

Evangelical
Fellowship of India



Religious Liberty
Commission

HATE AND TARGETED VIOLENCE AGAINST CHRISTIANS IN INDIA



YEARLY REPORT 2023
RELIGIOUS LIBERTY COMMISSION OF
EVANGELICAL FELLOWSHIP OF INDIA

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Sincere acknowledgements and appreciation to the team of the Religious Liberty Commission of EFI for contributing towards this report and making it possible.

We would also like to thank the activists and organizations who facilitated our desk and field research. In particular we thank Dr. John Dayal and Advocate B. D. Das who continue to guide us. We also thank our network of volunteers who help report and verify the information.

We would particularly like to thank the United Christian Forum (UCF) who operates the helpline at 1800-208-4545 where incidents of persecution and violence against Christian minorities can be reported 24x7.

We would also like to thank the Christian Legal Association, Persecution Relief and Alliance Defending Freedom India.



Evangelical
Fellowship of India



Religious Liberty
Commission

Report by:

RELIGIOUS LIBERTY COMMISSION OF
THE EVANGELICAL FELLOWSHIP OF INDIA

805/ 92 Deepali Building

Nehru Place

New Delhi—110019 INDIA

Email: mail@efirlc.org

"Fundamental rights are the cornerstone of our democratic structure. They are the rights which rest on the natural justice and are inherent in the human personality." (Meneka Gandhi v. Union of India, 1978)

Former Honorable Chief Justice of India, P.N. Bhagwati

"The guarantee of fundamental rights is the foundation of the Indian Constitution. These rights are not mere ornaments of the Constitution but are its lifeblood." (Puttaswamy v. Union of India, 2017)

Former Honorable Chief Justice of India, Y.V. Chandrachud



CONTENTS

<u>1. Executive Summary and Analysis</u>	<u>01</u>
<u>2. Statistics</u>	<u>07</u>
<u>3. Recommendations to the Government of India</u>	<u>12</u>
<u>4. About The Religious Liberty Commission</u>	<u>14</u>
<u>5. Photos</u>	<u>15</u>
<u>6. List of Incidents</u>	<u>17</u>

Executive Summary

Faith Under Fire: Documenting Targeted Hate and Violence Against the Christian Community in India (2023)

RLC records 601 incidents of anti-Christian violence in 2023.

Introduction

The year leading up to the general elections in the spring of 2024 has seen an unfortunate increase in divisive rhetoric and inflammatory language. The same was not adequately addressed by official channels and sometimes it seemed to have been condoned in large and sensitive states of the Union. The resulting sense of immunity in sections of society has led to a painfully large number of incidents of violence against the Christian Community, and religious minorities in general.

Data with the EFI Religious Liberty Commission (EFIRLC) shows an alarmingly steep rise in the number of violent incidents against the Christian community, climbing from 413 in 2022 to 601 at the end of 2023. The Indian political apparatus, its law enforcement agencies, and its justice system, specially at the level villages and small towns, have been found wanting and slow in its responses despite urgent pleas for help from victims, church leaders and civil society.

Regional Hotspots

India's largest and politically most significant state, Uttar Pradesh, maintains its status as the most challenging environment for Christians, recording 275 cases. It also leads in the number of arrests of pastors and believers, who have been detained on allegations of forced conversion by local political groups. Many of those arrested were simply participating in birthdays or prayer meetings, and some remain in custody for extended periods without bail. The process for their release can be protracted, with legal proceedings potentially dragging on for years.

Coming close was Chhattisgarh in central India with 132 cases, and Haryana with 44 cases.

There are 13 Districts in India wherein practicing Christianity is becoming dangerous. Bastar is leading with 51 incidents of violence against Christians followed by 14 each in Kondagaon and Azamgarh, 13 each in Jaunpur, Raebareli and Sitapur, 12 in Kanpur, 10 each in Hardoi, Maharajganj, Kushinagar and Mau, 9 each in Gazipur and Ranchi.

The total number of Christians arrested in India so far in 2023 was 648, also a record, of which an unheard of 440 cases were from the state of Uttar Pradesh. Out of these, 35 Christians were still awaiting release in towards the end of the year.

These numbers are in themselves just the tip of the iceberg. In a vast country such as India and with its social dynamics, often people are too frightened to even file a complaint. All too often, the police are lax in recording or investigating instances of hate crimes of a religious nature.

The Supreme court of India is now in receipt of a Public Interest Litigation on this issue. At the turn of the year, there were no signs of hate campaigns abating.

Why is the community targeted?

For Christians, the main whip hand is the false bogey of proselytisation which is used to justify horrific crimes against the community. Dalit Christians, Adivasi Christians, and Christian women are vulnerable to violence and discrimination due to their intersectional identities.

Christian tribals face a double whammy of their ethnic status as Tribes obliterated on conversion to Christianity, but not on conversion to Hinduism from their ancestral modes of faith and nature worship.

The Hindutva movement, representing a far-right faction of the majority religion with extensive support in many states, has been inaccurately accusing Christians of

engaging in forced conversions. This unfounded claim has been used to justify targeted aggression.

A few cases show the manner in which the Christian community, its places of worship and its public institutions are targeted.

Case Studies

Pastor Attacked: On 6 August in Jadhav Pada, Nalasopara, Palghar, Maharashtra, three masked men brutally attacked a 54-year-old pastor named Xavier Palhar, along with his son and another prayer participant, during an ongoing prayer gathering. The extremists used iron rods to launch their attack, baselessly accusing the pastor and other Christians of participating in religious conversion activities. The violence escalated to the church premises, resulting in extensive vandalism. Following the assault, Pastor Palhar, who suffered severe injuries, lodged a police complaint against the assailants. His injuries were substantial, leading to his admission to a local hospital. Preliminary medical assessments suggested that his recovery would necessitate an extended period of bed rest, potentially spanning a couple of months.

Church Attacked: On 19 March in Jodhpur, Rajasthan, the Church of Pastor Raju Thomas was conducting its annual 10-day prayer meeting named 'Transformation' at the Church of North India (CNI) community hall. While the prayer meeting was underway, a group forcefully barged into the hall and filmed the meeting. They then locked the two exit gates from the outside, preventing approximately 250 Christians from leaving. The extremists interrogated the people praying, accusing them of offering money to convert people to Christianity. They tore Bibles, used abusive language, and attempted to ransack the place. Ten Christians said they were assaulted and beaten up.

Women escape sexual violence: On 15 October in Jagranathpur, West Singhbhum, in Jharkhand state, Sunai Sinku, a widow, held a prayer meeting at her home with her family. During the prayer, armed religious extremists stormed in, disrupting the prayer gathering. They attacked two women, encouraging others to assault them sexually. Although the police arrived, they did not take immediate action. Later, all the victims

went to the police station, and the next day, in the morning, they were taken to the Sadar Hospital Chaibasa for medical treatment. Initially hesitant to register a formal complaint, the police tried to settle the matter through a “compromise”. An online complaint was eventually filed, and the formal complaint was sent to the Superintendent of Police (SP). In response to the complaint filed at the SP’s office, an FIR was registered in favour of the victims.

Manipur Unrest: The recent surge of violence in Manipur echoes the tragic events of the 2007–2008 pogrom in the Kandhamal District of Orissa, marking a distressing turn of events in the north–eastern state. Beginning in May 2023, sporadic incidents of violence have persisted throughout the year without substantial intervention from state and Union authorities, raising concerns about their commitment to resolving the situation and reinstating peace and order.

It’s important to note that although Manipur is not specifically highlighted in this report, the victims primarily belong to Christian ethnic groups such as the Kuki, Zo, and Hmar tribes, which are indigenous to the region shared between India and Myanmar. The violence appears to be a result of a targeted campaign of hate and aggression against these communities.

Structural Challenges

The severity of anti-Christian violence notwithstanding, the broader changes in the state’s institutional and structural framework concerning religious and ethnic minorities are poised to have a profound and lasting impact on the community. These changes encompass a reshaping of the education system, which appears to undermine the constitutional rights of minorities regarding education. Moreover, the corporatization of the education system potentially exposes it to infiltration and manipulation by extreme right-wing political entities aligned with the current regime’s preferences.

Concerning Developments

The developments in Uttarakhand regarding the passage of a bill enforcing a Uniform

Civil Code raise concerns about the potential impact on religious minorities. Such a code could potentially undermine the legal protections and affirmative action measures provided to these minorities under the Indian constitution. While the bill awaits the President's assent to become law, the intentions of other states like Uttar Pradesh, Assam, and Chhattisgarh to enact similar laws in 2024 further escalate the situation.

Of particular concern are the threats from Assam and Chhattisgarh to enact laws targeting what they term "missionary activity." While it remains unclear whether evangelization will be explicitly banned, such legislation could impede the rights of Christians to freely profess, practice, and propagate their faith, which are guaranteed by the Constitution. Moreover, these laws and statements have the potential to incite non-state actors and vigilante groups to intimidate and assault religious minorities, worsening tensions and threatening social harmony.

Religious Demographics

Based on the 2011 Census of India, Hindus make up 79.8% of the population, with Muslims comprising 14.23%, Christians 2.3%, Sikhs 1.72%, Buddhists 0.7%, Jains 0.37%, and other religious groups, including Parsis and Jews, accounting for 0.6%. However, official data is lacking for India's indigenous religions, as well as for atheists and agnostics. Many indigenous communities originally practiced animism but were assimilated into Christianity and Hinduism over time.

The Christian community in India is diverse, with various denominations represented. The Catholic Church, the largest Christian denomination, itself includes three rites: Latin, Syro Malabar, and Syro Malankara, highlighting the community's diversity.

Conclusion

India's religious demographics underscore a varied landscape, with Christians constituting a notable minority. Constitutional provisions aim to safeguard the rights of all religious and ethnic groups, irrespective of their size or influence. Nevertheless, the emergence of majoritarian politics and the advocacy of Hindu nationalism by certain

factions have fostered an atmosphere of intolerance and exclusion, undermining the secular principles enshrined in the Indian constitution.

The escalating violence against Christians in India demands immediate attention and action from both national and international stakeholders. Upholding constitutional rights and combating intolerance are essential steps towards fostering a more inclusive and harmonious society.

EFI urges the Indian government and relevant state administrations to uphold the rule of law and ensure the safety of religious minorities. Specifically, action is needed in Uttar Pradesh, Chhattisgarh, Haryana, Karnataka, and Madhya Pradesh to address organizations promoting communal violence and hatred.

For further information, please write to mail@efirc.org

Released by:

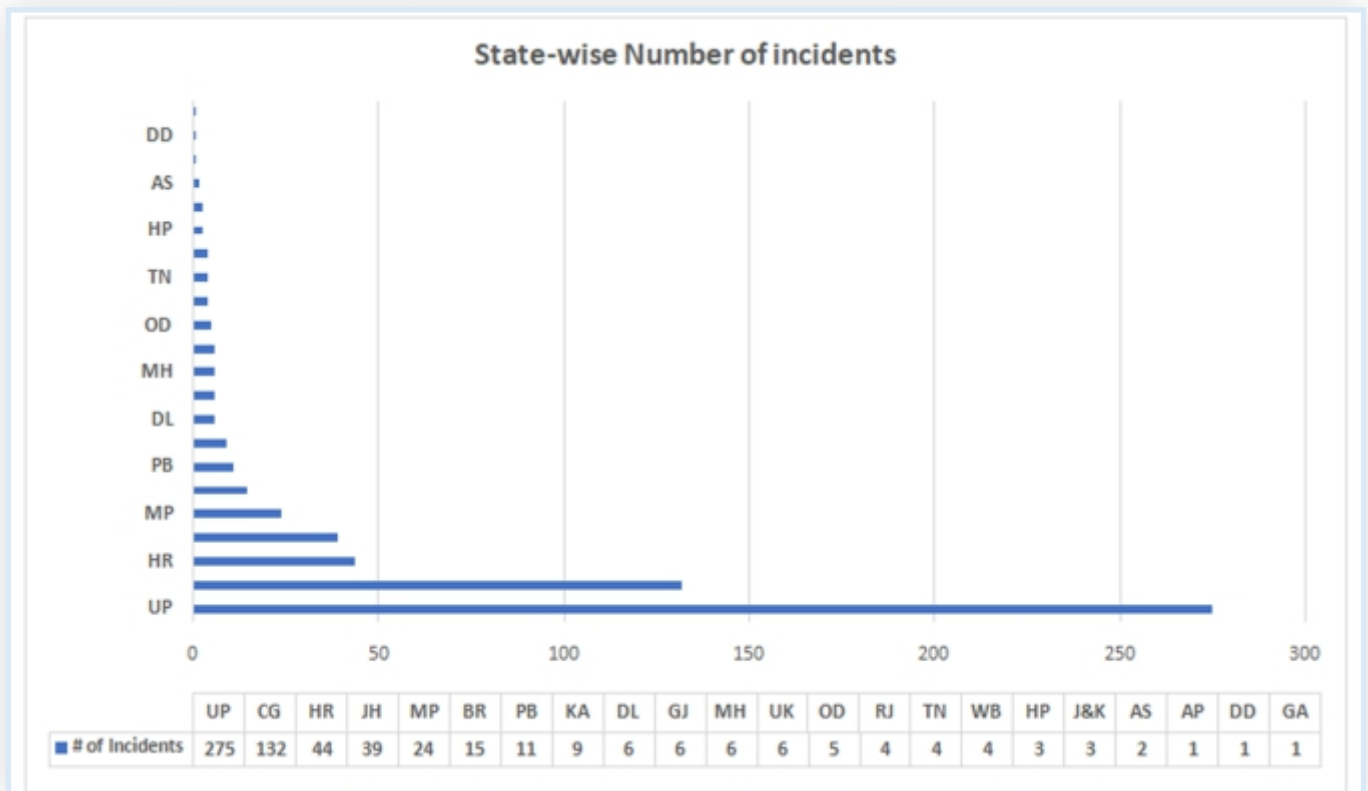
Rev. Vijayesh Lal

General Secretary – EFI

STATISTICS

STATE-WISE NUMBER OF INCIDENTS

State	No. of Incidents
UP	275
CG	132
HR	44
JH	39
MP	24
BR	15
PB	11
KA	9
DL	6
GJ	6
MH	6
UK	6
OD	5
RJ	4
TN	4
WB	4
HP	3
J&K	3
AS	2
AP	1
DD	1
GA	1
Grand Total	601



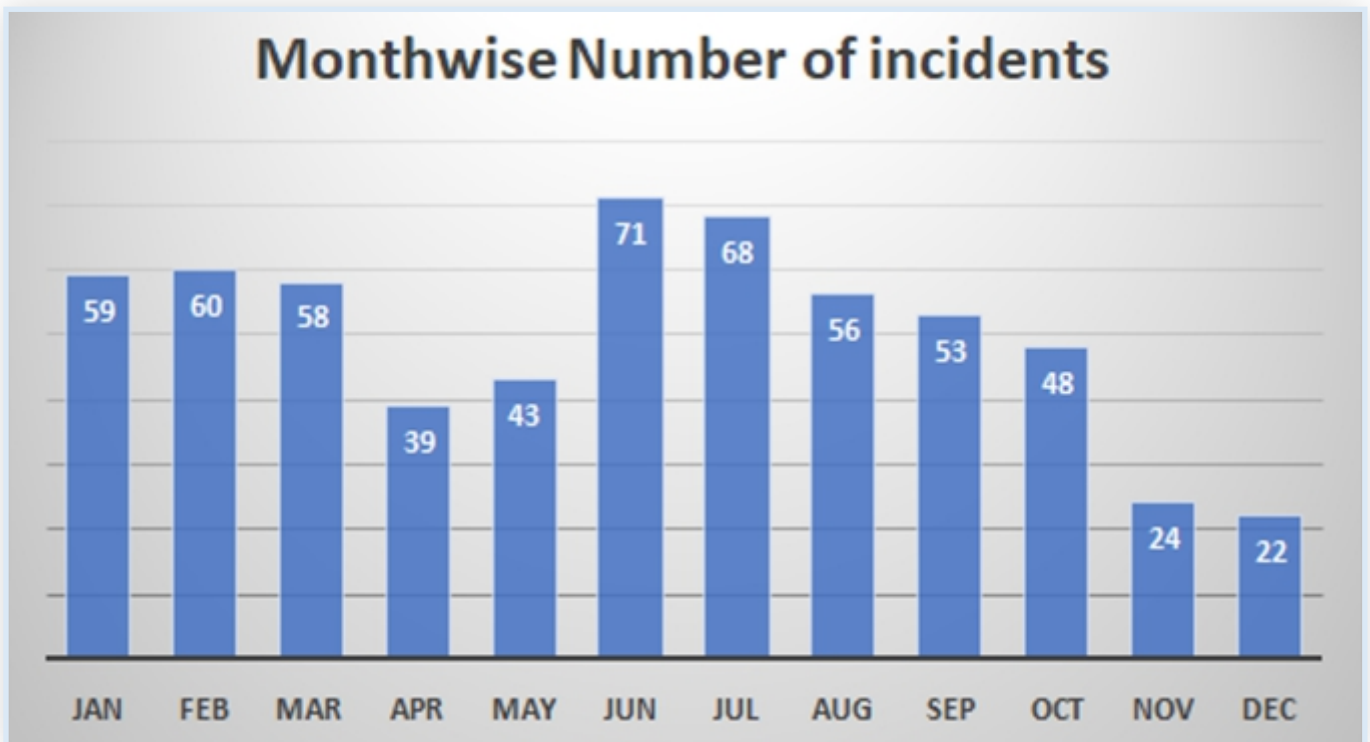
MONTH OF INCIDENTS ACROSS MONTHS

State	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Grand Total
AP		1											1
AS			1				1						2
BR	3	1	1	3			1	1	1	2	1	1	15
CG	14	10	11	11	15	13	12	18	13	6	6	3	132
DD								1					1
DL			1				1	3		1			6
GA		1											1
GJ	1	1	1	1			1			1			6
HR	3	3	3	5	6	8	5	2	3	2	1	3	44
HP			1	1			1						3
J&K			2	1									3
JH	9	2	4	1	4	8	6	1	1	1	2		39
KA	3	3		1								2	9
MP	2	2	4	1	1	3	4	2	1	1	1	2	24
MH	1	1					3	1					6
OD	1	1					1	1		1			5
PB	1	2		1	2	1	1	1	2				11
RJ			1				1	1		1			4
TN			3				1						4
UP	20	31	25	13	15	35	28	23	31	32	13	9	275
UK	1					2	1		1			1	6
WB		1				1		1				1	4
Grand Total	59	60	58	39	43	71	68	56	53	48	24	22	601



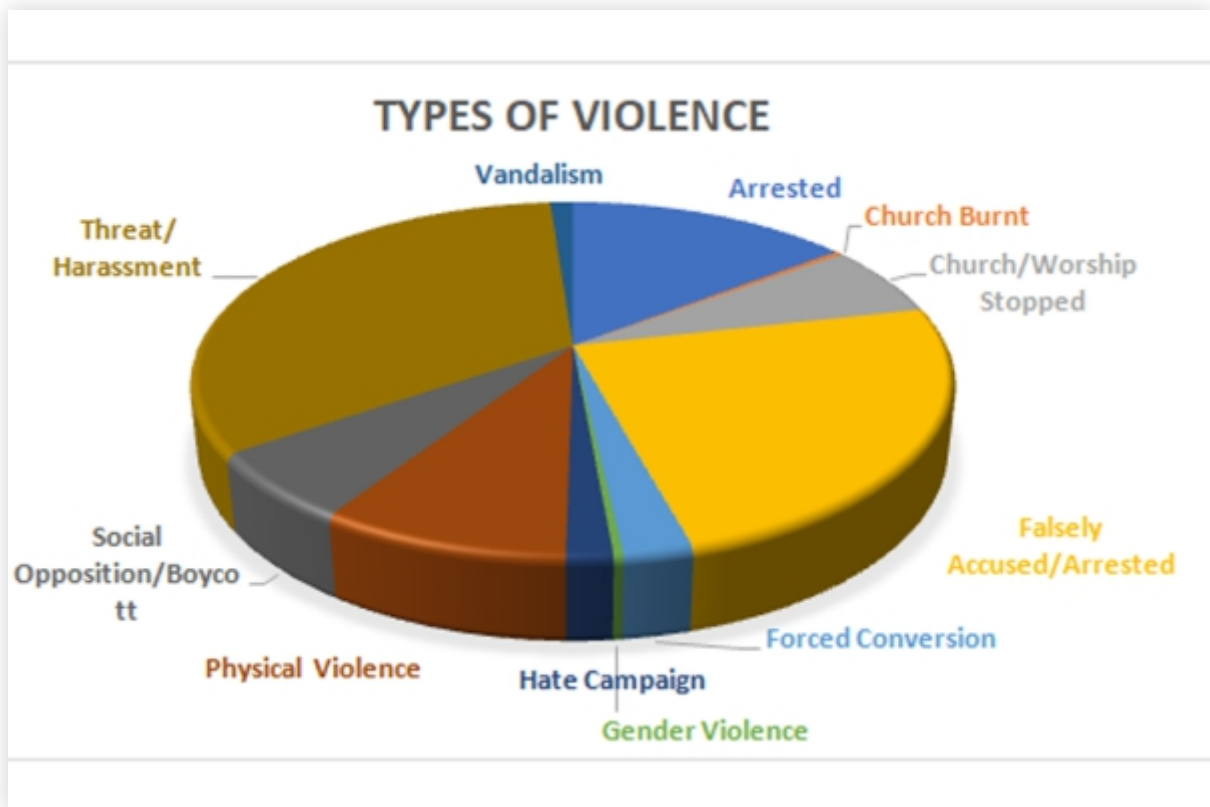
MONTHLY TREND OF INCIDENTS

Month	No. of Incidents
Jan	59
Feb	60
Mar	58
Apr	39
May	43
Jun	71
Jul	68
Aug	56
Sep	53
Oct	48
Nov	24
Dec	22
Grand Total	601



TYPES OF VIOLENCE

Types of Violence	No. Of Incidents
Arrested	87
Church Burnt	2
Church/Worship Stopped	40
Falsely Accused/Arrested	146
Forced Conversion	15
Gender Violence	2
Hate Campaign	10
Physical Violence	54
Social Opposition/Boycott	37
Threat/Harassment	201
Vandalism	7
Grand Total	601



RECOMMENDATIONS TO THE GOVERNMENT OF INDIA

- a. Ensure that a comprehensive national legislation is enacted against targeted and communal violence.
- b. Advise the State Governments of Uttar Pradesh, Himachal Pradesh, Uttarakhand, Jharkhand, Gujarat, Madhya Pradesh, Chhattisgarh, Odisha, Karnataka, and Haryana to repeal the unconstitutional Freedom of Religion laws that actually limit religious freedom and are being misused by agenda-driven groups to harass and create trouble for religious minorities. Some of the states where these laws have recently been passed are especially troublesome as they infringe on personal freedoms even more than the laws in other states.
- c. Enforcement of the rule of law by acting against members of groups that promote sectarian hate and violence and are involved in pre-planned programs of falsely accusing people, particularly Christians, of being involved in conversions. Also, ensure strict action against vigilante mobs who round up individuals, trespass and damage private property belonging to churches, Christians or persons of other religions, raise communal slogans outside police station premises or other places, on the pretext of forcible religious conversions.
- d. Ensure stringent action under criminal law against all those who channel hate speech with the intention of inciting violence and hatred against any community, especially religious minorities, including Christians.
- e. Advise the state governments, especially Uttar Pradesh, Chhattisgarh, Jharkhand, and Madhya Pradesh to deal with right-wing organizations and other extremist elements operating in these states whose primary agenda is to create an atmosphere of fear among the Christian community and other religious minorities.
- f. Prosecute police officials who fail in their constitutionally mandated duty to enforce the law of the land, by being complicit in attacks against religious minorities, and by shielding the attackers or otherwise scuttling due process of law.

g. Conduct sensitization programs for police officials regarding laws on religious freedom as envisaged in the Indian Constitution and on laws related to human rights. Ensure that basic preliminary investigations are conducted by the police in cases alleging religious conversions before the registration of FIRs. Ensure that FIRs may be filed immediately upon receipt of complaints by victims of religion-based violence or discrimination.

h. Amend paragraph 3 of the Constitution (Scheduled Castes) Order 1950 to include Christians and Muslims.

i. Ensure that an active Commission for Human Rights and Commission for Minorities is operational in every state with strengthened human rights violation monitoring mechanisms and that members of each commission are appointed by transparent and non-partisan procedures.

j. Prevent and pursue through the judicial process all violent acts against religious and tribal minorities and Dalits.

k. Ensure investigation into cases where Churches have been demolished and reconstruction of the churches that were illegally demolished across the country.

l. Constitute a National/State Redressal Commission/s headed by a retired Supreme Court Judge with the representation of the community and civil society to address the issues of targeted violence against minorities.

m. Installing CCTV cameras in local police stations across India.

n. Ensure compensation that is appropriate and adequate for individuals and institutions belonging to religious minorities who are targeted for their religious identity, under central and state victim compensation programs.



ABOUT THE RELIGIOUS LIBERTY COMMISSION

The Religious Liberty Commission (RLC) is an initiative of Evangelical Fellowship of India and is established in accordance with biblical principles to facilitate reconciliation, to promote religious liberty and fundamental freedoms for all, and to seek justice for those who are abused and oppressed. The RLC promotes through its activities a suitable response to violations of religious freedom in the complex context of India while speaking for the marginalized.

It was formed in 1998 and is envisioned as a platform for all like-minded Christian groups, clergy and activists working on issues of Freedom of Religion or Belief and other fundamental freedoms. The RLC played a pivotal role in the formation of the Christian Legal Association which is a separate body today consisting of lawyers from across the nation.

Helping and empowering victims of persecution through practical and legal means is something that the RLC has done since its inception and continues to do so. It has been documenting incidents of hate and targeted violence on the Christian community since 1998 onwards and has since 2009, released an annual list of incidents. The RLC continues to engage in advocacy to raise awareness on issues connected with religious liberty and other fundamental freedoms.

Evangelical Fellowship of India (EFI), founded in 1951, is the national alliance of evangelical Christians. Its membership includes over 54 protestant denominations and related congregations (over 65,000 Churches), over 200 Church related mission agencies and organizations and thousands of individual members. As a central network of evangelicals and a service organization, it represents the Evangelical voice and builds capacity to promote participation in nation building.

EFI is a charter member of the World Evangelical Alliance. The WEA is a global organization of evangelical Christian churches, serving more than 600 million evangelicals, founded in 1846. WEA has a consultative status with the Economic and Social Council of the United Nations.



INCIDENTS PHOTOGRAPHS



DETAILS OF INCIDENTS STATE WISE

ANDHRA PRADESH

On 8 February in Sai Nagar, Visakhapatnam, Andhra Pradesh, Sarala Suji experienced defamation. A Facebook post using her photographs falsely claimed that pastors were mistreating her. Sarala and her husband filed a complaint at the Cyber Crime Police Station in Visakhapatnam regarding the post.

ASSAM

On 27 March in Boroma village in Nalbady District, Assam, Pastor Soneshwar was leading a prayer meeting for a small congregation at his church when a group of religious extremists, accompanied by two policemen, disrupted the gathering. The extremists threatened to halt the prayer meeting and warned the congregation not to continue the prayer service, giving them a three-day ultimatum. As a result, Pastor Soneshwar's church and its small congregation lived in fear.

On 11 July in Guwahati, Assam, Hemlata faced opposition from her family due to her Christian faith. Despite threats and eviction warnings, she refuses to abandon her faith.

BIHAR

On 8 January in Shyam Gudri, Chhapra, Bihar, a prayer meeting was being conducted. Suddenly, some religious extremists barged into the prayer meeting and threatened the members of the church.

On 12 January in Jandha, Vaishali, Bihar, Pastor Paul Kumar was on the way to visit one of his congregants who was unwell. Upon his return from offering prayers, he was unexpectedly accosted by a group of individuals who assaulted him, levelling false accusations of engaging in religious conversion.

On 29 January in Bettiah, West Champaran, Bihar, Mubarak and four other Christians were detained at Shikarpur police station for espousing the Christian faith and propagating it.

On 7 February in Narayanpur village, Ekangarsari, Nalanda, Bihar, a Christian's burial faced opposition from villagers and religious extremists. They intervened, preventing the family from burying the deceased in the community burial ground.

On 9 March in Thera village, Chawilapur Rajgir, Nalanda, Bihar, a group of religious extremists attacked and

physically assaulted her husband Shraavan because of his Christian faith. They are pressuring Shraavan and his wife to renounce their faith.

On 9 April in Gopalganj, Bihar, Pastor Dharam Das Masih was leading an Easter worship service when the local police intervened. Pastor Dharamdas Masih, along with Jayaram Prasad and Ritik John, was taken to the police station and allegedly subjected to police brutality.

On 10 April in Patna, Bihar, 2 Christian evangelists named Reuben Laloo and Tomlin Nongkhaw were detained at Alamganj police station, on account of their Christian faith and for propagating the same.

On July 30 in the Gopalganj district of Bihar state, Vyas, a village pastor was unable to conduct a Sunday worship service due to strong objections from villagers. The church's activity was hindered as all four roads of the village were blocked by tractor trolleys and temporary wooden fences, preventing Christians from other villages from attending the worship service. When some Christians attempted to come to the church, they were assaulted.

On 16 April in Sonpur Village, Aurangabad, Bihar, Pastor Anand Kumar

was conducting a Sunday worship at his home. During the service, a group of religious extremists, accompanied by members of the media, arrived and began protesting against Christianity, while also falsely accusing the Pastor of engaging in religious conversion. The local police were subsequently notified of the incident and arrived to take the Pastor into custody at the Madanpur police station.

On 6 August in Nawada, Bihar, Pastor Shyju Joseph was falsely accused of conversion and was forcibly taken on a motorcycle and subjected to severe physical assault.

On 3 September in Azamnagar, Katihar, Bihar, Pastor Santosh Kumar was conducting a Sunday worship service when a group of religious extremists entered the church and intimidated the worship attendees. Subsequently, they forcibly took Pastor Santosh Kumar and another person to the police station.

On 13 October in Sheikhpura, Bihar, Pastor Jay Prakash Kumar was summoned to the police station Shekhopur Sarai. The Police Station House Officer (SHO) conveyed knowledge of alleged conversion activities, instructing Pastor Jay Prakash Kumar to cease prayer activities.

On 29 October in Kherwar village, Darbhanga, Bihar, Pastor Ram Narayan Mandal was conducting a prayer meeting. However, the pastor faced strong opposition from the villagers to the extent that they physically assaulted him. Subsequently, the pastor was taken into police custody.

On 22 November in Jhanjarpur, Madhubani, Bihar, Pastor Uttam imparted Biblical teaching on his premises. However, a religious extremist came to the premises and issued threats to children studying there. Subsequently, a police complaint was submitted to the police with the false allegation that the Pastor was carrying out religious conversion work.

On 2 December in Sivan, Bihar, Pastor Arvind was taken into police custody while he was conducting a prayer meeting. The pastor was falsely accused of carrying out religious conversion.

CHHATTISGARH

On 1 January in Kondagaon, Chhattisgarh, BultuMadvi passed away due to ill health. The family of the deceased practised Christianity and when they attempted to perform a

burial ceremony according to Christian ritual, they were opposed by the villagers for their Christian faith.

On 4 January in Balrampur, Chhattisgarh, 2 Christians were arrested and falsely booked under the freedom of religion act of the state. At the time, the arrest took place, a prayer meeting was taking place with 20 other Christians.

On 7 January in Pharasgaon, Kondagaon, Chhattisgarh, Pastor Sannau Potai was summoned to the police station, ostensibly for a brief discussion. Upon his arrival at the police station, he was apprehended without prior notification to his wife. Subsequently, when his wife sought information regarding her husband, she was provided with inaccurate details about his whereabouts. Authorities directed her to various police stations in the search for her spouse.

On 10 January in Korpall village, Bastar, Chhattisgarh, Christians residing encountered an assault orchestrated by a group of religious extremists. The assailants forced the Christians to undergo a reconversion process, compelling them to renounce their current faith.

On 15 January in Balodabajar,

Chhattisgarh, Pastor Dhani Tandan conducted a prayer service in his church. Subsequently, a group of religious extremists forcibly entered the church, disrupting the prayer meeting, and threatening the pastor to cease church activities. The extremists proceeded to falsely accuse the pastor of religious conversion.

On 15 January in the district of Narayanpur, Chhattisgarh, Bajarú Potai, along with other Christians, experienced an assault perpetrated by religious extremists on account of their faith. Tragically, on 18 January, Bajarú Potai, a victim of the violence, was arrested by the police.

On 16 January in Garda village, Bastar, Chhattisgarh, a Christian named Hidme passed away due to illness. Subsequently, when the family was making preparations for the final rites, the villagers intervened and prevented the family from conducting the burial in the village graveyard on account of Hidme's Christian faith.

On 18 January in Anda, Durg, Chhattisgarh, Pastor Rajend Chandrakar received a notice under section 478 of the CrPC from the District Magistrate. The notice mandated his appearance before the court on 31

January, regarding a Christian prayer meeting.

On 19 January in Dilmil village, Bastar, Chhattisgarh, Sukruram Kashyap and 4 Christians were threatened by a group of religious extremists to leave their faith and partake in the re-conversion ritual. Later, they were falsely accused of religious conversion by extremist elements, who also called the police and arrested them under sections 151, 107, and 116(3) of the CrPC and sent them to Jagdalpur Jail.

On 20 January in Amodi village, Chhattisgarh, Chaitibai and her son faced opposition to the Christian faith. While getting ready for a family member's burial, a group of religious extremists and some villagers stopped them from using the village graveyard. The group also threatened them to give up their faith.

On 21 January in Katkalo village, Jaspur, Chhattisgarh, Pastor Jayprakash Tirky, while conducting a prayer meeting in his house church, police personnel arrived and apprehended the pastor under Section 295A of the Indian Penal Code (IPC).

On 25 January in Erka, Narayanpur, Chhattisgarh, Phuleshwar Sahu was

subjected to harassment on account of his faith and received an arrest warrant notice. The notice, issued without providing any explanation, cited sections 147, 148, 186, 232, and 353 of the Indian Penal Code.

On 29 January in Kanker, Chhattisgarh, the local villagers collectively boycotted a Christian family, compelling them to leave their homes due to their adherence to Christianity. Subsequently, the villagers threatened and forced the Christian family to evacuate, and their houses were later sealed by the villagers.

On 30 January in Dhanora, Kondagaon, Chhattisgarh, Pradeep Sonvani and his family experienced threats and physical assault from religious extremists and villagers due to their Christian faith.

On 3 February in Jhara, Narayanpur, Chhattisgarh, several Christians were denied their daily wages for work under the gram panchayat scheme through government and Panchyat projects in the village due to their Christian faith.

On 5 February in villages Muragaon and Bhainsgaon, Kanker, Chhattisgarh, Piluram Gawde and several others, who espoused the Christian faith, were travelling from one village to another for

a prayer meeting when a group of religious extremists, along with local villagers, stopped them. The extremists falsely accused them of converting to the Christian faith through allurements and forced them to re-convert. Upon refusal, the extremists physically assaulted them, inflicting injuries through kicks, blows, sticks, and footwear. The Christians, including Piluram Gawde, Dhansingh Gawde, Lachhram Gawde, BrijlalGota, Rajesh Kawde, Ramesh Kawde, and Shukalsinh Gawde, sustained severe injuries, with one losing consciousness due to the attack. The extremists issued threats of death and social ostracization if they continued to follow the Christian faith.

On 5 February in Muragaon, Kanker, Chhattisgarh, Pastor DevjiKawde, faced violence during a house Church prayer service. Religious extremists disrupted the prayer service and physically assaulted the pastor. The police, informed by Christians, intervened to rescue Pastor Devji Kawde.

On 6 February in Morathpal village, police station Parpa, Jagdalpur tehsil, Bastar, Chhattisgarh, a Christian passed away due to an illness. When the family prepared for the burial, a group of villagers disrupted the service and prohibited the burial.

On 21 February in Alwa, Darba block, Bastar, Chhattisgarh, a widow named Galbe was forced to re-convert and recant Christianity by a person named Butlu. Galbe managed to ignore him. Later, Sannu, Butlu's brother, arrived and beat her, attempting to throw her into a pit. Sannu then threatened to kill her and later returned with an axe, attempting to cut off her limbs, beat her with the axe on her back, and cause damage to her home. Galbe went to the police station to file a complaint, but the police only took her complaint and did not register an FIR.

On 24 February in the Gumjhir village, Kanker district, Chhattisgarh, five Christian families were socially boycotted and given an ultimatum to either re-convert denouncing Christianity or leave the village. With their refusal to renounce their Christian faith, all five Christian families chose to leave the village.

On 26 February in Kurdeg village, Bagicha tehsil, Jashpur, Chhattisgarh, Pastor Shiv Kendo was conducting a prayer meeting. However, during the prayer meeting, a group of religious extremists accompanied by villagers forcefully entered the house, disrupted the gathering, and attacked the Pastor and other members present.

Subsequently, they forcibly took the Pastor to the Bagicha Police station.

On 26 February in Palanar village, Bastar, Chhattisgarh, Jogga and Balmati along with their family, were targeted and harassed by a group of religious extremists due to their faith, and as a result, their house was destroyed.

On 28 February in Bodel village, Bastar, Chhattisgarh, Christians received a summons from the villagers to participate in a meeting during which they were presented with an ultimatum to renounce their faith. The villagers issued threats, indicating that failure to comply with this demand within the stipulated week would result in the expulsion of Christians from the village. Consequently, the Christians found themselves under significant pressure, facing the dilemma of either renouncing their faith or relocating from the village.

On 28 February in Remawand village, Narayanpur, Chhattisgarh, 12 Christians were denied permission to harvest their paddy crops on account of their Christian faith.

On 2 March in Kurenga village, Jagdalpur, Chhattisgarh, Laxman, along with his wife Sonmati and two children,

was subjected to threats by some of their fellow villagers. Butlu Kashyap, Raghu Kashyap, Somaru, Fulsingh, and others had reportedly warned Laxman and his family to either renounce their faith or leave the village. Fearing for their safety, the family left their home and took refuge inside the premises of a nearby church.

On 3 March in Sector 29, Naya Raipur, Chhattisgarh, Pastor Anthony Mathew was conducting a prayer meeting at his church when a mob of religious extremists suddenly attacked the Church and falsely accused him of religious conversion. The mob called the police, and thereafter, took him to Raaki police station.

On 7 March in Jategaon village, Antagarh, Kanker, Chhattisgarh, 10 Christians were selling their products in the village weekly market along with other villagers when a group of religious extremists came and warned them not to have any businesses in that local market and also said not to associate with local villagers as well as not to have any part of benefits in Panchayat providences.

On 7 March in Chandergiri village, police station Darbha, district Bastar, Chhattisgarh, 5 Christians were

threatened and physically assaulted due to their Christian faith. Later police were informed who came and tried to make peace, but villagers were not listening and destroyed the water Borwell of the Christians in front of the police.

On 9 March in Banjugani village, Kondagaon, Chattisgarh, Lalit Kumar was pressured by both his family and fellow villagers to abandon his Christian faith. This pressure arose because his sister was getting married, and religious extremists and locals were preventing him from participating in any rituals due to his acceptance of the Christian faith.

On 19 March in Bhejripadar village, Tokapal, Bastar, Chhattisgarh, a Christian woman named Mate Vekko, who was 65 years old and married to Mosu Vekko passed away due to an illness. Her family, following Christian traditions, was preparing to bury her in the village graveyard. However, their burial service was disrupted by a group of religious extremists and local villagers who opposed Christian belief. The police were notified of the situation but were unable to intervene as the villagers prevented them. The Vekko family strongly protested and demanded that they be allowed to bury the deceased in the village. During the incident, the

Christians were also trying to video record on their mobile phones, but the police confiscated their phones.

On 25 March in Jagdalpur, Bastar, Chhattisgarh, Narendra Bhawani, a Christian youth was arrested by the police from his home. He was taken into custody based on a one-year-old complaint filed by a village council head and charged under section 384 of the Indian Penal Code. Bhawani was subsequently sent to jail.

On 26 March in Wadrafnagar village, Sarguja division, Balrampur, Chhattisgarh, Pastor Ajay Ravi was conducting a prayer meeting at his Church when a group of religious extremists disrupted the Church service and threatened the Christians for their faith.

On 26 March in Farsegad, Bijapur District, Chhattisgarh, Banderam Gota and 2 other Christians were physically assaulted by villagers due to their faith in Christianity. The first information reports were registered against both parties.

On 28 March in Bhejripadar village, Bakavand tehsil, Bastar district, Chhattisgarh, Sukhda Muchaki, along with other Christians, was coerced into undergoing the Gharwapsi (re-

conversion) ritual by villagers. Those who refused faced physical attacks and were confined to school buildings until they agreed to undergo Gharwapsi. Sukhda Muchaki was arrested under sections 151, 107, and 116(3) of the CrPC and sent to jail.

On 28 March in one of the villages of Dhanora, Kondagaon, Chhattisgarh, a newborn baby of a Christian died. When the family was preparing for the burial, a group of religious extremists prevented them from burying the baby in the village.

On 1 April in Bastar, Chhattisgarh, Dasrath Kashyap, a man who espoused the Christian faith, passed away. As preparations for his burial were underway, a group of villagers arrived and halted the process. They insisted that before the burial could proceed, Dasrath's wife, Somari, and their two sons must undergo a ritual of reconversion also known as "Gharwapsi". The villagers forced them into participating in the ritual against their will.

On 4 April in Chhindbahar village, Lahandiguda Ps, Jagdalpur, Bastar, Chhattisgarh, Hando Mandavi was harvesting his crops when a group of religious extremists forcibly removed

him from his field. They threatened him with forceful conversion, warning that they would not allow him to proceed with his crop harvesting. Hando attempted to re-enter the field but was assaulted by the extremists. The police were called, and they filed a First Information Report (FIR) against Hando.

On 3 April in Bastar, Chhattisgarh, Christians in the villages of Lendra and Kamanar were facing threats from villagers who pressured them to renounce their faith and undergo a reconversion ritual known as "Gharwapsi." The Christians were warned that if they did not comply, they would be socially ostracized, prohibited from using the village water pond or well, and ultimately forced to leave the village.

On 9 April in Mujgahan village, Dhamtari, Chhattisgarh, Pastor Grace was observing Easter prayer when they were attacked and severely assaulted by local people from Janpad Panchayat, along with the village council head and others.

On 15 April in Gorra village, Sukama, Chhattisgarh, a group of Christians were subjected to severe physical assaults, and their homes were damaged as a result of their religious beliefs.

On 16 April in Tumasnar village, Kanker, Chhattisgarh, Pastor Sanau Gota, and fellow Christians were physically attacked by a group of religious extremists and local villagers. The attackers targeted them due to their Christian faith, and the villagers demanded that they undergo Gharwapsi (re-conversion), while also pressuring them to either recant their faith or leave the village. Although the police were notified of the incident, they did not take any action.

On 16 April in Benur, Narayanpur, Chhattisgarh, Mannuram Nag and a fellow Christian, Goharam Nag, were forcefully picked up by the police and forced to make a statement before SDOP about a house demonstration of Pastor Eshrail happened in the last year, December 2022 during the violence. Both the Christians associated with Pastor Eshrail.

On 23 April in Adenga village, Kondagaon, Chhattisgarh, a Christian family expressed their desire to conduct their daughter's wedding according to the Christian faith. However, they faced threats from a group of religious extremists who opposed the idea of a Christian wedding.

On 25 April in Durg, Chhattisgarh, Akash

Rangari along with fellow Christian Prasant Dahriya, was conducting a prayer when local police came and arrested both of them under section 295(A) on a false complaint. Following their arrest, they were taken into judicial custody and sent to Durg Jail.

On 29 April in Podum village, Block Bhairamgad, Bijapur, Chhattisgarh, Pastor Raj Kumar and his family faced harassment from the religious extremist group and local villagers due to their Christian faith. Villagers forced the family to reconvert or move out of the village.

On 30 April in Amleshwar village, Durg, Chhattisgarh, Pastor Vinay Sahu was conducting a prayer meeting at his Church along with fellow Christians when a group of extremists attacked the Church and physically assaulted the Christians present in the Church. Later, Police were informed who arrived and detained Pastor and 7 others under sections 151,107, and 116(3) of the CrPC.

On 5 May in Raipur, Chhattisgarh, Promod Sahu was conducting a prayer meeting in his church along with other Christians when the police arrived on the complaint filed by a religious extremist group. Subsequently, he was arrested under section 295A of the Indian Penal

Code.

On 7 May in Barchepal village, Bastar, Chhattisgarh, a Christian family was targeted and harassed by local villagers on account of their faith in Christianity. The villagers destroyed their houses and forced them to reconvert renouncing the Christian faith. On refusing, they were threatened to move out of the village.

On 7 May in Bemetara, Chhattisgarh, Pastor Agheshwar Varma was served a notice by the Tehsildar to halt his Christian prayer gatherings due to concerns regarding the area's law and order. Subsequently, on May 13th, a large rally was staged in the village in protest against him.

On 11 May in Alwa village, Dongripara, Darba, Kodenar, Bastar, Chhattisgarh, Kosa Poyam faced a brutal attack by local villagers for refusing to undergo a reconversion ceremony. His mother, who shared his faith, recently passed away. When Kosa's family tried to bury her in the village cemetery, villagers obstructed them unless they reverted to their previous faith. Despite the firm refusal, the villagers physically assaulted them. As a result, Kosa sustained severe injuries and lost consciousness. The incident was

reported to the police, who filed a First Information Report (FIR) against the assailants.

On 11 May Errakot village, Bastar district, Chhattisgarh, Chaitu faced a tragic loss as his son passed away due to an illness. When Chaitu and his family tried to carry out the funeral in accordance with Christian customs, the local villagers opposed the burial within the village. They refused to allow the body to be buried unless Chaitu and his family agreed to revert to their former faith. As a result, the body was temporarily placed at Dimrapal Hospital. Although the police were informed, they did not take any action and had shown support towards the villagers.

On 14 May in Udawa village, Bastar, Chhattisgarh, villagers forcefully performed a reconversion ritual called "Gharwapsi" on Christians. It was reported that a small group of Christians or a family was being forced into reconversion rituals.

On 16 May in Jagdalpur, Chhattisgarh, a video showcasing evangelist Rinay Daniel praying in a hospital was posted on the internet, gaining widespread attention and going viral. Subsequently, a group of religious extremists filed a false complaint accusing Rinay Daniel

and a few other pastors of engaging in religious conversion.

On 16 May in Kurenga village, Bastar District, Chhattisgarh, Somaru Kawasi, a 60-year-old resident passed away due to an illness. Unfortunately, during the funeral service, local villagers created disturbances as they exerted pressure on the grieving family to undertake Gharwapsi, a process of returning to their previous religious affiliation.

On 16 May in Dilmili village, Bastar, Chhattisgarh, a Christian family was working in their field when a group of religious extremists targeted the family solely because of their adherence to Christianity. The family suffered severe injuries as a result of the attack.

On 22 May in Temrugaon village, Kondagaon District, Chhattisgarh, 4 Christians were contacted by the police and notified that they needed to arrange for bail at the Kondagaon district court. This was because a FIR (First Information Report) had been filed against all four of them. However, at that point, they were unaware of the specific details of the case. It is worth noting that these Christians had previously lodged a complaint against certain villagers for religious persecution.

On 22 May in Pakhnaracha panchayat, Kurenga village, Bastar, Chhattisgarh, a recently built Church building was planned to be demolished by the religious extremist, in conjunction with local villagers. The village head council, who happens to be a Christian, is being coerced by the mob to take action against the Church. The targeted Church is a newly constructed structure.

On 23 May in Katenar village, Darbha Tehsil, District Bastar, Chhattisgarh, Maniram Mandavi lost his 6-year-old son to an illness. When his grief-stricken family sought to carry out the burial ceremony, the local villagers disrupted the proceedings. As a result, the grieving family had no choice but to travel 130 km away to the Dantewada district to lay their beloved child to rest. Maniram had faced harassment on account of his faith in Christianity previously.

On 23 May in village Bhaismundi, Kurud Tehsil, Dhamtari, Chhattisgarh, Shanker was leading a prayer meeting along with other Christians in his house when a religious extremist group filed a false complaint against him of religious conversion, and later the police came and arrested Shanker, Balaram, and Sanjay under sections 151, 107, and 116(3) of the CrPC.

On 24 May in Kutru Tehsil, Bijapur District, Chhattisgarh, 20 Christians were threatened by the religious extremist group to either leave the Christian faith or move out of the village. The extremists pressured the Christians to undergo a reconversion ritual. Later, on the complaint filed by the religious extremist group of religious conversion, the police summoned all 20 Christians to present under sections 107 and 116(3) of the CrPC at the police station.

On 31 May in Bade Paroda village, Bastar, Chhattisgarh, Christians were assaulted by villagers on account of their faith in Christianity. Many Christians were injured and simultaneously, the perpetrators involved in the disturbance also proceeded to the police station. Later, for medical treatment, all the injured were escorted by the police to a government hospital.

On 5 June in School para Baangao village, Kondagaon, Chhattisgarh, the villagers caused disruption and hindered a Christian marriage of Takeshawar and Miss Tuleshwari. Villagers raised objections to the fact that the wedding ceremony was taking place according to Christian traditions.

On 5 June in Dantewada, Chhattisgarh, Santni Dhruw, a Christian woman,

approached local police, SP, and Collector for help as she was getting harassed on account of her Christian faith by the villagers as well as by her own family members.

On 6 June in Balachhapar village, Jashpur, Chattisgarh, Sister Vibha Kerketta and her family hosted a religious ceremony at their home, marking Sister Vibha's first vow as a Nun with the daughters of St. Anne congregation at School para Lane. Shantibhavan Palli priests conducted the Mass, attended by close relatives. Afterwards, a meal was served. Later, some organization members falsely accused them of forced conversion. Police intervened, and Sister Vibha, her mother, and three others spent the night at Jashpur police station. On June 7, they appeared before a magistrate. Sister Vibha, visually impaired, likely provided her statement with a translator's aid.

On 6 June in Badeparoda village, Lohandiguda, Bastar, Chhattisgarh, a burial ritual of an old Christian woman was disrupted by the villagers as they opposed burial according to Christian rituals. The family of the deceased had to take the body to Jagdalpur city for burial, which is 30 km away from the village.

On 6 June in Balachhpar village, Jashpur, Chhattisgarh, a Christian woman, Bibha Kerketta along with her mother and three other persons held a religious gathering in their home. A group of religious extremists had barged into the home and falsely accused them of insulting other religions.

On 12 June in Chitapur village, Bastar, Chhattisgarh, a burial ceremony of a Christian was opposed by the villagers. Not only that, the family of the deceased was also threatened and pressured to recant Christianity and re-convert to their former faith.

On 14 June in Ransagipal village, Frazerpur, Bastar, Chhattisgarh, fields belonging to a few Christians were damaged when a group of religious extremists entered their field and cultivated their paddy field forcefully.

On 14 June in Bhilai, Durg, Chhattisgarh, three Christians, including Chitrlekha Sahu, were physically assaulted on account of their Christians faith by religious extremists. Christians had visited a local home of a fellow Christian, Chitrlekha when the incident took place.

On 14 June in Modenga village,

Badedonagar, Kondagaon, Chhattisgarh, two Christians were summoned by the Executive Magistrate under sections 107, 116(3) of the CrPC.

On 17 June in Dilmill village, Kodena, Chhattisgarh, a Christian, by the name of Maso Sodi, and his wife Somdi Sodi were assaulted by villagers on account of espousing Christian faith. The Christian couple had to be hospitalized as a result of the assault.

On 18 June in Choteamrawati village, Anantapur, Kondagaon, Pastor Mahadev Nag and other church members were threatened by some of the extremist elements of the village. They tried to demolish the prayer structure and forcefully tried for Gharwapsi (re-conversion) on Christians. The pastor was forced to provide in writing that he would not come to the village to conduct prayer meetings.

On 25 June in Jaitpuri village, Kondagaon, Chhattisgarh, Pastor Jitu informed a follower of the Christian faith passed away. However, when the deceased's family attempted to conduct the burial, the villagers intervened and prevented them from burying the body in the local graveyard.

On 26 June in Lohandiguda Tehsil of Bastar, Chhattisgarh, Pastor Lachin Mundari was conducting a prayer meeting. Suddenly, a mob arrived and attacked everybody physically including women resulting in the injury of many people. Around 5 Christians were admitted to Lohandiguda and 4 others who were seriously injured were taken to Jagdalpur hospital.

On 6 July in Matadi village, Dantewada, Chhattisgarh, Christians faced pressure for religious conversion, hindering their farming activities.

On 7 July in Bade Bodel village, Bastar, Chhattisgarh, Bajnath faced threats and harassment on account of his religious beliefs, including forced "Gharwapsi" and physical assault.

On 9 July in Parapur village, Bastar District, Chhattisgarh, Panderam encountered threats and intimidation because of his Christian faith. Villagers convened a panchayat meeting, pressurizing him to undergo a reconversion ceremony. This placed immense pressure on Panderam and his family.

On 11 July in Kutar village, Bastar, Chhattisgarh, Guddu was physically assaulted by villagers solely because of

his Christian faith.

On 12 July in Parapur (Amaguda) village, Bastar, Chhattisgarh, Manuram Kuhrani was arrested by the police on account of his Christian faith and refusing to undergo a reconversion ceremony.

On 13 July in Talnar, Nagarnar, Bastar, Chhattisgarh, Pastor Udit Mali faced objections from a group of religious extremists during the opening ceremony of a church hall near his residence.

On 15 July in Taragaon village, Bastar, Chhattisgarh, villagers threatened Christians to abandon their faith and revert to their previous religion, as reported by Raghunath. Upon refusal, the villagers socially boycotted the Christians and threatened them to leave the village.

On 19 July in Dhamtari, Chhattisgarh, Jerash Kashyap and her husband endured acts of violence from her father-in-law and other relatives because of their religious beliefs. The father-in-law falsely accused Jerash of influencing her husband to convert to a different faith. Jerash, a gospel preacher, also conducted church services.

On 20 July in Barsur village in Dantewada, Chhattisgarh, Sappe Poyami and his family were forcefully driven out on account of their faith. The villagers are obstructing their return. Currently, the impoverished family resides in a rented house located outside the village, despite owning their own house within the village.

On 23 July in Udawa village, Bastar, Chhattisgarh, Pastor Samson informed that an assault took place on a Christian family on account of their faith in Christianity.

On 23 July in Pharsaguda village, Bastar, Chhattisgarh, two local pastors were conducting a prayer meeting when a religious extremist group provided false information about religious conversions, leading to a police complaint against them.

On 26 July in Ambikapur, Chhattisgarh, Liju Kuriakose, a Christian, was apprehended by the police along with eight children during their travel from a shelter home. Liju experienced physical assault, and his belongings were confiscated. Villagers and parents gathered at the Police Station to support Liju.

On 2 August in Pharasgaon, Kondagaon,

Chhattisgarh, Sumita Hidko was forced by her husband's family to leave their house along with her two children on account of her faith in Christianity. Facing threats and harassment, they were forced by villagers to reconvert or leave her husband.

On 2 August in Madar village, Bastar, Chhattisgarh, seven Christian families faced threats and harassment on account of their religious beliefs from fellow villagers.

On 5 August in Matkot village, Bastar, Chhattisgarh, Christians, Baman along with Deva and Jayram, faced an assault by a group of religious extremists and local villagers during agricultural activities. Surprisingly, the Christians were charged under sections 307 and 34 of the Indian Penal Code when they defended themselves.

On 6 August in Balrampur, Chhattisgarh, Pastor Sampat Kujur was conducting a Sunday worship service at his house when the police, acting on a false complaint of religious conversion, detained the Pastor and took him to the local police station.

On 7 August in Karanji village, Bastar, Chhattisgarh, Bonja and his family faced social ostracization on account of

their faith. Local villagers, namely Sonadhar, Dora, Narsingh, Rannu, and Aytu, threatened the family to recant their faith or move out of the village. The family was denied access to village water sources as part of their social ostracization.

On 9 August in Gadhiya village, Bastar, Chhattisgarh, Dube Mandavi and his family were threatened by local villagers to undergo a reconversion ritual, or he would be forbidden from working on his paddy field and forced to leave the village.

On 13 August in Alwa village, Bastar, Chhattisgarh, Bhimsen along with his wife, was assaulted by a religious extremist group for refusing their demand to partake in the reconversion ritual. The culprits later fled from the scene.

On 13 August in Balenga village, Bastar, Chhattisgarh, a private property intended for making a prayer Christian structure, faced opposition from a religious extremist group. The owner of the property was not allowed to proceed with the construction, and the extremists threatened to prevent the prayer structure establishment.

On 13 August in Bade Poroda village,

Lohandiguda block, Jagdalpur, Bastar District, Chhattisgarh, Chaitan, on account of his faith in Christianity, faced intimidation by a religious extremist group, who forcefully removed the grass from his paddy field and warned to be reconverted.

On 17 August in Indu Chouk (Near Para Chapel), Jarahabhata, Bilaspur, Chhattisgarh, Budhram's property in Balrampur was under threat of being occupied by villagers if he did not undergo a reconversion ceremony.

On 18 August in Kurki village, Korba district, Chhattisgarh, Pastor Rahul Yadav faced disruption and assault by religious extremists during a prayer meeting, leading to the Christians being taken to the police station.

On 19 August in Binjoli village, Kondagaon, Chhattisgarh, a person who espoused the Christian faith passed away, but villagers did not allow the burial according to Christian ritual in the common graveyard or on his land.

On 20 August in Kaknar village, Bastar, Chhattisgarh, Pastor Raitu was physically assaulted by villagers on account of his faith in Christianity, which resulted in hospitalization.

On 22 August in Tirthgad village, Bastar, Chhattisgarh, Christian families known to Pastor Mayaram Nag were threatened and harassed by a religious extremist group with forcible reconversion or facing consequences if they did not reconvert.

On 24 August in Taragaon village, Bastar, Chhattisgarh, Chalki along with two others, Kunwar and Dhanu, were assaulted by a group of religious extremists. The police charged a case against them under various sections and sent them to jail due to pressure from the extremist group.

On 25 August in Bijapur at village Chintanpalli, Chhattisgarh, Christians were forced to leave their village or renounce their Christian faith, leading them to seek help in the matter at Toynar police station.

On 26 August in Sukama, Chhattisgarh, a wooden prayer structure was burned by extremists. The prayers were conducted by Pastor Philip Vetti, who is associated with New Bethesda Church Chintanpalli.

On 25 August in Arjuni village, Dhamtari, Chhattisgarh, Tanuja Sahu along with her husband, was summoned by the police under CrPC sections 107, and

116(3) of the CrPC on account of their faith, pressured by a religious extremist.

On 4 September in Dhamtari, Chhattisgarh, Shiv Kumar Druw and his family faced social ostracism due to their Christian faith. Despite submitting a complaint, the police did not register a first information report.

On 5 September at outpost Ghotiya, Bastar, Chhattisgarh, Vijay and two other Christian families of Ratan and Shivnath faced threats, harassment, and a social boycott by villagers. They were threatened to leave the village or renounce their faith.

On 6 September in Ranasargipal village, Tokapal Tehsil, Bastar, Chhattisgarh, Koylu, a follower of Christianity, along with 12 other Christians were summoned by the executive magistrate under section 107, and 116 (3) of the CrPC.

On 7 September in Pondum village, Bijapur, Chhattisgarh, Pramila Lekam, a follower of Christianity, faced targeted harassment and assault on her Christian faith.

On 9 September in Kelpal village, Bastar, Chhattisgarh, Bodku, his wife, and children were targeted on account of their Christian faith. Villagers threatened

them to leave the village or if they wanted to live in the village then they would have to denounce Christianity.

On 11 September in Bagpana village, Bastar, Chhattisgarh, Christians including Lachin have been facing opposition and harassment for their Christian faith. Villagers are not allowing them to renovate the structure to conduct prayer meetings.

On 11 September in Nadisagar village, Bastar, Chhattisgarh, Sulochana Baghel and her husband Sukhdev Baghel were forced to leave their house in the village on account of their Christian faith. The villagers had been continuously making threats to them since 1 September.

On 13 September in Badekadam village, Bastar, Chhattisgarh, a Christian lady passed away in the village due to illness. However, the village opposed the burial and did not allow Christians to put the mortal remains in the graveyard.

On 16 September in Taragaon village, Lohandiguda tehsil, Bastar, Chhattisgarh, an old Christian woman, named Chaiti, has passed away. When Christian families prepared for burial, they were opposed and harassed both by the local police and villagers.

On 18 September in Babusemra village, Bastar, Chhattisgarh, a local Pastor was falsely accused and faced complaints by villagers and a religious extremist group on account of her Christian faith.

On 18 Septemeber in Bodenpal village, Bastar, Chhattisgarh, Christians were assaulted by villagers on account of their faith. Due to the assault, Christians were admitted to the Lohandiguda hospital. Some of the Christians were referred to the district hospitals as they were in serious condition because of assault.

On 19 September in Khairjhiti village, district Dhamtari, Chhattisgarh, a Christian passed away. As the family prepared for the burial, a group of religious extremists arrived and obstructed the burial in the village graveyard. The extremists also physically assaulted Christians in the presence of the police.

On 29 September in Darbha, police outpost Pakhnar, Bastar, Chhattisgarh, Ramashri Mamdpal was physically assaulted by villagers on account of his faith in Christianity.

On 1 October in Badearapur village, Bastar, Chhattisgarh, a Christian elderly woman passed away. When the family attempted to bury her, the villagers

prevented the burial ceremony in the village graveyard. As a result, the family was forced to bury the mortal remains at Jagdalpur Christian graveyard, 25 km away.

On 5 October in Kuchmur village, Tehsil Bhopalpatnam, Bijapur, Chhattisgarh, Pottam Shankar and his brother Ganesh were denied their rightful share of their ancestor's property on account of their Christian faith. In Bhopalpatnam, their siblings and relatives provided written statements to the Tehsildar stating they wouldn't allocate Pottam Shankar and Ganesh's portion because of their Christian faith.

On 12 October in Bhanpuri, Kondagaon, Chhattisgarh, Pastor Dulbo along with his family faced threats and harassment due to their faith. The villagers had threatened to take their paddy land if they did not recant their faith.

On 14 October in Malapara village, Bhanupratappur tehsil, Kanker, Chhattisgarh, Ramdev along with his family was continuously harassed on account of their faith. They were threatened to either leave their house or their faith. Ramdev's wife was forcefully taken outside her house to undergo a reconversion ceremony and was not allowed to meet her husband. Both were

physically assaulted by the religious extremists and villagers.

On 20 October in Panaraguda village, Baster, Chhattisgarh, a Christian girl Chamrine Kashyap passed away due to illness and when her family was preparing for the burial, the villagers interrupted the service and did not allow to bury the mortal remains in the village graveyard.

On 31 October in Badanji village, Jagdalpur, district Bastar, Chhattisgarh, a Christian named Somaru Kashyap passed away in the MPM Hospital, Dharampura, Jagdalpur, Chhattisgarh due to an accident. However, the villagers during the burial in the village, did not allow them to bury and forced the family to undergo a reconversion ceremony called "Gharwapsi".

On 3 November in Kachna, Dhamtari, Chhattisgarh, Kriparam Sahu, father of Nilkant Sahu, passed away from old age. The family and fellow Christians conducted the burial according to Christian customs. However, villagers complained to the Birejar police outpost, alleging that the Christian family had buried the deceased without informing the village council and others. Consequently, individuals from the village started threatening to exhume the body, suggesting they would bury it

elsewhere. The deceased's family also faced threats of forced reconversion to their former faith.

On 13 November in Lohdiguda, Bastar, Chhattisgarh, Aktu Mandvsi and his wife, who are Christians, lost their newborn during delivery at Dimripal Hospital. As the family was deciding on the burial, the villagers opposed laying the baby to rest for their Christian faith. Instead, they pressured the grieving family to undergo a forced re-conversion ceremony.

On 16 November in Bishpur, Darbha, Bastar, Chhattisgarh, a follower of Jesus, by the name of Chaitibai, and a few other Christians were assaulted and their crops were force taken by extremist elements. They were threatened to undergo a re-conversion "Gharwapsi" ritual.

On 15 November in Chernga village, Bastar, Chhattisgarh, members of Christian families were threatened by some of the extremist elements of the village. Local police were contacted however there was no response from them for action.

On 26 November in Sukma, Chhattisgarh, an elderly woman, identified as the mother of Kawasi, Rajesh Mukka, Kawasi Mukka, and

Kawasi Budhra, passed away due to old age. Despite the deceased's children espousing Christian faith and desiring a Christian burial, the villagers opposed this choice and insisted on performing a reconversion ritual known as "Gharwapsi". Faced with this resistance, the family and others contacted the local authorities, prompting the intervention of the police in the matter.

On 28 November in Dhamtari, Chhattisgarh, Karan Kumar along with two other Christians named Tarun Mitalsh, and Tameshwar Yadav were physically assaulted by the villagers along with a religious extremist group due to their faith. They were forced to recant their faith and undergo a reconversion ritual.

On 3 December in Katiyaras Village, Dantewada, Chhattisgarh, Pastor Samuel was conducting a prayer meeting at his Church when a group of religious extremists forcefully entered and disrupted their prayer meeting and threatened not to continue with the prayer meeting.

On 6 December in Chingnaar village, Narayanpur, Chhattisgarh, a Christian woman passed away. However, when fellow Christians and her family attempted to perform her last rites,

including burial in the village, the villagers opposed it due to her Christian faith. Later, the villagers called the police, who, in turn, demanded the removal of the dead body from the village and burial elsewhere. The police then took the deceased's body away and brought it to Kondagaon district for burial without the family's approval.

On 17 December in Bhilai, Durg, Chhattisgarh, Pastor Obed was conducting a prayer meeting at his place when a group of religious extremists forcefully entered and stopped the prayer meeting. They also threatened the pastor not to conduct any prayer meetings.

DAMAN AND DIU

On 13 August in Daman and Diu, Pastor Suryanarayan Paul was conducting the Sunday Worship at his church when a group of religious extremists forcefully entered the premises. They disrupted the prayer gathering, alleging the pastor of engaging in religious conversions, and proceeded to physically attack both the pastor and the worshippers present. Following the assault, the extremists fled the scene after causing damage to the church property. Subsequently, a police complaint was registered at Nani Daman police station.

DELHI

On 1 March in Pragati Maidan, New Delhi, Delhi, a Christian non-profit group called 'The Gideons International group' set up a book stall at the World Book Fair. While they were present at their stall, a group of approximately 50 religious extremists wearing saffron scarves barged into their stall shouting slogans like 'Bharat Mata Ki Jai' and 'free Bible bandh karo'. The attackers vandalized the stall, tore down posters promoting 'Free Holy Bible' and 'Nishulk Pavitra Bible', and destroyed some books. They accused the volunteers of converting people by forcing them to take the books. The volunteers, who were mostly elderly, claimed that they had sought help from the Book Fair organizers, but were instead instructed not to distribute religious texts for free. No official police complaint has been registered regarding the incident as yet.

On 1 July in Ranjeet Nagar, Delhi, a few people from Pastor Jasveer's church were distributing tracts in the market when an extremist element falsely accused them of religious conversion. The extremists called the police, who took the people of the church and Pastor Jasveer to the local police station. There, they were threatened with filing a First Information Report (FIR). The following

day, the police contacted Pastor Jasveer and his wife, Rajni, and instructed them not to hold their Sunday worship service. On Sunday, unaware that the prayer meeting wasn't taking place, a few prayer attendees arrived near Pastor Jasveer's house. At that time, a group of extremists approached them and launched a physical assault. Afterwards, the extremists contacted the police and requested a search of Pastor Jasveer's house, suspecting that a prayer meeting was occurring there. Nevertheless, the police conducted the search but found no evidence and departed.

On 20 August in Tahirpur village, Sahdara District, Delhi, Pastor Satpal Bhatti faced a group of around 15 to 20 religious extremists disrupting a prayer meeting at his house church. The extremists vandalized the church and assaulted men and women present.

On 20 August in Bijwasan, Southwest Delhi, Delhi, Pastor Chandan Kumar faced a mob of around 10 masked religious extremists disrupting a prayer meeting at his house church.

On 27 August in Priyanka Camp, Madan Pur Khadar, Sarita Vihar, Southeast Delhi, Delhi, Pastor Haresh Masih encountered suspicious activity outside his church

and made a complaint with the police. An unknown person proceeded to capture photographs of the church and the prayer attendees from outside. Additionally, he inquired about Pastor Haresh from some of the worshippers before departing.

On 1 October in Wazirabad, New Delhi, Delhi, Pastor Robin Joseph was celebrating the birthday of a child from their Church when a group of religious extremists barged in and disrupted the prayer meeting and accused the Pastor of religious conversion. The police were called by the Pastor who came and disrupted the crowd.

GOA

On 12 February in Ponda, North Goa, Goa, Pastor Blesson Matthew was conducting Sunday church worship at Lions Club Hall. However, he was taken into custody by the police for conducting the prayer meeting.

GUJARAT

On 8 January in Meghaninagar, Ahmedabad, Gujarat, Amid prayer service at the New Life Fellowship

Church, Pastor Stanly and his wife Irine found themselves confronted by a hostile group of religious extremists. This group proceeded to launch a violent assault on the pastor and other congregants, forcibly interrupting the ongoing prayer meeting. Subsequently, the authorities were called, and Pastor Stanly and his wife Irine were apprehended and subsequently taken to the local police station.

On 27 February in Vaka village, Nizar Taluk, Tappi, Gujarat, Pastor Sunil Parmar organized a prayer service where more than 50 Christians had gathered to worship. However, while Pastor Sunil Parmar was conducting the prayer service, a group of religious extremists along with some local villagers interrupted the service and ordered him to discontinue it. They threatened him not to hold any future prayer meetings in the area.

On 1 March in Bhavnagar, Gujarat, a gathering of religious extremists forcibly entered causing a disturbance to the school's atmosphere at St Thomas School Mahuva. The intruders demanded that the school's management incorporate Hanuman Chalisa into their daily school prayer.

The police were informed of the situation and intervened to disperse the crowd.

On 10 April in Manjipura, Taluka Khedbrahma, Sabarkantha, Gujarat, a church was demolished by local authorities because the property papers were not clear. Another church in the same area was also demolished as the land belonged to the government. Three other churches in the vicinity are also being targeted.

On 4 July in Palsana, Surat, Gujarat, Pastor Saheb Rao went to a fellow Christian's house for a prayer meeting. Post the prayer meeting, a group of religious extremists accused them of religious conversion, leading to the detention of the Pastor and four other Christians.

On 23 October in Rajkot, Gujarat, Pastor Diwakar Patel was unjustly accused of conversion and physically assaulted due to his faith and ministry work. The pastor was attacked by the son of a woman who used to attend the Christian prayer meeting, along with some extremists. Subsequently, the pastor was handed over to the local police station.

HARYANA

On 8 January in Patti Afgan village, Kaithal, Haryana, a Pastor was attacked by a group of religious extremists. It is noteworthy that the pastor had been subjected to threats by these extremists over the course of the preceding days.

On 12 January in Siwani, Bhiwani, Haryana, Pastor Sushil was falsely accused by a neighbour of enticing him for religious conversion. Subsequently, a complaint was filed at the police station, leading to the application of the Haryana Prevention of Unlawful Conversion of Religious Act 2022 against Pastor Sushil.

On 23 January in Sector 49, Sarhol village, Gurugram, Haryana, Pastor Budhiprakash conducted a prayer meeting in his church. During the gathering, a group of religious extremists forcibly entered the venue where the prayers were conducted. They disrupted the prayer meeting and compelled the landlord to evict the pastor.

On 5 February in Ballabgarh, Faridabad, Haryana, Pastor Prashant conducted a house church service at his residence. During the service, a group of

religious extremists falsely accused him of luring people for conversion by distributing ration to poor families. They threatened to halt the church service.

On 15 February in Shiwani, Bhiwani, Haryana, Pastor Pawan along with Pastor Sushil, engaged in propagating their Christian faith. However, a false complaint of religious conversion was lodged against them by someone in the area. Subsequently, the pastors learned that the police had registered the first information report under the Haryana Freedom of Religion Act.

On 16 February in Sirsa, Haryana, Pastor Joginder faced threats from a religious extremist group for conducting a prayer service in their area. Pastor Joginder and other Christians were later assaulted by villagers and the extremist group during the church service. The police were informed and subsequently arrested Pastor Joginder and nine others under section 151 of the CrPC.

On 5 March in Jhajjar, Haryana, a pastor, residing with his family and serving the Christian community, faced threats from a group of religious extremists. They warned him in the presence of his wife and children to discontinue holding church services or face consequences, including involving the police.

On 15 March in Datta Colony, Asandh Road, Panipat, Haryana, Pastor Vinod Kumar was constructing a Church building in the area when a group of religious extremists came and disrupted their work and physically assaulted the Pastor and warned him not to construct any Church in this area.

On 22 March in Samplan, Rohtak, Haryana, Pastor Babu organized a prayer meeting in his church. However, when the police learned of the prayer gathering, they intervened and took Pastor Babu into custody at the police station.

On 8 April in Panipat, Haryana, Pastor Vinod Kumar faced hindrances in his church's construction due to interference from the pastor's neighbours and a group of religious extremists.

On 8 April in Tehsil Lakhanmajra, district Rohtak, Haryana, Krishna Prajapat invited Pastor Hansi, and other Christians to conduct a Good Friday prayer gathering. However, a group of religious extremists and the Sarpanch of the village filed a false complaint against the Christians and the pastor at the local police station. Krishna Prajapat, a vegetable seller residing in Lakhan Majra district of Rohtak, Haryana, has

been facing a mental and social boycott by the villagers for his faith.

On 16 April in Pehowa, Kurukshetra, Haryana, Pastor Asha was conducting a prayer service at a Church that was still under construction. During the service, officials from the Municipal Corporation of the area and the local police from Pehowa Police Station arrived with a notice to halt the construction work at the Church. This notice was issued following a complaint filed by a group of religious extremists and local villagers who claimed that their religious sentiments had been offended. It is worth noting that a similar disruption occurred during an Easter prayer meeting on 9 April, also attributed to the actions of the same extremist group.

On 16 April, Manish attended a prayer service in Kurukshetra, Haryana, and while leading the prayer, a religious extremist group interrupted the service and accused the attendees of creating a disturbance with their loud noise.

On 24 April in Datta Colony, Assandh Road, Panipat, Haryana, during a Sunday worship service by Pastor Sunil Kumar, a group of religious extremists interrupted the prayer and issued threats, warning against any future prayer gatherings. The group further

threatened to return the following Sunday and stated that failure to comply with their demands would result in imprisonment for the church members.

On 3 May in Ambala, Haryana, Pastor Sukhdev Mark was on his way home when a group of religious extremists stopped him and forced him to chant "Jai Shree Ram" and on denying had beaten him badly and threatened to stop the prayer meetings.

On 7 May in Kalka, Panchkula, Haryana, Pastor Sanjay Kaushik held prayer meetings at his church where Christians gathered to pray. A friend of the pastor's son, who attended the church every Sunday, prompted his parents to file a complaint accusing the pastor of attempting to convert their child's religion by promising to take them abroad. The police filed a First Information Report (FIR) against Pastor Sanjay.

On 10 May in Rewari, Haryana, Pastor Ramniwas was approached by police personnel and threatened, saying that he is not to do a prayer meeting every Sunday. The police personnel further threatened and said if he had a prayer with other common people at his home, then strict legal action could be taken by the police. The pastor asked for the

reason, but the police officer said if he did not obey, then he would be booked under the Uttar Pradesh Prohibition of Unlawful Religious Conversion Act.

On 15 May in Bhiwani, Haryana, a religious extremist group and Pastor Surendra Singh Bholasneighbour, Manish Kumar, filed a false police complaint, falsely accusing the church of engaging in religious conversion activities.

20 May in Palwal, Haryana, Pastor Surendar Singh witnessed a Christian family residing in the district facing an assault on their son and daughter by extremist elements. They are falsely implicating the Christian family with allegations of religious conversion.

On 28 May in Farukhnagar District Gurugram Haryana, a false complaint of religious conversion was made against Pastor Bir Singh by some locals.

On 1 June in Gurugram, Haryana, Father Vijay, a priest from the Catholic Church reported to the police regarding an assault on their church. The attack was executed by a group of religious extremists, numbering approximately 25 to 30 individuals. They accused Father Vijay of engaging in religious conversion activities and forcibly

removed the signboard displaying the church's name from the premises.

On 4 June in Kharki Dola, Gurugram, Haryana, Father Amal Raj, along with Saint Joseph's Catholic Mission Church, was conducting a church service in a rented house. Following the prayer, a group of 25 people arrived, shouting slogans, and physically assaulting Father Alam. In response, Father Alam filed a First Information Report at the police station and underwent a medical examination.

On 8 June in Sonipat, Haryana, Pastor Jay Kumar organized a Vacation Bible School for children, including some from a different community with parental consent. Unfortunately, a neighbour of Pastor Jay Kumar filed a false complaint against him, accusing him of forced conversion and causing a disturbance. Consequently, the police were called, and they took the children to the police station in Sector 27, Sonipat. The police are exerting pressure on the families of the children to take legal action against Pastor Jay Kumar. Additionally, Pastor Jay Kumar and his supporters were taken to the Sector 15 police station in Sonipat by the police.

On 15 June in Sonipat, Haryana, Pastor Sonu Kumar was approached by two

extremist elements. They questioned the pastor as to how many people he had converted and where he set up his church for prayer meetings.

On 18 June in Bahadurgarh, Jhajjar, Haryana, a prayer meeting led by Pastor Gaurav Bhardwaj was disrupted by extremist elements. Some of the Christians were also manhandled.

On 18 June in Samalkha, Panipat Haryana, Pastor Jagmal was approached by extremists and made threats to take action against him. The extremists falsely accused the pastor of carrying out religious conversion work while conducting a prayer meeting.

On 19 June in village Khirji, Yamunanagar, Haryana, Pastor Rajbeer and a few others were conducting a prayer meeting for the very first time. While they were making arrangements to commence prayers, around 150 religious extremists attacked them and vandalized the place.

On 25 June in Mirka village, Hisar, Haryana, Christians from the village were summoned to the village panchayat and instructed to cease their prayer gatherings. However, when the Christians refused to comply, members of the village panchayat and other

villagers physically assaulted them, causing severe injuries to several individuals. The incident was promptly reported to the police by dialling the emergency number 112, and all Christians were admitted to the hospital for medical treatment.

On 1 July in Yamunanagar, Haryana, Pastor Neeraj Verma along with the District Pastor Association, applied to the local police station for the security of pastors. Over 100 extremists opposed church gatherings for prayers and tried to put pressure on the administration.

On 2 July in Karnal, Haryana, a church run by Pastor John Samuel's family faced false allegations of religious conversion, resulting in police interrogation upon the arrival of a call to the emergency number 112.

On 16 July in Ambala Cantt, Haryana, during the branch church opening of Pastor Ankur Narula a group of religious extremists barged into the venue and made baseless allegations against the ministry of converting people. They demanded that a First Information Report be filed against 4-5 individuals involved in the alleged conversions.

On 28 July in Farukhnagar, Gurgaon, Haryana, a false complaint was filed

against 4-5 administration staff of Caleb Institute by a staff member who was fired due to misconduct. The complaint falsely stated that he was forced to convert to Christianity. The police took four staff members to the police station for recording statements.

On July 30 in Yamunanagar, Haryana, a mob of 40 to 50 extremists had gathered outside the church of Pastor Neeraj Verma, armed with sticks and engaged in protest. Thankfully, no violence occurred, and Pastor Verma remained safely inside the church. The district Pastor Association promptly alerted the situation to the police.

On August 1 in Samalkha, Panipat, a meeting organized by Pastor Sister Renu encountered obstacles as a significant police presence was deployed in Nuh, Haryana, following a previous incident. Though those who opposed the prayer meetings arrived, they left without causing any harm.

On 19 August in Rishal village, Panipat district, Haryana, during Sunday worship led by Pastor Dinesh, around 10 to 15 people, including the village head, threatened to shut down the prayer meetings. A written complaint was submitted to the police on 20 August with the help of legal advice.

On 10 September in Rewari, Haryana, a Diocesan of CNI Church, St. Andrew's Church found itself surrounded by a group of extremists who shouted slogans and burnt an effigy of Santa Claus while Rev. Eric Daniel was conducting a prayer meeting.

On 11 September in Safidon, Jind, Haryana, Pastor Krishna Bhatia faced a protest by the village people for constructing a prayer hall. Afterwards, a complaint was lodged with the police, and on 13 September, the police summoned the pastor.

On 24 September in village Badagaon, tehsil Narayangarh, District Ambala, Pastor Ravi was conducting the Sunday service at Assemblies of God Church, when some individuals from the religious extremist group came and took videos and photos of the prayer meeting.

On 22 October in Jhundla, Karnal, Haryana, Pastor Tarun encountered opposition from the locals regarding Christian prayer meetings.

On 29 October in Samalkha, Panipat, Haryana, Pastor Manish Pal was conducting a prayer meeting when, suddenly, a group of extremists barged in and disrupted the prayer. The

extremists raised slogans and made threats to the pastor for conducting prayer meetings.

On 7 November in Panipat, Haryana, Premila, a follower of the Christian faith was conducting a prayer meeting at the home of a fellow Christian. However, the prayer meeting was disrupted and opposed by some family members who did not espouse Christian beliefs. They also falsely accused Premila of religious conversion.

On 10 December in Kurukshetra, Haryana, Pastor Atar Singh was approached by a station house officer and 7 other police personnel. They inquired about his prayer meetings and asked for documents related to church as well as prayer activities. The pastor was informed they had received an online complaint about the prayer meetings.

On 12 December in Jundla, Karnal, Haryana, Pastor Tarun was opposed to conducting prayer meetings by the locals. Pastor believes that due to his Christian faith, they are being harassed. A written complaint was submitted at the police station by the pastor.

On 24 December in Bahadurgarh, Jhajjar, Haryana, Pastor Harish

encountered opposition from the local community while trying to arrange weekly prayer gatherings. In response, individuals from the community physically attacked Pastor Harish's nephew. Police intervention ensued, enabling Christians to safely return to their residences in the presence of law enforcement.

HIMACHAL PRADESH

On 19 March in village Ghatnalu, Tehsil-Shahpur, District Kangra, Himachal Pradesh, Pastor Anup Kumar was conducting a prayer meeting when a group of religious extremists, along with the Pradhan (village council head) and other Panchayat (village council) members, disrupted the gathering. Although they attempted to attack him, they were unsuccessful. Nevertheless, they forced him and his group to leave the village and relocate to another village. The attackers compelled Christians to provide a statement promising to refrain from conducting any prayer meetings in their rented houses. They warned them that it would not be good for them if other people from the village or neighbouring villages participated in the meetings.

On 27 April in Solon, Himachal Pradesh, Pastor Sanko was summoned to a Panchayat meeting following a complaint by a group of religious extremists and some residents regarding allegations of religious conversion. The Panchayat instructed the Pastor to immediately halt all church services.

On 8 July in Rampur, Bushehar, Shimla, Himachal Pradesh, Praveen Kumar and Christians distributing Bibles at Rampur bus stop faced false accusations of religious conversion, leading to police involvement and registration of the first information report against them.

JAMMU & KASHMIR

On 10 March in Tehsil Ramnagar, Udhampur, Jammu Kashmir, Pastor Deepak was falsely accused of religious conversion by a group of religious extremists. Later, the Police detained Pastor Deepak along with Kewal and Jacob.

On 10 March in Mud Ward No. 72, Patyali Church, Chak Jammu, Jammu and Kashmir, Pastor Anthony Teji informed that Dalmina was conducting a prayer meeting when someone from the village

complained to the police about religious conversion. Later, police came and detained Damina and her daughter Lakshmi under section 295(A) of the Indian Penal Code.

On 23 April in Kathua, Jammu, John Bansal was physically assaulted by a group of religious extremists and falsely accused him of religious conversion. Thereafter, police were informed who came and arrested John under section 295A of the Indian Penal Code at Basoli police station.

JAMMU & KASHMIR

On 10 March in Tehsil Ramnagar, Udhampur, Jammu Kashmir, Pastor Deepak was falsely accused of religious conversion by a group of religious extremists. Later, the Police detained Pastor Deepak along with Kewal and Jacob.

On 10 March in Mud Ward No. 72, Patyali Church, Chak Jammu, Jammu and Kashmir, Pastor Anthony Teji informed that Dalmina was conducting a prayer meeting when someone from the village complained to the police about religious conversion. Later, police came and detained Damina and her daughter Lakshmi under section 295(A) of the

Indian Penal Code.

On 23 April in Kathua, Jammu, John Bansal was physically assaulted by a group of religious extremists and falsely accused him of religious conversion. Thereafter, police were informed who came and arrested John under section 295A of the Indian Penal Code at Basoli police station.

JHARKHAND

On 10 January in village Satgava village, Koderma, Jharkhand, a prayer meeting was held at the residence of Pastor Pramod Raj Kumar. An extremist faction, which included the village chief, abruptly stormed into the premises, subjecting the pastor and other Christians to a brutal physical assault. Furthermore, the extremists demonstrated reprehensible behaviour towards the women attending the prayer session.

On 12 January in Kotam Navtoli, Gumla, Jharkhand, Lakshmi was coerced by a religious extremist group to make false accusations of religious conversion against a local pastor.

On 17 January in Kamdara, Basia, Gumla District, Jharkhand, Pastor JivanLohra

experienced repeated phone calls from the village head (Mukhiya) and other villagers, threatening him to cease church services. Subsequently, he was summoned to the police station.

On 21 January in Urimari, Hazaribagh, Jharkhand, Pastor a Christian named Amar Manjhi, residing met with a fatal road accident and passed away. Subsequently, as the family prepared for the burial, a group of religious extremists along with local villagers, obstructed the burial ceremony of the deceased in the village graveyard.

On 24 January in Barhi, Koderma, Jharkhand, Pastor Lildhari faced a situation wherein an invitation card for his daughter's wedding, featuring quoted Bible verses, inadvertently revealed his religious affiliation. This disclosure led to threats from a religious extremist group, who visited Pastor Lildhari's house and accused him of enticing people through religious conversion.

On 29 January in Chipadohar, Latehar, Jharkhand, Pankaj reported that a group of religious extremists set fire to the church in the evening. The church pastor subsequently submitted a police complaint regarding this incident.

On 29 January in Chanho village, Ranchi, Jharkhand, Suresh, a Christian, was attacked by a group of religious extremists while preparing to attend Church with his wife. They were threatened and physically assaulted.

On 30 January in Kulwari village, West Singhbhum, Jharkhand, members of Pastor Samuel Bandia's and Abraham Soy's church faced threats due to their faith. They were also socially ostracized and denied access to water and public roads in the village. A group of religious extremists organized a Gharwapsi (re-conversion) program, successfully converting three families from the village. Two other families, who resisted the Gharwapsi, left their homes out of fear and relocated to a nearby village.

On 31 January in village Bakoriya, Dalataganj, Palamu, Jharkhand, Dharma Dev Oraon, a Christian from the Church of Pastor Sunil Oraon, along with his wife, encountered warnings and threats on account of their faith. A group of religious extremists surrounded their house, attempting to forcibly enter.

On 12 February in Mohammadganj, Palamu, Jharkhand, Pastor James encountered hostility while conducting a prayer meeting in his house church. A group of 40 religious extremists

forcefully entered, threatening the pastor and Christians. They warned against future prayer meetings, threatening assault on the pastor and Christians.

On 26 February in Sopram, Chanho, Ranchi, Jharkhand, Rajkumar Munda was threatened by a group of religious extremists to stop attending Church. They also warned that Christians will face a social boycott if they continue to do so.

On 3 March in Masia village, Bero Block, Ranchi, Jharkhand, Suman Munda was praying with her family when a group of religious extremists forcefully entered the house and forcefully took them to the nearby temple and did their reconversion by performing rituals at midnight. The Christian family managed to run away to a nearby village due to fear.

On 4 March in Mahuwa, Ranchi, Jharkhand, Pastor Jagranath Minz informed that a female Christian who was 55 years old passed away due to an illness. However, the villagers did not permit her burial in the common graveyard located in the village.

On 13 March in Patratu, Ramgarh, Jharkhand, a Christian associated with

Pastor Siril Tamgariya had passed away due to sickness and villagers were preventing burial in the common village burial ground.

On 25 March in Taranga village in Chanho block, Ranchi district, Jharkhand, Kuwari Devi and her family were threatened by a group of religious extremists due to their Christian faith. The extremists also demolished a part of the roof of their house.

On 14 April in village Bhandariya, Garhwa, Jharkhand, Pastor Jokhanram along with Pastor Peter Kumar, was conducting a prayer service at his home when a mob of around 100 people came and took them to the police station on the false allegation of religious conversion.

On 10 May in Dhanbad, Jharkhand, Pastor Jona, known to Pastor Charles Jeba conducted a VBS (Vacation Bible School) program in which some children participated. However, some parents later created problems, accusing them of trying to convert their children. Now, a Christian named Radha is receiving numerous threats from extremists who are pressuring her to attend a meeting near the village temple.

On 10 May, Pastor Raju from

Chakardharpur, Jamshedpur, East Singbhum, Jharkhand, was alleged by a mother that the Pastor had kidnapped her daughter and forcefully did the religious conversion. Pastor Raju has been unjustly accused of engaging in forced conversions and has faced public scrutiny through media trials.

On 17 May in Pinjradeepa village, Palkot Block, Gumla district, Jharkhand, Budhram Lohra received threats from a group of religious extremists who aimed to seize his property to construct a temple.

On 30 May in Huanghatu village, Namkum subdivision, Ranchi, Jharkhand, Aman Singh Binjiya, who has recently espoused Christian faith, passed away after involving in a road accident. However, when the family tried to bury the mortal remains of the loved one in the village graveyard as per Christian rituals, the villagers opposed them.

On 1 June in Hundru village, Latehar, Jharkhand, Raju Bhuiya and fellow Christians faced threats and harassment by villagers and the village council head for their Christian faith. The threats included that Christians would be physically assaulted too in the village.

On 5 June in Bundu, Ranchi. Jharkhand, Pastor Jakaria Purthy was threatened by religious extremists. They warned the pastor that if he did not stop conducting church services, they would falsely implicate him in a criminal case.

On 6 June in Huanghatu village, Namkum subdivision, Ranchi district, Jharkhand, Christians were summoned by the villagers for a meeting, raising concerns that they might face intimidation on account of their faith in Christianity.

On 14 June in Garhwa, Jharkhand, Pastor Ashutosh Anand along with other pastors were conducting a prayer meeting at the Pastor's residence. Unfortunately, a group of religious extremists interrupted the meeting and forcefully took the pastor and 22 pastors, including three women and four children, to the Garhwa police station.

On 16 June in Gumla, Jharkhand, a meeting had been convened by the villagers. The village head insisted that the body of a woman, who was a devout Christian, be exhumed from the village graveyard. This demand arose due to her religious beliefs. The villagers issued a threat, stating that if the family did not comply with their request, they would demolish the church building. The police

arrived at the scene, but the villagers remained stubborn.

On 18 June in Lada village, Gumla, Jharkhand, a burial as per Christian ritual by a Christian family was denied by the villagers as a consequence of protest against the Christian faith. The protest was so vehement that Kamal Toppo, a Christian and father of the deceased, had to handover the mortal remains to villagers.

On 22 June in Latehar, Jharkhand, Sandeep Oraon, a follower of Christ, was targeted for his Christian faith by the villagers. They also threatened Sandeep's parents saying not to give any share of the property.

On 23 June in Gumla, Jharkhand, Chimni Oraon, a follower of Christ and her family were threatened on account of their Christian faith. They were not allowed to use land and other essentials for life for espousing Christianity. They were being forced by villagers to recant Christianity.

On 27 June in Giridih, Jharkhand, Pastor Manoj was leading a prayer meeting when a group of religious extremists disrupted the prayer meeting and falsely accused the Pastor of religious conversion. Later the police came and detained the Pastor and a fellow

Christian at the Belwaghati Police Station.

On 3 July in Sibutand, Bokaro, Jharkhand, Savitri Devi encountered threats and coercion from villagers on account of her faith in Christianity, resulting in social isolation and denial of access to communal resources.

On 6 July in Remba village, Giridih, Jharkhand, Polish Mundu faced harassment, threats, and pressure from the villagers to revert to his former faith and renounce the Christian faith. They demanded that he conform to the customs and traditions of the village. If he fails to comply, he and his family will be expelled from the village, and their properties will be confiscated.

On 6 July in Tata Jamshedpur, East Singhbhum, Jharkhand, Ramdhan Lohar and his wife were engaged in prayer when the police, acting on a complaint, brought them to the police station.

On 8 July in Karma, Koderma, Jharkhand, a one-day prayer gathering was disrupted by individuals. They falsely accused the attendees of religious conversion and created a fearful atmosphere. Women and children were scared.

On 15 July in Latehar, Jharkhand, Sangeeta Kumari faced a violent attack and intimidation for continuing her prayer gatherings. Despite the threats, she bravely refused to stop conducting prayers. As a consequence, the villagers physically assaulted her and forcibly drove her out of the village solely because of her religious beliefs.

On 4 August in Lapung Khunti Road, Ranchi, Jharkhand, 3 Christian families in the area were threatened by a religious extremist group to reconvert by partaking in a ritual and recanting Christian faith.

On 19 September in the Meral village, Garhwa, Jharkhand, some religious extremists entered Pastor Jagranath Prajapati's church around 11 am and disrupted the Sunday service. They threatened the pastor for conducting prayer meetings in the Meral area and demanded that he vacate the house immediately.

On 15 October in Jagranathpur, West Singhbhum, in Jharkhand state, Sunai Sinku, a widow, held a prayer meeting at her home with her family. During the prayer, armed religious extremists stormed in, disrupting the prayer gathering. They attacked two women,

encouraging others to assault them sexually. Although the police arrived, they did not take immediate action. Later, all the victims went to the police station, and the next day, in the morning, they were taken to the Sadar Hospital Chaibasa for medical treatment. Initially hesitant to register a formal complaint, the police tried to settle the matter through a "compromise". An online complaint was eventually filed, and the formal complaint was sent to the Superintendent of Police (SP). In response to the complaint filed at the SP's office, an FIR was registered in favour of the victims.

On 15 November in Shanti village, Garhwa, Jharkhand, Pastor Sarvan and a group of fellow Christians were planning to visit the residence of a Christian. On their way, they were falsely accused and physically assaulted by extremists. Pastor Sarvan and his wife were severely beaten, and their mobile phones were also attached.

On 23 November in Chota Kanka village, West Singhbhum, Jharkhand, Jaypal Sundi was beaten mercilessly by some of the villagers due to his faith. He is unable to walk right now, but somehow, he managed to save his life.

KARNATAKA

On 2 January in Bhadravati, Shimoga, Karnataka, Pastor Sudeep Kumar was conducting a prayer meeting at his house when a group of extremists forcefully barged in and disrupted the gathering. Furthermore, the extremists subjected the members present to physical assault.

On 6 January in Mysore, Karnataka, Pastor Kuchelaiah and his wife conducted a prayer meeting when a false complaint of religious conversion was filed against them. Subsequently, the police registered an FIR under Karnataka's Freedom of Religion Act against Christians.

On 6 January in Kodagu, Karnataka, Pastor Nishanth H B was distributing biblical tracts on a bus when an individual reported the activity to the police. Consequently, law enforcement officers arrived and escorted Pastor Nishanth H B to the police station, where a case had been filed against him.

On 5 February in Hubli, Haveri, Karnataka, Rev Santhosh was falsely accused of religious conversion, leading to Santosh's detention at Adur PS. Consequently, on 6 February, the Adur

Police filed a first information report under the Karnataka Freedom of Religion Act with Section 5 against Santhosh.

On 19 February in Kushalnagar, Kodagu, Karnataka, Pastor Ravi John was conducting a Sunday worship at his house church when the police arrived, took Pastor Ravi John into custody on false allegations of religious conversion by a group of religious extremists, and took him to the police station.

On 19 February in Balehonnur, Chikmagalur, Karnataka, Pastor Rohit, who is associated with IPC Church was summoned to the police station for questioning on a religious conversion matter.

On 2 April in Kumuta, Uttara Karnataka, Karnataka, Pastor Rajan was leading a prayer meeting at his church when the police arrived and apprehended him for false allegations of religious conversion. Both Pastor Rajan and his church were accused of engaging in religious conversions.

On 20 December in Kanakpura, Ramnagar, Karnataka, Pastor Titus was detained by the police on the false allegation of religious conversion by alluring money to the villagers. Pastor

visited the village to wish Christmas to his fellow Christians.

On 22 December in Sagara Taluk, Shimoga, Karnataka, Pastor Sunil was visiting a fellow Christian's residence in the village for Christmas carol as a team when the religious extremist group of the village forcefully took him along with his 4 daughters to the police station on the false complaint of religious conversion.

MADHYA PRADESH

On 11 January in Kalyanpura, Jhabua, Madhya Pradesh, Bishop Paul Muniya and another Christian, Peetha, were implicated under an anti-religious conversion act based on a false complaint filed by a villager. The accusation alleged that they were forcibly attempting to convert the villager and his family through alluring means. Subsequently, the police arrested Peetha.

On 29 January in Seoni, Madhya Pradesh, Pastor Prasad Das, along with his wife Bindu Das and their son Praveen Das, faced detainment during a prayer meeting at their residence. A complaint, falsely alleging fraudulent conversion,

was filed by a religious extremist.

On 12 February in Kukshi, Dhar, Madhya Pradesh, Pastor Hawan was conducting a prayer meeting at the residence of a Christian named Dinesh when the police intervened, detaining Dinesh and taking him to the local police station.

On 12 February in Vijay Nagar, Indore, Madhya Pradesh, Raveena, daughter of Dayara Tonere, filed a complaint with the police against her neighbours Gopal Yadav and Raju, who had been harassing her. The police registered a case against the accused. However, after the death of Gopal Yadav's 10-year-old daughter due to illness, the perpetrators threatened Raveena and her father, Dayaram, with a false allegation of fraudulent religious conversion.

On 5 March in Indore, Madhya Pradesh, Pastor Chris Norman visited a private residence to conduct prayers. A group of 100 religious extremists arrived and attacked him, causing significant injuries. The attackers later took him to the police station where he was charged under the Madhya Pradesh Freedom of Religion Act. Before the attack, the religious extremists had demanded a donation from the pastor, which he refused to give.

On 10 March in Mandla, Madhya Pradesh, the principal of a school named St Joseph School in the Ghoreghat Panchayat area was booked, and its hostel superintendent was arrested for allegedly teaching students the Bible and taking them to church. The case was registered based on a report of Bal Kalyan Samiti functionary Yogesh Parashar after its team visited St Joseph School in the Ghoreghat Panchayat area under Mavai police station limits.

On 22 March in Village Chaketi, Annupur, Madhya Pradesh, Pastor Kanihaya along with other family members, was praying in their house when a group of religious extremists forcefully entered the house and verbally abused the members present in the house.

On 30 March in Mhow, Indore, Madhya Pradesh, Pastor Sangeetha Upadhyay along with her family which included her husband Chandra Shekhar Upadhyay, daughter Swaty Tiwari, Ashish Upadhyay, and Sanjay Chouhan was attending a wedding ceremony where the group of extremists entered and caused damage. The attackers also physically assaulted individuals present at the ceremony. Both parties filed complaints against each other, but the police took Pastor Sangeetha and four members to the police station and filed

a First Information Report (FIR) against them.

On 17 April in Sendhwa, Barwani, Madhya Pradesh, Pastor Gangaram along with his fellow Christian Raju, was conducting a prayer meeting at a Christian's house when a group of religious extremists barged in and disrupted their prayer meeting and took them to the police station, where police detained them.

On 13 May in Ward Number 18, Gharolla Mohalla, Shahdol, members of an extremist group falsely accused of conversion of individuals by Christians. Mrs. Monika Vijay Nair's house at Gharolla Mohalla a prayer meeting was held. Suddenly, some extremists forcefully entered the house and threatened all of them, taking them to the police station.

On 4 June in Gohparu, Shahdol, Madhya Pradesh, Pastor Santosh Kumar was conducting a prayer meeting at Pastor Mahendra Singh's place. Some people with police came and disrupted the ongoing prayer meeting.

On 4 June in Motwa village, Satna, Madhya Pradesh, a false complaint of religious conversion was registered against Pastor Roshan, Pastor Mayaram and a Christian woman, named Arti.

On 4 June in Umarban village, Dhar, Madhya Pradesh, Pastor Rajesh Fuaji was conducting a prayer meeting. Soon after concluding the prayer, police arrived and detained the pastor for a false accusation of carrying out the religious conversion. Later, Pastor Rajesh Fuaji was booked under sections 110, 151, 116(3), and 107 of the CrPC at Manawar Chowki police station.

On 9 July in Chhindwara, Madhya Pradesh, Neeta Mathew was taken to Dehat Police station. Her husband, Br Kamlesh Mathew, informed that a false complaint of conversion had been made, leading to her detention.

On 16 July in Udaynagar, Dewas, Madhya Pradesh, Suresh Barela and a group of Christians were gathered for prayers at a fellow Christian's residence. Unfortunately, a member of a religious extremist group filed a baseless police complaint accusing them of religious conversion. Subsequently, the police arrived and registered a case against Suresh and six others under the Madhya Pradesh Freedom of Religion Act and Section 295 A of the Indian Penal Code.

On 16 July in Polakhal village, Amla Tehsil, Betul district of Madhya Pradesh, Pastor Manak Ram of Sharon Fellowship Church was conducting a Sunday

worship service when a group of religious extremists disrupted the service. The police later arrived and arrested Suresh Dawar and two others.

On 18 July in Bhuranpur, Madhya Pradesh, Bhaulal and Bhaiyalal, who espouse the Christian faith, were conducting a prayer meeting at their house when the police arrived based on false information of religious conversion. The police arrested the pastor under the Madhya Pradesh Freedom of Religion Act.

On 9 August in Indore Madhya Pradesh, Pastor Sam Kumarakom, Pastor Michel, Pastor Jomon and Pastor Joyce were taken to Hira Nagar Police station as they were having a meeting in the morning.

On 10 August in KabitKhedi, Indore, Madhya Pradesh, Pastor Michael was in his Church when a group of religious extremists invaded and vandalized the Church. They falsely reported religious conversion to the police, leading to the arrest of Pastor Michael and five others under section 295A of the Indian Penal Code.

On 8 September in Pathan village, Chhattarpur, Madhya Pradesh, Rajesh Soni faced a false case filed by a

religious extremist group during a prayer meeting. The police arrested four individuals, including Kalpana, Usha, Usha's husband, and one more person, under the Madhya Pradesh Freedom of Religion Act.

On 1 October in Thikari village, Badwani, Madhya Pradesh, Pastor Arvind was conducting a prayer meeting in his church named Holy Fire Church. However, the prayer was disrupted by a group of religious extremists. They falsely accused him of engaging in religious conversion and resorted to physical assault, causing him to bleed from his head and other parts of his body. Threats were issued to prevent him from continuing the prayer meeting. Fortunately, other members of the congregation came to his rescue and promptly took him to the hospital. Following the incident, both Pastor Arvind and another Christian reported the occurrence to the police, who subsequently registered an FIR. However, the extremists also later filed a false complaint, accusing the Christians of religious conversion.

On 26 November in Burhanpur, Madhya Pradesh, Pastor Gokhariya Solanki was falsely accused of carrying out religious conversion work while the pastor was conducting a prayer meeting.

Subsequently, they brought the pastor to the police station.

On 13 December in Khargone, Madhya Pradesh, Pastor Bhuru Kanase wanted to celebrate Christmas in his Church along with other Christians and he drafted an application as information for conducting the programme which was denied by the police.

On 31 December in Shadol, Madhya Pradesh, Pastor Munnalal reported that Pastor Ramkishore and three other Christians were detained by the police while conducting a prayer meeting for New Year.

MAHARASHTRA

On 28 January in Nanded, Maharashtra, neighbours of Pastor Prakash Wadikar submitted an application to the police against the pastor regarding his church prayer service. Falsely alleging that they were being disturbed, they demanded the cessation of the church service. Consequently, the police issued a notice of IPC 149 to Pastor Prakash Wadikar.

On 10 February in Parathwada, Amaravati, Maharashtra, Somesh and his wife Sheetal, were detained by local police. While conducting a dedication

ceremony for their daughter in the Church, an unknown person falsely reported religious conversion to the police, resulting in the detention of Pastor Satyam and 25 members.

On 2 July in Tanaji Malusare Nagar, Jainabad, MIDC, Jalgaon, Maharashtra, a prayer meeting led to the arrest of five individuals by the M.I.D.C. police. The police registered a first information report under sections 295A, 298 & 34 of the Indian Penal Code.

On 17 June in Kashti village, Shrigonda Taluka, Ahmednagar District, Maharashtra, Namrita Venkatesh Varanse along with two other Christian women named Sarada Akash Saundde and Vaishali Sunil Pawar visited the house of a fellow Christian for a prayer meeting. During their prayers, the non-believing son of the homeowner summoned a religious extremist group and the police, resulting in the detention of all three women on charges of forced religious conversion.

On 26 July in Ahmednagar, Maharashtra, Pastor Vishwas Kakde was physically assaulted for his faith while returning after conducting prayer at a fellow Christian's house in a village.

On 6 August in Jadhav Pada,

Nalasopara, Palghar, Maharashtra, three masked men brutally attacked a 54-year-old pastor named Xavier Palhar, along with his son and another prayer participant, during an ongoing prayer gathering. The extremists used iron rods to launch their attack, baselessly accusing the pastor and other Christians of participating in religious conversion activities. The violence escalated to the church premises, resulting in extensive vandalism. Following the assault, Pastor Palhar, who suffered severe injuries, lodged a police complaint against the assailants. His injuries were substantial, leading to his admission to a local hospital. Preliminary medical assessments suggested that his recovery would necessitate an extended period of bed rest, potentially spanning a couple of months.

ODISHA

On 12 January in Bogda Basti, Bondamunda, Sundergarh, Odisha, Pastor Subhash Dungri, along with three Christians, Mahbir Mukhi, SantuMukhi, and Krishna Baghel, was invited by Jagarnath Raut to conduct prayers for his family. Subsequently, under a premeditated conspiracy, while engaged in prayer at Raut's residence, a

group of religious extremists attacked Pastor Subhash and the accompanying Christians. The assailants subjected them to severe physical assault, verbal abuse, and torture. Consequently, Pastor Subhash and his fellow Christians were forcibly restrained, their hands bound, and they were subjected to public ridicule on the main road of Bondamunda. Regrettably, the local administration failed to provide adequate support during this distressing incident. After some time, a Police Control Room van arrived, transporting the Christians to the Bandamunda police station. Subsequently, a case was registered against Pastor Subhash and his associates, only for them to be released later.

On 26 February in Aloor village, Chalanguda, Malkangiri, Odisha, Podiya Kawasi along with his family, was subjected to persecution due to the prayer meetings conducted by him in the village by a group of religious extremists. They destroyed their house and threatened to kill the family members if a police complaint was filed. Podiya Kawasi and his wife, along with their children, hid themselves at Tangnitong village.

On 9 July in Bhubaneswar, Odisha,

Pastor Abhishek Naik conducted a prayer meeting in a rented hotel hall. However, he faced disruption from a group of religious extremists who intruded along with four online news channels.

On 6 August in Chhatrapur, Balasore, Odisha, Pastor Pitha Tudu was detained by the police on false information regarding religious conversion.

On 9 October in village Jhadam, block Bandugaon, Koraput, Odisha, Pastor Prema Mathilia was threatened by the religious extremist group and forcefully took Rs. 3000 in the name of donation for their religious activity. Extremists also physically assaulted him and took his cow along with them. And, they also vandalized their Church.

PUNJAB

On 14 January in Pathankot, Punjab, Pastor Nishant, who presides over a church faced disruptions during prayer services by a group of religious extremists. These disruptions had going on for over a few weeks. The pastor also had received threats from the aforementioned group. Despite notifying the police, no discernible

action has been taken to address the situation.

On 9 February in Ekalganda village, Tarantaran, Punjab, Pastor John Peter experienced harassment and threats on account of his Christian faith. While conducting a prayer service, a group of religious extremists forcibly entered the Church, threatening the pastor and 25 Christian families. They warned against conducting further prayer meetings and pressured the pastor to leave the area.

On 14 February in Jalandhar, Punjab, Pastor Heera conducted a prayer meeting in her church when a group of religious extremists forcefully entered and threatened to close the church.

On 18 April in Malpur, Hoshiyarpur, Punjab, while Pastor Arun was returning from his evening walk, he was assaulted by a group of religious extremists. The attackers beat him severely and made threats to him with false allegations of carrying out religious conversion activities. Pastor Arun was subsequently hospitalized at the Government Hospital for his injuries.

On 21 May in Amritsar, Punjab, Pastor Sukhpal Rana was conducting a prayer meeting at his church when a group of

religious extremists forcefully entered the church, disrupted the prayer meeting, and attacked the Christians. Many of them were injured during the attack.

On 30 May in Batala, Punjab, Pastor Jatinder was conducting a prayer meeting in his residence. However, the gathering was disturbed when neighbours from the area congregated and initiated disruption. The situation escalated into a physical altercation among the individuals present, resulting in the assault of several people.

On 1 June in Sunam, Punjab, Pastor Peter John accompanied by his family and other Christians, was hosting a prayer meeting at their residence. Unfortunately, a confrontation arose between the Pastor and his neighbour as they vehemently objected to the continuation of the prayer gathering. The disagreement escalated into a physical altercation, resulting in injuries to Pastor Peter John, his family, and specifically, his son, who sustained wounds to his head. Notably, the attackers targeted the CCTV footage, thus attempting to eliminate evidence of their assault on the Pastor and the severe injuries perpetrated upon his son.

On 3 July in Firozpur, Punjab, Pastor Lakhwinder conducted a prayer meeting at his residence. However, while the prayer was underway, the pastor experienced a disruption by a group of religious extremists who physically assaulted the members present.

On 16 August in Bhai Rupa, Bathinda, Punjab, Pastor Birender's sister Jaspreet Kaur was brutally beaten, and her clothes torn during a late-night prayer session in their village. The incident occurred when the Pastor's brother, who had been dropping Christians' home, was confronted, and attacked by a group of villagers accusing them of drug peddling. Jaspreet Kaur sustained deep wounds and is currently admitted to the hospital.

On 3 September in Kapurthala, Punjab, Sonia was beaten by neighbours while on her way to the Church on a Sunday evening. Sonia's brother, a non-Christian struggling with drug addiction, faced constant criticism from people blaming Sonia's conversion for his deteriorating health.

On 23 April in Faridkot, Punjab, Pastor Rooplal was arrested by the police on false charges on account of his faith in Christianity.

RAJASTHAN

On 19 March in Jodhpur, Rajasthan, the Church of Pastor Raju Thomas was conducting its annual 10-day prayer meeting named 'Transformation' at the Church of North India (CNI) community hall. While the prayer meeting was underway, a group forcefully barged into the hall and filmed the meeting. They then locked the two exit gates from the outside, preventing approximately 250 Christians from leaving. The extremists interrogated the people praying, accusing them of offering money to convert people to Christianity. They tore Bibles, used abusive language, and attempted to ransack the place. Ten Christians said they were assaulted and beaten up.

On 5 July in Khairthal, Alwar, Rajasthan, Gurudayal faced threats from religious extremists demanding an end to prayer meetings or risk the demolition of his church.

On 6 August in the village of Bapdoli, Alwar, Rajasthan, Pastor Kailash attended a prayer gathering hosted by a Christian named Jaisingh in the same village. A religious extremist group barged into the house, initiating chants and slogans. Police were notified and a

formal complaint was lodged by Pastor Kailash regarding the incident. However, subsequently, both Pastor Kailash and his spouse were taken into custody by Mundawar police personnel due to pressure from the religious extremist group.

On 25 October in Salambur, Rajasthan, a Christian family belonging to Kalulal experienced a physical assault perpetrated by his stepbrothers due to his Christian faith. The incident unfolded when Kalulal's inebriated stepbrothers attacked the family members, expressing their objection to participating in Christian prayer meetings and demanding that they renounce Christianity.

TAMIL NADU

On 15 March in Kanniyakumari District, Tamil Nadu, Arun informed that his family runs an independent church in the area, and they had obtained permission from the Panchayat for community worship. However, for the past four years, a group of religious extremists have been harassing them and questioning their No Objection Certificate (NOC) from the District Collector (DC). Presently, they worship silently, but every two weeks or monthly,

police or extremists come to their place, asking them to stop and pressurizing them. They have lodged several complaints regarding the behaviour of the extremists.

On 21 March in Permanallur, Tiruppur District, Tamil Nadu, a group of 5 women, all over 55 years of age, were distributing biblical tracts. However, they were stopped by religious extremists who then lodged a complaint with the police. The women were subsequently taken to the Permanallur Police Station in Tiruppur District, and their tracts and books were confiscated. The police filed a Non-Cognizable Report (NCR) against the women based on the complaint filed by the religious extremists. The women provided their details to the police, who eventually released them.

On 23 March in Pasumalai, Madurai District, Tamil Nadu, Pastor Rajan Jeyapaul faced harassment from his neighbour son account of conducting worship services at his residence. Despite having worshipped at his home for several years, one of his neighbours recently filed a complaint with the police, citing noise pollution as the reason to stop the worship. After inspecting the worship place, the police confirmed that the place is insulated from noise and that the neighbour

should not have any problem with the worship. However, one of the neighbours, in conjunction with some religious extremists, continued to threaten Pastor Jeyapaul, claiming that he will find ways to shut down the worship place.

On 22 July in Gudiyatam Taluk, Vellore District, Tamil Nadu, Sasikumar began constructing a hall to facilitate worship activities in his native village. However, during the construction process, a group of 35 villagers objected strongly and lodged complaints with the Police and Tahshildar. They demanded to halt the worship gatherings and construction, expressing their opposition to having a Church in their village. Before initiating the construction, Pastor Sasi kumar had been conducting worship gatherings with about 25 local villagers at his own premises in the village. All the worshipers were from the same village, and there were no outsiders involved in these gatherings.

UTTAR PRADESH

On 1 January in Jaunpur, Uttar Pradesh, Pastor Bharat Masih was conducting a prayer meeting. A group of extremists forcefully barged into the prayer meeting and disrupted it. Extremists

falsely accused the pastor of religious conversion work and misbehaved with him. One of the members of the prayer meeting called the police however no action was taken against the culprits.

On 2 January in Kuchariya village, Rae Bareilly, Uttar Pradesh, a few policemen came to Pastor Shivkaran's church and enquired as to who is the owner of the building. Since the pastor himself was not at the church, his neighbours were told to ask the Pastor to report to the local police station as there was a complaint of religious conversion against him.

On 5 January in Meerut, Uttar Pradesh, Ajay, a follower of Christ, was falsely accused of fraudulent religious conversion activity. He was booked under the Uttar Pradesh Prohibition of Unlawful Conversion of Religion Act.

On 7 January in Jafaripurawa village, Mahamdabad, Sitapur, Uttar Pradesh, Pastor Algin was engaged in prayer alongside his family members when an unexpected group of extremists abruptly barged in, unleashing a violent assault and subjecting him to verbal abuse. Baselessly attributing him to religious conversion activities, they launched their attack. Subsequently, the following day, the pastor was

summoned to the nearby police station, where he found himself to be charged under sections 151, 107, and 116 of the Criminal Procedure Code (CrPC).

On 8 January in Jaunpur, Uttar Pradesh, Pastor Gokul Kumar Gautam, accompanied by 10 Christians, was conducting a prayer gathering at his residence when the police arrived in response to a false complaint filed by residents accusing them of engaging in religious conversion. Consequently, the authorities detained Pastor Gokul Kumar Gautam and brought him to the MachliShahr police station.

On 8 January in Gopia village, Behraich, Uttar Pradesh, Pastor Kailash was invited to conduct a prayer gathering at Mayaram's residence. However, during the prayer session, a police team abruptly entered the premises, took Mayaram into custody, and brought him to Motipur police station. Mayaram was charged under sections 151 and 107 of the CrPC (Code of Criminal Procedure). Eventually, on 9 June, Mayaram was released on bail by the SDM (Sub-Divisional Magistrate) court.

On 9 January in Mission Kheda, Itarsi, Uttar Pradesh, Abhishek Mark was informed by a neighbour living near his church, where Abhishek serves as the

caretaker, that smoke was emanating from the church. Upon reaching the location, Abhishek discovered that the main door of the church was ablaze due to a fire. The Bible and other religious books were set on fire and thrown inside the church door.

On 10 January in Tikar village, Majara Sandila, Hardoi, Uttar Pradesh, Pastor Kamlesh, accompanied by approximately 50-60 Christians, was conducting a prayer gathering when a false accusation of religious conversion was raised by someone from the village. Subsequently, the police interfered and arrested Pastor Kamlesh, bringing him to the Sandila police station.

On 11 January in Ghatampur, Kanpur, Uttar Pradesh, Pastor Anil conducted a prayer meeting at the church. Subsequently, he was apprehended by the police on alleged charges of religious conversion, deemed false. Following the arrest, the pastor was formally charged under the provisions of the Uttar Pradesh Prohibition of Unlawful Conversion of Religion Act.

On 15 January in Mishrit, Sitapur, Uttar Pradesh, Luvkush organized a prayer meeting in an open area for Christians. Subsequently, an individual from the village made a false complaint of

religious conversion. The police arrived, resulting in the detention of Luvkush, Deepu, and six others. They were charged under sections 3/5(1) of the Uttar Pradesh Prohibition of Unlawful Conversion of Religion Act, 295A, and 506 of the Indian Penal Code.

On 16 January in Machhlishahr, Jaunpur, Uttar Pradesh, Pastor Ram Achill was conducting a prayer service at his residence. Subsequently, the police arrived in response to a false complaint by a religious extremist group alleging religious conversion. As a result, both Pastor Ram Achill and Pastor Sandeep Kumar were detained and taken to the police station.

On 16 January in Hariharpurwa near Sidhauri Tehsil, Sitapur, Uttar Pradesh, Pastor Mahesh was compelled by a faction of religious extremists to conduct "Ghar Wapsi" (re-conversion), coercing fellow Christians to participate in rituals denouncing the Christian faith.H30

On 18 January at Boradwell Hospital in Fatehpur, Uttar Pradesh, the police raided the hospital's accounts department. The hospital questioned the legitimacy of the search warrant. The police seized computers and hard disks from Broadwell Hospital, claiming it was part of the raid. About 100

pamphlets supporting Christianity and explaining its benefits were allegedly planted during the raid. After placing these materials, the police verbally abused the hospital's Medical Superintendent, Dr. Jesudas, and four other staff members, falsely accusing them of "conversion" based on the pamphlets. The situation escalated when the police physically assaulted Dr. Jesudas and forced him to sign a document listing all confiscated items, including the controversial pamphlets. Feeling pressured for his and his wife's safety, he reluctantly agreed to sign. Additionally, the police took the personal phones of senior staff members, including the Medical Superintendent, without proper authorization. Later that evening, the entire hospital staff planned to file a formal complaint with the Superintendent of Police (SP) of Fatehpur district. However, the police obstructed their efforts and resorted to physical aggression.

On 20 January in Fatehpur, Uttar Pradesh, Ramchandra conducted a prayer meeting at home with 30 other attendees. The police arrived during the gathering and detained them on the unfounded accusation of religious conversion through enticement. Subsequently, Ramchandra, along with 10 other Christians, and 40 to 50

unidentified individuals, was formally charged under sections 3 and 5(1) of the Unlawful Religious Conversion Act of the state at the police station Kotwali.

On 21 January in Laharpur, Sitapur, Uttar Pradesh, Netram, a follower of Christ, was engaged in agricultural activities in his field when, unexpectedly, police personnel arrived and brought him to the Kotwali police station. The reason cited for this action was ostensibly tied to Netram's Christian religious beliefs.

On 22 January in Gawai village of Azamgarh district, Uttar Pradesh, Pastor Anil conducted a prayer meeting in the Church. Subsequently, an individual affiliated with a religious extremist group provided false information regarding religious conversion within the Church. Consequently, the police arrived and apprehended Pastor Anil and Pastor Sohit Yadav, bringing them to Didarganj police station.

On January 22 in Hussainganj, Fatehpur, Uttar Pradesh, false allegations were levelled against Pastor Jitendra Kumar. The accusations involved making false promises of marriage and coercing women and their families into conversion. Subsequently, the police were notified, resulting in the registration of a case under the Uttar Pradesh

Prohibition of Unlawful Conversion of Religion Act and sections 406, 504, and 506 of the IPC against the pastor and a few others.

On 23 January in Ambedkar Nagar, Uttar Pradesh, Pastor Jose Pappachan was at his residence when the police arrived based on a false complaint of fraudulent religious conversion. Subsequently, he and his wife, Sheeja, were brought to the police station. Owing to Pastor Jose's physical ailment, they were released from the police station but placed under house arrest after a brief period. On January 24, Pastor Jose and his wife were summoned once more to the police station, where they were formally charged under the Uttar Pradesh Prohibition of Unlawful Conversion of Religion.

On 23 January in Bhulandih, Jaunpur, Pastor Subedar Yadav from Azamgarh, Uttar Pradesh, conducted a prayer meeting at his residence. Subsequently, the police arrived based on a false complaint of religious conversion, leading to the pastor's arrest. He was subsequently taken to Devgaon Police Station and formally charged under the Uttar Pradesh Prohibition of Unlawful Conversion of Religion Act.

On 29 January in Basti, Uttar Pradesh,

Pastor P.P. Baby of A.G. Church was conducting a prayer service at his residence when the police intervened and apprehended him based on false accusations of religious conversion.

On 2 February in Keferganj, Sadar, Raibareli, Uttar Pradesh, Harishankar Kumar Kashyap was conducting a prayer meeting in his house when a group of religious extremists filed a false complaint of religious conversion. Later police came and detained him under section 151 of the CrPc.

On 3 February in Shamshabad Tehsil, at the Shamshabad police station, Fatehabad, Agra, Uttar Pradesh, Pastor Ajay visited a Christian's residence for a prayer session. During the prayer, an individual from the village falsely reported to the police alleging religious conversion. Consequently, law enforcement arrived and apprehended Pastor Ajay under Section 151 of the Code of Criminal Procedure.

On 5 February in the Mahrajganj district of Uttar Pradesh, Pastor Vishal John conducted a prayer meeting in a rented space, attended by 70 to 75 fellow Christians. Unexpectedly, a group of religious extremists arrived, vociferously proclaiming religious slogans, and accusing the Christians of conversion.

Consequently, they summoned the police. Subsequently, the police arrived, taking Pastor Vishal and a few others to the police station for an inquiry, and releasing them later the same day. On the subsequent day, 6 February, the police apprehended them under CRPC sections 151, 107, and 116.

On 5 February in Faizabad, Uttar Pradesh, Pastor Ramnihor conducted a prayer meeting at his church. Subsequently, he was apprehended by the police based on false information from someone in the village, accusing him of religious conversion.

On 5 February in Kushinagar, Uttar Pradesh, Pastor Jitendra Kumar Sahni visited a fellow Christian's residence for a prayer meeting. During the prayer session, a villager falsely reported to the police, alleging religious conversion. Consequently, police officials arrived and apprehended Pastor Jitendra Kumar Sahni.

On 6 February in Mohammadabad Tehsil District Mau, Uttar Pradesh, Pastor Sechan Prasad Masih, accompanied by Pastor Rajesh Kumar went to a fair within the Muslim community, distributing biblical literature in Urdu. The police were alerted by a fair attendee, resulting in the detention of both pastors under

sections 151, 107, and 116 of the CrPC.

On 8 February in Fatehpur, Uttar Pradesh, Pastor Jose Prakash, and Brother Daud Masih were apprehended for their Christian beliefs. Additionally, Sumit, a medical shop manager, was also taken into custody. A Christian associated with the Presbyterian Church was summoned for questioning by the police in connection with the Broadwell Hospital incident.

On 9 February in Khadda, Kushinagar, Uttar Pradesh, Pastor Om Prakash visited a Christian family in Kasia. While engaged in prayer, the police were informed of alleged religious conversion, leading to Pastor Om Prakash's detainment at the local Police Station.

On 9 February in Rajupur village, Jaunpur, Uttar Pradesh, Pastor Rajesh Kumar and other Christians, Chanda, Manju, and Indira, interfered in their religious gathering. Religious extremists disrupted their meeting and subsequently informed the police, resulting in the detention of all four individuals at the Machali Sehar police station.

On 10 February in Kushinagar, Uttar Pradesh, Pastor Ramji Khatik and

Jawahar Bharti were taken to Sewardhi Police Station. The Station House Officer (SHO) demanded the production of Pastor Jitendra Khatik as he was engaged in propagating his Christian faith. The SHO threatened that if the pastors did not comply then the pastor would be imprisoned. Subsequently, Pastor Ramji was booked under sections 151, 107, and 116 of the CrPC.

On 12 February in Badlapur, Jaunpur district, Uttar Pradesh, Pastor Dinesh Maurya from a prayer meeting in his house church. A group of religious extremists disrupted the gathering, accusing Pastor Dinesh of religious conversion. Subsequently, the police were notified and detained Pastor Dinesh along with five other Christians taking them to the Badlapur police station. Later, the Christians were charged under sections 151, 107, and 116 of the CrPC.

On 13 February in Bodana, Tutibaari, Maharajganj, Uttar Pradesh, Ajay and other Christians visited a family for a prayer meeting. During the prayer session, a group of religious extremists filed a complaint against Ajay and another Christian, accusing them of luring individuals through religious conversion. Subsequently, the police charged Ajay and the others under the

Uttar Pradesh Prohibition of Unlawful Conversion of Religion Act.

On 14 February in Afzalgarh, Bijnor, Uttar Pradesh, Pastor Fauja Singh was conducting a prayer meeting at his residence when the police arrived and, without any prior notice, detained Pastor Fauja Singh and escorted him to the police station.

On 16 February in Munshiganj, Rae Bareilly, Uttar Pradesh, Ashok Kumar was summoned by the police officer for an inquiry regarding allegations of religious conversion, sources of funds, and individuals involved.

On 19 February in Siddharthnagar, Uttar Pradesh, Pastor Satyendra Vishwakarma of Himalayan Mission Church, was conducting his prayer meeting in his church when a group of religious extremists attacked the church and physically assaulted him and other attendees. Despite the Christians' attempts to call the police, they did not take any action against the perpetrators.

On 19 February in Bansdih, Ballia, Uttar Pradesh, Pastor Bablu of New Life League Church, was at his home when the police arrived and detained him on the pretext of religious conversion. He was

subsequently taken to the Basdih police station for further action.

On 19 February in Civil Lines, Moradabad, Uttar Pradesh, Pastor Naubar Singh of AG Church, during a Sunday worship service at his home, was arrested on the false accusation of religious conversion. He was taken to the Civil Lines police station and charged under sections 151, 107, and 116 of the CrPC.

On 19 February in the village Parampit, Maharajganj, Uttar Pradesh, Ramakant was on his way after attending the Sunday service when suddenly the police arrived and detained Pastor Ramakant at Nichaiaul police station for two days on the false allegation of religious conversion.

On 20 February in Ugapur thana Kunda, Pratnagarh, Uttar Pradesh, Pastor Indranarayan was detained by the police during a prayer meeting at his home. This incident occurred after he was warned by the police not to conduct any prayer services in his home two months prior.

On 20 February in Kariya village, Jaunpur, Uttar Pradesh, Pastor Sunny Kumar Gautam, accompanied by Sanjay Dutt Rao, convened a prayer meeting at a Christian's residence.

Unfortunately, during the gathering, a neighbour reported a purported case of religious conversion to the local authorities. Subsequently, the police intervened and apprehended both Sanjay and Pastor Sunny under the provisions of the Uttar Pradesh Prohibition of Unlawful Conversion of Religion Act, 2021.

On 20 February in Kanpur, Uttar Pradesh, Pastor Jitendra informed that he runs a children's home and has been taking care of five children. He mentioned that one of his neighbours had been keeping an eye on him and the children for the past six months. However, on 20 February, when Pastor Jitendra was not present at home, the neighbour called the police and falsely informed them and complained that the Pastor had been converting the Children to Christianity while also subjecting them to physical abuse.

On 20 February in the village of Alipur, Hasanpur, Amroh, Uttar Pradesh, Lovely Gautam along with some acquaintances, went to his relative's house for prayer during a birthday party. However, after the party ended, a group of religious extremists, along with the police, arrived and informed them that a complaint had been lodged against them at the police station for religious

conversion. The group began to speak very rudely and made false allegations against them, accusing them of converting others to Christianity. They took Lovely's elder brother Lokesh and a relative to the police station, where they beat Lokesh and made offensive remarks about Jesus Christ, which deeply hurt their sentiments. When they protested, the group threatened to implicate them in a false case related to conversion or other severe crimes. Pastor Mahkar Singh, Brother Lokesh, and Hukum Singh were charged under the Uttar Pradesh Prohibition of Unlawful Conversion of Religion Act, 2021.

On 22 February in Haidergarh in the Barabanki district of Uttar Pradesh, Pastor Jitendra was conducting a prayer meeting at a Christian's residence. However, someone falsely reported to the police about alleged religious conversion activities. Consequently, Pastor Jitendra, along with other Christians named Shiva, Akash, Mamta, and Santosh, was taken into custody at the Haidergarh police station. Later a case was registered under sections of the Uttar Pradesh Prohibition of Unlawful Conversion of Religion Act, 2021.

On 22 February in Manjanpur, Kaushambi, Uttar Pradesh, Pastor Lalith Kumar Saroj during a prayer meeting at

his house church, was arrested by the police on charges of religious conversion, based on false allegations made by a group of religious extremists. The pastor was later sent to judicial custody.

On 23 February in Bhaulia village, Badalapur, Badalapur Police Station, Jaunpur, Uttar Pradesh, Pastor Sujit Yadav was conducting prayers at the residence of one of his Christian's houses when a group of religious extremists came and physically assaulted the members present there. Later, the police were informed, and they detained Pastor and two other members at Badalapur Police Station. Pastor was charged under 151, 107, and 116 CrPc.

On 24 February in the village Kanar, Ghazipur visited Kushinagar, Uttar Pradesh, Pastor Ishan Yadav was visiting a fellow Christian's house for Bible study and prayer when a member of a religious extremist group falsely informed the police about religious conversion activity. The police subsequently detained Pastor Ishan Yadav and took him to Hata Police Station in Kushinagar.

On 24 February in Khetasarai, Jaunpur, Uttar Pradesh, Pastor Basudev experienced a police raid at his house

based on a false accusation of religious conversion. However, the Pastor was not present in his house during the raid. Later, he was called to the police station for an inquiry.

On 26 February in Kanavni, Ghaziabad, Uttar Pradesh, Pastor John Santosh was conducting a prayer meeting at his house when a group of religious extremists forcefully entered their house and disrupted their prayer meeting. The police were called by the extremists, and they detained the Pastor and his wife at the Indrapuram police station. Furthermore, a first information report was registered against the Christians.

On 26 February in Raunapar village, Azamgarh district, Uttar Pradesh, Pastor Pannalal was conducting a prayer service at his house when a group of religious extremists forcefully interrupted their service. The police were informed and subsequently detained 8 individuals at the Raunapar Police Station. Subsequently, a first information report was registered under the sections of the Uttar Pradesh Prohibition of Unlawful Conversion of Religion Act, 2021.

On 26 February in village Amari, Pratapgarh, Uttar Pradesh, Pastor Ramkumar's church was the target of an attack by a group of religious extremists,

along with members of the media and the police. The attackers disrupted a prayer service being held at the church, although the Pastor was not present at the time. Following the incident, the Pastor's son and 2 other Christians were charged under sections 151 and 106 of the CrPC by the local police.

On 27 February in Kanavni, Ghaziabad, Uttar Pradesh, Ramniwas was subjected to threats and confrontation by a group of religious extremists. They demanded that Ramniwas act as a witness against a pastor named Santosh, who had been arrested two days earlier on false charges of enticing individuals to convert to his religion. Upon Ramniwas' refusal to comply with their demands, they engaged in a heated argument and proceeded to summon the police. Consequently, Ramniwas and his son were detained at the police station.

On 4 March in Surajpur village, Mau district, Uttar Pradesh, Pastor Manoj Gupta was conducting a prayer meeting at his house Church when police came and arrested Pastor Manoj Gupta and his son Pastor Aryan Gupta. The police acted on a complaint filed by a religious extremist group, accusing them of religious conversion. The pastors have been charged under sections 3 and 5 of the Uttar Pradesh

Prohibition of Unlawful Conversion of Religion Act.

On 4 March in Shyam Nagar 56, Kanpur, Uttar Pradesh, during a prayer service at George's house, a group of approximately 20 religious extremists, accompanied by a police team, arrived and arrested Pastor Rajat, Rana, Abhijeet, Sheetal, Jeevan, and Shivraj on charges related to religious conversion. They were taken into custody at Ramadevi Chakeri Police Station. Subsequently, the police filed a First Information Report (FIR) against Rajat, Abhijit, Jeevan, Shivansh, Sheetal Jabin, Ranaji, and other unidentified individuals under section 295(A) of the IPC.

On 5 March in Maryadpur, Mau, Uttar Pradesh, Pastor Parbhansh was conducting a prayer meeting at his home church when a group of religious extremists, accompanied by the police, arrived. Falsely accusing the pastor of religious conversion, they instructed him to halt all prayer meetings and remove any Christian religious materials from the church. After issuing their warning, the police left the premises.

On 5 March in Shiv Katra, Lal Bangla, Chakeri Thana, Kanpur, Uttar Pradesh, Pastor Vijay Merrill from the Hind Masih

Mandali was conducting a prayer meeting at his church. During the gathering, a group of religious extremists, accompanied by the police, arrived. They falsely accused the pastor of religious conversion and subsequently detained Pastor Vijay Merrill and other members, namely Sanjay Lal and Monty Singh, taking them into custody at Chakeri Police Station.

On 5 March in Village Gopalpur, Thana Rasra, Ballia, Uttar Pradesh, Pastor Sipahi was hosting a prayer meeting in his residence when an individual from the village provided false information regarding religious conversion. Consequently, the police arrived and apprehended the pastor, taking him to Rasra police station.

On 5 March in Badora Khurd village, Azamgarh, Uttar Pradesh, Pastor Pramod was conducting Sunday service in his Church. However, during the service, the police arrived and disrupted the proceedings, subsequently arresting the pastor's wife, Sarita, and a member of the church named Sachin. The two individuals were taken into custody at the Jahanaganj police station.

On 5 March in Adilabad Village, Raebareli, Uttar Pradesh, Pastor Ram

Ratan was conducting a prayer meeting at his house when someone from the village informed the police of religious conversion. Subsequently, police came and detained the Pastor and a Christian named Suraj into police custody. Later they were charged under 151 Crpc.

On 12 March in village Nagariya, Post Haripur, Faizabad, Uttar Pradesh, while Pastor Jyoti Prasad was conducting the service, a group of religious extremists came and disrupted the worship and falsely accused the pastor of religious conversion and called the Police, who came and detained Pastor Jyoti Prasad and 2 others into custody in Cantt Police Station.

On 16 March in Maharajganj, Uttar Pradesh, Pastor Amarnath informed that he was repeatedly being summoned for inquiry on Religious conversion. The previous year, he had constructed a new house and organized a small gathering to inaugurate it on November 27, 2022. He had invited several people and a few of them were on their way when a boy from the village called the police and falsely claimed that a large prayer gathering was going to take place in the house to convert people. Consequently, the police arrived, took Pastor Amarnath to the police station, and charged him under CRPC sections 151, 107, and 116.

On 19 March in Kushinagar District, Uttar Pradesh, Pastor Narmada Prasad was leading a prayer gathering with other Christians in his home when a group of religious extremists barged in and disrupted the meeting. The extremists then summoned the police, who apprehended the pastor and 4 others namely Ajay Kumar, Kaushaliya Devi, Santraj Prasad, and Vijay Kumar to the police station under sections 151, 107, and 116 of the CrPc. Later, an FIR under sections 505(2), 504, and 506 of the IPC was registered against them.

On 19 March in Mathura, Uttar Pradesh, Pastor Jaswant, was conducting a prayer meeting at his house when police came from Raya Police Station and disrupted the prayer meeting and detained Pastor along with 2 other individuals at the police station.

On 23 April in Unnao, Uttar Pradesh, Pastor Rahul was conducting a prayer meeting when a group of police constables arrived and recorded a video of the premises. They instructed the attendees not to hold any further worship services and asked Pastor Rahul to appear at the police station the following day.

On 19 March in Rota Road, Kankerkheda, Meerut, Uttar Pradesh, Pastor Jacob was

conducting a prayer meeting with approximately fellow Christians at his residence. During the meeting, a group of religious extremists accompanied by the police entered the premises and disrupted the gathering. The group accused Jacob of engaging in religious conversion activities. Subsequently, the police filed a First Information Report against three individuals, including Pastor Jacob, Kuarpal, and Johnson, under sections 3 and 5(1) of the Uttar Pradesh Prohibition of Unlawful Conversion of Religion Act, 2021.

On 19 March in Khorabar, Gorakhpur, Uttar Pradesh, Pastor Sanjay Kanojia was conducting Sunday service at his house when a group of approximately 15 to 20 religious extremists accompanied by a police team arrived and arrested him. He was taken to the Khorabar Police Station in Gorakhpur and charged under the Uttar Pradesh Prohibition of Unlawful Conversion of Religion Act, 2021.

On 19 March in Chunar, Mirzapur, Uttar Pradesh, Pastor Prabhu Narayan was attacked by a group of religious extremists while he was on his way back from the church. They dragged him back to the church and subjected him to severe physical assault. The attackers also demanded that he shout “non-Christian religious slogans” or else they

would kill him. Eventually, the police were called, and they took the pastor and 2 other Christians named Vishal and Rajkumar into custody at Chunar Thana.

On 21 March in Bindganj, Lalganj, Raibareli, Uttar Pradesh, Ramvilas visited a Christian's house for a prayer meeting along with other Christians, and while they were praying a group of religious extremists came and accused them of religious conversion and called the police who came and arrested Ramvilas along with 5 others namely Sanju, Anita, Suraj, Roshani and Suwasha.

On 21 March in Panki, Kanpur, Uttar Pradesh, Pastor Ashwani Singh from ABC Church, was conducting a prayer meeting along with other Christians when a group of religious extremists accompanied by the police arrived and apprehended the Pastor and three other prayer attendees. They were taken to Panki Police Station in Kanpur.

On 23 March in Hardoi, Uttar Pradesh, Pastor Ashish Kumar was accused by a group of religious extremists of alluring people for religious conversion. The police were informed, and they arrested the pastor under sections 3 and 5 of the Uttar Pradesh Prohibition of Unlawful Conversion of Religion Act, 2021.

On 23 March in village Sareni, Raebareli, Uttar Pradesh, Pastor Ramnaresh was at his home when he was summoned by the police to the station along with all the church documents for an inquiry related to the religious conversion aspect on account of his professing and propagating his Christian faith.

On 25 March in Saheb Nagar, Kalyanpur, Kanpur, Uttar Pradesh, Sunil Kumar, an auto driver was taken into police custody from his home on the basis of a false complaint made by another auto driver accusing him of converting his religion.

On 26 March in Sitapur, Uttar Pradesh, Devender Dutt was conducting a prayer meeting at his house when a group of religious extremists barged in and disrupted the gathering. They informed the police, who arrived and detained Devender Dutt, Abhishek, and another Christian under sections 151, 107, and 116 CrPC at Sudhauli police station.

On 26 March in Kalwari, Basti, Uttar Pradesh, Pastor Amose along with other Christians were holding a prayer meeting at his house when police came and detained Pastor Amose, Pastor Narendra, and 2 other Christians under section 151 of the CrPC.

On 26 March in Bhadokhar, Raebareli, Uttar Pradesh, Pastor Harishchandra of the AG Church was leading a prayer meeting with other Christians when a group of religious extremists, accompanied by the police, arrived and detained Pastor Harishchandra and Pastor Awadesh Kumar. They were taken to the Bhadokhar Police Station.

On 26 March in Gorakhpur, Uttar Pradesh, Pastor Rajman was performing a baptism ceremony when someone filmed the event and reported it to the police. The police subsequently detained Pastor Rajman and two other individuals under sections 151, 107, and 116 of the Criminal Procedure Code.

On 30 March in Kasya, Khusinagar, Uttar Pradesh, Pastor Vivek Chauhan attended a prayer meeting at a Christians's home. While they were praying, a neighbour of the Christians falsely accused the pastor of engaging in religious conversion and informed the other villagers. The villagers physically attacked the Christians present at the prayer meeting, and the police were called to the scene. The police detained Pastor Vivek, as well as two other individuals named Suresh and Pastor Rajesh, at the Kasya police station. Later, the Police booked Pastor Vivek, Rajesh, and Suresh under Crpc 151,107,116 at

Kashya police station.

On 2 April in Varanasi, Uttar Pradesh, Pastor Deepak Jaiswal was leading a prayer gathering of Christians in his house church during a Sunday prayer meeting. However, the police arrived and arrested the pastor on charges of religious conversion, falsely filed against him by a religious extremist group. The pastor was taken to the police station for further questioning.

On 2 April in Meethapur, Raebareli district, Uttar Pradesh, Pastor Rajesh of ABC church, was conducting a prayer meeting along with a few other members at his church when suddenly the police arrived and detained Pastor Rakesh Kumar and Rajesh Kumar along with 6 others, which include 4 women, into custody.

On 2 April in Ghazipur, Uttar Pradesh, Pastor Vipin of ABC church, was conducting a Sunday prayer meeting with some Christians when police took Pastor and one other Christian into custody and took them to the police station.

On 2 April in Jamdaha village Narvari, Azamgarh, Uttar Pradesh, Ram Bachan Bind's son Babloo visited the village to attend a prayer meeting. While Babloo

and others were praying at a Christian's house, the police arrived and took Babloo into custody on the basis of a false accusation of religious conversion made by a religious extremist group.

On 2 April in Lakhimpur Kheri, Uttar Pradesh, Pastor Rakesh Pal was leading a Sunday prayer meeting when the police arrived and interrupted the prayer. They then took Pastor Pal to the Mailani police station and cautioned him against conducting any more prayers from the following Sunday onwards.

On 3 April in Hardoi, Uttar Pradesh, Pastor Sanjeev was taken into custody by the police without any prior notice early in the morning from his residence on account of his professing and propagating his faith. The police interrogated him about the funding of his church and the false allegations of him engaging in religious conversions.

On 9 April in Machali Sehar, Jaunpur, Uttar Pradesh, Pastor Gokul was conducting an Easter prayer service at his church when the prayer was interrupted by a police force consisting of two vehicles. The officers stopped the prayer meeting and pressured both the pastor and Christians to accompany them to the police station.

On 9 April in Hetimpur, Kushinagar, Uttar Pradesh, Pastor Rakesh of Victory Church of India, was conducting an Easter prayer service when police came and detained Pastor and his sister Rani at the police station. Later, the police charged 151,107,116 CrPc on them.

On 16 April in Bogna Gram Sabha, Ghazipur district, Uttar Pradesh, Pastor Rammilan Rajbhar of IPC church, was conducting a prayer meeting along with other Christians and was taken into custody by the police along with two other Christians, Shyam Narayan and Angesh Kumar.

On 20 April in Sitapur, Uttar Pradesh, Pastor Rampal was conducting a prayer meeting when a group of religious extremists falsely informed police of religious conversion, and police, on false accusations, detained Pastor and his wife Guddi under the Uttar Pradesh Prohibition of Unlawful Conversion of Religion Act.

On 23 April in Unnao, Uttar Pradesh, Pastor Rahul was conducting a prayer meeting when a group of police constables arrived and recorded a video of the premises. They instructed the attendees not to hold any further worship gatherings and asked Pastor Rahul to appear at the police station the

following day.

On 23 April in Qasimabad, Ghazipur, Uttar Pradesh, Pastor Kirubendra of India Mission Missionary was leading the Church service when police along with the religious extremist group came and disrupted the prayer service and on false accusation of religious conversion arrested the Pastor along with his wife Manju and their 1.5-years old child and two other Christians, namely Tribhuvan Kumar and Sanjay Kumar under sections 295-A, 504, 506, of the IPC and sections 3 and 5 (1) of the Uttar Pradesh Prohibition of Unlawful Conversion of Religion Act.

On 27 April in Jaunpur, Uttar Pradesh, Pastor Rampal Chauhan, along with other Christians, was conducting a prayer meeting when police came on the false complaint of religious conversion and took Pastor Rampal Poonam and a few other Christians into police custody.

On 7 May in Kuchahera village, Mau, Uttar Pradesh, Pastor Ramjiyan Rajbhar was conducting a prayer meeting along with 50-60 other Christians when a group of religious extremists barged inside their house and threatened to stop the prayer meeting and falsely accused the pastor of religious

conversion. Thereafter, they called the police who came and arrested Pastor, his son, Lalaji Rajbhar, Shambu Kumar at the police station and booked them with 4 unknowns under sections 147, 504, and 506, of the IPC and 3 and 5 of the Uttar Pradesh Prohibition of Unlawful Conversion of Religion Act.

On 7 May in Bhujauli village, Khadda PS, Kushinagar district, Uttar Pradesh, Pastor Ajit Sharma was conducting a prayer meeting along with a few other Christians when a religious extremist group falsely informed the police of religious conversion. The police came and detained Pastor along with two other women, namely Geeta Chauhan and Savita Devi, taking them to Khadda police station. The police released the two women later on the same day but filed an FIR against Pastor Ajit Sharma under the Uttar Pradesh Prohibition of Unlawful Conversion of Religion Act.

On 7 May in Giridhapur village, Gorakhpur, Uttar Pradesh, Pastor Subhash Rana was conducting a prayer meeting along with his fellow Christians when a group of religious extremists disrupted the meeting. They baselessly alleged religious conversion and forcibly took him to the police station, pressuring the police to register a first information report under the Uttar Pradesh

Prohibition of Unlawful Conversion of Religion Act.

On 07 May in Bareilly district, Uttar Pradesh, Ashish Masi, the son of Pastor Jalal Masi, was arrested by the police from his home. He was falsely accused of religious conversion and booked under the Uttar Pradesh Prohibition of Unlawful Conversion of Religion Act with sections 3/5 (1) and sections 506, 354 of the Indian Penal Code (IPC).

On 8 May in Kevra Khurd village, Fatenhpur, Pratapgarh, Uttar Pradesh, Kalyan Singh and his father, Ram Achal were falsely accused of carrying out a forceful religious conversion on account of Christian faith. Later, the police detained Kalyan from his home and demanded his absent father visit the police station, threatening to file a case of religious conversion against Kalyan if he didn't comply.

On 08 May at Anpara Colony, Sonbhadra, Uttar Pradesh, Pastor Prabhakar Paul conducted a prayer meeting. One of his neighbours complained to the police that some religious conversion was going on, so the police took him into custody. Prabhakar Paul and his two confidants have been kept in Anpara police station, district Sonbhadra.

On 13 May in Khoda Village, Ghaziabad, Uttar Pradesh, Pastor Abraham Thomas along with his wife Reeba, visited one of their fellow Christian's residences, named Babita. She operates a beauty parlour in the area where they held a prayer meeting. During their prayer session, a neighbour made a false complaint of religious conversion, prompting the police to intervene. Subsequently, Pastor Abraham Thomas, his wife Reeba, and another female Christian named Babita were charged under the Uttar Pradesh Prohibition of Unlawful Conversion of Religion Act.

On 13 May in Sijaili village in Bahraich district of Uttar Pradesh, a prayer meeting was being held when someone gave wrong information about conversion, and the police immediately came there. Pastor Sechu Prasad and two more Christians were taken into police custody.

On 14 May in Sarai Gunja, Badlapur, Junpur, Uttar Pradesh, Anita Rajak was having a prayer meeting at her house when extremist elements people barged in and started vandalizing the furniture and other items. They physically assaulted people who were present at that time at her home and took away her money.

20 May in Belbhariya Gram, Kamrikala Mahrajganj, Chowk Bazar, Uttar Pradesh, Pastor Jitendra Kumar experienced an incident during a prayer session at a brother's place. Some individuals affiliated with an extremist group arrived, verbally abused the Christian prayer attendees, and confronted Pastor Jitendar. Subsequently, the police were informed, and a complaint was lodged, alleging religious conversion activities. On the spot, the police detained Jitendra and his brother, taking them to the police station.

On 20 May in Katra, Unnao, Uttar Pradesh, Pastor Ganga Prasad and his son Niraj were conducting a prayer meeting. During the prayer, four individuals from an extremist group arrived and began verbally abusing the church members and the pastor.

On 22 May in Khutehna Gram, Siddharth Nagar, Uttar Pradesh, Santu Ram received a phone call from the police, requesting his appearance at the police station for an inquiry. The reason behind this summons was a complaint lodged by a religious extremist group, falsely accusing Santu Ram of engaging in religious conversion activities.

On 28 May in Kachwa bazar, Mirzapur, Uttar Pradesh, when Pastor Ajay was

going to start a prayer meeting, the local police came and took him to the police station, stating that he was accused of religious conversion.

On 31 May in Shahdih village, Azamgarh, Uttar Pradesh, Anita wife of Balmukund was falsely accused by Manti Devi of disrupting their religious ceremony and using abusive language towards their Hindu Gods. Manti Devi further accused Anita of attempting to lure attendees into religious conversion. Subsequently, a religious extremist group and Manti Devi filed a complaint against seven individuals, including Dharmadev's wife Bindu, Balmukund's wife Anita, Brahmadev's wife Saroj, Keshbhan's son Surendra, Devendra, and Nanhu. The police are currently investigating the case, and they have been charged under 295(A) of IPC.

On 31 May in Chapra, Muzaffarnagar, Uttar Pradesh, Pastor Abhishek conducted a prayer meeting in the area and was called by the police for an inquiry and later was booked under 151, 107, and 116 of the CrPC on the false complaint of religious conversion.

On 1 June in Amethi, Uttar Pradesh, Kuldeep was contacted by police personnel and requested to share information about his church, prayer

activities, and funding.

On 1 June in Nizampurwa village near Yakubpur village, Kanoj, a Christian prayer meeting was going on. However, someone made a false complaint to the police and 3 Christian leaders, Jaganth, Mahesh Pratap, and Rajesh, were taken into police custody.

On 4 June in Chhapar village, Muzaffarnagar, Uttar Pradesh, Pastor Abhishek was arrested by police on account of his Christian faith and for propagating his faith.

On 4 June in Rajvari village, Varanasi, Uttar Pradesh, some extremist elements disrupted a prayer meeting being led by Pastor Somnath. The extremists falsely accused the pastor of religious conversion.

On 4 June in Nanpara, Behraich, Uttar Pradesh, Pastor Anil Shekhar was conducting a prayer meeting. However, someone made a false complaint saying that the pastor was involved in conversion activity. Local police came and took the pastor and his associate into custody.

On 5 June in Ambedkar Nagar, Uttar Pradesh, Pastor Daya Ram had a police officer visiting his home. The police

personnel relayed a message to the pastor that he needed to be present at the police station for questioning.

On 5 June in Hardoi, Uttar Pradesh, Pastor Sanjay received an unanticipated visit from the police. They informed him that conducting gatherings without obtaining permission from the Sub-Divisional Magistrate was prohibited. The police advised him to consider obtaining the necessary permission. In response, Pastor Sanjay complied and wrote a letter, highlighting his need for security and the challenges arising from people's lack of cooperation. He submitted the letter with hopes of a favourable resolution. However, both the police and the SDM continued to dissuade him from conducting prayer meetings.

On 7 June in Darabganj village, Ayodhya, Uttar Pradesh, Pastor Surya Pal was conducting a prayer meeting along with his congregation. Suddenly, the police came and stopped the prayer meeting. Pastor along with 40 others was brought to the Bikapur police station.

On 8 June in Kusahi village, Chandauli, Uttar Pradesh, Pastor Devanand was falsely accused of carrying out religious conversion by a woman's father-in-law.

This woman has been attending the church where Pastor Devanand preaches, and she has been coming there out of her free will.

On 11 June in Namalum Sungadi, Pilibhit, Uttar Pradesh, Pastor Krishna Kumar and his son were taken into police custody on the false allegation of religious conversion. Subsequently, a first information report was registered under the Uttar Pradesh Prohibition of Unlawful Conversion of Religion Act.

On 11 June in Maharajganj, Uttar Pradesh, Pastor Raj Kishore was conducting a Sunday prayer meeting. However, someone made a false complaint of religious conversion against the pastor. Local police came and took the pastor to the police station. Later, the pastor was released from SDM's court.

On 14 June in Sursa, Hardoi, Uttar Pradesh, Pastor Raja and 3 other Christians were falsely booked for carrying out religious conversion work.

On 15 June in Mainpuri village, Chandauli, Uttar Pradesh, Pastor Hakim Singh and two others were taken into police custody for conducting a prayer meeting. Police were given a false complaint of religious conversion.

On 18 June in Fatehpur, Uttar Pradesh, Pastor Jamuna Prasad from the Dhatu Police Station area, was leading the Sunday prayer meeting when a sudden police intervention occurred. The police arrested Pastor Jamuna Prasad and two other Christians based on a false complaint filed by a religious extremist group, accusing them of religious conversion. They were subsequently taken to the Police Station and were charged under the Uttar Pradesh Prohibition of Unlawful Conversion of Religion Act.

On 18 June in Hardoi, Uttar Pradesh, Pastor Manoj Kumar was conducting a prayer meeting. However, some extremist elements came and disrupted the prayer.

On 18 June in Kotiya village, Kaushambhi, Uttar Pradesh, Pastor Jagjeevan Lal was conducting a prayer meeting. However, local police came and brought him to the police station.

On 18 June in Kushinagar, Uttar Pradesh, Pastor Dinesh Gupta was conducting a prayer meeting at his church. However, some people made a false complaint of religious conversion against him. Police arrived and took the pastor and a few others to the Kotwali police station Padrauna.

On 18 June in Azamgarh, Uttar Pradesh, Pastor Sanjay Mathew was contacted by the police from Jahanabad station and warned him not to have a prayer meeting.

On 18 June in Dulhaniyapur village, Kaushambi, Uttar Pradesh, Pastor Prem Chand Conducted a Sunday prayer meeting. While the prayer was ongoing some police personnel came to him, someone made a false police complaint that religious conversion was happening. police came and took Pastor Prem Chand and a few others to the police station. Later an FIR was registered under the Uttar Pradesh Prohibition of Unlawful Conversion of Religion Act.

On 18 June in Varanasi, Uttar Pradesh, Pastor K J Wilson was conducting a prayer meeting. However, some religious extremists came to him and threatened him to close down the church activities of conducting prayer meetings.

On 18 June in Aira Road, Dadpurwa, Bhadfar Police Station, Sitapur, Uttar Pradesh, Akash Verma's father, Jaisingh, Pastor of Full Gospel Pentecostal Church was leading a Sunday service in the morning. Suddenly, the police arrived and disrupted the peaceful prayer,

using offensive language and making threats to falsely accuse them of conversion. Subsequently, the police took Jaisingh and Akash's younger brother to the police station. Later on, when Suraj Singh, Balvant, Suresh, and Pankaj went to the station to inquire, they were also unlawfully detained by the police.

On 20 June in Azamgarh, Uttar Pradesh, a Christian prayer meeting was taking place at the home of Pintu Srivastava. However, someone from the locality made a false complaint of religious conversion in the pretext of prayer meetings. Pintu and his family expressed their view politely and there was no complaint registered against them.

On 21 June in Samodha village, Lalgunj, Raebareilly, Uttar Pradesh, Pastor Shriram was falsely accused of religious conversion and taken into police custody. The incident happened while the pastor was at his home.

On 21 June in Raebareilly, Uttar Pradesh, Pastor Jyotish visited a fellow Christian's home to pray as his daughter met with an accident. However, somebody made a false complaint of religious conversion. Pastor and other Christians who had accompanied him were brought to the local police station.

On 22 June in Ambedkar Nagar, Uttar Pradesh, Pastor Girja Prasad was taken into police custody on account of his Christian faith and propagation of the same. Subsequently, police charged him the police have charged him under 151,107, and 116 of the CrPC.

On 23 June in Sitapur, Uttar Pradesh, four pastors, namely Pratap Kumar, Santosh Kumar, Ram Chandra, and Sarvesh Kumar, and a woman, Vinita Devi, a social worker, were taken to the police station on account of their faith. They were conducting a prayer meeting at one of their homes.

On 24 June in Kanpur, Uttar Pradesh, Pastor Amit Lal was taken into police custody on account of his Christian faith. The pastor was falsely accused of religious conversion activity.

On 24 June in Sant Kabir Nagar, Uttar Pradesh, Pastor Seet Basant was taken into police custody for conducting a prayer meeting at the residence of a fellow Christian.

On 25 June in Ghazipur, Uttar Pradesh, Pastor Tribhuvan Prasad was falsely accused of religious conversion work by one of his neighbours. Subsequently, police came from Bahariyabad police station.

On 25 June in Sitapur, Uttar Pradesh, Pastor Anuj Kumar was falsely accused of carrying out religious conversion. The pastor was, subsequently, was booked under sections 3 and 5 of the Uttar Pradesh Prohibition of Unlawful Conversion of Religion Act.

On 26 June in Mau, Uttar Pradesh, Pastor Vijay Vishwakarma was conducting a prayer meeting. Soon police from Madhuban station came and brought Pastor Ajay to the police station. Subsequently, the pastor was booked 151,107, and 116 of the CrPC.

On 26 June in Ramkot village, Sitapur, Uttar Pradesh, Pastor Ranveer from Hardoi along with 2 Christians. Pastor Ranveer, who is from Hardoi and is serving was conducting a prayer meeting at a Christian's house when the police came and arrested Pastor along with 2 other new Christians. Later, they were sent to Jail.

On 26 June in Ahirauli village, Mau, Uttar Pradesh, Pastor Rajnikanth and Pastor Harivansh Kumar were falsely accused of religious conversion. Subsequently, they were booked under Uttar Pradesh's Unlawful Conversion Act.

On 29 June in Narwari, Azamgarh, Uttar Pradesh, Pastor Poonam was

conducting a prayer meeting. However, religious extremists opposed the ongoing prayer and made a false complaint to the police about religious conversion.

On 29 June in Kodar Dharai, Raibareli, Uttar Pradesh, Kamla Devi's house had a prayer meeting going on. Suddenly, religious extremists barged in with bamboo sticks and physically assaulted people gathered for prayer.

On 1 July in Sampoorannagar, Lakhimpur Khiri, Uttar Pradesh, Pastor Ranjit and Pastor Bahadur Rana faced false accusations of carrying out religious conversion. The police registered a first information report under sections 3 and 5(1) of the Uttar Pradesh Prohibition of Unlawful Conversion of Religion Act, 2021. On 8 July, the pastors were served notice under 41A.

On 3 July in Sitapur District, Uttar Pradesh, Pastor Vedram leading a prayer service, faced false accusations of religious conversion, leading to the detention of Pastor Vedram, Radhey Shyam, and Jagdish.

On 7 July in Jethwara village, Pratapgarh District, Uttar Pradesh, Pastor Govind Prajapati was arrested by the Jethwara Police on false charges of religious

conversion.

On 7 July in Udranpur, Ambedkar Nagar district, Uttar Pradesh, Pastor Gayadeen and others conducting a prayer meeting were detained on false charges of religious conversion under the Uttar Pradesh Prohibition of Unlawful Conversion of Religion Act with sections 3 and 5(1).

On 7 July in Rampur Bheriyani Village, Lakshamanpur Block, Pratapgarh District, Uttar Pradesh, Pastor Rakesh Singh while praying at one of his fellow Christian's houses, a religious extremist group suddenly arrived and disrupted their prayer meeting and physically assaulted him.

On 9 July in Nanpara, Baharaich, Uttar Pradesh, Pastor Babu Ram was conducting a prayer meeting at his house. During the gathering, a group of religious extremists forcibly entered the premises and disrupted the peaceful prayer meeting. Subsequently, the extremists lodged a false complaint with the local police, accusing Pastor Babu Ram of engaging in religious conversion activities within his house. Responding to the complaint, the police arrived at the scene and arrested Pastor Babu Ram and ten other Christians who were present at the prayer meeting. The

authorities cited sections 151, 107, and 116 of the Criminal Procedure Code (CrPc) as the basis for the arrests.

On 9 July in Azamgarh District, Uttar Pradesh, Kusum along with other Christian women was praying in a fellow Christian's house when someone from the village gave false information to police of religious conversion by alluring other poor women living in the area. Later police came and arrested 5 women namely Kusum, Sangeeta, Sonvarsha, Asha and Lakshmi. Police filed an FIR under sections 295A and 505(2) IPC and sections 3 and 5(1) of the Uttar Pradesh Prohibition of Unlawful Conversion of Religion Act against them.

On 13 July in Mehepurwa, Bahraich, Uttar Pradesh, Radheshyam Diwakar conducted a prayer meeting with other Christians when the police arrived based on a false complaint of religious conversion. As a result, Pastor Radheshyam Diwakar and around 8 Christians were arrested and sent to jail in Bahraich district.

On 16 July in Sareni, Raebareli, Uttar Pradesh, Pastor Ramnaresh was conducting a prayer meeting at his residence when the police summoned him based on a false complaint made by a religious extremist group. Upon

arriving at Thana Sareni along with some church members, Pastor Ramnaresh was immediately taken into police custody, and the others were driven away using offensive language. He was charged under sections 151, 107, and 116 of the CrPC. However, he secured bail from the SDM Court.

On 16 July in Gorakhpur, Uttar Pradesh, Pastor Krishna was conducting a prayer service when the police arrived, stopped the service, and took the pastor to the police station for questioning.

On 16 July in Barabanki, Uttar Pradesh, Bajrang Rawat and his family near the Railway line were falsely accused of religious conversion. The police received the complaint and registered a first information report against Bajrang Rawat and his family under the Uttar Pradesh Prohibition of Unlawful Conversion of Religion Act, leading to Bajrang Rawat's arrest.

On 18 July in Pratapgarh, Uttar Pradesh, Pastor Victor Das was leading a prayer gathering at his residence when the police arrived. The police had received false information regarding alleged religious conversion activities, resulting in the arrest of the pastor under the provisions of Anti Conversion Act 3/5.

On 23 July in Sareni village, Raibareli, Uttar Pradesh, Pastor Ramnaresh was summoned by the police, along with all church documents, for an inquiry related to religious conversion.

On 23 July in Mirzapur district, Uttar Pradesh, Pastor Laxman's Sunday prayer meeting was interrupted by the local police who stopped the gathering and took the pastor to the police station.

On 23 July in Jamaniya, Ghazipur, Uttar Pradesh, Pastor Vinod Kumar faced interference during a Sunday worship. Religious extremists forcibly entered the church, assaulted Christians, and called the police, resulting in Pastor Vinod Kumar and six others being taken to the police station and charged under various sections.

On 23 July in Maharajganj, Uttar Pradesh, Pastor Raj kishore was leading a prayer meeting at his house when a religious extremist faction provided misleading details to the police about alleged religious conversions. Consequently, Pastor Raj kishore and two worshipers were apprehended.

On 23 July in Sahzapur, Modinagar village, Ghaziabad, Uttar Pradesh, Rohit and his mother, Kusum, held a prayer gathering where Pastor Mahendra and

his wife joined. A complaint was lodged against them by a religious extremist group member, falsely accusing them of attempting religious conversion. Police took Pastor Mahendra and his wife to the police station for questioning and subsequently arrested them.

On 28 July in Shivpur, Varanasi, Uttar Pradesh, a false complaint was submitted against Anand Masih accusing him of carrying out religious conversion activity.

On 29 July in Premnagar, Jhansi, Uttar Pradesh, Santosh organized a prayer meeting at his residence. However, religious extremists disrupted the prayer meeting, and the police arrested Pastor Abhishek Kumar and others under the Uttar Pradesh Prohibition of Unlawful Conversion of Religion Act.

On 30 July in Gurma Mariadpur village, Mau, Uttar Pradesh, Harivansh Kumar had police and extremist elements reach his residence on account of his faith. Police from Madhuban Chowki Rampur police station took four people to the police station.

On 30 July in Maharajganj, Uttar Pradesh, Pastor Sailesh Viswakarma was conducting a prayer meeting at his house. However, the prayer was

disrupted by religious extremists and the pastor and Mahesh were detained by police at the police station.

On 30 July in Bhojubeer village, Varanasi, Uttar Pradesh, Pastor Mewalal Bashi was conducting a prayer meeting. However, the prayer was disrupted by religious extremists and police. Pastor Mewalal Bashi and a few Christians were detained.

On 29 July in Cholapur, Varanasi, Uttar Pradesh, Pastor Sunny was conducting a prayer meeting at a Christian's house. However, the prayer gathering was questioned by the police about alleged religious conversion activity. The prayer meeting attendees denied the allegations of conversion.

On 30 July in Agra, Uttar Pradesh, Pastor Sunny was leading a prayer meeting when police came on the false complaint of religious conversion and detained the pastor and other Christians at the police station.

On 30 July in Shankar Bax Purwa village, Sursa Block, Hardoi, Uttar Pradesh, Santaram alias Gudduwas conducting a prayer meeting at his house. However, he was detained by the police who arrived with a group of extremists for conducting prayer at the prayer

meeting.

On 30 July in Haidargarh, Barabanki, Uttar Pradesh, Pastor Harendra Singh was conducting a prayer meeting at his house. However, he was detained along with his wife and 3-year-old son on a complaint of religious conversion. Police later registered a first information report against him.

On 30 July in Bairidih village, Deogaon Police Station, Lalganj, Azamgarh, Uttar Pradesh, Pastor Mahendra Prasad while conducting a prayer meeting, was falsely accused of religious conversion by a group of religious extremists. A police complaint was registered against five individuals, including Pastor Mahendra Prasad.

On 30 July in Balapur Village, Mohammadabad Block, Ghazipur, Uttar Pradesh, Pastor Amarjeet Ram while conducting a prayer meeting, was detained along with 15 other prayer attendees on a false complaint of religious conversion. A police complaint was registered under various sections of the IPC, including the Uttar Pradesh Prohibition of Unlawful Conversion of Religion Act.

On August 5 in Ambedkar Nagar, Uttar Pradesh Sunil Kumar, a follower of Christianity, was arrested under

sections 3 and 5(1) of the Uttar Pradesh Prohibition of Unlawful Conversion of Religion Act and sent to jail.

On 6 Aug in Bhagwanpur village, Kushinagar, Uttar Pradesh, Pastor Chotelal was conducting a prayer meeting at a Christian's house when police arrived on the false information of religious conversion and summoned the Pastor to the police station for questioning.

On 6 August in Pilibhit in Uttar Pradesh, Pastor Ram Kumar along with his family and other Christians was conducting a Sunday worship service when the police, based on a false complaint of religious conversion, registered a first information report under sections 3 and 5 of the Uttar Pradesh Prohibition of Unlawful Conversion of Religion Act.

On 6 August in Pachperwa village, Balrampur, Uttar Pradesh, Madhu Kumar was detained by the police on false accusations of religious conversion.

On 6 August in Kunda, Pratapgarh, Uttar Pradesh, Pastor Mahendra was leading a Sunday worship with fellow Christians when religious extremists, accompanied by the police, falsely accused him of religious conversion. Subsequently, Pastor Mahendra and

others were called to Kunda Police Station for an inquiry.

On 7 August in Mau, Uttar Pradesh, Pastor Kamlesh Kumar was leading a prayer meeting when the local police arrived based on a false complaint of religious conversion. They arrested four people, namely Pastor Kamlesh Kumar, Joginder Kumar, Vishnu Kumar Patel, and Ramker Rajbhar, and filed charges under sections 151, 107, and 116 of the CrPC. On 8 August, a first information report was registered under sections 3 and 5 of the Uttar Pradesh Prohibition of Unlawful Conversion of Religion Act.

On 8 August in Lakhimpur Kheri, Uttar Pradesh, Pastor Janmejy visited the home of a fellow Christian at Gram Maksauha for a prayer meeting. However, their visit drew the attention of a neighbouring individual named Anil Kanojia, who contacted the police and filed a First Information Report. In his report, he accused Pastor Janmejy and another, named Poonam, of engaging in religious conversion under sections 3 and 5(1) of the Uttar Pradesh Prohibition of Unlawful Conversion of Religion Act). Consequently, both the husband and wife were arrested and taken into custody.

On 9 August in Parinda, Maharajganj,

Uttar Pradesh, a prayer meeting was held. After the meeting concluded, Pastor Dharmendra and three other pastors were apprehended and detained by the police at Fernda station.

On 16 August in Hamirpur, Fatehpur, Uttar Pradesh, Upendra was distributing tracts on the road when police, based on incorrect information from religious extremists, arrived and arrested him under sections 3 and 5 of the Uttar Pradesh Prohibition of Unlawful Conversion of Religion Act.

On 10 August in Tehsil Raniganj, Pratapgarh, Uttar Pradesh, Pastor Ram Achal was leading a prayer meeting at his house with fellow Christians when someone from the village filed a false police complaint of religious conversion against Pastor Ram Achal and his entire family. The police summoned the Pastor and his family and imposed sections 151, 107, and 116 of the CrPC on them.

On August 13 in Ayodhya, Uttar Pradesh, the Maharajganj police station arrested Pastor Ghanshyam Maurya from his house for the second time. He has been charged with Section 505 of the Indian Penal Code.

On 9 August in Naubasta Village, Bahraich, Uttar Pradesh, Lalsa Devi along with her family was conducting a prayer

gathering with some friends. Their neighbour, Prem Kumar, filed a police complaint against them, resulting in charges under sections 147, 295A, 298, 504, and 506 of the IPC.

On 9 August in Lakhimpur Kheri, Uttar Pradesh, Pastor Major Pal and his wife were detained by the police at Sharda Nagar Police Station during their prayer meeting. They were falsely accused of alluring the poor for religious conversion, leading to their arrest under the Uttar Pradesh Prohibition of Unlawful Conversion of Religion Act.

On 13 August in Maharajganj, Azamgarh, Uttar Pradesh, on Sunday, sister Anita and her daughter Divya were worshipping in their house with 20 to 25 fellow Christians when the police arrived and took Anita and Divya to the police station at around 1 pm. They were falsely accused of carrying out religious conversion activity by an extremist group.

On 13 August in Bamhour village, Azamgarh district, Uttar Pradesh, a prayer meeting was ongoing for by Rajaram. Suddenly, some people who were opposing the prayer meeting filed a complaint at the police station. The police came to the homes of individuals named Rajaram and Kedarnath, based

on the complaint.

On 15 August in Rajjupur village, Jaunpur, Uttar Pradesh, a prayer meeting at Pastor Mahendra Gautam's churches led to the arrest of 5 members following information from religious extremists claiming religious conversion activities. Subsequently, the police intervened, taking five members to the police station.

On 16 August in Nai Mandi, Muzaffarnagar, Uttar Pradesh, Devendra Kumar along with Sushil Kumar, was conducting a prayer meeting with Christians in a banquet hall. A group of religious extremists provided false information to the police about religious conversion, leading to the arrest of Devendra Kumar and Sushil Kumar under sections 3 and 5 of the Uttar Pradesh Prohibition of Unlawful Conversion of Religion Act.

On 20 August in Kuthaura village, dist Ghazipur, Uttar Pradesh, Pastor Gladwin along with Pastor Yashwant, faced disruption during Sunday service in his house church. The religious extremists called the police on false accusations of religious conversion, leading to the detention of both pastors.

On 20 August in Sidhauna, Ghazipur,

Uttar Pradesh, police arrested Pastor Dhiraj Kumar during a prayer meeting.

On 20 August in Nighasan, Lakhimpur Khiri, Uttar Pradesh, Pastor Ramakant of AG Church faced disruption during Sunday worship. A group of religious extremists threatened the attendees of Sunday worship, demanding the cessation of church activities from the next Sunday.

On 20 August in Maharajganj, Uttar Pradesh, during a morning prayer meeting, about 8-10 individuals associated with an extremist group came to Pastor Santosh Kumar's place and began physically assaulting and beating him. They falsely accused him of forced conversion and lodged a report at the police station. When Pastor Santosh reported the assault to the police, they instead took him to the police station.

On 27 August in Karampur village, Karampur Odihar, next to Ghazipur, Police came to Pastor Chandulal Yadav's church and took one member, Pradeep Yadav (alias Tipu Yadav), and four other Christians into custody.

On 27 August in Hardoi, Uttar Pradesh, Pastor Nand Kishore was taken into police custody while conducting a

worship service.

On 3 September in Nighasan, Lakhimpur Khiri, Uttar Pradesh, extremist elements stood outside the church of Pastor Ramakant.

On 4 September in Vishnupuri Colony, Kanpur Nagar, Uttar Pradesh, Pastor Shobhit, along with fellow Christians, was conducting a prayer gathering. During the gathering, the police arrived based on false information related to a religious extremist group. Pastor Shobhit and another member of the congregation were arrested under sections 3 and 5 of the Uttar Pradesh Prohibition of Unlawful Conversion of Religion Act. Both individuals were subsequently brought to the Nawabganj police station.

On 3 September in Mishrit, Sitapur district, Uttar Pradesh, Pastors Jai Prakash, and Pradeep were conducting a Sunday worship service when the police detained them on false accusations of religious conversion in their prayer meeting.

On 7 September in Mau, Uttar Pradesh, Father Vineet, and several individuals with him were arrested by the Mau Kotwali police and kept in custody.

On 10 September in Ward No. 1, Near Kushal Hospital, Handia, Allahabad, Uttar Pradesh, Pastor Munna Masih from the Indian Evangelical Team was detained by the police during a prayer meeting based on false information about religious conversion.

On 10 September in Saichana Par village, Nandganj Ghazipur, Uttar Pradesh, Pastor Bhim Prakash faced police intervention while conducting a prayer meeting. The police, acting on false information regarding religious conversion, surrounded his house and detained the pastor and other prayer members.

On 10 September in Swarup Nagar, Kanpur, Uttar Pradesh, Pastor Allwyn Joy of Emmanuel Pentecostal Church was taken into custody at the local police station on the false information of religious conversion.

On 10 September in Hardoi, Uttar Pradesh, Pastor Ashwini Kumar was apprehended and taken into police custody. During his Sunday worship, members of members of an extremist group and others disrupted the prayer proceedings, leading to the arrest of the pastor.

On 10 September in Basti, Uttar Pradesh,

some extremist elements came to the church of Pastor Anurag and also brought the police along with them. The Christians went to the police station, where they had a conversation with the police station incharge. He said that they should get permission. For now, they can go and hold a prayer meeting.

On 11 September in Sarnath, Varanasi, Uttar Pradesh, a complaint was lodged against Pastor Mukesh Maurya with the police, and the pastor was threatened to cease the church and prayer activities.

On 11 September in Azamgarh, Uttar Pradesh, Brijesh and Poonam, siblings serving the Lord for a year, faced interference during a prayer meeting at Parmeshwar's house. The police were called, leading to the transfer of the prayer site to Jehanabad police station, village Tisaura Mafi police station, Jahanganj district, Azamgarh.

On 11 September in Jaunpur, Uttar Pradesh, the police visited Pastor Sarvan's home detaining his wife, brother Jitendra Kumar, and their 5-month-old daughter. Pastor Sarvan had recently distributed tracts containing testimonies of Christian faith by Surendra Kumar and Govind Lal. The tracts also included the address of one of them. the police also arrived at their

residence, arresting both of them and taking them to the Kerakat police station.

On 12 September in Swaroop Nagar, Kanpur, Uttar Pradesh, a police complaint was registered against Pastor Anand Edwin under sections 3 and 5(1) of the Uttar Pradesh Prohibition of Unlawful Conversion of Religion Act based on the false complaint of religious conversion by a religious extremist group.

On 13 September in Badlapur, Jaunpur, Uttar Pradesh, Pastor Kunwar Singh Chauhan went to the SSP office today with a complaint, and the SSP made him sit in his office and said that he would send him to jail.

On 13 September in Jaunpur district, Uttar Pradesh, someone had filed a complaint against Pastor Saheb Lal on the Chief Minister's portal, under which he was called to Baksa police station, and was threatened with being sent to jail. The police made him write that he would not hold prayer meetings in any way.

On 13 September in Siddharthnagar district, Uttar Pradesh, Pastor Dayanand, accompanied by his wife and daughter, was apprehended by the police at

Mishraulia police station. The pastor had visited a fellow Christian to offer prayers.

On 14 September in Prayagraj, Uttar Pradesh, three pastors visited the district from Madhya Pradesh, out of which one pastor was from South India. They were praying at a fellow Christian's house when someone complained. The police came and brought them to the police station for questioning.

On 15 September in Barabanki, Uttar Pradesh, a case related to religious conversion was filed against Pastor Siyaram Gautam and two others based on a false allegation.

On 15 September in Sant Kabir Nagar, Uttar Pradesh, a false complaint was made by religious extremists against Christian prayer gatherings. The police took Vijay, a Christian, to the police station, where they also took Pastor Suraj's number from him. Vijay was physically assaulted and warned not to engage in any kind of Christian prayer.

On 17 September in Saidpur, Gazipur, Uttar Pradesh, Pastor Virendra Yadav was conducting a prayer meeting at his Church when a group of 20 religious extremists along with police from Saidpur police station came and disrupted the prayer meeting and

detained 3 people along with them. Later police filed the first information report on 3 people namely Pastor Vipul, Pastor Vijendra and Kamlesh under the Uttar Pradesh Prohibition of Unlawful Conversion of Religion Act.

On 17 September in Bachhrawan, Rae Bareli, Uttar Pradesh, some members of extremist groups were attempting to harass Pastor Kamlesh on account of his Christian faith and were putting pressure on the local police to close down the church.

On 17 September in Bindaganj village, Lalgunj, Raebareli, Uttar Pradesh, Pastor Ramratan was leading a prayer meeting when a group of religious extremists along with the police arrived at the Church and attempted to apprehend Pastor Ramvilas and Ramratan. Later, Pastor Ramratan, Laxmi Shankar, Rajendra, Pavan, Rahul, Veerendra, and Akhilesh were falsely implicated in cases under the Uttar Pradesh Prohibition of Unlawful Conversion of Religion Ordinance 2021, under section 3/5 as well as of the IPC 298. Christians, including women, were subjected to physical violence and were taken to the Lalganj police station. Police also confiscated items from the church, including a few vehicles.

On 17 September in Sharifpur Saidpur, Gazipur, Uttar Pradesh, 20 to 25 people of an extremist group came with the police and they had taken Pastor Bipul, Brijendar Yadav, and a few other people with them. Brijendar Yadav has high court permission for prayers, even then they were arrested and taken into custody.

On 17 September in Sahibabad, Ghaziabad, sixteen Christians were falsely accused of religious conversion. Among the sixteen individuals was a pastor named Rajan Verma. Pastor Verma was conducting a prayer meeting when some individuals arrived and accused them of false conversion under the pretext of the prayer gathering. They also informed the local police, who arrived and took all 16 Christians to the local police station.

On 18 September in Ghazipur, Uttar Pradesh, Pastor Ravi Kishan from Buxar, Bihar, was taken into custody along with his two brothers and father at Gamahar Police Station. A First Information Report was registered under the UPPUCRA 3/5(1) against four people, namely Ravi Kishan, Rinku, Rajendra, Ram, and Rahul Kumar.

On 22 September in Rewali village of, Ambedkar Nagar, Uttar Pradesh, Pastor Rajesh Prajapati was conducting a

prayer meeting with 50 to 60 Christians when the police, accompanied by religious extremists, arrived and took 3 people into custody.

On 23 September in Jaunpur district, Uttar Pradesh, Bobby Dev, the son of Pastor Bharat Lal, was taken into custody by the police from the Barsathi police station during a prayer gathering. The police also confiscated a Bible and a knife from Bobby's residence. The pastor had concerns and suspicions about whether the police would carry out a fair investigation.

On 24 September in Mehnajpur Market in the Azamgarh district of Uttar Pradesh, a Christian prayer meeting was underway when false information about religious conversion was reported. The police arrived and arrested two individuals, Pastor Ravindra Kumar and Zubaida Ansari, taking them to the police station. Subsequently, both were charged under the Uttar Pradesh Prohibition of Unlawful Conversion of Religion Act.

On 25 September in Village Thuhi, Police Station Chandwak, District Jaunpur, Uttar Pradesh, Pastor Jitendra Kumar was taken into police custody while buying goods in the market for professing and propagating his

Christian faith.

On 29 September in Bhadora, Ghazipur, Uttar Pradesh, Pastor Birbal was conducting a prayer meeting. However, the police arrested Pastor Birbal along with a few other Christians, taking them to the Bhadaura police station. Subsequently, they were booked under the Uttar Pradesh Unlawful Conversion of Religion Act.

On 29 September in Jaunpur district, Uttar Pradesh, Pastor Durga Prasad Yadav was conducting a prayer meeting with other Christians when the police, based on a false complaint, arrested Pastor Jayprakash and other Christians present in the house. Around 18 Christians were arrested, and FIRs were registered against Christians.

On 1 October in Biswan Tehsil, Sitapur, Uttar Pradesh, Pastor Ranjeet Vishwakarma visited a fellow Christian's house for a prayer meeting. While he was leading the prayer service, a faction of religious extremists forcibly entered and issued a warning, instructing him to refrain from returning to the village in the future and took him to the police station on false charges of religious conversion.

On 1 October in Dharhora, Lakhimpur Kheri, Uttar Pradesh, Pastor Deepak from AG Church was conducting a prayer

service when an individual from the village lodged a complaint with the police. Subsequently, police arrived, detained Pastor Deepak, and instructed him to immediately cease the meeting and refrain from conducting any similar prayer gatherings in the coming days.

On 1 October in Nakur, Saharanpur, Uttar Pradesh, Pastor Saju Nicholas received a legal notice from the SDM. The notice requested an explanation regarding the Pastor's prior actions of conducting services without proper authorization. This situation arose when the SDM had previously advised Pastor Nicholas to obtain permission before conducting any services, and in compliance with this advice, the Pastor subsequently submitted a request for permission. However, in response to his application, he was issued a legal notice by the SDM.

On 1 October in Azamgarh, Uttar Pradesh, a Sunday prayer meeting was in progress at Pastor Chhote Lal's place when, based on a false complaint of religious conversion, the police intervened and took Pastor Chhote Lal to Mubarakpur police station.

On 1 October in Muddi Cowk, Naini, Prayagraj, Uttar Pradesh, individuals opposing the Christian faith visited Pastor Sujai Raj's residence while the

prayer meeting was underway and demanded that he cease conducting prayer meetings. They were arrested for a false complaint by a religious extremist group came of religious conversion and arrested 9 people under the Uttar Pradesh Prohibition of Unlawful Conversion of Religion Act and sections 295A, 147, 307, 504, and 506 of the IPC.

On 3 October in Adalhat village, Ramnagar tehsil, Varanasi, Uttar Pradesh, Pastor Ram Sunder was contacted over the phone by the local police station. The caller accused Pastor Ram Sunder of converting individuals to Christianity and issued a warning that if he did not cease conducting prayer services, they would take action to destroy his church.

On 3 October in Balrampur village, Chandwak, Jaunpur, Uttar Pradesh, Pastor Suraj Yadav faced a situation where the police visited his home and issued threats, instructing him to present himself at the police station.

On 3 October in Jaunpur district, Uttar Pradesh, Pastor Ajay Bharadwaj was called to the Tehsildar's office in Kerakat to record his statement. After providing his statement, the police detained Ajay Bharadwaj at the same location.

On 3 October in Mirzapur, Uttar Pradesh, the police visited Pastor Dashrath's residence to inquire and issued threats on account of conducting prayer meetings. On 4 October, Pastor Dashrath went to the police station, asserting that he engages in no conversion activities but follows the teachings of Jesus. Despite this, another police officer arrived, subjected him to verbal abuse, and threatened to demolish his church premises.

On 6 October in Jaunpur, Uttar Pradesh, a video went viral depicting a religious extremist named Gaurav visiting the homes of less fortunate Christians armed with sticks and intimidating them into taking an oath to undergo the Gharwapsi ritual. Additionally, he posted videos on Facebook inciting hate speech against Christians.

On 9 October in Mau, Uttar Pradesh, Pastor Puspendra Kumar and a fellow Christian named Kedar convened a prayer meeting. The prayer, lasting for 15 to 20 minutes, attracted the attention of the neighbourhood, prompting the arrival of an extremist group consisting of 8-9 individuals who arrived by car and initiated inquiries.

On 9 October in Muriteel village, Saini, Kaushambi, Uttar Pradesh, Jhurialal and his team visited the village for a prayer

meeting at a fellow Christian's house. During the prayer meeting, a group of religious extremists intruded, disrupting the gathering. False allegations of religious conversion led to the intervention of the police, resulting in the arrest and filing of a first information report against nine Christians and some unidentified persons.

On 11 October in Kushinagar, Uttar Pradesh, Pastor Raj Kishore was leading a prayer service when a group of religious extremists disrupted the prayer meeting and informed police with false accusations of religious conversion. Subsequently, police came and arrested Pastor under the Uttar Pradesh Prohibition of Unlawful Conversion of Religion Act.

On 12 October in Ghambhirpur, Azamgarh, Uttar Pradesh, Pastor Shymanand faced a false accusation of engaging in religious conversion based on a complaint by a neighbour. The neighbour accused Shymanand of conducting prayer gatherings at his residence with the intent of religious conversion.

On 13 October in Lakhimpur Kheri district, Uttar Pradesh, Pastor Avadesh Kumar was conducting a prayer meeting in his house when a group of religious

extremists barged in and disrupted the prayer meeting and later informed police who came and arrested Pastor Avadesh and 3 others namely Vasant Kumar, Ravi Prakash and Narendra Kumar under the Uttar Pradesh Prohibition of Unlawful Conversion of Religion Act.

On 14 October in Jangipur, Ghazipur, Uttar Pradesh, Pastor Vijay Kumar Bharti, who resides was at his residence when officers from the Jangipur police force arrived. They conducted a search of his house, seized his literature and Bible, and subsequently summoned both him and his father to the Jangipur police station. Upon their arrival at the police station, they were held in detention by the authorities.

On 14 October in Dasmadha, Jaunpur, Uttar Pradesh, a police team from Bardah Police Station visited Sister Sunita's house. However, Sister Sunita was not present at the time. During the visit, Dhanesh Yadav was slapped, and inquiries were made about Sister Sunita Maurya's whereabouts.

On 17 October in Village Gambhirpur, Ghazipur, Uttar Pradesh, Pastor Raja Ram Bharti was conducting a prayer meeting when someone informed the police. The police subsequently called

Pastor Raja Ram Bharti to Muhhamdabad police station for questioning.

On 20 October in Sadar, Mirzapur, Uttar Pradesh, Pastor Rahul was conducting a prayer meeting at his residence. However, some locals falsely accused him of engaging in religious conversion. Eventually, a right-wing group also arrived, and they lodged a false complaint of religious conversion against him.

On 21 October in BudhVihar Colony, Mathura, Uttar Pradesh, Pastor Rahul and Pastor Manoj, along with a few other Christians, were taken into police custody. Subsequently, they were booked under Section 151 of the CrPC and granted bail from the SDM court.

On 21 October in Ghazipur, Uttar Pradesh, Pastor Lalji Vishwakarma was apprehended by the police due to his Christian faith and the propagation of Christian beliefs.

On 22 October in Vidur Village, Varanasi, Uttar Pradesh, Christians were taken into police custody for their faith on account of conducting a prayer meeting.

On 22 October in Mau district, Uttar Pradesh, Pastor Deepak, Pastor Roshan

and another person were taken into police custody on account of their Christian faith and ministry work. Subsequently, all three were booked under the 151, 107, and 116 of the CrPC.

On 22 October in Firozpur village, Ghazipur, Uttar Pradesh, a prayer meeting was disrupted by religious extremists. Later on, Pastor Kamalnath Rajbhar was brought to the Jangipur police station.

On 27 October in Muzaffar Nagar, Uttar Pradesh, Pastor Surajveer Singh was falsely accused of carrying out religious conversion work and booked under the Uttar Pradesh Prohibition of Unlawful Conversion of Religion Act. On the day, the Sub-divisional magistrate and Circle Officer along with the police team came to the pastor's church, took away a digital video recorder and arrested the pastor.

On 29 October in Chibramau, Kannauj, Uttar Pradesh, Pastor Sudhakar Rao was conducting a prayer meeting in his house along with 15 people when his neighbour made a false complaint to police of religious conversion. Subsequently, police came and detained him at the police station.

On 29 October in Chandauli, Uttar

Pradesh, Pastor Vijay was taken into custody by the local police while he was conducting a Sunday prayer meeting.

On 30 October in Pantnagar, Bansi, Sidharthnagar, Uttar Pradesh, D S Dasan conducted a prayer meeting alongside fellow Christians at the premises of Intern English Medium School, where Dasan serves as the school principal. During the prayer meeting, a member of an extremist group filed a false complaint of religious conversion. Consequently, the police arrived and registered a First Information Report (FIR) against Dasan and others under the provisions of Uttar Pradesh's Prohibition of Unlawful Conversion of Religion Act.

On 30 October in Aulipur, Raibareli, Uttar Pradesh, Pastor Chotelal was leading a prayer meeting when police on the false complaint detained Pastor and 3 others at the Amava Police Chowki.

On 30 October in Haidargarh, Barabanki, Uttar Pradesh, Pastor Ramesh Rawat was conducting a prayer meeting. However, the local police intervened, took him to the police station, and detained him.

On 12 August in Haidargarh, Barabanki, Uttar Pradesh, Pastor Satyanarayan was

falsely accused of carrying out religious conversion work and was booked under the Uttar Pradesh Prohibition of Unlawful Conversion of Religion Act. He had to be in jail for more than two months before he could secure bail on 20 October.

On 31 October in Khakreru, Fatehpur, Uttar Pradesh, Pastor Rakesh was conducting a prayer meeting at his house with seven fellow Christians. Some extremist elements filed a false complaint of religious conversion with the police. Consequently, Pastor Rakesh was detained by the police and subsequently booked under the sections of the Uttar Pradesh Prohibition of Unlawful Conversion of Religion Act.

On 5 November in Naukatola village, Kushinagar, Uttar Pradesh, Pastor Ram Ashish Bharti and his Father Sawaru Prasad were detained by the local police on account of their Christian faith and for conducting prayer meetings. Subsequently, they were booked under

On 5 November in Sunauli, Gorakhpur, Uttar Pradesh, Pastor Krishna was arrested on account of conducting prayer meetings and practising Christianity. Subsequently, the pastor was booked under the Uttar Pradesh Prohibition of Unlawful Religious Conversion Act.

On 5 November in Churchapara, Kushinagar, Uttar Pradesh, a Christian prayer meeting was ongoing. However, local police came and arrested Pastor Sanwaru Prasad. Reportedly, other than the pastor, 4 males and 10 females have also been named in the FIR.

On 8 November in Bilari village, Azamgarh, Uttar Pradesh, Pastor Raghuvver was conducting a prayer meeting with some fellow Christians. However, someone made a false complaint to the police that religious conversion was taking place. The local police came and brought the pastor along with a fellow Christian to the police station. Subsequently, it was learnt that a first information report was registered against Christians under the Uttar Pradesh Prohibition of Unlawful Religious Conversion Act.

On 11 November in Ahraura, Mirzapur, Uttar Pradesh, Pastors Vinod Kumar Ramakant and Shankar were taken into police custody for practising and professing their Christian faith.

On 11 November in Ahraura Mirzapur, Uttar Pradesh, Pastor Shankar along with fellow Christians was conducting a prayer meeting. However, the pastor along with two other Christians, Vinod and Shankar, was brought to the local

police station for the inquiry of religious conversion.

On 12 November in Allahabad, Uttar Pradesh, while Pastor Murali was conducting a prayer meeting, some locals approached him in a threatening manner and demanded that he stop conducting the prayer meeting. The pastor politely informed them that they were simply engaged in prayer, and everyone participating was doing so of their own free will.

On 14 November in Kavala village, Ghazipur, Uttar Pradesh, Pastor Shivkumar was leading a prayer meeting at his house along with 30 to 35 fellow Christians including women. However, someone made a false complaint against them of religious conversion and the police came at the pastor's residence to arrest them.

On 16 November in Jaunpur, Maharajganj, Uttar Pradesh, Pastor Gulabchand associated with Assemblies of God Church, along with three fellow Christians was taken into police custody by the local police on account of their faith and for propagating their faith.

On 19 November in Sultanpur, Uttar Pradesh, two Christians, Siyaram and

Rajkumar, from Belhari village, were summoned to the local police station. They were falsely accused of religious conversion by extremist elements.

On 25 November in Maharajganj, Uttar Pradesh, Pastor Dashrath Gupta was taken into police custody on account of his Christian faith and propagating the same. Subsequently, the pastor was brought to the police station and booked under the Uttar Pradesh Prohibition of Unlawful Religious Conversion Act.

On 26 November in Pratapgarh, Uttar Pradesh, Pastor Sunil Singh was falsely accused that religious conversion work was being done by him. Police came and interrogated the pastor and left the place. However, warned them not to conduct prayer meetings.

On 29 November in Sonbhadra, Uttar Pradesh, 18 Christians were taken into police custody on account of their faith. At the Chopna police station on account of their ministry work. Subsequently, pastors were booked under the Uttar Pradesh Prohibition of Unlawful Religious Conversion Act.

On 11 December in Maharajganj, Uttar Pradesh, Pastor Jitender Sahni was in the middle of a prayer meeting and taken

into police custody by two constables. He was picked up from the prayer meeting site and brought to Sinduriya police station. Subsequently, they were challenged under sections 151, 504, and 505 of the IPC and granted bail from the SDM court.

On 11 December in Lalganj, Mirzapur, Uttar Pradesh, Pastor Shivam Kumar and two others were falsely accused of engaging in religious conversion activities by a member of a right-wing group. The information indicates that Pastor Shival and the others were targeted for practising and professing their faith. The pastor and others were booked under the Uttar Pradesh Prohibition of Unlawful Religious Conversion Act and subsequently taken into police custody on December 23.

On 12 December in Mirzapur, Uttar Pradesh, Pastor Shivam Kumar and two other Christians, one of whom is a female, were taken into police custody. Later, the female was released but Pastor Shivam Kumar and a fellow Christian were booked under sections of the Uttar Pradesh Prohibition of Unlawful Religious Conversion Act.

On 12 December in Aourahi village Sant Kabir Nagar, Uttar Pradesh, Pastor Jose Paulus and Elamma were taken into

police custody while they were part of a Christian prayer meeting. Subsequently, they were booked under the Uttar Pradesh Prohibition of Unlawful Religious Conversion Act.

On 17 December in Badaun, Uttar Pradesh, Pastor Ram Sevak and some fellow Christians were taken into police custody for their Christian faith. The police informed that they were accused of carrying out religious conversion. The pastor and Christians responded that the allegations levelled against them were false.

On 18 December in Nautangaon, Devariya, Uttar Pradesh, Kunti Devi, a follower of Christ, was falsely accused of engaging in religious conversion activity. On the day of the incident, while conducting a prayer meeting with local women from the village and nearby areas, she was taken into police custody.

On 24 December in Raebareilly Pastor Ram Awadh and his Neeraj were falsely accused of carrying out religious conversion work. Subsequently, they were booked under the Uttar Pradesh Unlawful Conversion of Religion Act.

On 25 December in Pratapgarh, Uttar Pradesh, Pastor Rakesh was organising a Christmas program. However, local

police came and picked him up from the program with the intention of bringing him to the police station. But halfway through to the police station the police released the pastor.

On 31 December in Ayodhya, Uttar Pradesh, Pastor Arun Kumar and Pastor Ram Tahal were conducting a prayer meeting with fellow Christians. Some extremist elements made a false complaint to the police about the prayer meeting, alleging it was conversion activity. The police arrived and brought the pastors to the police station. Subsequently, they were booked under sections of Uttar Pradesh's Unlawful Religious Conversion Act.

UTTARAKHAND

On 3 January in Doiwala, Dehradun, Uttarakhand, Thomas Messi, alongside several other participants, organized a peaceful protest march to bring attention to the issue of violence against Christians. However, the police intervened and registered a case against three individuals, specifically Bishop Thomas Massi, Rev Thomas Massi, and Rocky Thomas, under

sections 153B and 188 of the Indian Penal Code.

On 7 June, Pastor Chandra Pal and his sons Vikas and Ankit, who are from Bareilly, Uttar Pradesh, and have been serving in Kichha, Udham Singh Nagar, Uttarakhand, were leading a prayer meeting when the head of the community informed the police of religious conversion. However, on June 8, early morning, the police from Kichha, Uttarakhand, came to their house and took both his sons to the police station.

On 29 June in Rudrapur, Udham Singh Nagar, Uttarakhand, Pastor Madan visited a house for a housewarming gathering. Suddenly, some extremists came and created a ruckus. Subsequently, extremists called the police.

On 2 July in Prem Nagar, Dehradun, Uttarakhand, Pastor Satender Bhatt was leading a prayer meeting at his residence. However, he experienced an attack by religious extremists who vandalized the house. The police, upon Pastor Bhatt's complaint, registered a First Information Report.

On 5 September in Kashipur Uttarakhand, Pastor Ajay Rana conducted a worship service with a small gathering, but a complaint was

made against them at the police station. The police warned them to stop conducting prayer meetings, or a complaint would be filed, leading to a case against them.

On 2 December in Udham Singh Nagar, Uttarakhand, Pastor Tej Bahadur was taken was conducting a prayer meeting. Suddenly, some extremist elements came and with verbal abuses accused him of carrying out religious conversion work.

WEST BENGAL

On 22 February in Bhatsaliya village, PO Dubda, Purba Medinipur, West Bengal, Sukumar Beij was interfered with by a group of religious extremists while he was performing his father's burial rites on account of their Christian faith. After Sukumar notified the police, the perpetrators departed, but they returned on the third day during a prayer meeting and once again disturbed the gathering, as well as physically attacking members of Sukumar's family.

On 16 June in Monohorpur Village, Post Charigram, Panchayat Sahaspur, Bankura, West Bengal, a group of 12-13 Santali Tribal Christians, known to Pastor

Amit Tuddu, from Bethesda Harvesters Church, who gathered daily for prayers, were viciously attacked during an evening prayer session. The attack was carried out by a few religious extremists who entered the house where the prayer meeting was taking place. The assault primarily targeted the women in the group, resulting in severe injuries. Three women, namely Sumitra, Mouli, and Lucy, have been admitted to the Government Hospital for medical treatment. The victims submitted a complaint at the local police station.

On 16 August in Kotupur village, Jangipara Police Station, Hooghly District, West Bengal, Navita, known to Pastor Sukhim, faced threats during a prayer at her home by the villagers. They insisted on following customs and traditions, warning her to leave if not comply.

On 10 December in Gopinathpur village, Medinipur, West Bengal, Bandna Maji and 10 fellow Christians were brought to the village meeting and threatened by the 250 persons of the village. Christians were pressured to recant Christianity and return to their former faith. If Christians do not comply, then they will be socially boycotted by the villagers.



RELIGIOUS LIBERTY COMMISSION OF
EVANGELICAL FELLOWSHIP OF INDIA

805/ 92 Deepali Building

Nehru Place

New Delhi—110019 INDIA

Email: mail@efirc.org