



Jus Corpus Law Journal

Open Access Law Journal – Copyright © 2024 – ISSN 2582-7820
Editor-in-Chief – Prof. (Dr.) Rhishikesh Dave; Publisher – Ayush Pandey

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Understanding the Criminal Trial Process in India: A Comprehensive Overview

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Received 18 April 2024; Accepted 21 May 2024; Published 25 May 2024

A robust framework comprising legislative acts, administrative procedures, and judicial elements underpins the criminal justice or legal justice system in India. At its core lie three key legislative acts: the Indian Penal Code 1860 (IPC), the Indian Evidence Act 1872, and the Code of Criminal Procedure 1973 (Cr.P.C.). These acts delineate the procedures governing the investigation, trial, and adjudication of criminal offenses nationwide. This article provides a comprehensive guide to the stages of criminal trials in India, offering valuable insights into the legal framework, procedural intricacies, and fundamental rights enshrined within the country's criminal justice system. It explores the concept of crime, the classification of offenses as cognizable or non-cognizable, and the jurisdiction of criminal courts for the inquiry and trial of offenses. Key aspects covered include registering a First Information Report (FIR), the launch of an investigation, arresting suspects, and the jurisdiction of criminal courts for the inquiry and trial of offenses. The article also delves into the various types of trials, including summary, warrant, and summons cases, elucidating the procedural nuances governing each category of offenses. Furthermore, the article outlines the stages of a criminal trial, from the framing of charges to the evidence gathering, the interrogation of the accused, and the arguments presented by both the prosecution and the defense. It also highlights the post-trial stage, including the pronouncement of judgment, avenues for appeal, and the execution of sentences.

Keywords: *acts, criminal offense, FIR, arrest, trial, appeal.*

INTRODUCTION

The criminal justice system in India is anchored upon a robust framework comprising statutory, administrative, and judicial elements. At its core are three key legislative acts: the Indian Penal Code 1860 (IPC), the Indian Evidence Act 1872 and the Code of Criminal Procedure 1973 (Cr.P.C.). Together, these acts delineate the procedures governing the inquiry, trial, and adjudication of criminal offenses nationwide.

The Code of Criminal Procedure 1973 (Cr.P.C.) serves as the procedural law for governing criminal trials in India. This procedural law is used in every procedure of criminal trial unless and until there are specific procedures made for a crime. The procedure encompasses guidelines in a detailed manner for evidence collection, examining witnesses, accused interrogation, arrest protocols, Police and Court procedures, including bail, the criminal trial method, and the conviction method.¹

Distinguishing between civil and criminal courts, the former primarily addresses violations of individual legal rights, while the latter deals with offenses against society as a whole, commonly known as public wrongs or crimes. Understanding the nature of these violations is crucial for comprehending the intricacies of criminal trials & the rights of the accused within the criminal justice system.

A significant aspect of criminal trials in India lies in their various stages, each meticulously designed to ensure fairness, transparency, and adherence to the rule of law. From registering a First Information Report (FIR) to the completion of the trial and post-trial procedures, this article delves into the multifaceted journey of a criminal case through the Indian legal system.

Exploring the different types of trials, including summary, warrant, and summons cases, provides insights into the procedural nuances governing each category of offenses. Moreover, understanding the concept of crime itself, as well as the classification of offenses as cognizable or non-cognizable, lays the groundwork for a comprehensive understanding of the legal

¹ Vishal Saini, 'Various stages of a Criminal trial In India' (*Vishal Saini Advocate*, 08 May 2022) <<https://vishalsainiadv.com/tag/criminal-trial-stages/>> accessed 02 April 2024

landscape. Furthermore, the jurisdiction of criminal courts for the inquiry and trial of offenses, along with specific provisions for certain offenses, elucidates the geographical and legal parameters within which criminal proceedings unfold. From the commencement of an investigation to the pronouncement of judgment, each stage of the criminal trial process is meticulously analyzed to provide a comprehensive overview.

Finally, the post-trial stage, including avenues for appeal, revision applications, and the execution of sentences, underscores the culmination of the legal process and the mechanisms available for recourse and redressal. In essence, this article serves as a comprehensive guide to the stages of criminal trials in India, offering valuable insights into the legal framework and procedural intricacies enshrined within the country's criminal justice system.

WHAT IS CRIME?

To understand the various stages of a criminal trial, we need to understand what crime is. '*The idea of crime involves the idea of some definite, gross, undeniable injury to someone, where some definite overt act is necessary*'². This statement suggests that the concept of crime hinges on the notion of causing clear, significant, and indisputable harm to another person. It also implies that there must be a deliberate action of conduct that goes beyond mere thought or intentions to be considered a crime. In essence, it is about understanding that criminal behaviour involves tangible, evident harm inflicted through specific actions.

The Criminal Procedure Code of 1973 categorizes all crimes into two groups namely:

- Cognizable offenses as per section 2 (c) of the CrPC, 1973.³
- Non-cognizable offenses as per section 2 (1) CrPC, 1973.⁴

² P. S. Atchuthen Pillai, *PSA Pillai's Criminal Law* (14th edn, Lexis Nexis 2019)

³ KD Gaur, *Criminal Law : Cases and Materials* (9th edn, Lexis Nexis 2019)

⁴ *Ibid*

COGNIZABLE CRIMES OR COGNIZABLE OFFENSES

'Cognizable offense' refers to an offense for which, a police officer, as provided under the First Schedule or under any other law applicable for the time being, may arrest without a warrant⁵. In a cognizable case, a police officer is allowed to investigate and effect the arrest without a magistrate's order. The police are responsible for promptly acting on complaints or credible information regarding such crimes. They must visit the crime scene gather evidence, apprehend the suspect, and produce him before a magistrate within the jurisdiction.⁶

NON-COGNIZABLE OFFENCES OR BAILABLE OFFENSES

Are the offenses that need the order or permission of a competent magistrate for any investigation by the police officer? The 1st Schedule of the Criminal Procedure Code gives the classification of the offenses of the Indian Penal Code 1860.

FIR

FIR is a legally written document created by a police officer upon receiving information from any victim or any other person who knows about the occurrence of the cognizable offense. Filing a First Information Report (FIR), outlined in section 154⁷ and section 155 of the CrPC⁸, initiates the criminal proceedings in India. FIRs hold significant importance in legal proceedings due to their evidentiary value, especially about cognizable offenses, and also are important in addressing those of a non-cognizable nature

Section 154 of the CrPC, when a police officer receives any information about the occurrence of a cognizable offense, they are obligated to register the case, leaving them no discretion. The FIR has substantive evidentiary value. If any accused himself provides the initial information or the first information, it can be used against them as evidence of their conduct u/s 8 of the Indian Evidence Act.⁹

⁵ Code of Criminal Procedure 1973, s 2(c)

⁶ Gaur (n 3)

⁷ Code of Criminal Procedure 1973, s 154

⁸ Code of Criminal Procedure 1973, s 155

⁹ Indian Evidence Act 1872, s 8

JURISDICTION OF CRIMINAL COURT FOR THE INQUIRY AND TRIAL OF OFFENSES

Ordinarily, legal proceedings take place in the court’s jurisdiction where the offense occurred. In cases where it is uncertain where the offense occurred, or if it happened in multiple areas/locations, the court with jurisdiction over any of those locations can conduct the inquiry or trial, also offenses may be tried where the act constituting the offense was done or where the consequence of the act occurred. Specific offenses such as thuggee, dacoity, kidnapping, theft, etc., can be tried where the offense was committed or where the accused is found.

Offenses involving cheating through letters or telecommunication can be tried where the messages were sent or received. If an offense occurs during travel, such an offenses/s can be tried in the jurisdiction through which the person or thing passed. Whereas, multiple courts have taken acknowledged the same offense, the High Court decides which court should proceed with the inquiry or trial.

A first-class judicial magistrate may examine an offense committed beyond his jurisdiction but triable in India and can cause the accused to present himself before him or cause the attendance of a person to the appropriate magistrate. Offenses committed by Indian citizens outside India or on Indian ships or aircraft may be dealt with within India, but only with the prior permission of the Government of India.

DIFFERENCE BETWEEN CIVIL COURT & CRIMINAL COURT ¹⁰

Civil court	Criminal court
A civil injury, also known as a civil wrong, occurs when an individual’s rights are violated. This type of infringement does not have a significant impact on society and	Crime or misdemeanors is an act of vindication of public rights and duties that affect the community. Crime is wrong against society as a whole and is punishable by the state.

¹⁰ ‘Difference between Civil and Criminal Courts: What You Need to Know’ (*Juris Academy*) <<https://www.jurisacademy.com/blog/civil-and-criminal-courts/>> accessed 02 April 2024

typically results in monetary compensation	
The person who files a case/ commences a legal action against someone in a court is called a plaintiff. Such action is commenced against a defendant.	Remedies are sought by the aggrieved parties. The state institutes criminal trials. Accuse is a person who has been alleged to have committed the offense & the person against whom the offense is committed is called victim / Survivor. A complainant is a person filing a complaint he can also be a victim.
'Code of Civil Procedure, 1908 (C.P.C.)' governs the trials/proceedings in a criminal court	'Code of Criminal Procedural, 1973 (Cr. P.C.)' governs the trials/proceedings in a criminal court.
The accused cannot be arrested during the pendency of inquiry in a civil case.	The accused person may be arrested before or during the pendency of a criminal trial.

TYPES OF TRIAL

Summary Trial: Under 'section 260 of Cr.P.C.,' certain offenses can be tried summarily by any Chief Judicial Magistrate, or Metropolitan Magistrate or Magistrate of First Class specially authorized by the High Court. These offenses are typically offenses of non-serious nature i.e., minor offenses, and, carry a maximum punishment of imprisonment for a term of 2 years.

In Summary, Trial, once the accused is produced before the court, he is examined about the charges levelled against him. When the accused confesses the crime, the Magistrate can

immediately impose the appropriate sentence and record the same in the 'Summary Trial Register'.¹¹ In such a case separate Judgment does not needed to be pronounced. However, if the accused does not confess to the crime, the prosecution witnesses' evidence must be recorded.¹²

Warrant Case Trial: A case is registered as a 'Calendar case' as soon as the charge Sheet is filed, and subsequently, the summons must be issued to the accused. 'Warrant case' refers to an offense punishable by death, life imprisonment, or a term exceeding 2 years.¹³

When the accused appears before the court, the Magistrate must ensure that the accused has received all documents as provided u/s 207 of the Criminal Procedure Code (Cr.P.C.). After examining the record and the statements by the accused, the Magistrate may discharge him if they find the charges levied against him are baseless while providing the reasons for the same.

If the accused accepts the charges (pleads guilty) he can be convicted with the sentence u/s 321 of Cr.P.C., however, if the accused denies the charges brought against him i.e., pleads as not guilty, the prosecution's evidence shall be recorded, followed by the questioning of the accused u/s 313 of Cr.P.C. subsequently the defense witness if any shall also be examined. Lastly, after examining the evidence brought by the defense witness, listening to the arguments of both sides, the prosecution and the defense, u/s 248 of Cr. P.C.¹⁴ the court shall announce the verdict whether as guilty or acquit the accused.¹⁵

Trial of summons cases

The process of a Summons case trial instituted on private complaints or a Police Charge Sheet is essentially the same. Accused, as soon as produced before the court, they are to be questioned about the allegations in the complaint or the police charge sheet and they shall be should be asked to plead guilty or not guilty u/s 251 of Cr.P.C.

¹¹ Code of Criminal Procedure 1973, s 263

¹² G. Satya Prabhakara Rao, 'From Investigation To Trial', From investigation to trial stage' (*District E-Courts*, 2017) <<https://districts.ecourts.gov.in/sites/default/files/3rd%20Topic.pdf>> accessed 04 April 2024

¹³ Code of Criminal Procedure 1973, sec. 2(x)

¹⁴ Code of Criminal Procedure, 1973, s. 284

¹⁵ Rao (n 12)

If the accused accepts the charges, he can be convicted and sentenced u/s 252 of Cr.P.C., however, if the accused denies the charges brought against him, he shall be adjourned to the examination of prosecution witnesses on another date.

After examining the witnesses, the accused is questioned about the evidence brought against him u/s 313 of Cr.P.C. If the accused wants to present any defense witnesses or testify, their evidence is recorded and arguments are heard. Finally, u/s 255 of Cr.P.C., a judgment is pronounced as guilty or not guilty.¹⁶

STAGES OF CRIMINAL TRIAL IN INDIA

The proceedings under the criminal trial can be classified under three distinct stages, namely pre-trial, trial, and post-trial stage. It is not necessary that a criminal case has to go through all three stages mandatorily. For instance, a case can get dismissed in the pre-trial stage itself. Each of the three stages is detailed in this article¹⁷.

Pre-trial stage

Registration of First Information Report: When a crime is reported to a police officer, the officer has to write down the details, read it back to the person, and then the person needs to sign it. Such information is then kept by such an officer in the record book.

Where a crime is reported by a woman against whom an offence is supposed to have been committed or an attempt is made in cases like stalking, sexual harassment, rape, etc. in such a situation case must be recorded by female police or any other women officer. If a woman reporting the aforesaid crime is mentally or physically challenged, the details of such offense can be registered at her residence or any other place they choose according to her convenience, with the assistance of an interpreter or specialized educator. This recording of crime must be filmed and videographed.

¹⁶ *Ibid*

¹⁷ Mimi Dharshana, 'Notes on Stages of Criminal Proceeding in India' (*Lawctopus*, 17 April 2023) <<https://lawctopus.com/clatalogue/clat-pg/stages-of-criminal-proceeding-crpc/>> accessed 04 April 2024

A copy of this recorded information is to be given to the person reporting the crime, free of cost. Where a police officer refuses to provide the information, such person can send it in writing and by mail/post to the Police Superintendent, who will to his satisfaction inquire into the case himself or direct his lower-ranking officers to do so.

Launch of investigation and closure of evidence by investigating agency: When police officers suspect a crime has been committed and they have the authority to investigate it, the police officer must report it to the magistrate who has the authority to the cognizance of the offense upon a police charge sheet. Magistrates can either go themselves or send an officer subordinate to the scene to investigate and take action for the discovery of the wrongdoer.

However, if the crime is not serious and the suspect is unknown, the officer may need not go to the scene. When an officer decides not to investigate such an offence, they must explain such with a reason in the report.

Arrest of Person

- Police can arrest people without a warrant in various situations such as; if they see someone committing a crime; if there's a reasonable complaint or credible information suggesting someone committed a crime punishable by up to seven years in prison; if someone is proclaimed as an offender, found with stolen property, obstructs police, or is suspected of desertion from the Armed Forces.
- A police officer while during an arrest must display accurate identification with their name, facilitating easy identification. They shall also inform the arrested person unless his family member attests that they have the right to have a relative or friend informed of their arrest on their behalf.¹⁸
- Any person on arrest and questioned by the police is allowed to be represented by his chosen advocate, during interrogation¹⁹
- A medical examination shall be conducted of a person who has been arrested for an offense under circumstances where it's reasonable to believe that examining their body will provide

¹⁸ Code of Criminal Procedure 1973, s 41B

¹⁹ Code of Criminal Procedure 1973, s 41D

evidence related to the offense. A registered medical practitioner, upon the appeal by a police officer of the rank of sub-inspector and above, should conduct this examination. An examination may involve various tests, including the examination of blood, semen, and other bodily samples using modern techniques like DNA profiling.

- If the person being examined is a female, such inspection must be conducted by, or under the direction of, a registered female medical practitioner.²⁰

Attendance of accused before Magistrate within 24 hours of arrest: When a person is arrested and the investigation can't be finished within 24 hours, the police shall send a report and the accused person to the nearest Judicial Magistrate. The Magistrate can allow the accused to be detained for up to 15 days or longer in special cases but not beyond 90 days for serious offenses and 60 days for other offenses.

If a judicial magistrate is not available, an executive magistrate can be contracted but detention can not exceed 7 days unless authorized by the competent magistrate. Where an investigation is pending for 6 months the magistrate may stop further investigation unless there are special reasons for continuation.

Anticipatory bail

When an individual has reason to believe or suspects that he may be arrested for a cognizable offense, he has a right to seek direction from the State High Court or the Court of Session with jurisdiction. A bail may be granted by the court if deemed appropriate, in anticipation of such arrest.

On the grant of such a bail, the court may impose certain restrictions, tailored to the specifics of the case. These conditions may include:

- Causing attendance of oneself for police interrogation, when necessary,
- Abstaining from influencing witnesses,
- obtaining court permission before leaving the country, and

²⁰ Code of Criminal Procedure 1973, s 53

- any other conditions specified u/s 437(3) of the Criminal Procedure Code.²¹

Subsequently, if a police officer arrests the person and is willing to provide bail, the individual must be released on bail. If a Magistrate decides to issue a warrant against the person, it must be aailable warrant, consistent with the Court's direction regarding bail.

Completion of Investigation: When the police report is completed, the station house officer of the police station sends it to the magistrate authorized to handle such a case. This report is in the format specified by the government of the state. The report includes - the name of the parties involved, detailed information, witnesses, whether any crime seems to have happened, whether the accused is arrested or/and released on bail, whether the accused was taken to court, and relevant medical examination.

Trial stage

Hearing regarding Charge: When the accused is presented before the Court, the 'prosecutor' initiates proceedings by outlining the allegations levied against the accused and indicating the evidence he intends to present to establish the guilt of the accused.

Discharge: After reviewing the case records, and accompanying documents, and hearing the arguments from both the accused and the prosecution, if the Judge decides that the evidence is not sufficient to proceed against the accused, the Judge will discharge the accused. This decision must be accompanied by recorded reasons explaining the basis for such discharge.

Framing of Charge: The charge must mention the offense with which the accused is charged. If the law creating the offense has a specified name for it, the charge may use that name only. If there's no specific name for the offense, the charge should include enough of the offense's definition to inform the accused of the matter charged. The charge should mention the law and relevant sections of the law under which the offense is alleged to have been committed.

Charges should contain sufficient particulars about the time, place, person (if any), or thing (if any) involved in the alleged offense to give the accused notice of the matter charged. If the

²¹ Code of Criminal Procedure 1971, s 437(3)

accused has previous convictions affecting the punishment for the subsequent offense, the time, place, fact, and date of the previous conviction should be detailed in the charge.

Specific Provisions for Certain Offenses: For offenses like ‘criminal breach of trust’ or dishonest misappropriation of property, the charge can specify the gross sum or describe the property involved and the dates of the alleged offense, without specifying particular items or exact dates, as long as the duration between the initial and final dates does not exceed 1 year.

Conviction on Plea of Guilt: If the accused admits guilty, the Magistrate will register the plea and thereupon his discretion, convict the accused. If the accused declines to plead or remains silent, requests trial, or is not found guilty, the Judge should schedule a date for witness examination. Additionally, the judge may upon the prosecution’s request, issue an order to ensure the presence of a witness or submission of relevant documents or items.

Recording of Evidence of Prosecution: On the scheduled date, the Judge presiding over the trial will commence by accepting all evidence brought forward by the prosecution.

Cross-Examination: The Judge has the discretion to allow for witness cross-examination to be postponed until after the rest of the witnesses have been examined. Additionally, the Judge may summon back a witness for supplementary cross-examination if deemed necessary.

After recording evidence presented by the prosecution, accused examination, and arguments hearing, from both the prosecution and the defense, if the Judge concludes that evidence is not sufficient to establish that the accused executed the alleged offense, the Judge shall formally record an order acquitting the accused.

Statement of Accused (u/s 313 of CrPC)²²: In every inquiry/trial, the Court has the authority to:

- a. Pose questions to the accused without prior warning at any stage if deemed necessary.
- b. Interrogate the accused, after the prosecution witnesses have testified but before the accused presents their defense.

²² Code of Criminal Procedure 1973, s 313

However, in a 'summons case' where the accused's attendance has been waived with, the Court may waive the questioning under clause (b).

During such examination, an oath is not administered to the accused, and they cannot be punished for refusing to answer or for providing false answers. The responses by the defense can be considered in the inquiry/trial and can be used as evidence for or against them in any legal proceedings. Additionally, the Court may seek assistance from the Prosecutor and Defence Counsel in formulating relevant questions for the defendant. Moreover, the Court may accept a statement in writing from the accused.

Defense of Accused: If the accused is not acquitted, they will be called upon to present their defense and provide any evidence they have in support of it.

If the accused submits any statement in written form, the Judge will include the same in the case record. Accused when requests the issuance of any legal process to compel the production of a witness or any document or item, the Judge will issue such process unless there are recorded reasons to refuse the application, for instance, if it is deemed vexatious, intended to cause delay or to obstruct justice.

Arguments: After the completion of the examination of defense witnesses, if any, the prosecutor will summarize the prosecution's case. Then, the accused or their legal representative will have the right to provide a reply. However, if the accused or their representative raises any legal point during this process, the prosecution can, with the Judge's permission, make submissions concerning that specific legal point.

Post-Trial stage

Judgment: After considering the arguments presented and any legal issue raised, if applicable, the Judge will deliver the verdict in the case. If the accused is found guilty, the Judge will, unless proceeding under section 360, allow the accused an opportunity to present any mitigating factors regarding the sentence. Then, the Judge will pass the sentence according to the law

Submission of Death sentence for confirmation: When a Court of Session pronounces the gravest of sentences – death. In such cases, the judgment is not final until it undergoes rigorous scrutiny by the High Court. The High Court, acting as the custodian of justice, meticulously examines the proceedings, leaving no stone unturned in its quest for truth and fairness. Should the High Court deem it necessary, it possesses the authority to conduct further inquiries or gather supplementary evidence pertinent to the guilt or innocence of the convicted individual.

Upon review, the High Court may choose to validate the sentence, substitute it with an alternative warranted by law, or even invalidate the conviction altogether. Such decisions demand the collective wisdom of the High Court, as evidenced by the requirement for verification or new sentences to be authorized by at least 2 judges. Once the High Court renders its verdict, the proper officer expeditiously communicates the decision to the Court of Session, facilitating the seamless continuation of legal proceedings.

Appeal: Appeals from judgments or orders of a Criminal Court are limited to specific circumstances outlined in the Code or other relevant laws. Victims have the right to appeal against certain orders, such as acquittals or convictions for lesser offenses. However, some minor cases do not allow for appeals, particularly when the sentence is limited to a short imprisonment term or fine. Appeals can be made to higher courts such as the Supreme Court or High Court, depending on the circumstances.

- **Appeal to the Supreme Court** - Individuals convicted in trials conducted by the High Court in its 'extraordinary original criminal jurisdiction' have the right to appeal directly to the Supreme Court.
- **Appeal to the High Court** - Those convicted in trials 'Sessions Judge', 'Add. Sessions Judge' or any other court that imposes a sentence of imprisonment for more than 7 years can appeal to the High Court.
- **Appeal to the Court of Session** - Individuals convicted in trials conducted by lower courts, such as Metropolitan Magistrates, Assistant Sessions Judges, or Magistrates of the first or second class, can appeal to the Court of Session. This includes cases where the

conviction is under specific sections such as section 325, or where an order or sentence has been passed under section 360 by any Magistrate.

Revision Application: According to section 397 of Cr.P.C. 1973, An individual has the right to request a review of any decision made in criminal proceedings if they feel unfairly affected by that decision. The review can only be based on the discovery of new and significant evidence that was previously unknown to the applicant or was impossible to present during the original proceedings. It's important to note that the review process is constrained and does not allow for re-evaluation of evidence or reconsideration of facts already examined by the court.²³

Execution of Sentence: Section 389(1) authorizes the appellate court to suspend enforcement of execution of a sentence, or if the convict is in custody, to provide bail during any appeal process. The court is not required to inform the public prosecutor before suspending a sentence or granting bail. Bail to the convict is not a matter of right for automatic entitlement irrespective of whether the offense is bailable or non-bailable. Bail is granted only after examining the judgment and hearing the accused.²⁴

CONCLUSION

The criminal justice system in India operates within a robust framework governed by key legislative acts: the Indian Penal Code 1860, the Indian Evidence Act 1872, and the Code of Criminal Procedure 1973. These statutes outline the procedures for investigation, trial, and adjudication of criminal offenses, ensuring fairness, transparency, and adherence to the rule of law. Understanding crime is fundamental to navigating the complexities of criminal trials.

Crimes involve tangible harm inflicted upon others through deliberate actions, categorized as either cognizable or non-cognizable offenses under the Code of Criminal Procedure. Cognizable offenses permit immediate police action without a warrant, while non-cognizable offenses require magisterial permission for investigation.

²³ 'Review, Revision, Appeal in CPC and CrPC' (*Century Law Firm*)

<<https://www.centurylawfirm.in/blog/review-revision-appeal-cpc-crpc/>> accessed 04 April 2024

²⁴ Rao (n 12)

The stages of a criminal trial in India are meticulously designed to uphold justice. The stages of criminal trials can be summarized as follows:

Pre-Trial Stage - starting from Registration of FIR, the commencement of the investigation, then the arrest of suspects.

Trial Stages - framing of charges, recording of evidence, examination of accused, argument by prosecution and defense.

Post-Trial Stage - pronouncement of judgment, appeals, execution of sentence.

From the registration of a First Information Report (FIR) to the post-trial stage, each phase serves a distinct purpose, ensuring due process and protection of the rights of the accused.

Various types of trials, including summary, warrant, and summons cases, provide flexibility in addressing different categories of offenses. Furthermore, the jurisdiction of criminal courts, along with specific provisions for certain offenses, delineates the legal and geographical parameters within which criminal proceedings unfold.

The post-trial stage offers avenues for appeal and revision applications, underscoring the importance of recourse and redressal within the legal system. Additionally, the execution of sentences and the provision of anticipatory bail serve to safeguard the rights of the accused while upholding the principles of justice.