

THE A.P./T.S. ESCHEATS AND BONA VACANTIA ACT, 1974

Background

The A.P./T.S. Escheats and Bona Vacantia Act, 1974 is part of the legislative framework governing land administration, land records, and revenue governance in Andhra Pradesh and Telangana. These statutes evolved through colonial regulations and post-independence reforms to regulate land ownership, survey systems, and public land management.

Purpose

The Act establishes legal authority for land administration or regulatory oversight depending on the subject matter of the legislation. It outlines procedures for governance of land resources, enforcement mechanisms, and administrative powers of revenue authorities.

Key Provisions

- Defines powers and jurisdiction of revenue authorities and administrative officers.
- Provides procedures for land regulation, revenue administration, or record maintenance.
- Establishes mechanisms for enforcement, appeals, and legal remedies.
- Provides guidelines for land surveys, assignments, or conversion depending on the Act.
- Defines responsibilities of government departments managing land and revenue matters.

Administrative Importance

These provisions play an important role in the functioning of the land administration system, guiding survey operations, land record maintenance, land assignments, dispute resolution, and regulatory enforcement.

Modern Relevance

Many of these statutes continue to influence modern land governance policies, either directly or through amendments and successor legislation adopted by the Governments of Andhra Pradesh and Telangana.

Additional Notes

Legal professionals, researchers, and revenue officials often refer to these Acts when interpreting land governance policies, handling land disputes, verifying land records, or

examining historical revenue administration systems. The legislative structure of these Acts provides a foundation for modern administrative practices in land and revenue management.