police.

**On 21 June in Rangamatia Hatadihi, Keonjhar, Odisha,** 23 Christian families faced a month-long socio-economic boycott by religious extremists' pressure, forcing

them to renounce their faith. Authorities remain inactive despite many complaints.

**On 21 June in Kotamateru village, Malkangiri District, Odisha,** a group of 20 pastors and other Christians were ambushed by 30–40 villagers armed with sticks, axes, spades, knives, and sickles. The attackers, who follow a tribal religion, falsely accused the pastors of religious conversion and assaulted them brutally. Thirty Christians were injured, 10 of whom required hospitalization, with four later developing serious complications. Among the victims was 52-year-old Sukra Madi, father of Pastor Manglu Madi, who was beaten unconscious and remained in need of urgent surgery. Despite medical reports and a formal police complaint naming 16 assailants, no arrests were made. Victims were pressured into signing a “compromise” agreement, without fully explaining its contents.

**On 31 May in Khordha, Odisha,** two young Christian girls were arrested on account of their faith by Khordha railway police over false allegations of forced religious conversion at the station. Religious extremists pressured police to file first information report.

**On 18 July in Mundamala village, Jajpur district, Odisha,** a church inauguration service was disrupted by members of an extremist group and villagers, resulting in physical assaults on pastors and church leaders. Police intervention brought the situation under control.

**On 6 August near Gangadhar village under Jaleswar Parish, Balasore district, Odisha,** around 70 members of an extremist group assaulted Fr. Lijo Nirappel, Parish Priest of Jaleswar, Fr. V. Jojo of Joda Parish, a catechist, and two nuns during their visit for a requiem Mass. The group was falsely accused of religious conversion.

The victims were attacked while returning, and police arrived later to rescue them.

**On 29 August in Maniki Balsa village, Bandhugaon block, Koraput district, Odisha,** two Christian families—those of Nageshwarao Himirika and Singana Himirika—were attacked by villagers and forcibly driven out due to their faith. Police intervened, and the families were relocated to a neighbouring village for safety. A written complaint was submitted, and legal action was being pursued.

**On 8 September in Bandhabahal village, Jharsuguda, Odisha,** three followers of Christianity, Premanjan Pradhan, Suraj Bag, and Rabikidhan Chaudhri, were physically assaulted following a church service. The police's intervention prevented further violence.

**On 15 October in Gambaria village, Bhograi block, Balasore, Odisha,** Haripada Gongoi, his wife, and two followers of Christianity were assaulted during a village meeting over refusal to participate in non-Christian religious rituals. Police intervened but pressured the family to submit a written declaration of religious identity.

## PUNJAB

**On 6 January in Bhaajari village, Roopnagar, Punjab,** Pastor Kulthar was holding a prayer gathering at his house church when a group of religious extremists forcibly disrupted the meeting and threatened him against continuing worship services there.

**On 6 February in Baltana, Zirakpur, Punjab,** Pastor Rahul, who runs a church in a rented property, faced opposition from

local residents after some neighbours called extremist groups falsely alleging religious conversion; he was pressured to chant non-Christian religious slogans under threat, despite the non-Christian landlord supporting him. The matter was taken to the local SHO, where police intervened in favour of the pastor, summoned the opposing party, and facilitated a written compromise including an apology, while volunteer Pardeep Gulati visited the family and follow-up discussions were initiated with local pastors' associations.

**On 16 February in Pathankot, Punjab,** Pastor R.R. Srivastava was violently attacked near a vegetable market where he had ministered for four years. Religious extremists dragged and beat him, forcing him to flee half-naked through a drain and forest. His phone was taken. Pastor Srivastava has served slum communities since 2011.

**On 16 February in Ludhiana, Punjab,** while a church conducted its prayer meeting, extremists arrived, abusing and issuing threats. A church leader approached them and was hit with a flowerpot by the mob. Such open hatred and aggression against Christians had not previously been witnessed publicly in Ludhiana, worsening local tensions. (Pa Balbir)

**On 22 February in Dhandra village, Sangrur, Punjab,** Pastor Amanjeet Suleman, who has been serving in ministry on land provided by a local supporter, faced renewed opposition when villagers disrupted a volunteer program and issued threats, with the sarpanch collecting signatures against him. After follow-up, the team was informed that the matter has subsided and the victim does not wish to pursue the issue legally.

**On 16 March in Jalandhar, Punjab,** Pastor Karnail Singh and his family faced weeks of

harassment from neighbours, which escalated into an attack involving torn Bibles and threats to stop prayer meetings. Vishnu from the team visited, facilitated dialogue between both parties, and achieved a written compromise where neighbours assured no further disturbance.

**On 24 April in Sadar Jagraon, Ludhiana district, Punjab,** Pastor Gurjeet and his family were repeatedly harassed by neighbours who played loud music outside the church, and during one incident, his father was assaulted and his pregnant wife Jaspreet was violently attacked, leading to miscarriage and severe long-term medical complications; although a first information report has been registered, progress remains slow due to influence of the accused, and Vishnu continues active follow-up with the family.

**On 5 May in Dhariwal Kalan, Ajnala, Amritsar, Punjab,** three Christian girls were regularly harassed by a group of boys while on their way to church. When their family confronted the culprits, a mob of 50–60 people vandalized their home, tore the girls' clothes, and assaulted the family. Despite a sarpanch-led mediation attempt, the matter remains unresolved.

**On 21 May in Kapurthala, Punjab,** during a visit, a church property donated by Kapurthala's kings 120 years ago, with legal ownership intact, had been converted into a clubhouse. The large, centrally located land is now targeted by dominant religious groups due to its prime value and significance.

**On 25 May in Gobindgarh, Fatehgarh Sahib district, Punjab,** Pastor Sunil Kumar reported ongoing opposition from neighbours regarding Christian prayer activities. A police complaint was drafted, and submitted at the local police station. Police called both parties, orally affirmed

the right of the pastor to continue prayer activities.

**On 28 June in Ambala Cantt, Haryana,** Pastor Franklin Kamaraj and local pastor Pandav were taken to the police station after extremist elements accused them of conversion during a Vacation Bible School programme organised through Lagos Faith Foundation, and police began recording statements from children present.

**On 4 July in Budhimal village, Mukatsar, Punjab,** Christian families faced physical violence by the villagers and extremists elements. The family members are traumatized and not at home. Families were threatened if they continue their faith. Subsequently, some of the members of Christians only were by police.

**On 13 July in Tarsika village, Amritsar district, Punjab,** Pastor Harmesh Masih, serving for over 13 years, was attacked and threatened by Nihang members and neighbours who opposed church services near a gurdwara. Police summoned both parties, and tensions in the village remain high.

**On 15 July in Bathinda district, Punjab,** a woman pastor faced opposition from village authorities regarding worship activities on land classified as Lal Lakir. Despite lawful possession and utilities, the sarpanch instructed the church to discontinue prayer services.

**On 27 July in Indira Colony, Amritsar district, Punjab,** Kimti Lal and his family were violently attacked due to their Christian faith. His brother Desh Raj, wife Amarjeet, and daughter Sania were assaulted. Kimti Lal was struck with a sickle, and his wife was stabbed.

**On 4 August in Mansa district, Punjab,** a group of Nihang extremists forcibly entered a church during a prayer meeting,

vandalised the premises, disrupted the service, and briefly held the pastor hostage. Volunteers intervened promptly, accompanied the pastor, and reported the incident at the local police station. Subsequently, members of the Sikh community expressed remorse, apologised for the incident, and acknowledged wrongdoing. The pastor later shared a video expressing gratitude for the support extended.

**On 26 August in Ferozpur district, Punjab,** Sukhpal and his family, followers of Christianity, were brutally attacked after he introduced another family to the church. Multiple family members sustained serious injuries and were hospitalised. Initially, police refused to register a first information report, but following support of Christian leaders, a first information report was eventually filed in favour of the victims.

**On 16 and 17 October in Malot, Muktsar district, Punjab,** members of Ankur Narula Ministry distributed gospel literature in the village and after their departure some neighbours tore and trampled the materials; when Suresh, a follower of Christianity, attempted to discuss the matter, he was assaulted and injured, local media circulated allegations of forced conversion, and police temporarily detained his family while preparing A First Information Report which was not registered after intervention by the local pastors' association, following which the family relocated to Jalandhar

**On 7 November in Mugal Sarai area, Patiala district, Punjab,** Nihang individuals attacked a Christian gathering held during a child's birthday celebration at a follower of Christianity's home. Several followers of Christianity sustained injuries, and an First Information Report was registered following the incident.

**On 31 December in Jassowal, Patiala**

**district, Punjab,** a protest was organised against Christian celebrations. . Earlier, the permission for the Christian celebration meeting was sanctioned by the Sarpanch but at the later stage he denied and raised objection.

**On 21 December in Jalalabad, Fazilka district, Punjab,** a Christmas procession involving local Christians and Pastor Manjeet was disrupted by extremists from the Nihang community. The procession was forcibly stopped, creating fear among the participants. The incident disrupted peaceful Christmas celebrations in the area.

## RAJASTHAN

**On 10 January in Itala village, Gadi, Banswara, Rajasthan,** Pastor Tolsingh Garasia was leading prayers in a fellow Christian's house when villagers falsely complained about religious conversions. Police arrested five people: Tolsingh Garasia, Suresh Garasia, Papulal Valvai, Rajesh Garasia, and Makansih Garasia.

**On 15 January in Pindwara Tehsil, Sirohi, Rajasthan,** Mangi Lal was praying with other followers of Christianity in a house when police, acting on a false conversion complaint, detained him, Prabhu Lal, and two others. They were later charged under Section 171 of the Bharatiya Nagarik Suraksha Sanhita.

**On 24 January in Kasarwadi village, Banswara, Rajasthan,** Pastor Shailender Dodiya and a few followers of Christianity from Andhra Pradesh were distributing tracts and gospels when a villager lodged a false complaint of religious conversion. Police later arrested Puspa, Elizabeth, Lalita, Minjuru, and Kalusingh from the followers of Christianity group and

registered a first information report against them.

**On 26 January in Pilibanga, Hanumangarh, Rajasthan,** Lakha Singh was holding a prayer service at his residence when religious extremists stormed in and disrupted the gathering, accusing him and other Christians of forced conversions.

**On 5 February in Sirohi, Rajasthan,** while social awareness training at the CNI Church was ongoing, it was suddenly confronted by religious extremists accusing the organizer of conversions. Police were called in by the organizer for an intervention against the aggressive mob gathered there.

**On 16 February in Mugeed village, Dungarpur district, Rajasthan,** Chhagan Bhagora, along with his wife and other followers of Christianity, was holding a prayer meeting at his residence when police, acting on a false complaint alleging religious conversion, barged in, disrupted the gathering, and detained 11 individuals (5 women and 6 men, including Chhagan and his wife) at Sabla Police Station.

**On 16 February in Bikaner city, Rajasthan,** Pastor Shamiel (Sam) of BHLM Church was taken into custody by local police on account of his ministry (religious activity) work. Pastor Vijay Kumar, visiting the local police station, was also detained for a while.

**On 23 February in Village Bandikhali under Suhagpura Police Station, Pratapgarh district, Rajasthan,** police arrived to inquire about a Sunday worship gathering after it had concluded and later summoned Surajmal and Shyamlal, who serve nearby, to the police station.

**On 24 February in Kankroli, Rajsamand district,** Pastor Dixon Lal was detained

following a prayer meeting held at a private residence. A mob arrived at the gathering, soon followed by police who took six people into custody, including Pastor Dixon's son. While several were released, Pastor Dixon was charged under Section 171 of the Bharatiya Nagarik Suraksha Sanhita, 2023, and produced before the Sub-Divisional Magistrate court. Although granted bail, he remained in judicial custody overnight due to political pressure and was released the following day.

**On 25 February in Ojhariya village, Garhi tehsil, Banswara district, Rajasthan,** police detained six individuals during a fellowship prayer at the residence of Ramlal Solanki following a false complaint, including two pastors — Ruplal Charpota and Magan Kasauta — and government teachers Mukesh and Raman Lal, with reports that authorities demanded documentation and money. Subsequently, on 27 February, all victims were released on bail granted by the lower court, with support from local pastor leaders.

**On 6–7 March in Revdar village, Sirohi district, Rajasthan,** Deepak Koli was summoned for police interrogation following a complaint by his wife's family and members of an extremist group alleging attempted religious conversion, despite his statement that his wife had already left the home earlier.

**On 6 March in Karonti village, Sirohi, Rajasthan,** a late-night prayer under a tent was disrupted. Four pastors; Gajendra, Lalit, Lankesh, and Jhamar, and several followers of Christianity were confronted by religious extremist groups. Police detained all four pastors following the disruption around 11:00 PM.

**On 15 March in Bhawanpura, Banswara District, Rajasthan,** Pastor Sunny Meda was visiting a fellow follower of

Christianity's home for a birthday prayer. Extremist elements disrupted the gathering, prompting police intervention. The pastor had faced similar opposition in 2022.

**On 16 March in Pilani, Jhunjhunu, Rajasthan,** Pastor Verghese (65) and other followers of Christianity were leading a house prayer meeting when it was disrupted by religious extremists. Police registered a first information report against the pastor and attendees. No arrests were made.

**On 24 March in Sawai Madhopur, Rajasthan,** Sudhanshu Kumar, a follower of Christianity, was taken to the local police station following a written complaint alleging that he had distributed religious books to children and attempted religious conversion. Although he was initially released by order of the Sub-Divisional Magistrate Court, he was subsequently re-arrested.

**On 31 March in Pichupada, Bandikui, Dausa district, Rajasthan,** Pastor Rajendra Berwa was summoned to the police station following a complaint accusing him of illegal religious conversions, based on photos and videos taken during a church service.

**On 23 April in Motipura village, Kota, Rajasthan,** Pastor Joy Mathew and his son-in-law were falsely accused by members of an extremist group of attempting mass conversion among the Bhil community, after which a police intervened in the matter.

**On 27 April in Tagda village, Gogunda Tehsil, Udaipur district, Rajasthan,** Kusha Bhai, Vala Bhai, and another follower of Christianity were taken to Saira Police Station during a worship gathering; following coordination by their advocates,

all three were released after police issued a warning.

**On 20 May in Bhadra Tehsil, Hanumangadh, Rajasthan,** Pastor Monu Kumar, a Bible school student from Mangali, Hisar, was detained by police in Birani village. Villagers accused him of conversion activities while visiting followers of Christianity. Police took him to the local station.

**On 21 May in Khetri, Jhunjhunu District, Rajasthan,** five Christians including Pastor Vijay were arrested for their faith and sent to jail on account practicing and professing Christian faith.

**On 23 May in Ajmer, Rajasthan,** Pastor Sunil Dutt Kashyap of Phildilpiya Church was taken into custody after a false complaint by an alcoholic man, accusing him of influencing his family to convert. The complainant's wife, a fellow Christian, has been encouraging her family toward the Christian faith.

**On 24 May in Sahawa, Churu district, Rajasthan,** Pastor Jaspal and his wife, Rajji, faced difficulties on account of their faith. The couple was detained by the police while praying at a fellow Christian's house following a false complaint filed by members of an extremist group.

**On 5 June, Sera, TD, Udaipur, Rajasthan,** a drunk man attacked the house of Christian worker Dharam Chand Meena. Stones broke roof tiles, drove family members out, and damaged worship items. Despite a report to TD police, no action was taken. Villagers have refused to cooperate as the family is Christian.

**On 30 June in Dausa, Rajasthan,** A first information report was filed against Pastor Thomas George and four others in Dasau Kotwali on account their Christian faith.

Multiple bail applications were rejected at lower levels, following which a fresh bail petition was moved in the district court.

**On 13 July in Banswara district, Rajasthan,** Pastor Ishwar Machhar, Harish Machhar, and Vakta Machhar were arrested during a prayer meeting in Kadwa Ambadi village following a complaint by extremist elements. They were detained at Ghatol Police Station.

**On 23 July in Neem Ka Thana, Sikar district, Rajasthan,** Principal Rachel George of St. Xavier School faced violent backlash after a disciplinary incident involving a student. Members linked to a religious extremists group vandalised the school and accused the institution of conversion activities. Police seized CCTV footage, and education department officials conducted inquiries. Parents submitted a memorandum supporting the school.

**On 27 July in Bikaner, Rajasthan,** members of a religious extremist group disrupted a Sunday worship service. Instead of taking action against the mob, police arrested Pastor Ajit Kumar Jain, his wife Heera, and several other followers of Christianity.

**On 13 August in Sikar district, Rajasthan,** priests and evangelists were attacked during a fasting prayer meeting at Sikar Church. Several followers of Christianity, including Rev. Selvam Thavamani, Hepzi, Selvaraj, Kumar, Bangaru Naidu, Bodar Amurot, and Jaybeer, were taken to a local police station. FIRs were filed by both sides, and the followers of Christianity were later released on bail.

**On 3 September in Sayaad Colony, Alwar district, Rajasthan,** around 20 religious extremists forcibly entered the Alwar Boys

Hostel run by an FMPB organisation and falsely accused the institution of religious conversion. Hostel staff Amrit and Sohan were assaulted, women were harassed, and children were attacked. Subsequently, a first information report was filed through false allegation. Bail applications were initially rejected but later granted by the Sessions Court.

**On 14 September in Jailana village, Dungarpur district, Rajasthan,** a Catholic school building was confronted by members of an extremist group and villagers alleging church activities on school premises. Police intervened to calm the situation, and warnings of continued protest were issued, though the matter later subsided.

**On 14 September in Subhash Nagar, Bharatpur district, Rajasthan,** a prayer meeting led by Pastors Hariom (Lazarus) and Yogesh was disrupted by extremist elements. Pastor Hariom was taken into custody at the City Police Station.

**On 15 September in Anupgarh area, Sri Ganganagar district, Rajasthan,** Pastor Paulus Barjo and other Christian workers were detained by police and other officials following allegations involving their ministry. The first information report was registered against five individuals, and remand and bail proceedings were initiated.

**On 18 September in Anupgarh area, Sri Ganganagar district, Rajasthan,** police instructed the closure of a girls' hostel operated by Pastor John George, citing land-use violations. CCTV equipment was seized, and later administrative notices restricted further activities at the site.

**On 21 September in Pratap Nagar, Jaipur district, Rajasthan,** Pastor Bobas Daniel of Peniel AG Church was attacked when members of extremist groups disrupted a

church service and assaulted followers of Christianity, including the pastor and his son. Police arrived and took Pastor Bobas Daniel into custody. Several men and women sustained injuries. A first information report was later registered against two extremist elements.

**On 21 September in, Jaipur, Rajasthan,** members of the FMPB Church, including Pastor Paulus Barjo, Aryan, and Vinod Kumar, were detained by police following allegations initially recorded as public nuisance and later linked to religious conversion claims. Pastor Paulus and others remained in police custody, while legal proceedings and bail hearings were being considered by Christians amid an ongoing investigation.

**On 23 September in Pratap Nagar, Jaipur, Rajasthan,** Pastor Ashish Damor, was attending a meeting at HBI Bible College when a mob of extremists, accompanied by police personnel, arrived at the venue and took Pastor Ashish Damor and Jigar into custody on false allegations of religious conversion; their mobile phones and laptop were seized by the police, and they were detained at the police station, while the extremist group continued to protest aggressively and level baseless accusations of fraudulent conversion against the pastor and other Christians.

**On 23 September in Udaipur district, Rajasthan,** Daniel Olteanu of West Bengal was questioned by police after distributing religious tracts during a personal visit. A first information report was registered under Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhitawith section 299 based on the complaint. The pastor was later released on police bond, and subsequent bail was granted.

**On 29 September in Nohar, Hanumangarh district, Rajasthan,** Pastor

Wazir Singh was assaulted during Sunday prayers by extremist elements and later arrested by police. He was placed in police remand and jail before being released on bail. His rented home was sealed, his phone confiscated, and his family temporarily relocated due to safety concerns.

**On 29 September in Sewar area, Bharatpur district, Rajasthan,** members of extremist groups, accompanied by police, reached Pastor David Thomas's church. Allegations of vandalism and detentions were reported, though details remained contested. Bail was subsequently granted in the matter.

**On 29 September in Dholpur district, Rajasthan,** Pastor Ratan Singh was taken to the Sadar Police Station following protests by extremist elements. After interrogation, he was released on bail, though he was later re-arrested, and further bail proceedings were initiated.

**On 5 October in Alwar district, Rajasthan,** Pastor Keshav and Prashant, along with five others, were detained following a complaint routed from Jaipur. A First Information Report was registered, and all were sent to jail. Bail applications were dismissed in the lower and sessions courts, and the matter is pending before the High Court, Jaipur.

**On 7 October in Khatlabana village, Sri Ganganagar district, Rajasthan,** police detained Amandeep Singh, son of Pastor Baggu Singh, following false allegations of religious conversion.

**On 10 October in Anupgarh area, Sri Ganganagar district, Rajasthan,** a police complaint was registered against Pastor Shukdev Singh Chauhan and Pastor Charanjeet Singh on account of them practicing and professing Christianity.

**On 22 October in Bharatpur, Rajasthan,** Pastor Bhagwan Sahay was taken into police custody from his residence on allegations of involvement in religious conversion; Pastor's advocates filed a bail application before the duty magistrate, and the pastor was subsequently granted bail on 24 October.

**On 20 November in Kota district, Rajasthan,** a first information report was registered at Borkheda police station against Pastor Chandi Varghese of Zion Church, Delhi, and Arun John, a resident of Kota. The complaint accused forcible religious conversion during sermons held at Beersheba Church on Canal Road. The case was registered under the provisions of the Rajasthan Prohibition of Religious Conversion Act. An anticipatory bail application for Chandi Varghese and Arun John has been filed before the ADJ Court, Kota, and the matter was being pursued legally.

**On 27 November in Rawatsar, Hunamangarh, Rajasthan,** Pastor Rajendra Pande and another pastor were pursued by extremist groups intending to physically assault them due to their Christian faith during a visit to a local family.

**On 7 December in Hanumangarh district, Rajasthan,** Pastor Shravan was taken to the police station while praying at his home. He and others were later released, and the victims were advised to file a complaint as police had taken written undertakings from them.

**On 7–8 December in Bichhiwara area, Dungarpur district, Rajasthan,** eight Christians, including Pastor Naresh Bhagora, were detained following allegations related to prayer gatherings.

Bail was granted by the Sub-Divisional Magistrate court under Bharatiya Nagarik Suraksha Sanhita provisions.

**On 8 December in Udaipur city, Rajasthan,** police personnel detained Father Paul Mrityunjay (Diocesan Vicar General) along with four other followers of Christianity and Bible college students from the diocesan office following enquiries into church activities. In total, seven individuals were taken to Mavali Police Station.

**On 14 December in Didwana, Nagaur district, Rajasthan,** Pastor Lalchand was taken to the police station along with his wife following online prayer meetings conducted due to ongoing church construction. With legal coordination and local support, the pastor and family were later released.

**On 25 December in Momasar village's Tubewell Dhani on Sikarali Road, Shri Dungargarh, Bikaner district, Rajasthan,** villagers Bhaguram and Gopi filed a complaint against local resident Munniram Meghwal and his son Sunil, alleging that they had hosted Christian promotional activities, including Bible readings and prayer meetings, in the days leading up to Christmas. According to the complaint, around 30–34 people from other states and districts were present at these gatherings, and villagers expressed suspicion that long-term religious conversion activities were taking place, citing the installation of a cross at the premises several months earlier as a cause for concern. Following the complaint, the police registered a first information report under the Rajasthan Religious Conversion Prohibition Act. During the initial inquiry, police recovered Christian promotional materials from the premises.

## TAMIL NADU

**On 21 February in Nagercoil, Tamil Nadu,** reported Pastor Paison of Jesus Coming with Clouds (JCC) Trust, who has led JCC Good News Mission Church for 26 years, faced repeated opposition. Religious extremist halted pillar work. Despite the Collector's clearance and government order permitting old church renovations, and extremists obstructed construction.

**On 3 June, Kodumudi, Erode, Tamil Nadu,** A church led by Pastor Pughal was sealed by officials under extremist pressure. Pastor Pughal had earlier faced violence in 2018 over disputed land ownership.

**On 8 August in Thoothukudi district, Tamil Nadu,** a video was circulated by extremist groups accusing Evangelist Porselvam Asir (63) of religious conversion and running an illegal place of worship. The accusations stemmed from an earlier roadside altercation involving a drunk individual. Police later registered a first information report against Porselvam Asir and his driver, Sathish, under multiple provisions, including SC/ST Act sections. Following legal proceedings and High Court directions, both were granted bail by the Special Court.

## TELANGANA

**On 15 January in Secunderabad, Hyderabad, Telangana,** Pastor Nagesh reported that Balram, a member of Philadelphia Church and resident of Charminar, was praying with others when neighbours attacked his family. Balram sustained serious injuries. The same group had earlier assaulted him in December. A complaint was filed at Charminar Police Station, and police took him to Osmania Hospital.

**On 5 April in Khammam, Telangana,** Pastor Ajay Babu (Pas. Madishetty Yerrappa) was arrested from his residence by Uppal police following a complaint linked to religious opposition, and case was registered under Bharatiya Nagarik Suraksha Sanhita 299 and the IT Act; initial bail was rejected and he was remanded to judicial custody.

**On 25 April in Manneguda village, Adibatla PS limits, Ibrahimpatnam, Telangana,** religious extremists disrupted a Vacation Bible School (VBS) session at Mount Zion Church, disturbing children.

**In the last of week June, Beeramguda, Sanga Reddy, Telangana,** Pastor Gutam Timothy Jonathan was in the midst of transgenders and homeless families involved in fortune-telling at Kandi village. His team regularly conducted charity services and moral teaching. After renting a hall and organizing VBS classes without Bibles or books, religious extremists attacked the team. The local transgender community defended them, and a complaint was lodged. Police later issued a notice. The pastor's team ceased visits.

**On 14–15 December in Eerlapalli village, Doulatabad Mandal, Vikarabad district, Telangana,** Agape Church was targeted in two consecutive incidents. On Sunday, extremists disrupted worship, and on the following day church equipment was set on fire. Police intervened after the first incident, and later arrests were made following pressures by church leaders.

**On 25 December in Wanaparathi district, Telangana,** a group of Christians conducting Christmas carols with police permission were attacked by a local mob. Vehicles were damaged, and women were harassed. Pastors from Wanaparathi later organised a public protest condemning the attack and sought action against the perpetrators.

## UTTAR PRADESH

**On 4 January in Azamgarh, Uttar Pradesh,** Ashish Chaurasiya, a follower of Christianity and resident of Lalganj, was falsely accused of religious conversion. Ashish works as a collection agent for a cooperative society.

**On 5 January in Harchandpur, Raebareli, Uttar Pradesh,** two Evangelists from Mizoram, serving under the Presbyterian Church of India (Synod Mission), were arrested by police during a prayer meeting on fabricated charges of religious conversion. The evangelist Lalzedanga and Vanlalhuma Zadenga were later jailed under Sections 3 and 5(1) of the Uttar Pradesh Unlawful Religious Conversion Prohibition Act, 2021.

**On 5 January in Hanumat Nagar, Pipiganj, Gorakhpur, Uttar Pradesh,** during a Christmas program, Pipiganj police summoned Christian attendees to the station for questioning. However, two attendees, Sheela Bharati and Purushottam Nanheen Bharti, remained in detention for several hours.

**On 18 January in Manjhanpur village, Kaushambi district, Uttar Pradesh,** Pastor Shankar Lal Chaurasiya was leading a prayer meeting at his house when a local resident filed a police complaint alleging religious conversion. The police arrived and took Pastor Chaurasiya into custody at the Manjhanpur Police Station.

**On 19 January in Karmua, Varanasi, Uttar Pradesh,** Pastor Kaushal Patel was leading prayers when religious extremists arrived, accusing them of conversions. Police were called, and Pastor Kaushal, Nandlal Rajbhur, Arti Devi, and Renu Devi were detained at Sindhura Police Station. A first information report was registered.

**On 20 January in Lakdi, Fatehpur, Uttar Pradesh,** Pastor Ram Babu Raidas was leading house prayers when a religious extremist group accused them of forced conversions. The group accused that the prayer meeting was being organised with the intention of converting people to Christianity. The Bhitaura district coordinator of

an extremist group, falsely accused Christian missionaries of using money and force to carry out conversions. Following the complaint, the police reached the location and found approximately eight to ten men and women gathered for prayer, along with Bibles and four motorcycles parked outside.

**On 26 January in Sant Kabir Nagar district, Uttar Pradesh,** Pastor Pintu was praying with followers of Christianity when an extremist elements disrupted the meeting. Pastor Shesmani later reported the incident to Ashish. Police detained Pastor Pintu along with followers of Christianity Harihar Yadav and Suresh Kumar, taking them to Dhanghata Police Station.

**On 26 January in Chotelal Pur, Fatehpur, Uttar Pradesh,** FMPB's Rev. Samarendra Singh and his wife Sushmita Singh were arrested during a prayer meeting, following a false conversion complaint. Four other followers of Christianity were also detained and sent to Bindki Police Station. Subsequently, they were booked under the state's anti-conversion law.

**On 26 January in Mitauli, Lakhimpur, Uttar Pradesh,** Pastor Baburam and Promod Balmiki were leading a house prayer when police, responding to extremists' false claims, arrested them under the Uttar Pradesh Unlawful Religious Conversion Prohibition Act, 2021, and sent both to jail.

**On 2 February in Sitapur, Uttar Pradesh,** Pastor Ram Baran and his wife Mona faced a mob while praying in Surecha Village. The extremists disrupted the gathering, and both were taken into police custody. A First Information Report (FIR) was filed against five persons under Sections 3 and 5(1) of the Uttar Pradesh Unlawful Religious Conversion Prohibition Act, 2021.

**On 6 February in Gram Bhabhanoli, Robertsganj, Sonbhadra, Uttar Pradesh,** Pastor Chotelal and fellow Christian Suraj went to a fellow Christian's house for a birthday prayer gathering. Police arrived during the prayer, acting on a forced conversion allegation. Suraj and Manoj Pal were detained at the Kotwali police station.

**On 9 February in Gomti Nagar, Lucknow, Uttar Pradesh,** Pastor Rajiv Layal of ABC Church reported a prayer meeting disrupted by religious extremists. One fellow Christian, Morris, was assaulted. Police intervened, calling both sides to the police station. A religious conversion complaint was made against followers of Christianity, though Pastor Rajiv was not present at the time.

**On 9 February in Bahraich, Uttar Pradesh,** Pastor Ramesh Sagar was leading a prayer meeting at his house church when a group of religious extremists barged in and disrupted the gathering, accusing him of engaging in religious conversion.

**On 9 February in Kotwa, Kushinagar, Uttar Pradesh,** Pastor Om Prakash led a house prayer meeting when someone falsely informed police about religious conversions. Officers from Nibua Naorangiya Police detained him and later released him.

**On 16 February in Bansi, Siddharth Nagar, Uttar Pradesh,** religious extremist groups disrupted a followers of Christianity gathering, barring them from attending a prayer meeting. Police calmed tensions, recorded names of some prayer participants, and dispersed the assembly. Followers of Christianity expressed concern about recurring harassment incidents.

**On 23 February in Sandhi Nagin, Raebareli district, Uttar Pradesh,** Pastor Vijay Singh of AG Church was leading a prayer meeting at his house church when police, acting on a complaint alleging religious conversion, arrived and detained Pastor Vijay Singh, along with Ravi, Ajit, Sandhya (aged 14), and Sushma, and took them to the Raebareli police station. It was later revealed that prior to the police action, a journalist had secretly recorded a video of the worship service, which included the presence of children, and had been blackmailing Pastor Vijay Singh for money. The journalist had threatened to submit the video to the police if his financial demands were not met.

**On 23 February in Hargao, Sitapur, Uttar Pradesh,** religious extremists stormed Pastor Suresh Chand's house church, halting prayers. They accused him of conversions. Police

registered A first information report under the Uttar Pradesh Unlawful Religious Conversion Prohibition Act, 2021, after Anuj Bhadoriya's complaint. Six persons, including three women, were arrested and sent to jail following the disturbance.

**On 23 February in Dighiya village, Raebareli, Uttar Pradesh,** Pastor Anil from AG Church was pursued by police over an incident involving Pastor Vijay Singh. Unable to find him, police detained his son at Dighiya police outpost.

**On 27 February in Raebareli, Uttar Pradesh,** Mill Area Police detained Shiv Kumar, father of Pastor Deshraj. Police raided their house located. Pastors and Christian families were detained after a some video circulated on social media, increasing pressure on followers of Christianity locally.

**On 3 March in Shravasti, Uttar Pradesh,** a Sunday prayer at Pastor Harish Kumar's home was interrupted when media representatives and police arrived. Officers detained two followers of Christianity from the prayer meeting and took them to the local police station for questioning, leaving the remaining congregation in shock and distress.

**On 8 March in Victory Church, Lucknow, Uttar Pradesh,** plainclothesmen and police entered the premises, citing complaints of religious conversion activities. Though no event was ongoing, they interrogated church staff, inspected documents, and demanded church by-laws and photos.

**On 8 March in Bakshi Ka Talab, Lucknow, Uttar Pradesh,** Shweta, wife of Ashish, was assaulted by a group of extremists on account of Christian faith while they were looking for her husband. Her brothers-in-law, Vikas (15) and Arun (23), were also beaten. The attackers threatened further harm. It is reported they were known to local pastor Akshay John.

**On 9 March in Deoria, Uttar Pradesh,** Pradhuman, associated with GEMS ministry, was detained at Baghauchghat Police Station. Local followers of Christianity and leaders intervened

for his release. The local Samajwadi Party MLA also offered support.

**On 9 March in Sitapur District, Uttar Pradesh,** Pastor Chanda Dukka held a small church service when neighbours summoned religious extremists. The mob shouted threats and offensive language, preparing to attack. Police, arriving on a false complaint, arrested Pastor Dukka, Sandeep Kasha, and Nixan Buks under the Uttar Pradesh Unlawful Religious Conversion Prohibition Act, 2021.

**On 9 March in Azamgarh district, Uttar Pradesh,** Pastor Rajnees and nine other followers of Christianity were taken into custody at Mehnagar Police Station on account of practicing and professing their Christian faith.

**On 9 March during a prayer meeting in Baikunthpur village, Maharajganj, Uttar Pradesh,** members of an extremist group disrupted the gathering, accusing attendees of conversion. Police detained five individuals. FIRs were filed against Sonu Kumar and Gaurav Kumar under the Uttar Pradesh Prohibition of Unlawful Conversion of Religion Act with sections 3 and 5; the other three were released.

**On 9 March in Amethi District, Uttar Pradesh,** Pastor Kishore of AG Church was leading a Sunday service when a mob forcefully disrupted it, hurling abuses at him and his wife. Police arrested Pastor Kishore, his wife, and four followers of Christianity. Later, a first information report under the Uttar Pradesh Unlawful Religious Conversion Prohibition Act, 2021, was filed, and all were jailed.

**On 15 March in Paniyara, Maharajganj District, Uttar Pradesh,** Pastor Nagendra Singh and Ramesh Kumar, while praying with fellow followers of Christianity, were arrested after villagers informed police. Police detained them along with two women, Imrati and Radha. All were charged with religious conversion and later jailed after police interrogation.

**On 16 March in Tarkulwa village, Maharajganj, Uttar Pradesh,** about 20–30 people were praying when police and masked assailants disrupted the meeting, beat attendees,

and looted valuables. Several people were detained. FIRs were filed under the Uttar Pradesh Prohibition of Unlawful Conversion of Religion Act with sections 3/5.

**On 16 March in Bijnor, Uttar Pradesh,** Pastor Pradeep was praying at home when extremists harassed them, interrupted prayers, and made derogatory remarks. Later, the police arrived and took Pastor Pradeep to Bijnor station.

**On 16 March in Gorakhpur District, Uttar Pradesh,** Pastor Virendar, Laxmi Yadav, and Roshni were holding a house church service. Neighbors informed Extremist elements who stopped the prayer and abused participants. Police sided with the opposition and detained the pastor and others.

**On 16 March in Gorakhpur, Uttar Pradesh,** Pastor Bharat Prasad was conducting a Sunday prayer service when an unknown group barged in, disrupted the meeting, and accused them of conversions. Police, called by the group identified as a religious extremist group, arrived and detained Pastor Bharat Prasad for further questioning at the local police station.

**On 19 March in Maharajganj District, Uttar Pradesh,** Pastor Sugriv was arrested for organizing a conversion meeting. Nine others were arrested earlier. Police cited financial inducement as a method of conversion and registered cases under the anti-conversion law.

**On 22 March in Fatehpur, Uttar Pradesh,** Pastor Chandan was arrested at home while praying with family. Police detained him and lodged a first information report under the Uttar Pradesh Unlawful Religious Conversion Prohibition Act, 2021. The arrest shocked the local community.

**On 22 March in Unnao district, Uttar Pradesh,** Pastor Rajesh Kumar was arrested from his home by Maurawan police following a false religious conversion complaint. He was already out on bail in a separate conversion case in Raebareilly.

**On 23 March in Fatehpur, Uttar Pradesh,** Pastor Mukut Singh of FMPB was arrested after a

complaint was lodged during his Sunday service. Police filed a first information report under the Uttar Pradesh Unlawful Religious Conversion Prohibition Act, 2021, against him.

**On 23 March in Labeda Vishva village, Pratapgarh district, Uttar Pradesh,** Pastor Monu Kumar and three followers of Christianity, his brother Sonu, Suresh, and Ram Sakal Yadav, were conducting a Sunday service when a person from a religious extremist group recorded the gathering and falsely informed the police of religious conversion. All were arrested and taken to Ashpur Devsrai Police Station, Patti Tehsil.

**On 23 March in Khetasarai, Jaunpur district, Uttar Pradesh,** about 14–15 followers of Christianity were arrested during a prayer meeting at Ramashankar's house. Police officers entered, using abusive language, threatened the group with forced conversion charges, and pushed 14 named individuals into a police vehicle. A female officer assaulted one woman named Mamta.

**On 23 March in Maharajganj district, Uttar Pradesh,** a prayer meeting organized at the home of Babita, a follower of Christianity, was disrupted by police officials following a false complaint of religious conversion filed by an extremist group. The gathering was forcefully halted, and attendees were threatened. Preeti, along with Pinki, Babita, Sangeeta, Kranti alias Ranjana (a 16-year-old minor), and Shankutala, were taken to Paniyara Police Station. a first information report was later registered against them under the Uttar Pradesh Prohibition of Unlawful Conversion of Religion Act.

**On 30 March in Jamunipur (Lalganj Tehsil), Azamgarh district, Uttar Pradesh,** Pastor Rajesh Kumar's home was visited by police around 9 AM. Officers threatened him and instructed him to appear at the station. He has since relocated for safety.

**On 31 March in Pratapgarh district, Uttar Pradesh,** Vrindavan Saroj, Vivek Saroj, Shatrudhan Verma, and Rakesh Verma were attending a prayer meeting when a false complaint led to a first information report under the Uttar Pradesh Prohibition of Unlawful Conversion of

Religion Act was filed against them.

**On 1 June in Masoom Nagar, Mathura, Uttar Pradesh,** a follower of Christianity named Mohan Singh from the church of Pastor Lalkhan Singh was assaulted by extremists who stole his bike key. Police detained Mohan under a false case.

**On 6 April in Barwa Chamainiya, Maharajganj, Uttar Pradesh,** Meena was holding an evening prayer fellowship with other followers of Christianity when local police arrived, took photos and videos, and stopped the meeting. Pastor Shailesh reported that Meena, Reshma, and Sunita were taken to the police station at Ghughuli Puraina.

**On 9 April in Bijora, Moradabad, Uttar Pradesh,** Pastor Sunil reported that his uncle Ashok and another follower of Christianity, Urwin Nayak, were praying with others at a house when a neighbor filed a complaint. Police arrived and detained both men, accusing them of Christian religious activities. They have been held at the police station since the previous evening.

**On 10 April in Arusa, Azamgarh, Uttar Pradesh,** Pastor Gulabchand was praying at home when a group of extremists accused him of religious conversion. Police were called and arrested him under the Uttar Pradesh Prohibition of Unlawful Conversion of Religion Act, sending him to jail.

**On 13 April in Dera Jogi Haseran, Kannauj, Uttar Pradesh,** Pastor Raju was leading a prayer service when extremist groups' members disrupted the meeting and falsely accused him of conversion. Police took him to the station.

**On 13 April in Khesua Patan, Unnao, Uttar Pradesh,** Sharda and her son were away in a nearby field when their house was set on fire by eight individuals around 5:30 PM. This family from a backward community has long faced caste-based harassment and prior attacks.

**On 21 April in Bahraich District, Uttar Pradesh,** Pastor Munna was detained by police under Section 163 of the Bharatiya Nagarik Suraksha Sanhita on false allegations of religious

conversion while leading an Easter prayer service. He remains in custody.

**On 27 April in Kathela village, Siddharth Nagar district, Uttar Pradesh,** Pastor Rajesh Kumar was leading a prayer meeting with fellow Christians. An extremist group suddenly arrived, and he was taken to the police station. Later, the police filed a first information report against Pastor Rajesh Kumar under the state's anti-conversion law.

**On 29 April in Ayodhya, Uttar Pradesh,** Pastor Punvashi was conducting a house prayer meeting when locals falsely accused him of religious conversion. Police summoned him to the station for questioning.

**On 4 May in Azamgarh, Uttar Pradesh,** Pastor Santosh Prajapati was leading a Sunday service when a plainclothes officer, responding to another matter nearby, heard the prayers and called for backup. The service was stopped, Bibles were confiscated, and Pastor Santosh and three followers of Christianity—Arvind Prajapati, Kamlesh Kumar, and Papu Saroj—were arrested and charged under the Uttar Pradesh Prohibition of Unlawful Conversion of Religion Act.

**On 4 May in Rampur district, Uttar Pradesh,** Pastor Somdev Sahni alias Sonu Kumar was conducting Sunday prayers when members of an extremist group, along with police and media, raided the site. Pastor Somdev and four followers of Christianity—Ranjani Kaur, Chindar, Nanda, and Lajavati—were arrested and imprisoned under the Uttar Pradesh Prohibition of Unlawful Conversion of Religion Act.

**On 5 May in Kutubpur village, Sujanganj, Jaunpur, Uttar Pradesh,** Pastor Khem Chand was peacefully leading a Sunday prayer service when a false complaint was lodged against him and Ram Narayan, accusing them of religious conversion. Police arrived, disrupted the gathering, and arrested both men. They were charged under the Uttar Pradesh Freedom of Religion Act and sent to jail.

**On 5 May in Jaunpur, Uttar Pradesh,** Pastor Mahendra was leading a worship service when

extremist elements disrupted the gathering and informed the police. He was detained overnight and released the next day with a warning not to hold church services while the current government is in power.

**On 12 May in Pilibhit District, Uttar Pradesh,** a first information report was lodged against over 55 known and unknown followers of Christianity. The names included Satnam Singh, Balwant Singh, Arjun Singh, Malkit Singh, Surjit Singh, Sumitra Kaur, Balwant Singh again, and 3–4 dozen unidentified men and women under Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita Sections 76, 115(2), 333, 351(1), 191(2), 7, 8, 3, and 5(1).

**On 12 May in Lakhimpur, Uttar Pradesh,** Pastors Dharmveer and Paul, along with three other followers of Christianity, were praying when villagers alerted police. The group was taken to Chandan Police Station, interrogated, and later jailed under Section 298 of Bharatiya Nagarik Suraksha Sanhita and the Uttar Pradesh Prohibition of Unlawful Conversion of Religion Act.

**On 18 May in Bankipur village, Barabanki District, Uttar Pradesh,** during a Sunday service led by Pastor Mahendra, police arrived over false conversion accusations. Pastor Mahendra and local followers of Christianity were taken to Safdarganj Police Station. Subsequently, it was found that a first information report was registered under state's anti-conversion law.

**On 19 May** in Shivpur, a woman filed a false complaint at the local police station alleging her in-laws of confining and assaulting her, then brought a pastor to forcibly convert her to another faith.

**On 20 May in Kushinagar, Uttar Pradesh,** police arrived at night at Sitaram's home and took him to Bishanpura Police Station. He was falsely accused of religious conversion and a first information report was filed against him.

**On 25 May in Pipra Munderi, Maharajganj, Uttar Pradesh,** at around 11:00 AM, Ghunghli police registered a case and arrested Pastor Shailesh Vishwakarma, his brother Mahesh, and

Kiran Yadav from Yadav Mohalla. The arrest followed a false complaint by a religious extremist group alleging religious conversion. A first information report was lodged against them under the Uttar Pradesh Prohibition of Unlawful Conversion of Religion Act.

**On 25 May in Mau, Uttar Pradesh,** Pushpendra Kumar reported that during Sunday worship, around 10 to 12 people arrived, attempted to stop the prayer, and openly opposed the gathering.

**On 1 June in Deoria, Uttar Pradesh,** Information was received that Pastor Kushwaha was arrested by police after trouble erupted at his church.

**On 2nd June, Saharanpur, Uttar Pradesh,** Simon and Anandi, who run a food cart, were attacked by Mahendra Sachdeva for religious reasons. Police refused their complaint, and later, A first information report was filed against them, politically influenced.

**On 8 June in Varanasi, Uttar Pradesh,** Pastor Akshay Kumar's Sunday prayer meeting was disrupted when Ramnagar police arrived at the site after receiving a complaint of religious conversion. Upon investigation, the allegations were found to be baseless.

**On 8 June during Sunday worship in Kurawa village, Sujanganj, Jaunpur, Uttar Pradesh,** police arrested Ps. Birendra Kumar Bind, Kundan Banvasi, and Sunil Banvasi from Chandu's house on a false complaint by a nationalist group. A case was filed under Sec 3/5(1) of UP's 2021 anti-conversion law.

**On 10 June in Lakshmipur, Maharajganj District,** police raided Muralidhar Prajapati's home at 8:30 AM during a prayer meeting, detaining them at Lakshmipur outpost and later transferring them to Purandarpur Police Station.

**On 15 June in Pratapgarh District, Uttar Pradesh,** during Pastor Ramachal's Sunday prayer, police arrived following a false religious conversion complaint. The pastor was taken to the local police station. Subsequently, the police issued a challan under the Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita Sections 170, 126, and 135.

**On 15 June in Etah, Uttar Pradesh,** A prayer meeting led by Pastor Mahaveer was violently disrupted by police. Followers of Christianity were assaulted, detained, and charged under the Uttar Pradesh Freedom of Religion Act.

**On 17 June in Ghaziabad, Uttar Pradesh,** Pastor Vinod Kunjumon of PTL Church was detained by police from a prayer meeting. Authorities allege mass gathering for conversion at a residence in Rahul Vihar. Police registered a case and detained the pastor and homeowner, amid protests by religious extremist groups.

**On 22 June in Gaipura, Mirzapur, Uttar Pradesh,** Pastor Dharmendra Kumar was detained by local police during Sunday service after false conversion accusations.

**On 22 June in Jaunpur, Uttar Pradesh,** Pastor Gulab was taken by police from a prayer fellowship gathering.

**On 23 June in Allahabad, Uttar Pradesh,** four followers of Christianity — Anil Kumar Bind, Krishna Kumar Bind, Subhash Chandra Bind, and Sanjay Vishwakarma — were jailed under false conversion law accusations.

**On 23 June in Raiwala village, Bijnor district, Uttar Pradesh,** Pastor Amit informed that Pastor Vinay Kumar, along with two church followers of Christianity from Raiwala village, were praying in Nangal Karimpur village, Bijnor. Extremist elements accused them of conversion, and police from Mandawar police station came and took Pastor Vinay Kumar, the two followers of Christianity, and two others from the house where the prayer was held. A total of five people remain in Mandawar police station.

**On 24 June in Rampur, Uttar Pradesh,** Dharmavati, wife of Ram Avtar from Ichharam Ki Milak, Civil Lines, was falsely accused of "educating poor non-Christian children" and "brainwashing them into Christianity." A first information report accused she invited three people, Vivek, Pawan Kumar, and Mamta, for outreach. All four were arrested, charged under the Uttar Pradesh Freedom of Religion Act and sent to Rampur Jail.

**On 30 June in Raebareli, Uttar Pradesh,** Pastor Rajesh Sharma and wife Soni Sharma were leading a prayer meeting when a neighbour filed a police complaint. Both were detained and booked under the UP anti-conversion law.

**On 6 July in Mau, Uttar Pradesh,** Pastor Mangleshwar was conducting a worship service at his place when someone filed a false complaint against him at the police station. Police came and took him to the station, where he faced significant harassment. He was booked under sections 170, 126, and 135 for breach of peace.

**On 6 July in Loharpatti, Kushinagar district, Uttar Pradesh,** Saroj Devi was praying at home with others when a villager informed the police. Police arrived and took Saroj to Vishunpur police station. Later, she was charged under Section 353(2) of the Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita.

**On 7 July in Fataihgarh, Farrukhabad district, Uttar Pradesh,** Pastor Sailesh Masih's church was investigated by the Sub-Divisional Magistrate and Circle Officer on a complaint from a religious extremist group. A first information report was registered on 9 July under multiple sections including SC, ST Act, Conversion, and other Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita sections. The registered first information report also include Dr. P K Khajoor, and Mahesh.

**On 9 July in Bhainswari village, Lakshmipur, Uttar Pradesh,** Manohar Prasad and Virendra, followers of christianity, were arrested during a peaceful prayer meeting and later transferred to Maharajganj district. A first information report was filed against them under sections of the Uttar Pradesh Prohibition of Unlawful Conversion of Religion Act.

**On 13 July in Maharajganj district, Uttar Pradesh,** Pastor Raj Kishor was falsely accused during Sunday worship by a local person of religious conversion to Kothibhar Police Station. Police arrived at the church and took Pastor Raj Kishor into custody.

**On 13 July in Bareilly, Uttar Pradesh,** Pastor Vijay Massey informed that Lal Ji Singh and his son were taken by police to Faridpur police station.

A first information report was filed against Pastor Lal Ji under Section 3/5(1) of the Uttar Pradesh Prohibition of Unlawful Conversion of Religion Act.

**On 13 July in Fatehpur Sikri, Agra district, Uttar Pradesh,** Pastor Hemant Kumar was detained during a house prayer meeting after a complaint was lodged. Following intervention by local pastors and discussions with police, he was released the same day without any FIR.

**On 13 July in Ghazipur district, Uttar Pradesh,** Pastor Akash Yadav was asked by police to stop a worship service following a complaint alleging religious conversion. He was later called to the police station, questioned, and released without any further action. The situation subsequently normalised.

**On 13 July in DLF Ghaziabad, Uttar Pradesh,** during prayers at Pastor Dharmendra's house, rioters arrived and called the police. Police are taking the pastor to DLF police station.

**On 13 July in Sidhauri, Shahjahanpur district, Uttar Pradesh,** Pastor Joshua was absent during Sunday prayer when police from Sidhauri station arrived. Police took several devotees including Gurda, Prahlad, Asnit Kumar, Mukesh Kumar, and Kiran to Sidhauri police station. A case was registered under sections 170/126/135 of the Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita.

**On 13 July in Rahimabad area, Prayagraj district, Uttar Pradesh,** Pastor Sahay was attacked during a prayer meeting, with extremists vandalising the premises, burning a Bible, and damaging a cross. Police later summoned the pastor but released him without registering any complaint against him.

**On 20 July in Mahasi Gram Panchayat, Bahraich district, Uttar Pradesh,** a Christian prayer gathering was disrupted locals and one (Ramesh Kumar Nishad) of the persons at the prayer meeting was summoned to the police station.

**On 20 July in Badalpur, Greater Noida, Uttar Pradesh,** Pastor Rajesh Sharma and others

disrupted in their prayer meetings and taken into police custody.

**On 20 July in Katiya village, Shahjahanpur, Uttar Pradesh,** Ajay was praying at his home when police arrived and took him into custody.

**On 20 July in Bilhari village, Saidanpur, Barabanki, Uttar Pradesh,** during a prayer meeting, some individuals forcibly stopped the worship. Umesh Chandra and around 10 followers of Christianity were detained by the police.

**On 20 July in Parsipur village, Kudwar Police Station, Sultanpur, Uttar Pradesh,** Ram Achal was conducting a prayer meeting at the house of Malti, a fellow follower of Christianity. After the prayer concluded, someone falsely accused them of forced religious conversion. The police took Malti's husband and another follower of Christianity to the police station.

**On 20 July in Kacha village, Jethwara PS, Pratapgarh, Uttar Pradesh,** police raided a healing meeting accused to be a conversion attempt. Eight individuals—seven men and one woman—were arrested. Religious items like books, posters, and pictures of Jesus were seized. The raid was based on a complaint by Manish Dubey. The gathering had been ongoing for a month without local police awareness.

**On 20 July in Ratanpura, Akbarpur Tehsil, Ambedkar Nagar, Uttar Pradesh,** police, from outside the jurisdiction, entered St. Thomas beilievers Eastern Church during Sunday worship. Without any warrant, they ordered the priest, Rev. Fr. Pramod, to stop services. On 21 July morning, police again arrived and took Rev. Fr. Pramod to Patel Nagar Police Station.

**On 20 July in Retti Mohalla, Shahjahanpur district, Uttar Pradesh,** Pastor Vivek Kumar was attacked by 20–25 individuals during a home prayer meeting. When he reported the assault, police accused him of religious conversion. Following intervention, he was released from the police station without any charges.

**On 20 July in Mirzapur district, Uttar Pradesh,** Vijay Kumar was taken by Vindhychal police for questioning on account of him practicing and professing Christianity.

**On 23 July in Tarabganj area, Nawabganj, Gonda, Uttar Pradesh,** Pastor Gyan reported repeated police visits to him and harassment after following an unspecified complaint. No first information report was registered. However, after the pastor submitted a written counter-complaint, the police stopped further interference, and the situation stabilised.

**On 27 July in Shajhapur, Uttar Pradesh,** Pastor Harish Chand and his son Shailesh were holding a prayer meeting at their residence when police arrived and took both into custody without legal notice or valid reason. Pastor Harish Chandra and his Son Shailesh were challaned by police under the Bharatiya Nagarik Suraksha Sanhita, 2023 with sections 170,126, & 135 and were granted bail from the Sub-divisional magistrate's Court, Shahjahanpur.

**On 27 July in Hapur, Uttar Pradesh,** during Sunday worship, a mob including members of extremist groups attacked worshippers Gaurav, Sagar, Kapil, and Guddu. The mob was accompanied by local police, indicating possible collusion. Several followers of Christianity were unjustly detained.

**On 27 July in Rampur Mathura, Sitapur, Uttar Pradesh,** six members of Vishwa Vani Church, including Pastor Vinod Pal Singh, his wife, their son, and three followers of Christianity including Shahid, were arrested by police from Imaliya Thana without prior notice or specified charges, indicating misuse of police authority.

**On 29 July in Lakhimpur Kheri district, Uttar Pradesh,** Pastor Santosh, employed in Pune, was repeatedly summoned by local police following a complaint. Fearing arrest, he stayed away from home. A grievance was submitted on the Jansunwai portal. Police continue to summon him, but no arrest has occurred.

**On 2 August in Pavani village, Majhwara, Mau district, Uttar Pradesh,** Pastor Sanjay and Pastor Brijesh were conducting a prayer meeting when a complaint was filed. Police arrived and took both to Ghosi Police Station. Later, both were sent to jail.

**On 5 August in Jaunpur district, Uttar Pradesh,**

Pastor Dinesh Maurya was leading a small prayer gathering at his residence when police arrived on a false complaint of forced religious conversion. He was briefly detained, and worship materials, including Bibles, were seized. Pastor Dinesh was released the same day, though the case remains under investigation and the confiscated items are still with the police.

**On 10 August in Raebareli district, Uttar Pradesh,** Pastor Anil was leading Sunday worship when uniformed police officers entered, recorded the congregation without consent, disrupted the service, and warned followers of Christianity against future gatherings. Pastor Anil was briefly detained and released the same day without any FIR.

**On 10 August in Baburi, Chandauli district, Uttar Pradesh,** Pastor Azad Chandan Ram of India Manna Mission Church was praying when members of extremist groups disrupted the service and lodged a false complaint of conversion. A first information report was registered under the anti-conversion law against Pastor Azad, his wife Rishu Gupta, Jagdish Bharti, and Ramlochan. All were later sent to Mirzapur Jail, and bail applications were subsequently rejected by the Sessions Court.

**On 10 August in Jaunpur district, Uttar Pradesh,** Pastor Arvind Patel was detained by police during a prayer meeting following a false conversion complaint. His mobile phone was confiscated, and he was released the same day without any FIR.

**On 10 August in Bulandshahr district, Uttar Pradesh,** Pastor Rajendra Masih, along with followers of Christianity, Pappan, Ravi, Sunder Singh, Ashu, Pradeep, Deepak Kumar, Krishna Beniwal, and Neelam, was detained following false allegations of religious conversion. All were later sent to Bulandshahr district Jail.

**On 14 August in Tiloi, Amethi district, Uttar Pradesh,** Gulab, a follower of Christianity, was summoned to the police station for questioning despite prayer meetings having been suspended in the area for over a year. During interrogation, police seized his mobile phone and questioned him about his children. He was later detained and challaned under Sections 170, 126, and 135 of the

Bharatiya Nagarik Suraksha Sanhita, and sent to Raebareli Jail. Gulab was granted bail the same day by the Sub-Divisional Magistrate Court, Amethi.

**On 17 August in Salahabad, Mau district, Uttar Pradesh,** Pastor Shyam Kumar Rajbhar was taken to the police station by members of an extremist group accompanied by Kotwali police while leading a prayer meeting. A first information report was later registered against Pastor Shyam Kumar Rajbhar and Ravishankar under Sections 3/5(1) of the Uttar Pradesh Prohibition of Unlawful Conversion of Religion Act. Both were sent to Mau Jail, and bail applications were subsequently pursued in higher courts.

**On 17 Aug in Ayodhya, Uttar Pradesh,** a follower of Christianity by the name of Bhola was taken into custody on account of his faith.

**On 17 Aug in Sultanpur, Uttar Pradesh,** 5 followers of Christianity were falsely accused of carrying out religious conversion work. They were booked under section 352, 351(1) of the Bhartiya Nyay Sanhita as well as section 3/5(1) of the Uttar Pradesh Prohibition of Unlawful Conversion Act.

**On 21 August in Azamgarh district, Uttar Pradesh,** Pastor Mahendra Prajapati was forcibly taken from his home by Dewaon police and detained at the police station. He was later released without any charges being filed.

**On 24 August in the Kerakat police station area, Jaunpur district, Uttar Pradesh,** Pastor Vanshraj and followers of Christianity, Dinesh Nath and Mamta, were detained during a Sunday prayer meeting following a false conversion complaint. A first information report was registered under sections 3 and 5(1) of the Uttar Pradesh Prohibition of Unlawful Conversion of Religion Act, and all three were sent to the district jail. Mamta was later granted bail and released.

**On 24 August in Nusratpur village, Ghazipur district, Uttar Pradesh,** Pastor Shyam Narayan was detained by Birno police following a disruption of a church prayer meeting by extremist groups. He was later released without any FIR.

**On 24 August in Barlai, Mau district, Uttar**

**Pradesh**, followers of Christianity Lalmuni Chauhan and Ashish Chauhan were taken to the police station during a prayer meeting. A first information report was registered under Sections 3/5(1) of the Uttar Pradesh Prohibition of Unlawful Conversion of Religion Act, and both were sent to jail. Bail was later granted by the Sessions Court, Mau.

**On 24 August in Mau district, Uttar Pradesh**, followers of Christianity Dharmendra Kumar and Karamjeet were separately taken to police stations for questioning during prayer-related incidents. Both were released without any FIR.

**On 24 August in Katghara Mahlu village, Madhuban police station area, Mau district, Uttar Pradesh**, followers of Christianity, Ranjit Kumar and Mahesh, were detained by local police during a small prayer gathering.

**On 24 August in Budaun district, Uttar Pradesh**, Pastor Hirdesh Kumar, his wife Neetu, and followers of Christianity Anju and Surendra were detained during a prayer meeting. A first information report was registered, and all were sent to district jail. Bail was later granted by the Sessions Court.

**On 26 August in Bisokhor village, Maharajganj district, Uttar Pradesh**, Kundan Kumar was arrested following pressure from extremist groups. He was later challaned under Sections 126, 135, and 176 of the Bharatiya Nagarik Suraksha Sanhita and granted bail by the Sub-Divisional Magistrate Court.

**On 26 August in Kannauj district, Uttar Pradesh**, Dharmendra Kumar, along with other followers of Christianity, Govada Prasad, Mamta, and Manju, was leading a prayer meeting when Gursahaiganj police arrived and detained all four. A first information report was registered against them under sections 3 and 5(1) of the Uttar Pradesh Prohibition of Unlawful Conversion of Religion Act, and they were sent to Kannauj District Jail. All four were later granted bail by the Sessions Court, Kannauj.

**On 28 August in Revti, Ballia district, Uttar Pradesh**, Pastor Dharmendra John of New India Church of God was forcibly taken from a follower

of Christianity's house by a mob and handed over to police. He was challaned under Sections 170, 126, and 135 of the Bharatiya Nagarik Suraksha Sanhita and later granted bail by the Sub-Divisional Magistrate Court, Bansdeeh.

**On 31 August in Rani Pokhar area, Basti district, Uttar Pradesh**, Pastor Harihar Yadav was severely assaulted during a Sunday prayer meeting. Instead of acting against the attackers, police registered a first information report against Pastor Harihar and others under the Uttar Pradesh Prohibition of Unlawful Conversion of Religion Act and arrested them. Pastor Harihar and others were sent to Basti Jail. Pastor Harihar Yadav was later granted regular bail by the Sessions Court.

**On 31 August in Adari police station area, Mau district, Uttar Pradesh**, a prayer meeting involving Sandeep Kumar, Vijay Kumar, and Krishna Kumar was disrupted by extremists. Police detained all three; Vijay Kumar was released the same day. Sandeep Kumar and Krishna Kumar were challaned under Bharatiya Nagarik Suraksha Sanhita Sections 170, 126, and 135 and later granted bail by the Sub-Divisional Magistrate Court, Mau.

**On 31 August in Pipri Deeh village, Mau district, Uttar Pradesh**, a prayer meeting at Vinay Chauhan's residence was disrupted after false allegations were made. Police attempted to detain the pastor, but all involved were released without any FIR.

**On 31 August in Shahganj area, Agra district, Uttar Pradesh**, Pastor Rajkumar Lalwani and multiple followers of Christianity were detained during an evening prayer meeting. Phones were confiscated, and family members were misled regarding their whereabouts. Several followers of Christianity were later sent to jail. Bail applications were filed with proceedings ongoing before the Sessions Court.

**On 31 August in Najibabad, Bijnor district, Uttar Pradesh**, Pastor Suresh was taken into custody at the local police station. He was later released without any FIR.

**On 6 September in Sujauli village, Motipur tehsil, Bahraich district, Uttar Pradesh**, Pastor

Gomti Prasad was taken into police custody while worshipping at a prayer gathering after neighbours alerted police. A first information report was registered under religious conversion charges, and the pastor was later sent to Bahraich Jail. Bail applications were rejected at the Sessions Court.

**On 7 September in Karimnagar, Basti district Uttar Pradesh,** Pastor Benny George was conducting a family fellowship meeting when a group of individuals forcibly disrupted the gathering, used abusive language, threatened false conversion charges, and summoned the police. The pastor was briefly detained but later released without any charges.

**On 7 September in Gorakhpur district, Uttar Pradesh,** a Sunday worship service was disrupted when extremist elements accompanied by police attempted to halt prayers. Followers of Christianity responded peacefully, and no first information report was registered in the matter.

**On 7 September in Prayagraj district, Uttar Pradesh,** Pastor Jawahar Lal Harijan was leading a Sunday prayer service when extremists created a disturbance, resulting in police intervention. The pastor was taken into police custody and booked under the Uttar Pradesh Unlawful Conversion of Religion Act. Regular bail was subsequently granted by the Court.

**On 9 September in Basti district, Uttar Pradesh,** Pastor Ashish John was taken to the police station after police conducted a search of his residence. He was later released without any first information report being registered.

**On 8 September in Sitapur district, Uttar Pradesh,** Rev. John Khushal and his son Anurag Moses Khushal were summoned to Kamlapur Police Station following a complaint alleging conversion through vocational training centres. Anurag Moses Khushal was released the same day without any charges.

**On 14 September in Haseran village, Kannauj district, Uttar Pradesh,** Pastor Raju of the Sapera community was reported to police on allegations of religious conversion during worship. Police visited the location, issued a warning, and left without further action.

**On 14 September in Giridharpur village, Aonla tehsil, Bareilly district, Uttar Pradesh,** Pastor Braj Kishor Arya was taken into custody by police following allegations of religious conversion raised by members of an extremist group. A first information report was registered under the UP Freedom of Religion Act, and he was later sent to Bareilly District Jail.

**On 14 September in the Ram Krishna Mission police station area, Shahjahanpur district, Uttar Pradesh,** Pastor Hanuk and his wife Sunita Singh were detained during a prayer gathering. Police registered a first information report under the UP Prohibition of Unlawful Conversion of Religion Act, and both were later sent to Shahjahanpur Jail.

**On 14 September in Nigoha area, Lucknow district, Uttar Pradesh,** Pastor Malkhan of the AG Church faced disruption during a village prayer service when a mob entered the gathering and police detained church members. The first information report was registered under the Freedom of Religion Act, and subsequent police action led to Pastor Malkhan being sent to jail.

**On 14 September in Babnaan area, Gaur police station limits, Basti district, Uttar Pradesh,** police stopped a morning prayer service at followers of Christianity Eastern Church and detained Father Ram Nihor and Ramtej Varma. A first information report was registered under the UP Prohibition of Unlawful Conversion of Religion Act. Both were later granted regular bail and released.

**On 14 September in a village in Sultanpur, Uttar Pradesh,** Pastor Hoobe Lal, along with fellow followers of Christianity, was conducting a prayer meeting when a false complaint alleging religious conversion led to the arrival of the police. Subsequently, a first information report was registered under the Uttar Pradesh Unlawful Conversion of Religion Act. Later, the High Court granted anticipatory bail to Pastor Hoobe Lal.

**On 14 September in Ramkola police station area, Kushinagar district, Uttar Pradesh,** multiple followers of Christianity were taken into custody during a police action. Pastor Ram Ashish was later released the same day.

**On 19 September in Phulpur, Prayagraj district, Uttar Pradesh,** despite court and administrative permissions, Pastor Santosh Raj's Friday church service was disrupted by members of extremist groups. Eighteen followers of Christianity, including women and a child, were detained, and a first information report was registered under the UP Prohibition of Unlawful Conversion of Religion Act. Fourteen followers of Christianity were later sent to jail, while the pastor's wife was released due to her infant child.

**On 21 September in Katka Mission, Siddharthnagar district, Uttar Pradesh,** a prayer meeting at the CNI Church was disrupted by members of an extremist group. Several followers of Christianity were assaulted and injured before police intervened. The attackers were questioned by police, and the situation in the area remained tense following the incident.

**On 21 September in Mau district, Uttar Pradesh,** Pastor Dinesh Patila was approached by members of an extremist group accompanied by police during the morning hours. He was taken to the police station but was released the same day without any charges being registered.

**On 21 September in Majra Bhavpurwa village, Hardoi district, Uttar Pradesh,** Pastor Lal Singh was leading a prayer gathering when local groups raised allegations of religious conversion. Police intervened and arrested eight followers of Christianity present at the gathering. A first information report was later registered under the Freedom of Religion Act.

**On 21 September in Bagiya Chowkha, Sultanpur district, Uttar Pradesh,** Pastor Tulsi Ram was conducting a prayer meeting when false allegations of forced conversion were circulated. Police from Jaisingh police station took him into custody, registered an first information report under the UP Freedom of Religion Act, and sent him to prison.

**On 28 September in Gorakhpur district, Uttar Pradesh,** Laxmi Yadav was conducting a small Christian prayer meeting when police arrived on a false complaint of religious conversion. She and another follower of Christianity, Roshni, were taken to the police station and booked under

sections 351(2) and 5(1) of the Uttar Pradesh Prohibition of Unlawful Conversion of Religion Act. Both were later sent to Gorakhpur Jail, and a bail application is being prepared.

**On 29 September in Sant Kabir Nagar, Uttar Pradesh,** police searched the residence of Pastor Harihar Yadav, recorded personal details of those present, and left the premises.

**On 28 September in Jaunpur district, Uttar Pradesh,** Pastor Ashok Patel was taken into custody during Sunday worship at Jesus Junior High School. Police later registered a first information report against Pastor Ashok Patel, his wife Savitri Patel, daughter-in-law Savita Patel, and others. They were sent to Jaunpur Jail, and bail proceedings are ongoing.

**On 28 September in Ahraura village, Mirzapur district, Uttar Pradesh,** missionary Devsahayam Daniel from Chennai and watchman Mithilesh Kumar were detained during church service. A first information report was registered under the Uttar Pradesh Prohibition of Unlawful Conversion of Religion Act against five individuals, who were later sent to Mirzapur Jail. Bail applications are in process amid humanitarian concerns.

**On 1 October in Barabar New Basti area under Kotwali, Jhansi district, Uttar Pradesh,** Shiba Robet faced a false case alleging religious conversion. Police repeatedly visited her residence to summon her, following which she stayed away for safety.

**On 1 October in Jaunpur district, Uttar Pradesh,** Pastor Harishchandra Gautam was taken into custody at Rampur police station on false allegations of religious conversion. Police later registered a first information report under section 3 and 5(1) of the Uttar Pradesh Prohibition of Unlawful Conversion of Religion Act. He was subsequently granted bail by the Sub-Divisional Magistrate Court, Madiyahu, after being challaned under Bharatiya Nagarik Suraksha Sanhita Section 170.

**On 2 October in Ballia district, Uttar Pradesh,** Pastor Vinod Kumar was conducting a prayer meeting when villagers informed the police. Police took him to Bhimapura police station and

later registered a first information report under Section 3/5(1) of the Uttar Pradesh Prohibition of Unlawful Conversion of Religion Act. He was sent to Salahabad Jail and subsequently granted bail by the Sessions Court, Ballia.

**On 3 October in Hardoi district, Uttar Pradesh,** Banwari Lal was leading a prayer meeting when a false complaint alleging religious conversion was filed. Police detained him and others, later registering a first information report under the Uttar Pradesh Prohibition of Unlawful Conversion of Religion Act. All accused were granted bail the same day by the Sub-Divisional Magistrate Court.

**On 5 October in Ambedkar Nagar district, Uttar Pradesh,** Pastor Gulabchand and followers of Christianity were taken to Jaitpur police station during Sunday prayer following a false complaint. All were released the same day, and Pastor Gulabchand was later granted bail after being challaned under Bharatiya Nagarik Suraksha Sanhita provisions.

**On 5 October in Bhabora village, Sant Kabir Nagar district, Uttar Pradesh,** Pastor Anil Kumar was conducting a prayer meeting when members of an extremist group disrupted the gathering, misbehaved with women followers of Christianity, and raised false conversion allegations. Fifteen followers of Christianity were detained and later released the same day. Complaints were filed by both sides.

**On 5 October in Baksa area, Jaunpur district, Uttar Pradesh,** Pastor Sunil Kumar, along with Shyam Lal and Rajkumar, was arrested following A First Information Report under the UP Prohibition of Unlawful Conversion of Religion Act. All three were later granted bail by the Sessions Court and released from jail.

**On 12 October in Lalganj, Mirzapur district, Uttar Pradesh,** Pastor James, his wife Savita, and two other followers of Christianity were taken into custody while praying at their residence following a false complaint. A First Information Report was registered against Pastor James and Savita under Sections 3 and 5(1) of the Uttar Pradesh Prohibition of Unlawful Conversion of Religion Act. Bail was rejected by the lower court, and both were sent to District Jail.

**On 12 October in Maharajganj police station area, Azamgarh district, Uttar Pradesh,** a prayer meeting at the residence of Nirmala Sharma, Aman Sharma, Ankit Sharma, and Suryabhan Sharma was disrupted following a false complaint. A First Information Report was registered against six followers of Christianity under Sections 3 and 5(1) of the UP Prohibition of Unlawful Conversion of Religion Act. Bail was later granted to Nirmala Sharma, Ankit Sharma, and Aman Sharma by the Sessions Court.

**On 10 October in Ballia district, Uttar Pradesh,** Alok Kumar was taken into custody and charged under Sections 3/5(1) of the UP Prohibition of Unlawful Conversion of Religion Act along with additional provisions. He was subsequently sent to Ballia Jail, while Arjun Dixit, who had also been detained, was released.

**On 19 October in Sant Kabir Nagar district, Uttar Pradesh,** Vikash, a follower of Christianity, was leading a Sunday prayer service at his home when members of the religious extremist group disrupted the worship and attacked, after which police took Vikash and Mohit Kumar into custody and seized Bibles and worship materials. They were later booked under sections 170, 126, and 135 Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita and sent to prison, subsequently both were granted bail by the Sub-Divisional Magistrate Court.

**On 12 October in Ghunuwan village, Chitrakoot district, Uttar Pradesh,** Bharat, Bishambar (also known as Thakur), and Sanjay Maurya were leading a prayer meeting when police disrupted the gathering and detained Bharat and Bishambar. Both were released the same day without charges.

**On 14 October in Bijlipur village, Baharia police station area, Uttar Pradesh,** Gaya Prasad Yadav and Arvind Kumar Saroj were arrested on allegations of conducting religious conversion activities during a “Yesu Darbar” gathering and were sent to jail.

**On 19 October in Bareilly district, Uttar Pradesh,** Pastor Sumit Masey, Amit Masey, Sarita, and Satyapal were arrested on false allegations of religious conversion. A first information report was registered under Section

299 of the Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita and Sections 3 and 5(1) of the Uttar Pradesh Prohibition of Unlawful Conversion of Religion Act, and the accused were sent to jail.

**On 19 October in Prayagraj district, Uttar Pradesh,** Pastor Ram Singar and Pastor Dharmendra were taken into custody by police after concluding prayer at home. Police seized two Bibles, an offering bag, and a diary. Subsequent police raids were conducted at their residences, and Pastor Ram Singar's uncle was also detained. All were held at Phoolpur Police Station.

**On 24 October in Mohanlalganj, Lucknow district, Uttar Pradesh,** Pastor Deep Chand of the Presbyterian Church, was taken into custody along with some of his associates. The workers were released the same night, and Pastor Deep Chand was later released without any first information report.

**On 24 October in Kariri Bhadauli Gram Sabha, under Handia police station, Prayagraj district, Uttar Pradesh,** police raided Pastor Sitaram's residence at night following allegations of religious conversion. Seven followers of Christianity were detained, and two motorcycles were seized. Subsequently, nine followers of Christianity were sent to jail in connection with the incident.

**On 24 October in Janghazi area, Prayagraj district, Uttar Pradesh,** police repeatedly searched the home of Malti Devi and later detained her when her husband was not found. She was later sent to Naini Jail under Bharatiya Nagarik Suraksha Sanhita provisions, and A First Information Report was registered against her under the Uttar Pradesh Prohibition of Unlawful Conversion of Religion Act. An online complaint was filed through the IGRS portal.

**On 24 October in Meja area, Prayagraj district, Uttar Pradesh,** Pastor Rajesh Kumar and his wife were taken to the police station early morning without any arrest warrant or prior complaint.

**On 24 October in Prayagraj district, Uttar Pradesh,** police detained the father and niece of Durgesh after summoning him back from Mumbai based on a video that came into police possession.

The family members were taken to Handia Police Station.

**On 28 October in Basti district, Uttar Pradesh,** Ram Dayal Sharma and another follower of Christianity were detained by police while praying with fellow Christians at a residence. A First Information Report was later filed under conversion-related charges, and Ram Dayal Sharma was sent to Basti Jail.

**On 29 October in Prayagraj district, Uttar Pradesh,** Pastor Ram Awadh and his wife Arti were taken into custody while praying at their home. A First Information Report was registered against them and three others under the Uttar Pradesh Prohibition of Unlawful Conversion of Religion Act. Ram Awadh and Arti were later sent to Naini Jail, while the others were not arrested.

**On 29 October in Atraura village, Phoolpur, Prayagraj district, Uttar Pradesh,** Seema Devi and Shivani were detained by police during a prayer meeting. A First Information Report was registered under the anti-conversion law. Shivani was sent to Naini Jail and later granted bail by the Allahabad High Court, while Seema Devi received anticipatory bail.

**On 29 October in Sarki village, Jaunpur district, Uttar Pradesh,** Geeta Devi, along with Ranjana Kumari, Sonu, and Vijay Kumar, was arrested during a police operation alleging unlawful religious conversion. Police recovered Bibles and religious materials, and A First Information Report was registered under the Uttar Pradesh Prohibition of Unlawful Conversion of Religion Act. All four were later sent to Jaunpur Jail.

**On 9 November in Bhayapurwa village, Shravasti district, Uttar Pradesh,** Rajesh Kumar and Kundan were conducting a prayer meeting when police intervened and detained four Christians. An First Information Report was registered under Section 3/5(1) of the UP Prohibition of Unlawful Conversion of Religion Act, and Rajesh Kumar and Kundan were sent to Shravasti Jail.

**On 1 November in Ayodhya, Uttar Pradesh,** Pastor James and Anchal were arrested by police

while distributing Bible tracts near a temple after being handed over by members of an extremist group. They were booked under Sections 170, 126, and 135. Bail was later granted by the Sub-Divisional Magistrate Court in Ayodhya.

**On 2 November in Bhati village, Sahjanwa, Gorakhpur district, Uttar Pradesh,** Pastor Bharat was conducting a Sunday church service when police arrived on a false complaint. He and four women were taken into custody; the women were released, while Pastor Bharat was sent to Gorakhpur Jail under the UP Freedom of Religion Act.

**On 2 November in Azamgarh district, Uttar Pradesh,** Pastor Binu Raghunath and Pastor Ajay Vishwakarma of AG Church were conducting Sunday worship when police arrived following false conversion allegations. Both pastors, along with Govardhan Vishwakarma, were detained and later released the same day without charges.

**On 2 November in Gawari village, Sitapur district, Uttar Pradesh,** Vansh Gopal, Munna Lal, Suraj Lal, Sushil, and Pradeep were detained during a prayer meeting after villagers alerted the police. Worship materials were seized, and an First Information Report was registered under Section 3/5(1) of the UP Prohibition of Unlawful Conversion of Religion Act. All five were sent to Sitapur Jail.

**On 7 November in Chandanpur village, Mirzapur district, Uttar Pradesh,** Pramila, wife of Deepak, was accused of luring an individual for religious conversion. She was arrested the following day under the UP Prohibition of Unlawful Conversion of Religion Act and sent to Mirzapur Jail.

**On 16 November in Khindoda village, Simbhaoli police station area, Baghpat district, Uttar Pradesh,** Pastor Rohit Shrivastava was conducting a prayer at a family's home when police and members of an extremist group arrived, halted the gathering, and took him into custody. A first information report was registered under sections 3 and 5(1) of the Uttar Pradesh Prohibition of Unlawful Conversion of Religion Act against Pastor Rohit Shrivastava, his wife Pooja, and Jyoti, all of whom were sent to Baghpat Jail.

**On 16 November in Kokilpatti village, Kushinagar district, Uttar Pradesh,** Suresh and Omprakash were leading a home prayer meeting when police intervened following complaints from villagers. They were taken to the police station and booked under Sections 170, 126, and 135 of the Bharatiya Nagarik Suraksha Sanhita. All detainees were later released by the Sub-Divisional Magistrate Court.

**On 17 November in Azamgarh district, Uttar Pradesh,** Pastor Jitender was conducting a thanksgiving prayer meeting with trust members when police arrived and attempted to take him into custody despite prior notification and court permission. He was released the same day without charges.

**On 18 November in the Saharanpur–Muzaffarnagar region, Uttar Pradesh,** Pastor Ronny and Rahul Kumar were arrested by police and sent to jail under conversion-related charges. Bail proceedings were initiated through their legal counsel.

**On 19 November in Pratapgarh district, Uttar Pradesh,** late at night, police arrived at Pastor Suraj Verma's residence and attempted to take him and his father into custody without prior notice due to their faith. They were later instructed to appear before the authorities.

**On 19 November in Pratapgarh district, Uttar Pradesh,** Deepak Kumar, the father of Neeraj, was taken from his home due to their Christian faith. He was taken to the Raniganj police station without any inquiry and charged under Sections 135, 170, and 126. He was later released by the Sub-Divisional Magistrate's Court.

**On 20 November in Bijnor district, Uttar Pradesh,** a family anniversary gathering attended by Christians was accused of conversion activities. Police arrested Nisha's father and Pastor Rajeev Sharma under the UP Freedom of Religion Act. Bail was later granted by the Sessions Court after initial rejection by the lower court.

**On 23 November in Agra, Uttar Pradesh,** members of an extremist group, accompanied by police, arrived at the residence of Pastor Ritchie David, instilling fear in his family and

congregation. Several individuals were detained under preventive measures, although some were released later. Pastor Ritchie David was ultimately released following legal intervention by local authorities.

**On 23 November in Saharanpur district, Uttar Pradesh,** police arrived during a preaching session led by Pastor Shivram and demanded permission documents for worship. He was warned that prayer meetings would not be allowed to continue without official permission.

**On 25 November in Allahabad district, Uttar Pradesh,** Pastor Girish Chandra was praying with friends when police arrived following a complaint and took him along with Gunja Soni, Sanjay Soni, and Sudheer Kumar to Airport Police Station, after which an First Information Report was registered under sections 3 and 5(1) of the Uttar Pradesh Prohibition of Unlawful Conversion of Religion Act; subsequent updates indicated that four individuals were sent to jail.

**On 25 November in Prayagraj, Uttar Pradesh,** Pastor Jagdish was detained along with four others while praying at a private gathering. They were taken to the police station on a complaint and later sent to jail despite no substantive case being cited.

**On 29 November in Prayagraj, Uttar Pradesh,** a youth fellowship at A.G. Church was disrupted by members of an extremist group. Although police initially restored order, later multiple church leaders, including Pastor C. P. Raju and Anil Thomas, were booked under criminal and anti-conversion provisions and sent to jail.

**On 30 November in Chandauli district, Uttar Pradesh,** police arrived during Sunday worship at New Life League Church on a false conversion complaint and detained Pastor P. V. Raju along with six other followers of Christianity. All were later released after police found no substance in the allegations.

**On 2 December in Robertsganj, Sonbhadra district, Uttar Pradesh,** Pastor Ramu Prajapati was conducting a prayer meeting at Sunil Pal's residence when religious extremists protested and called the police. Police detained around 12 people, and steps were initiated to send Pastor

Ramu Prajapati and his wife to jail.

**On 4 December in Gorakhpur, Uttar Pradesh,** Reena Nishad, a follower of Christianity, and her nephew Pradeep Nishad faced police action when officers arrived at their location and took them, along with several other followers of Christianity, to the local police station for questioning. A first information report was registered against Reena Nishad and Pradeep Nishad. Subsequently, both were remanded to judicial custody and sent to jail.

**On 7 December in Thathiya area, Kannauj district, Uttar Pradesh,** Ajit Singh reported that members of a religious extremist group, accompanied by police, disrupted a prayer meeting, assaulted followers of Christianity, including women, and later forcibly detained family members. False allegations of extortion, custodial harassment, and assault were reported against the followers of Christianity.

**On 7 December in Jungle Bakulha village, Padrauna police station limits, Kushinagar district, Uttar Pradesh,** Pastor Matadeen was detained by police while conducting prayer activities and later sent to jail. He is married to Babita and has four children. A bail application was filed in the lower court, and bail is expected to be granted shortly.

**On 14 December in Mohanlalganj, Lucknow district, Uttar Pradesh,** Pastor Rakesh Kumar reported ongoing harassment by right-wing groups and neighbours.

**On 14 December in Surahi village, Jaunpur district, Uttar Pradesh,** Pastor Krishna and other followers of Christianity were taken to the police station following a false complaint of religious conversion during a prayer meeting. They remained in police custody at the time of reporting.

**On 15 December in Mirzapur district, Uttar Pradesh,** police detained Father Bholanath Patel and around ten followers of Christianity, including women, from a BCI Church during a prayer meeting. A first information report was registered, and seven individuals were later sent to jail.

**On 18 December in Ayodhya district, Uttar Pradesh,** Pastor Dilip Kumar was taken to Ronahi

Police Station during a prayer gathering without any written complaint. He was released the same day without charges.

**On 19 December in Maharajganj district, Uttar Pradesh,** four followers of Christianity, Amit Maikal, Angad, Manoj, and one other, were detained by police due to their faith-related activities. They were challaned under Bharatiya Nagarik Suraksha Sanhita Sections 170, 126, and 135 and sent to Maharajganj Jail. On 23 December, all four were granted bail by the Sub-Divisional Magistrate Court, Maharajganj, and released.

**On 21 December in Rampur town, Saharanpur district, Uttar Pradesh,** police visited Pastor Amit John and instructed him to stop Christmas and Sunday church gatherings, citing opposition from religious extremist groups. Pastor later visited the police station and was released without any charges after an enquiry.

**On 21 December in Shalimar Garden, Ghaziabad district, Uttar Pradesh,** Pastor Raju Sadar Ji and his wife were taken to the police station after a prayer gathering. A video of their harassment circulated widely, prompting outrage. Police stated that the matter was under investigation, and counter-complaints were being considered.

**On 21 December in Shahjahanpur district, Uttar Pradesh,** Pastor Vivek and other followers of Christianity were summoned to a police outpost following disturbances created by members of an extremist group. A first information report was registered under the Freedom of Religion Act against Pastor Vivek, his wife, family members, and followers of Christianity.

**On 21 December in Lohangpur village, Fatehpur district, Uttar Pradesh,** police registered A first information report under the Freedom of Religion Act against Anil Kumar Paswan, Sunil Paswan, Sangeeta Paswan, and others following a prayer gathering. Two followers of Christianity were arrested and sent to jail, while others remained under investigation.

**Around the mid of Dec of 2025 in Baraut, Baghat district, Uttar Pradesh,** Pastor Dinesh Kumar, who serves in Panipat, was taken into police custody along with his team after a neighbor

filed a complaint while he was ministering to a family. Pastor T.K. Rajan and team intervened and facilitated his release from the police station.

**On 24 December in the Hazratganj Cathedral area, Lucknow, Uttar Pradesh,** members associated with ISKCON created a disturbance outside the Cathedral during the Christmas program. The incident was widely reported in the media.

**On 25 December in Sardhuwa village, Chitrakoot district, Uttar Pradesh,** members of an extremist group disrupted a Christmas prayer meeting. Despite their presence, women followers of Christianity confronted them and forced them to leave. The Superintendent of Police, Sub-Divisional Magistrate, and media personnel were present at the scene, and action was initiated.

**On 25 December in Rannupur village, Mitauli area, Lakhimpur district, Uttar Pradesh,** police stopped a Christian program following a complaint by members of Sanatan Dharma Seva Samiti alleging religious conversion. Two individuals were taken for questioning, and the gathering was halted on the grounds that permission had not been obtained. The matter remains under investigation.

**On 26 December** in an undisclosed location, Pastor Ramesh was celebrating Christmas with followers of Christianity when a complaint was made to the police. Officers arrived at the venue and stopped the Christmas programme and prayer service. The police did not permit the continuation of the celebration.

**On 28 December in Ranipur village, Ghazipur district, Uttar Pradesh,** Pastor Gulab was conducting a Christmas program when police from Nonhar Police Station arrived and stopped the event for questioning. After inquiry by the Station Officer, the police left the venue, and the matter was resolved without further action.

**On 28 December in Mau district, Uttar Pradesh,** Anil Kumar and Aakash Kumar were holding a prayer meeting when police from Madhuban Police Station arrived following a complaint and took both to the police station. Later the same day, they were released without any

charges after inquiry, as confirmed by allied contact Pyare Lal.

**On 28 December in the Radhanagar police station area, Fatehpur district, Uttar Pradesh,** Pastor David Gladwin and his son Abhishek Gladwin were arrested following protests by members of extremist groups. They were accused of forcibly converting people through inducement and threats at the India Presbyterian Church in Deviganj. A first information report was registered in the matter, and the arrests followed demonstrations by members of extremist groups at the church premises.

**On 29 December in Shahganj police station limits, Jaunpur district, Uttar Pradesh,** a Christmas prayer programme was disrupted following allegations of religious conversion. Police detained several followers of Christianity and later registered a first information report in the matter. Among those arrested and sent to jail were Pradeep Kumar Gautam, his wife Savita Devi, and a few others.

**On 29 December, within the limits of Jamalpur Police Station in Mirzapur district, Uttar Pradesh,** three women and Sonu, who are followers of Christianity, were taken to the police station after a false complaint was made while they were attending a Christmas programme. The three women were later released. However, a First Information Report was registered against Sonu under the Uttar Pradesh Prohibition of Unlawful Conversion of Religion Act, and he was subsequently sent to Mirzapur jail.

**On 28 December in Unnao district, Uttar Pradesh,** Pankaj Rajput, who occasionally leads worship and works as a cloth vendor, was conducting a weekly prayer meeting at his home when members of an extremist group arrived and physically assaulted him. He was handed over to the police and booked under Section 151 of the CrPC. Pankaj Rajput was later granted bail and released.

**On 31 December in Pilani village, under Gaura Badshahpur Police Station in Jaunpur district, Uttar Pradesh,** Pastor Praveen Maurya was conducting a peaceful Christmas programme when a false complaint of religious conversion

was made. Police detained Pastor Praveen Maurya, Dharmendra, Shyam Pravesh, and another Christian, and kept them in custody without immediate court production. A First Information Report was registered against them under the Uttar Pradesh Prohibition of Unlawful Conversion of Religion Act.

**On 31 December in Muratganj police station limits, Kaushambi district, Uttar Pradesh,** around 30–40 followers of Christianity had gathered for an overnight prayer meeting. After the prayer concluded, a neighbour lodged a false complaint accusing religious conversion. Police detained Pastor Rajkumar and follower of Christianity Lavlesh, registered a case under Sections 170, 135, and 126 of the Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita for disturbance of peace, and produced them before the Sub-Divisional Magistrate court. Both were granted bail on the same day and returned home safely.

## UTTARAKHAND

**On 16 January in Kashipur, Uttarakhand,** Prem Sagar and Vijay were detained by police after a complaint accused religious conversion during a prayer gathering held in a field.

**On 8 February in Dehradun, Uttarakhand,** Pastor Alex reported that Pastor Laxman Rawat, who runs a church and a children's home, was falsely accused by his neighbours of religious conversion. Approximately two weeks earlier, a false police complaint had been filed against him, followed by an inquiry that led to the temporary closure of his church. He now faces additional allegations of converting minor girls from his children's home and fears arrest.

**On 11 June in Kathgodam, Nainital district, Uttarakhand,** Pastor Jacob Julius, who also social service for the underprivileged children, was summoned

to the Kheda police station in Gaulapar based on a verbal complaint. The complaint accused him of engaging in religious conversion under the guise of children's ministry and distributing goods. Pastor Jacob, accompanied by 4–5 members of his church, met with the station in-charge and clarified that his social service organization offers free education to children. The officer appreciated the work and advised him to inform the police in advance for future programs. Pastor Jacob was asked to submit the NGO's registration and bank details before being allowed to return.

**On 24 August in Sidcul, Haridwar district, Uttarakhand,** Pastor Ashok Kumar was taken to the police station after a prayer meeting at his residence was disrupted by extremist elements. He was released later without any FIR.

**On 14 September in Maldhan Chaur field area, Ramnagar, Nainital district, Uttarakhand,** a Sunday worship service was disrupted, and evangelist Chhinder Singh, along with a few others, was taken to the police station following a complaint. After the intervention of local Christian leaders, all detained followers of Christianity were released.

**On 10 October in Raiwala, Haridwar district, Uttarakhand,** Pastor Sanjay Chand and Pastor Rajesh Paul were taken into custody during a Christian wedding ceremony following a complaint alleging religious misrepresentation. Police initiated an inquiry after confirming that both the bride and groom are Christians.

**On 24 October in Jhanakaiya police station area, Khatima tehsil, Udham Singh Nagar district, Uttarakhand,** Pastor Sidhari Prasad was detained during an afternoon prayer meeting following allegations under the state's anti-Conversion Law.

**On 22 December in Haridwar, Uttarakhand,** a planned Christmas program titled "Experience Christmas" at Hotel Bhagirathi, located near Har Ki Pauri and operated under the Uttar Pradesh Tourism Department, was cancelled after objections and pressure from local religious extremist groups and priests, preventing the scheduled celebration from taking place.

**On 22 December in Haridwar district, Uttarakhand,** Pastor Varghese Thomas was detained by police while visiting for a private event. No First Information Report or formal charges were communicated. Following intervention by senior police officials and contacts at higher levels, the pastor was released the same day without any case being registered.

**On 25 December in Bishanpur, Pathri, Haridwar,** Pastor Suresh Wadkar was conducting a Christmas celebration at the home of a fellow follower of Christianity. The celebration was violently interrupted when a group of individuals identified as members of an extremist group forced their way into the residence. The group vandalised the property, broke doors, and intruders harassed and misbehaved with the women present, causing the family significant distress and fear.

## WEST BENGAL

**On 26 January in Kanaidanga, Chanditala, Hooghly, West Bengal,** Pastor Soumen reported that their neighbor Rajkumar Ghosh filed a false First Information Report against four members of their fellowship on account of their faith.

**On 25 February in Kolkata, West Bengal,**

Vaishali Bhattacharya, faced harassment by local residents due to conducting Christian prayer meetings.

**On 25 February in West Midnapore, West Bengal,** Pastor Raju faced disturbances at his church caused by hostile neighbours on account of Christian faith.

**On 3 March Prusan Dhali from Nadia district, West Bengal,** called the helpline reporting threats against prayer gatherings being organized in Shantipur. During a satsang at Radha Dhara's home, opposition groups disrupted the prayer and assaulted her. Hostility has increased over the past two years.

**On 20 March in Paskura, East Midnapore, West Bengal,** Arvind Mana reported threats from religious extremists. Bibles and musical instruments were damaged, and the followers of Christianity were accused of conversions. They are associated with Sulochana AG Church.

**On 30 March in Durgapur village, Purba Bardhaman, West Bengal,** Joydeb Soren and other followers of Christianity were

attacked by a large mob armed with sticks and rods during Sunday worship. Women were harassed, prayers interrupted, and false conversion claims made. The followers of Christianity filed a complaint, and police detained them for investigation.

**On 13 April in Roydanga, Durgapur, West Bengal,** Pastor Avdhesh reported that his field worker Bijoy Chowdhury and others were attacked during a house fellowship by a mob of 40–50, including 20–25 members of an extremist group. Bijoy lost four teeth; others sustained serious head injuries.

**On 1 July in Howrah, West Bengal,** Bimal Ghosh and his wife Bandana Ghosh, residents of Dapharpur, Dharmatala in Domjur village, were threatened by relatives and local political affiliates due to their Christian faith. What began as a family land dispute escalated into religious harassment, including verbal abuse, ridicule for abandoning former faith, and threats to renounce their Christian faith. Armed individuals attempted to assault them, forcing the couple to lock themselves inside a room.



# RECOMMENDATIONS

India's Constitution guarantees freedom of religion and equal protection of the law for all citizens. The incidents documented in this report highlight areas where these protections require stronger implementation and institutional safeguards. In the interest of strengthening constitutional commitments and ensuring that all communities are able to practise their faith without fear, the following recommendations are respectfully offered.

## 1. Reaffirming Constitutional Protections

- a. Publicly reaffirm the constitutional guarantee of freedom of religion as enshrined in Articles 25–28 of the Constitution of India, and issue clear guidance to state governments and law enforcement agencies to ensure that peaceful religious worship, prayer gatherings, and religious expression are protected without discrimination.
- b. Ensure that all citizens are able to practise, profess, and propagate their faith freely, consistent with the Constitution of India and existing legal safeguards protecting individual liberty and religious choice.

## 2. Strengthening Legal Protections

- a. Enact comprehensive national legislation to address targeted and communal violence, ensuring clear legal accountability for organised attacks against religious and other vulnerable communities.
- b. Review the implementation and impact of existing state-level Freedom of Religion laws to ensure that they do not restrict constitutionally guaranteed religious freedom or lead to misuse against minority communities. The Government of India may advise state governments, including Uttar Pradesh, Himachal Pradesh, Uttarakhand, Jharkhand, Gujarat, Madhya Pradesh, Chhattisgarh, Odisha, Karnataka, and Haryana, to examine whether amendments are necessary to prevent misuse and protect individual liberty.
- c. Amend paragraph 3 of the Constitution (Scheduled Castes) Order, 1950 to extend Scheduled Caste protections to Dalits who profess Christianity or Islam, thereby ensuring equal access to constitutional safeguards against discrimination.

## 3. Ensuring Accountability and Rule of Law

- a. Ensure strict enforcement of criminal law against individuals and groups involved in mob violence, vandalism of places of worship, intimidation of religious communities, and other acts of targeted hostility.
- b. Take action against organised groups that promote sectarian hatred, mobilise mobs, or file false complaints alleging forced religious conversion with the intention of harassing minority communities.

- c. Ensure that police officials who fail to perform their duties, shield perpetrators, or otherwise compromise due process in cases involving attacks on religious minorities are held accountable under existing laws.
- d. Investigate and prosecute cases involving the demolition or destruction of churches or other places of worship, and ensure that illegally demolished religious structures are restored or rebuilt in accordance with law.

#### **4. Strengthening Law Enforcement and Administrative Response**

- a. Conduct regular sensitisation and training programmes for police officers and district administrators on constitutional protections relating to freedom of religion and minority rights.
  
- b. Ensure that allegations of religious conversion are subject to proper preliminary investigation before the registration of criminal cases, and that complaints by victims of religion-based violence or discrimination are promptly recorded.
  
- c. Strengthen monitoring mechanisms to ensure timely police response to incidents involving mob gatherings, disruption of worship services, or threats against religious communities.

#### **5. Institutional Safeguards**

- a. Ensure that State Human Rights Commissions and State Minorities Commissions are fully functional in every state, with transparent and non-partisan appointment processes and adequate resources to monitor and address violations.
  
- b. Establish independent mechanisms, including national or state-level commissions where necessary, to examine patterns of targeted violence against minorities and recommend corrective measures.

#### **6. Protection and Support for Victims**

- a. Ensure timely and adequate compensation under central and state victim compensation schemes for individuals and institutions targeted because of their religious identity.
  
- b. Provide rehabilitation and protection for victims who are displaced or threatened following incidents of communal or religious violence.

India's constitutional framework provides robust protections for freedom of religion and the equal dignity of all citizens. Ensuring that these guarantees are upheld in practice remains essential for maintaining social harmony, the rule of law, and the plural character of Indian society. The Evangelical Fellowship of India hopes that the findings documented in this report will contribute to continued dialogue and constructive efforts to safeguard these fundamental freedoms for all.





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