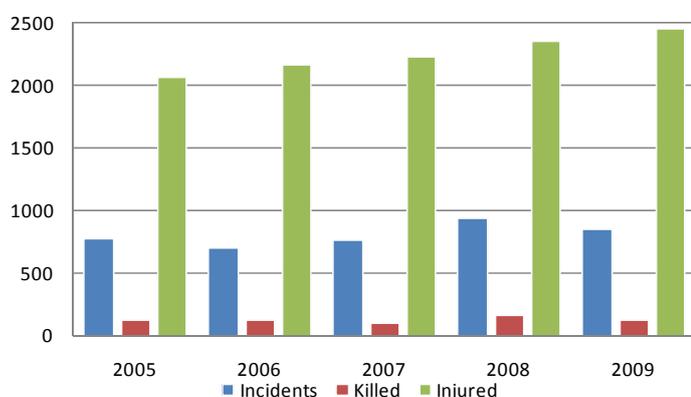# Vital Stats
Communal Violence in India

The National Advisory Council recently released a draft 'Prevention of Communal and Targeted Violence (Access to Justice and Reparations) Bill, 2011'. The Bill intends to create a framework for prevention and control of communal and sectarian violence. It also aims to provide relief to victims of such violence.

In this context, we present some statistics on the incidence of communal violence in India.

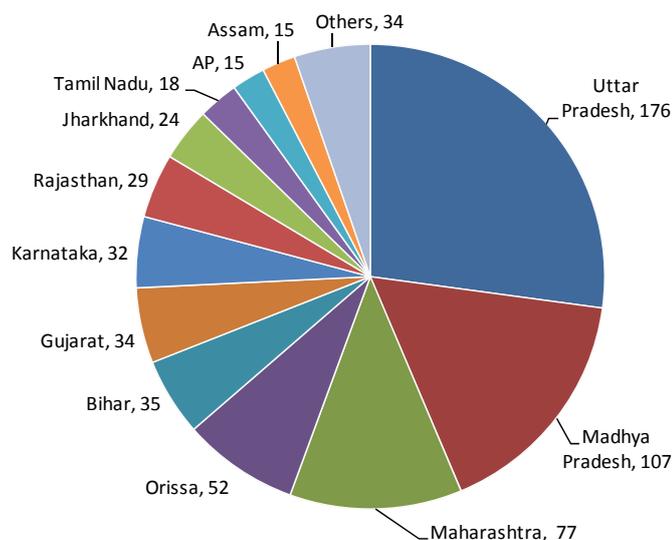## During 2005-09, 648 people were killed and 11,278 injured in 4,030 incidents of communal violence

Communal clashes in India (2005-09)

- On average, 130 people died and 2,200 were injured in communal violence each year.

- Incidents were reported from 24 of the 35 states and union territories. The maximum number of incidents occurred in Maharashtra (700), followed by Madhya Pradesh (666) and Uttar Pradesh (645).

- Most of the north eastern states (except Assam) and union territories (except Delhi) did not see any incidents of communal violence.
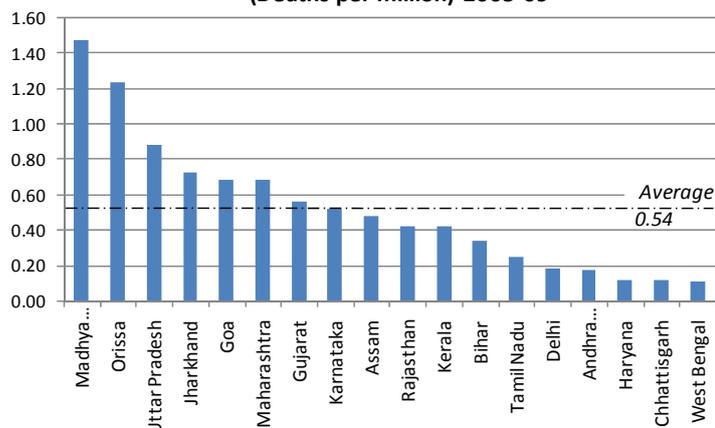
Four states accounted for 64% of all deaths

People killed in communal clashes (2005-09)

- Uttar Pradesh recorded the highest number of deaths. A total of 176 people died in these incidents; another 2,171 were injured.

- Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra and Orissa had the next highest number of casualties.

- In Madhya Pradesh, communal violence claimed 107 lives and injured 1,708 people. In Maharashtra, 77 people died and 2,012 were injured.

- Orissa witnessed 52 deaths; 234 people were injured.

Rohit Kumar
rohit@prsindia.org

June 15, 2011

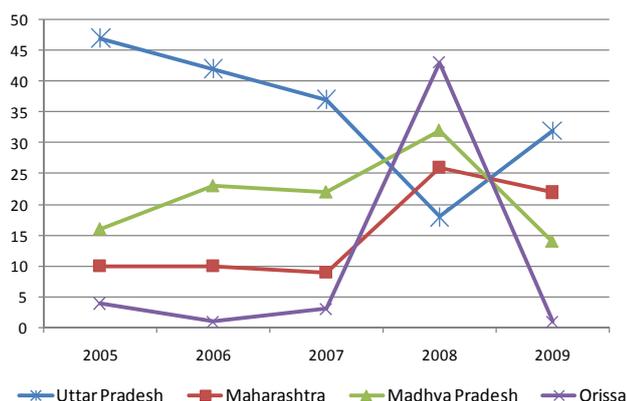## On a per capita basis, the highest number of deaths was reported from Madhya Pradesh

People killed in communal clashes, adjusted for population (Deaths per million) 2005-09

- The adjoining graph presents the state-wise data after adjusting for the size of the state. It plots a per capita metric – the number of deaths recorded per million people.

- Madhya Pradesh accounts for the most deaths per million. This number is almost thrice the national average (0.54 deaths per million).

- Six other states are above the national average – Orissa, Uttar Pradesh, Jharkhand, Goa, Maharashtra and Gujarat.

In these five years, the highest number of cases of communal violence were reported in 2008

People killed in communal clashes in UP, MP, Maharashtra, Orissa

- In 2008, 943 cases of communal violence were reported from across the country. This was 20% higher than the average in the other four years.

- Orissa registered a spike in 2008 with 43 deaths. In all other years, less than five deaths were reported.

- Madhya Pradesh and Maharashtra also saw increased violence in 2008. In Maharashtra, this figure remained high in 2009.

- Uttar Pradesh depicted a different trend. Deaths due to communal violence declined after 2005, before rising again in 2009.

Note:
1. Data for the years 2005-06 has been sourced from Rajya Sabha, Unstarred Question 694, 5th March, 2008
2. Data for the years 2007-09 has been sourced from Lok Sabha, Unstarred Question 2545, 10th August, 2010