

EDITOR'S NOTE

I have great pleasure in presenting this volume on "Property Relations in Independent India: Constitutional and Legal Implications." The volume contains the papers presented at a seminar organized at Ootacamund by the Indian Law Institute from the 25th to the 31st of December, 1966, with the kind assistance of the Madras Government who provided excellent hospitality to all the participants at their luxurious guest house. Summaries of the proceedings at the discussion sessions have also been included in the volume.

The topic of the seminar needs no justification at a time when India is making all efforts to construct a modern industrial society based on principles of social justice. Property relations are undergoing great transformations. It is necessary to examine the trends that these transformations disclose and their effect upon the existing social and moral values of the Indian community. The Institute brought together eminent judges, lawyers, law teachers and social scientists to list out and clarify problems in this area. Participants were requested to contribute papers round the following breakup:

IDEOLOGICAL CLARIFICATION AND INTERPRETATIONAL PROBLEMS

- 1) Property Relations: The Constitutional Vision;
- 2) Property Relations: Constitutional Provisions and Problems of Interpretation;

INTER-DISCIPLINARY EVALUATION

- 3) Property Relations and Agrarian Reforms;
- 4) Property Relations and Urbanization;
- 5) Property Relations and Corporate Structure;
- 6) Property Relations and Impact of Technological Revolution;
- 7) Property Relations and Social Institutions;
- 8) Property Relations and Regulatory Process including Taxation;
- 9) Property Relations and Implications of Transactional Instruments.

TRENDS AND PROSPECTS

- 10) Property Relations—Trends and Prospects.

It was not expected that any firm and final conclusions will emerge out of the seminar. The discussions were fruitful and largely centred

round the sociological implications of some recent decisions of the Supreme Court—particularly those relating to compensation. The seminar felt that an adherence to a single judicial formula would not be a proper method for seeking solutions to the continuing and everchanging problems that beset the area of property relations. Judicial wisdom, in its opinion, would lie in correctly perceiving the values that the conflict situation of each problem involves and making functional and not merely logically consistent choices. The Institute will feel amply rewarded if this book succeeds in generating further inter-disciplinary research into this most important area of contemporary human relations in India so that enough material is available to the legal profession for arriving at functional choices.

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