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Registration number:

 ST. JOSEPH’S COLLEGE (AUTONOMOUS), BENGALURU-27

M.S.W - III SEMESTER

SEMESTER EXAMINATION: OCTOBER 2021

(Examination conducted in March 2022)

**SW DS 9618 – Rural and Tribal Community Development**

Time- 2 ½ hrs Max Marks-70

This question paper contains 4 printed pages and **THREE** parts

**Part A**

**Answer any FIVE questions 5 x 5 = 25**

1. What are the characteristics of a rural community?
2. Expand PURA, CAPART and their year of establishment.
3. Name five rural socio-economic related problems.
4. Define Tribes and write the objectives of Tribal community development
5. Mention four highlights of PESA and which year it was implemented
6. What were the recommendations of Ashok Mehta Committee? Mention the year the committee was set up.
7. Name five tribal social problems.

**PART II**

**Answer any THREE of the following 3 X 10 = 30**

1. Write the highlights of Sevagram project.
2. Evaluate the NGREGA program and its impact in rural vicinities.
3. “Poverty is vicious and tends to be cyclical” – Analyse and substantiate your views on the same.
4. Explain the concept of Tribal Leadership with suitable example.
5. Detail the salient features of the Forest Rights Act.

**PART III**

**Answer any ONE of the following 1 X 15 = 15**

1. Read the following passage and respond to the question:

Women's political participation in India low, need more: Economic Survey (From the Economic Times, dt. 29 January, 2018)

The Economic Survey today called for more representation of women in decision making process in the country, saying their political participation has been low despite them accounting for 49 per cent of the population. The survey for 2017-18 tabled in Parliament said factors such as domestic responsibilities, prevailing cultural attitudes regarding roles of women in society and lack of support from family were among main reasons that prevented them from entering politics.

"In a country like India with around 49 per cent of women in the population, the political participation of women has been low," it noted.

The survey said there are developing countries like Rwanda which has more than 60 per cent women representatives in Parliament in 2017. Countries like Egypt, India, Brazil, Malaysia, Japan, Sri Lanka and Thailand have less than 15 per cent representation of women in Parliament, it added.
Quoting an Inter-Parliamentary Union (IPU) and UN Women report -- Women in Politics 2017, the survey said Lok Sabha had 64 (11.8 percent of 542 MPs) and Rajya Sabha 27 (11 per cent of 245 MPs) women MPs.

"As on October 2016, out of the total 4,118 MLAs across the country, only 9 per cent were women," it said. In India, between 2010 and 2017 women's share rose 1 percentage point in its Lower House (Lok Sabha), it added. Lack of confidence and finance were the other major deterring factors that prevented women from entering politics. On the other hand, for men the survey said lack of support from the electorate, finance, support of political parties and experience in 'representative functions' public speaking, constituency relations and confidence were among the major deterring factors that prevented women from entering politics.

Stressing on the importance of more women political participation, the survey said, "Recognising the significance of roles of women in decision making process in the society is critical to strengthen women's agencies for building a progressive society with equality of opportunities among all citizens." It, however, said there has been substantial representation of women at local government levels but that varied from state to state.

"There are 13.72 lakh elected women representatives (EWRs) in PRIs (Panchayati Raj Institutions) which constitute 44.2 per cent of total elected representatives (ERs) as on December, 2017," the survey added. Women sarpanchs accounted for 43 per cent of total gram panchayats (GPs) across the country, exhibiting active leadership of women in local government, it said.

**Source:**
[*https://economictimes.indiatimes.com/news/politics-and-nation/womens-political-participation-in-india-low-need-more-economic-survey/articleshow/62696726.cms?utm\_source=contentofinterest&utm\_medium=text&utm\_campaign=cppst*](https://economictimes.indiatimes.com/news/politics-and-nation/womens-political-participation-in-india-low-need-more-economic-survey/articleshow/62696726.cms?utm_source=contentofinterest&utm_medium=text&utm_campaign=cppst)

**Keeping the provisions of the 73rd constitutional amendment, create a Social Work Intervention plan. The plan created needs to apply 5 principles of Rural Community Development, 5 roles of a Social Worker as a Community Developer and one approach of Rural Community Development.**

1. Read the following passage and respond to the question at the end of the passage

**Indian government makes another attempt to amend the Indian Forest Act 1927** (Mongabay, 2021)

The government of India is once again making a move to amend the Indian Forest Act 1927 even as the effort made last time led to a serious pushback from civil society.

On April 8, 2021, the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change (MoEFCC) [called](http://moef.gov.in/wp-content/uploads/2021/04/MoEFCC-inviting-EOI-for-draft-amendments-to-IFA.pdf) for Expression of Interest (EOI) for shortlisting consultancy organisations that could prepare a draft comprehensive amendment to the IFA 1927.

Brought in India’s pre-independence period, the 94-year-old law was meant to consolidate all the then laws relating to forests, the transit of forest produce and the duty leviable on timber and other forest produce.

The ministry emphasised that the objective of this latest exercise is to prepare a “draft of the comprehensive amendment of Indian Forest Act, 1927” in consultation with state governments and union territories, central government ministries and other stakeholders.

In the EOI posted on its website, the MoEFCC said that the “central government is undertaking a comprehensive review of legislations implemented by different ministries/organisations in order to make them synchronise with contemporary needs.”

The environment ministry, in the note for EOI, said that the exercise is focusing on “decriminalising relatively minor violations of law, expeditious resolution through compounding relatively small offences, reducing compliance burden on citizens, rationalisation of penalties, preventing harassment of citizens, de-clogging criminal justice system, expanding and improving of the use efficiently of resources, and promoting people participation and ease of doing business.”

It admitted that the exercise of bringing about legislative reforms on forest governance has also been in the works at the MoEFCC for some time now.

The ministry said that the more comprehensive amendment  may encompass elements such as “provision of graded penalty, removing difficulties in trade and transit of forest products across states, or across national borders in order to encourage forest sector economic growth in the country, encouraging specially non-government actors/ private sector/ civil society/ individuals to take up afforestation/tree planting and/or to develop/manage private forest on non-forest lands on their own.”

The inclusion of the private sector in the afforestation process has been on the radar of the ministry for some time now. In [July 2019](https://india.mongabay.com/2019/07/private-sector-gets-go-ahead-for-assisting-rehabilitation-of-degraded-forests/), the forest panel of the MoEFCC had approved guidelines to allow private industries to be involved in plantation on degraded forest land.

According to the ministry, the process also needs to examine and incorporate “pragmatic legal provisions already made in state forest laws and state amendments in the Indian Forest Act so that all states benefit similarly.”

In fact, in [March 2019](https://india.mongabay.com/2019/03/with-forest-rights-in-focus-ahead-of-elections-proposed-changes-to-forest-act-draw-attention/), the MoEFCC had sent a draft of the proposed amendment to the IFA 1927, to all the states asking the state governments to hold state-level consultations with all stakeholders including non-governmental organisations and civil society organisations on the proposed amendment within 90 days and send a consolidated reply based on the feedback and consultations.

Not only was the time period of 90 days criticised for overlapping with the timing of the elections to India’s parliament, but the amendments proposed in the draft also came under fire.

That version of the draft amendments proposed to give more powers to the forest authorities such as the power to shoot people without any liability, encourage large scale afforestation for carbon sequestration and enhanced penalties for stronger protection of the forests. But environmentalists and organisations working on issues related to the rights of forest dwellers noted that the amendments could lead to an increase in injustice to forest dwellers.

The backlash from the tribal communities and even some states in an election year had forced the government to withdraw the draft in November 2019.

But that has not stopped the government from moving in the direction again – in a more structured way this time. According to a senior official of the MoEFCC, “the effort to update India’s green laws started in 2014 soon after the new government had taken over.”

“Since then a lot of changes have been brought to update the country’s environmental laws in line with the present times. The Indian Forest Act 1927 also needs a reset so that it can be brought in line with the present requirements. The idea behind hiring a consultant is to take utmost care in proposing amendments to this important act and avoid controversies,” the official said.

Shankar Gopalakrishnan, who is the secretary of the Campaign for Survival and Dignity, a national platform of forest dwellers groups, said “the proposal to amend the IFA 1927 comes up every few years or so.”

“It has been 15 years since the Forest Rights Act 2006 came into existence but none of these proposals mentions anything that respects the sanctity of that.  Instead, we have statements in these proposed amendments to the IFA 1927 that talk about them being needed for promoting ease of business which is bizarre considering the wholesale changes in environmental rules and regulations that have been brought by the government in the last few years. 99 percent of the proposals seeking forest clearance are approved. It is not clear how much easier the process can be made than that,” Gopalakrishnan told Mongabay-India.

“The ministry’s focus seems to be only towards catering to the forest bureaucracy and private companies,” he noted.

Source: <https://india.mongabay.com/2021/04/indian-government-makes-another-attempt-to-amend-the-indian-forest-act-1927/> dated 16April 2021

**Based on the above article critically analyse the legal challenges faced by the Tribes with regard to land and present a stake holder intervention plan which uses Indigenous leadership and grassroot perspective as its principle focus.**