





For Law Competitive Exams

PROPERTY OF FEMALE HINDU AND RULES OF SUCCESSION IN HER CASE

Raj Singh Niranjan*

According to the Indian Law, property of a female Hindu to be her absolute property.

Ingredients of Hindu Female Property are:

- The property must be acquired by a female Hindu;
- Before or after 1956;
- She must be full owner of the property and not limited owner;
- The property may be movable or immovable.

Property is defined as Property-

- · Received by way of inheritance;
- · Received by way of partition;
- Received by way of arrears of maintenance;
- Received as gift from any person (before or after marriage);
- Acquired by own skill and exertion;
- · Acquired by purchase;
- · Received by way of prescription;
- Acquired in any other manner;
- · Stridhan.

Exceptions

In the following cases the Hindu female shall be a limited owner (if restricted estate given):-

- · Gift;
- · Will;
- · Other instruments;
- Decree, Order or Award.

GENERAL RULES OF SUCCESSION OF PROPERTY OF A FEMALE HINDU

Succession may be-

- i. Intestate, or
- ii. Testamentary.

Intestate Succession

- Intestate succession, i.e. succession without Will;
- Property devolves according to rules in Section 16 of the Hindu Succession Act.

Groups of Heirs

- (a) Sons and daughters;
 - · Children of any pre-deceased sons or daughters;
 - · Husband.
- (b) Heirs of the husband (as determined by sections 8 to 13 of the Succession Act);
- (c) Mother and father of the deceased;
- (d) Heirs of the father (as determined by sections 8 to 13 of the Succession Act);
- (e) Heirs of the mother (as determined by sections 15 and 16 of the Succession Act).

Kinds of Property of a Deceased Hindu Female

- 1. Inherited from her father or mother
- 2. Inherited from her husband or father-in-law
- 3. Rest of the property

Conditions

i. Absence of any son or daughter of deceased