

Table 2: Important Events in Land Reforms in Indian States since 1950

State	Year	Title	Description	Class.
Andhra Pradesh	1950 (am. 54)	(Telengana Area) Tenancy and Agricultural Lands Act	(Inter alia) Tenants received protected tenancy status; tenants to have minimum term of lease; right of purchase of non-resumable lands; transfer of ownership to protected tenants in respect of non-resumable lands; as a result 13611 protected tenants declared owners.	1
	1952	Hyderabad Abolition of Cash Grants Act Inams Abolition Act	Abolition of all the 975 jagirs in Talangena.	2
	1954	(Absorbed) Enclaves	Abolition of inams (with few exceptions).	2
	1955	(Hyderabad Jagirdars) Act	Abolition of all the 975 jagirs in Talangena.	2
	1956	Inam (Abolition and Conversion into Ryotwari) Act Tenancy Act	Acquisition of 11137 estates; abolition of 1.06 million minor inams. (CHECK!)	2
	1956 (am. 74)		Tenancy continues upto 2/3 of ceiling area; law does not provide for conferment of ownership right on tenants except through right to purchase; confers continuous right of resumption on landowners.	1
	1957	Inams Abolition Act	Abolition of inams (with few exceptions), struck down by the High Court in 1970.	2
Assam	1951	State Acquisition of Zamindari Act	Abolition of intermediary rights involving 0.67 million hectares.	2
	1954	Lushai Hills District (Acquisition of Chiefs Rights) Act	Same as above.	2
	1956 (am. 76)	Fixation of Ceiling on Land Holdings Act	Self-explanatory.	3
	1960	Consolidation of Holdings Act	Introduction of compulsory consolidation.	4
	1971	(Temporarily Settled Areas) Tenancy Act	Classifies tenants into occupancy and non-occupancy tenants; former has security of tenure, may acquire landlord's right of holding by paying 50 times the land revenue; subletting is disallowed.	1

Bihar	1950	Land Reforms Act	Abolition of zamindari; implementation of this act very slow.	2
	1957	Homestead Tenancy Act	Confers rights of permanent tenancy in homestead lands on persons holding less than one acre of land.	1
	1961 (am. 73)	Land Reforms Act	Prohibits subletting, preventing sub-lessee from acquiring right of occupancy.	1
	1961	Land Ceiling Act	Imposition of ceiling on landholdings of 9.71-29.14 hectares (1960-1972) and of 6.07-18.21 hectare (after 1972).	3
	1973 (am. 82)	Act 12 (amendment to Land Reforms Act)	Introduced provisions relating to the voluntary surrender of surplus land.	3
	1976	Act 55	(Inter alia) Provided for the substitution of legal heir; ceiling area shall be redetermined when classification of land changes; ordered that the landholder necessarily retain land transferred in contravention of the Act.	3
	1982	Tenancy (Amendment) Act	Provides definition of personal cultivation; provides for acquisition of occupancy rights by underraiyats.	1
	1986			
Gujarat	1948 (am. 55 & 60)	Bombay Tenancy and Agricultural Lands Act	Tenants entitled to acquire right of ownership after expiry of one year upto ceiling area; confers ownership right on tenants in possession of dwelling site on payment of 20 times annual rent; law does not confer any rights on sub-tenants.	1
	1960	Agricultural Lands Ceiling Act	Imposed ceiling on landholdings of 4.05-53.14 hectares (1960-1972) and of 4.05-21.85 hectares (after 1972).	3
	1969	Devasthan Inam Abolition Act	Abolishes all grades of intermediary tenures, but law was partially injuncted from implementation by order of Supreme Court.	2
	1973	Amending Act	Provides opportunity to acquire ownership of holdings but largely overridden by numerous provisions.	1
Haryana	1953	Punjab Security of Land Tenures Act	Provides complete security of tenure for tenants in continuous possession of land (<15 acres) for 12 years; grants tenants optional right of purchase of ownership of non-resumable land; no bar on future leasing.	1
	1955	Pepsu Tenancy and Agricultural Land Act	Same as above.	1
Jammu & Kashmir	1962	Agrarian Reforms Act	Introduction of compulsory consolidation. All rights, titles, and interests in land of any person not cultivating it personally in kharif 1971 are extinguished and transferred to the state; provides for conferment of ownership rights on tenants after allowing resident landlord to resume land for personal cultivation.	4
	1976			1

Karnataka	1954	Mysore (Personal and Miscellaneous) Inam Abolition Act	Abolished all the large inamdari intermediaries; process of implementation very slow.	2
	1955	Mysore (Religious and Charitable) Inams Abolition Act	Same as above.	2
	1961 (effect. 65)	Land Reforms Act	Provides for fixity of tenure subject to landlord's right to resume 1/2 leased area; grants tenants optional right to purchase ownership on payment of 15-20 times the net rent; imposition of ceiling on landholdings.	1, 3
	1974	Land Reforms (Amendment) Act	Imposition of ceiling on landholdings of 4.05-21.85 hectares (after 1972); removal of all but one of the exemptions from tenancy legislation.	1, 3
Kerala	1960	Agrarian Relations Act	Abolishes intermediaries, but law struck down by Supreme Court.	2
	1963	Land Reforms Act	Concedes tenant's right to purchase the land from landowners.	1
	1969 (effect. 70) am. 79	Land Reforms (Amendment) Act	Conferment of full ownership rights on tenants; 2.5 million tenants could become landowners; right of resumption expires; although far-reaching on paper, law "not conducive to social justice" because of concealed tenancy; imposition of ceiling on landholdings of 6.07-15.18 hectares (1960-1972) and of 4.86-6.07 hectares (after 1972); abolition of intermediary rights.	1, 2, 3
	1974	Agricultural Workers Act	Called for employment security, fixed hours, minimum wages, etc.	1
Madhya Pradesh	1950	Abolition of Proprietary Rights (Estates, Mahals, Alienated Lands) Act	Abolition of intermediary rights.	2
	1951	United States of Gwalior, Indore and Malwa Zamindari Abolition Act	Same as above.	2
	1951	Abolition of Jagir Act	Same as above.	2
	1952	Vindhya Pradesh Abolition of Jagirs and Land Reforms Act	Same as above.	2
	1959	Land Revenue Code	Leasing prohibited; entitles occupancy tenants to ownership rights of non-resumable area on payment of 15 times the land revenue; implementation of reform inefficient, one reason being that sharecroppers and tenants are not recorded.	1
	1959 1960	Ceiling on Agricultural Holdings Act	Introduction of compulsory consolidation. Imposed ceiling on landholdings of 10.12 hectares (1960-1972) and of 4.05-21.85 hectares (after 1972).	4 3

Maharashtra	1950	Hyderabad Tenancy and Agricultural Lands Act	Provides for suo motto transfer of ownership to tenants of non-resumable lands (applies to Marathawada region).	1
	1958	Bombay Tenancy and Agricultural Land Act	Provides for transfer of ownership to tenants with non-resumable lands (with effect from 1-4-96).	1
	1961	Agricultural Land (Ceiling on Holdings) Act	Imposition of ceiling on landholdings.	3
Orissa	1951	Estate Abolition Act	Aimed at abolishing all intermediary interests.	2
	1972	Land Reforms Act	Entitled tenants to acquire ryoti rights over entire land held by them.	2
	1960 (am. 73 & 76)	Land Reforms Act	Provides for fixity of tenure of non-resumable area; prohibits subletting; implementation poor; financial help for purchase of ownership right lacking; most leases in form of sharecropping but sharecroppers not recorded as tenants; imposition of ceiling on landholdings of 8.09-32.37 hectares (1960-1972) and of 4.05-18.21 hectares (after 1972).	1, 3
	1972	???	Introduction of compulsory consolidation.	4
Punjab	1953	Punjab Security of Land Tenures Act	See under Haryana.	1
	1955	Pepsu Tenancy and Agricultural Land Act	See under Haryana.	1
	1972	Land Reforms Act	Permissible limit (ceiling) is 7 hectares; 5 acres of land are secured, the rest may be resumed; optional right of purchase of ownership; sharecropping not considered tenancy; tenants often coerced to "voluntarily surrender" land; land leases not registered under provision of tenancy laws.	1
Rajasthan	1952	Land Reforms and Resumption of Jagir Act	Abolishes all intermediary rights.	2
	1953	Bombay Merged Territories and Area (Jagir Abolition) Act	Same as above.	2
	1953	???	Introduction of compulsory consolidation.	4
	1955	Ajmer Abolition of Intermediaries and Land Reforms Act	Abolishes intermediary interests in other areas.	2
	1955	Tenancy Act	Confers security of tenure to tenants and sub-tenants; ownership rights can be transferred; provisions of voluntary surrender made legislation "mere farce."	1
	1959	Zamindari and Biswedari Abolition Act	Abolishes intermediary interests in other areas.	2

Tamil Nadu	1948	Estates (Abolition and Conversion into Ryotwari) Act XXVI	A series of laws enacted (through long intervals) for the abolition of various types of intermediaries.	2
	1952	Thanjavur Tenants and Pannaiyal Protection Act		1
	1955 (am. 65)	Madras Cultivating Tenants Protection Act	Prohibits any cultivating tenant from being evicted but allows for resumption upto 1/2 of lands leased out to tenant.	1
	1956	Cultivating Tenants (Payment of Fair Rent) Act	Abolishes usury and rack-renting.	1
	1961 (am. 71)	Public Tenants Act	Provides that no public trust can evict its cultivating tenants.	1
	1961	Land Reforms (Fixation of Ceiling on Land) Act	Imposition of ceiling on landholdings of 12.14-48.56 hectares (1960-1972) and of 4.86-24.28 hectares (after 1972).	3
	1969	Agricultural Land-Records of Tenancy Right Act	Provides for preparation and maintenance of complete record of tenancy rights.	1
	1971	Occupants of Kudiyruppu Act	Provides for acquisition and conferment of ownership rights on agriculturists, agricultural laborers and rural artisans.	1
1976	Rural Artisans (Conferment of Ownership of Kudiyruppu) Act	Same as above.	1	
Uttar Pradesh	1950 (am. 52, 54, 56, 58, 77)	Zamindari Abolition and Land Reforms Act	All tenants are given complete security of tenure without any right of resumption for the landowner; leases, in general, are banned; law provided for transferring and vesting of of all zamindari estates; zamindari was abolished over 60.2 million acres (out of total state area of 72.6 million acres).	1, 2
	1953	Consolidation of Holdings Act	Introduction of compulsory consolidation.	4
	1960 (effect. 61)	Imposition of Ceilings on Landholdings Act	Imposition of ceiling on landholdings of 16.19-32.37 hectares (1960-1972) and of 7.30-18.25 hectares (after 1972).	3

West Bengal	1950	Bargadars Act	Stipulated that the bargadar and the landowner could choose any proportion acceptable to them.	1
	1953	Estates Acquisition Act	Landholders limited to a ceiling; provided for abolition of all intermediary tenures	1, 2
	1955 (am 70, 71 & 77)	Land Reforms Act	Provides that landowner can resume land for personal cultivation such that tenant is left with at least 1 hectare; sharecropping not considered tenancy (in West Bengal most tenants are sharecroppers); provides for land consolidation if two or more landowners agree.	1, 4
	1972	Acquisition and Settlement of Homestead Land (Amendment) Act	Tenants of homestead lands are given full rights.	1
	1975	Acquisition of Homestead Land for Agricultural Laborers, Artisans and Fishermen Act	Over 2.5 lakh persons were given homestead land (about eight cents each) up to Jan 1991.	1
	1977	Land Reforms (Amendment) Act	"Raises presumption in favor of sharecroppers" (Yugandhar & Iyer, p. 48)	1
	1981	Land Reforms (Amendment) Act	Designed to plug the loopholes in the earlier Acts relating to the ceiling of landholdings.	3
	1986	Land Reforms (Amendment) Act	Sought to bring all classes of land under the ceiling provisions by withdrawing previous exemptions; provided for regulatory measures to check indiscriminate conversion of land from one use to another; law not yet fully implemented.	3
	1990	Land Reforms (Amendment) Act	Same as above.	

#### Classification Codes:

1. Tenancy Reforms
2. Abolition of Intermediaries
3. Ceilings on Landholdings
4. Consolidation of Land Holdings