

Legal issues faced by Tribal communities

1. Rights under FRA often ignored before displacement from Protected Areas.
2. Misinterpretation of FRA by forest departments leads to violations.
3. Habitat rights of PVTGs poorly defined and implemented.
4. Lack of awareness among tribal women about their rights under FRA.
5. Claims under FRA frequently rejected without valid reasons.
6. Rejections not communicated, hindering appeals and awareness.
7. Section 3(1)(m) of FRA, addressing displacement rights, is unimplemented.
8. Lack of effective consultation with Gram Sabhas in land decisions.

Objectives:

- Ensures access to justice for tribal people in India (rights, benefits, legal aid, and services).
- Aims to uphold social, economic, and political justice as assured by the Constitution.
- Addresses violations of tribal legal rights under key acts like FRA, PESA, and others.



NALSA (Protection and Enforcement of Tribal Rights) Scheme, 2015



Published by



**ARUNACHAL PRADESH STATE LEGAL SERVICES AUTHORITY
(APSLSA)**

**Tower - I, Apartment, 3rd Floor,
Zoo Road, Chimpu - 791113**

Email: Apslsa2013@rediffmail.com

Helpline No. 15100, 0360-2911149 (Toll Free No.)

Printed: 2024

General role of Legal Services Authorities for Tribal Communities

- Bridge the gap between tribal communities, government, and judiciary.
- Ensure rule of law prevails and restore faith in the legal system.
- Undertake specific activities to address tribal people's legal and social needs.

Litigation-Related Initiatives

- Use audio-visual and cultural programs for legal awareness.
- Educate tribal people about forest laws and their consequences.
- Highlight benefits of education, government schemes, and modern technology.
- Establish school legal literacy clubs to engage tribal children.
- Collaborate with NGOs for agricultural training and medical awareness programs.
- Promote safe practices like clean drinking water and immunization.
- Consider community radio to address linguistic divides.

Litigation-Related Initiatives

1. Create a panel of tribal lawyers with fair remuneration.
2. Provide legal aid and, if needed, engage senior lawyers for tribal litigation.
3. Address language barriers in courts to ensure access to justice.
4. Panel lawyers to sincerely represent tribal people and explain legal processes.
5. Clarify jurisdiction overlaps between traditional and formal courts.
6. Visit jails, establish legal clinics, and assist with unjustified long-term imprisonments.
7. Facilitate land compensation and rehabilitation with the help of para-legal volunteers (PLVs).
8. Identify and address educational and medical needs in tribal areas.
9. Ensure direct interaction between judicial officers and tribal communities.
10. Provide legal aid from the start of legal proceedings.
11. Set up legal service clinics and mobile support in remote tribal areas.
12. Coordinate with government departments to resolve land and habitat claims.
13. Support tribal people in accessing High Court through qualified tribal-friendly lawyers.
14. Initiate social justice litigation when required.

Para-Legal Volunteer (PLV) Initiatives

1. Identify tribal-populated areas and deploy PLVs for outreach.
2. Recruit and train PLVs from tribal communities to build trust.
3. PLVs to assist tribal people in accessing government schemes and medical aid.
4. Advocate for tribal issues, including education, trafficking, and compensation.
5. Support trafficked children during legal and rehabilitation processes.
6. Act as a bridge between tribal people, lawyers, and government departments.
7. Help secure documentation for land claims and rehabilitation.
8. Visit jails to assist inmates and expedite legal processes.