

Research Agenda for Laws Concerning Organisations and Administration

1. Study the administrative set-up under the forest laws, at all levels, and determine what amendments are required in the Forest Act, in order to design an effective administrative system in view of the managerial requirements of the new programmes and ecological needs.
2. Determine what changes are required in the *Panchayat* Act to facilitate the fulfilment of duties to maintain village forests, grazing lands, and other common property and what would be the best legal arrangement for vesting such common property in the *panchayats* from the point of view of a long-term policy for sustenance, yield, finances, responsibilities, and accountabilities.
3. Determine both theoretically and empirically how the Town and Country Planning Acts can be modified to lay down provisions that will take into account the ecological needs in such planning.
4. Do a legal appraisal of the working of the statutory bodies, such as cooperatives and societies, and of non-statutory bodies, such as voluntary agencies, VDCs, and *Mahila Mandals*; analyse the laws applicable to them, and work out the changes in law required to involve such organisations efficaciously in ecological work.