Cases of rape, molestation down in city this yr

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New Delhi: Crime against women seems to have reduced in the capital this year. According to figures released by Delhi Police, 836 cases of rape have been reported till May 31 compared with 924 in the same period last year. Molestation cases have gone down from 1,841 to 1,412.

The trend is attributed to a slew of measures taken by police commissioner Amulya Patnaik. These include deploying women patrol teams in markets, placing women officers in key posts and holding self-defence classes.

Heinous crimes such as murder and robberies have also declined: 1,293 robberies have been registered till May 31 compared with 2,374 in the first five months of 2016. The corresponding figures in case of murders are 205 and 206.

Street crimes, such as snatching, have reduced as well. A total of 3,717 cases have been registered in the first 150 days of 2017 compared with 4,255 last year. This means one case an hour is being reported on an average. The number of fatalities due to road accidents has gone down too: 545 people have been killed till May compared with 642 in fatal mishaps in 2016.

▶**Thefts, burglaries up, P 6**

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Big jump in thefts and burglaries worries police

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Crimes like burglaries and thefts have increased. Cases of burglaries have risen from 5,115 to 5,949 till May. House thefts have risen substantially from 4,813 to 6,238 cases in the first five months.

This is worrying as a little data crunching shows that last year there were 32 reported cases of house thefts daily in the first five months, but this year the figure is around 42 each day. It also means that two houses on an average are burgled in the capital every hour.

Vehicle thefts have risen again after being in check in April. From 16,263 cases till May last year, the figure has increased to 16,398. It means 109 vehicles are being stolen everyday in Delhi. Between January and April in 2016, 12,784 cases were reported and the figure stood at 12,666 in the corresponding period this year. This comes to around 105-106 cases a day.

Dacoities have fallen from 21 to 15 and kidnapping dipped from 10 to 8 till May; 203 cases of abduction have been reported this year against 328 last year and 2,404 cases of kidnappings registered compared to 2,505 last year.

The number of total heinous crimes have dipped from 3,837 to 2,638 cases. Non-heinous crimes such as thefts and burglaries have risen from 78,307 to 98,481. Overall, the total number of registered IPC cases have gone north from 82,144 to 1,01,119 cases till May.

THE HIGHS & LOWS THIS YEAR

Crime head	2016	2017
Rape	924	⬇ 836
Molestation	1,841	⬇ 1,412
Dacoity	21	⬇ 15
Snatching	4,255	⬇ 3,717
Robbery	2,374	⬇ 1,293
Abduction	328	⬇ 203
Kidnapping for ransom	10	⬇ 8
Murder	206	⬇ 205
Fatal accident	642	⬇ 545

Vehicle theft
2016 16,263
2017 16,398 ⬆

Burglary
5,115
5,949 ⬆

House theft
4,813
6,238 ⬆

Other theft
30,048
48,218 ⬆

(All data till May 31)