



*Tripura Tribal Areas
Autonomous District
(Establishment of Village
Committee) Act, 1994*

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Village Committee Fund

The Village Committee shall establish and maintain fund called Village Committee Fund.

District Council Contribution

The District Council contributes to the Village Committee Fund, providing **financial support** for its operations.

State Government Contribution

The State Government also contributes to the fund, further **strengthening its financial resources**.

Contributions from Other Bodies

Corporations, societies, companies, and other public bodies can contribute to the fund, **fostering collaboration and community engagement**.

Local Revenue Sources

The District Council may allocate **revenue sources within the area to the Village Committee**, including cattle pound fees, local rates, and fees for certain means of conveyance.

Administration of the Village Committee Fund

Executive Committee Role

The Executive Committee of the District Council **formulates rules for managing and controlling** the Village Committee Fund.

Financial Procedures

These rules prescribe **procedures for depositing money into the fund, withdrawing funds, and ensuring its safekeeping.**

Ancillary Matters

The rules may also address other matters related to the fund, ensuring its **efficient and transparent administration.**

Audit and Oversight

1

Audit of Accounts

The **Executive Committee** of the District Council conducts **audits of the Village Committee's** accounts as deemed necessary.

2

Inspection and Supervision

The **Executive Committee or its authorized officers** have the power to inspect, supervise, and control the Village Committee's administration.

3

Utilization of Funds

The **Village Committee Fund** is used to cover **administrative expenses related to the Village Committee's operations.**

Dissolution and Administration Takeover



1

Dissolution Grounds

The Executive Committee can dissolve the Village Committee if its continuation is deemed detrimental to the peace, welfare, and progress of the village.

2

Administration Takeover

Upon dissolution, the Executive Committee takes over the administration of the Village Committee.

3

Time Limit

The Executive Committee's administration takeover is limited to a maximum of six months.

Meetings of the Village Committee



Frequency

Every 30 days

Emergency Meetings

May meet more frequently with 3 days' notice

Meeting Notice

7 days' notice issued by the Secretary in consultation with the Chairman

Quorum

5 members



Decisions and Presiding Officers



Recording Decisions

The **Secretary** records the decisions of each meeting and **submits a copy to the Chief Executive Officer** of the District Council.



Presiding Officers

The **Chairman** presides over meetings, and in their absence, the Vice-Chairman takes over. The presiding officer has **no vote**, but can **exercise a casting vote in case of a tie**.

Elections to the Village Committee

1

State Election Commission

The State Election Commission **oversees the preparation** (Superintendence, direction and control) and revision of electoral rolls and conducts all elections to the Village Committee.

2

Tripura Panchayat Act, 1993

The provisions of **Part-V of the Tripura Panchayat Act, 1993**, are applicable to Village Committee elections, electoral offenses, and election disputes.



Powers, Functions, and Duties of the Chairman and Vice-Chairman

Chairman's Responsibilities

The Chairman is responsible for **maintaining records**, overseeing **finance and administration**, supervising staff and control over their work, and representing the Village Committee in various institutions.

Vice-Chairman's Responsibilities

The Vice-Chairman exercises the powers and performs the functions of the Chairman as prescribed by the District Council.

Honorarium for Chairman and Vice-Chairman

- The Chairman and Vice-Chairman of a Village Committee is entitled to receive **honorarium and traveling allowances**.
- Other members are entitled to **sitting fees per month**.
- This may be **fixed by the Executive Committee** by order from time to time.
- It also specifies that if a Vice-Chairman or member acts in the capacity of the Chairman, they are entitled to the same honorarium and allowances as the Chairman.

Handing over Charge by the retiring Chairman to the new Chairman

1. On the election of a new Chairman, the Retiring Chairman **shall hand over** to him the Charge of the Chairman's Office.

2. If he **fails or refuses** to do so, the **Principal Officer of the Village Committee** or any Officer empowered by him directs him to hand over the charge of his Office along with all Papers in his possession.

➤ This may be made **by an order in writing**.

3. Even if he fails to comply with the direction again, then he shall **be punishable on conviction by a Magistrate** of competent Jurisdiction.

➤ Punishment - Imprisonment for a term which **may extend to 6 months or fine of Rs.1000/- or with both.**

4. if he fails to comply with the direction Issued, any Officer empowered by the Principal Officer of the Village Committee shall be entitled to take possession of all papers and properties, **through police help**, from the retiring Chairman.

Right of individual members

These rights are designed to ensure that **members can actively participate in the governance** and oversight of the **Village Committee's activities** and contribute to the **improvement of local administration**.

➤ **Right to Call Attention:**

- ❖ Every member has the right to bring to the **attention of the District Council** to any **neglect in the execution of duties assigned to the Village Committee**.
- ❖ Members can report any waste of Panchayat property or any locality and suggest improvements they deem necessary.

➤ **Right to Access Records:**

- ❖ Members are entitled to **inspect the records of the Village Committee during office hours**.
- ❖ They must provide **due notice to the Village Committee** before accessing the records.

Property vested in the Village Committee

1. Vesting of property

- All **public buildings constructed and maintained** using the funds of the Village Committee.
- **All public roads**, along with their construction materials, **trees, and other related items**, that have been built and maintained with the Village Committee's funds.
- Any **lands or other movable and immovable properties that have been transferred** to the Village Committee by the District Council.

2. Management and application

- The properties listed are to be **under the direction and management of the Village Committee.**

3. Exclusions by District Council:

- The **District Council has the authority to exclude** any street, bridge, or drain from the provisions of this Act or any specific section of the Act by **issuing a notification.**
- However, **if the construction of such works was funded by the Village Committee, they cannot be excluded** from the Act or a specific section **without first considering the views of the Village Committee at a meeting.**

Oath of affirmation by members of Village Committee

1. Oath of Affirmation Required:

- Every person elected as a member of a Village Committee must, before taking their seat, make and subscribe to an **oath of affirmation of allegiance to the Constitution of India.**
- The oath is to be made before an authority specified by the Executive Committee, and the form of the **oath is set out in the Schedule of the Act.**

2. Condoning of failure to take oath:

- If a person **fails to take the oath of affirmation** and the Executive Committee is satisfied that the **failure was due to inadvertence or mistake**, the Committee may declare that the **failure to comply with the oath requirement is condoned.**

Oath of affirmation by members of Village Committee (Cont)

3. Effect of condonation:

- Once a **declaration of condonation is made by the Executive Committee**, the person is **deemed to have continued in office despite the default**, and **all acts done by them are considered valid and lawful**.

4. Dissolution of Village Committee

- If all members of a Village Committee **fail to take the oath of affirmation**, or if the number of members who have taken the **oath is insufficient to form a quorum**, and the **Executive Committee is not satisfied that the failure was due to inadvertence or mistake**, the Executive Committee may dissolve the Village Committee by an order published in the Tripura Gazette.
- After dissolution, **a fresh general election is to be held**, and those who failed to take the oath shall not be disqualified for election.

SCHEDULE

Form of oath of affirmation to be made by a member of a village committee (Sec-39)

I, A, B, C ,-----
having declared member of Village Committee do
swear in the name of God, / Solemnly affirm that I will
swear true faith and allegiance to the Constitution of
India as by law established, and I will faithfully
discharge the duties upon which I am about to enter.

Power of the District Council to make rules

➤ Rule-Making Power:

The **Executive Committee** is empowered to make rules for any matter that is required or may be prescribed by the Act, or that is **considered necessary or expedient** for giving effect to the Act's purposes.

➤ Specific Rule-Making Authority:

The Executive Committee can make rules regarding:

a. **Voter qualifications** and the preparation of electoral rolls.

b. **Candidate qualifications** for Village Committee elections.

c. The **terms of office** for the Chairman, Vice-Chairman, and members of the Village Committee.

d. The **procedure and conduct** of Village Committee elections.

e. The **number of seats to be reserved** for Scheduled Tribes and Scheduled Castes within the Village Committee.

f. The **delimitation of constituencies** for Village Committee elections.

➤ Approval and Modification of Rules:

Every rule made by the Executive Committee must **be presented to the Council of the Autonomous District of Tripura** while it is **in session for a total of ten days**.

If the Council **agrees to modify** the rule or **decides that the rule should not be made**, the rule will only **take effect in its modified form or will be nullified**, as the case may be.

Any modification or annulment of a rule does not affect the validity of actions already taken under that rule.

Removal of Difficulties

1. Authority to remove difficulties:

➤ If any difficulty arises in giving effect to any provision of the Act, **the Executive Committee has the authority to issue an order to remove that difficulty.**

➤ The **Executive Committee** can take any necessary action to address the difficulty, and the **order must be published in the Tripura Gazette.**

2. Reporting of orders:

➤ Every order made must be **presented to the Council** in the session that follows the issuance of the order.

3. Time limit of issuing order:

➤ The Executive Committee can only issue orders **within two years from the date of completion of the first election** conducted under the Act.

THANK YOU