



Arunachal Pradesh government is reviving a 1978 anti-conversion law to address rising concerns over cultural preservation and religious conversions.

What is the Arunachal Pradesh Freedom of Religion Act?

The Arunachal Pradesh Freedom of Religion Act, enacted in 1978, prohibits religious conversion through force, inducement, or fraudulent means.

Violators face up to two years of imprisonment or a fine of ₹10,000.

The Act mandates reporting all conversions to the Deputy Commissioner of the district.

Despite its enactment, the Act remained dormant for 46 years due to the lack of implementation rules.

Why Is the Act Being Revived Now?

In 2022, a PIL filed in the Gauhati High Court highlighted the state



government's failure to frame rules for the Act.

The court's recent directive to finalize draft rules within six months has reignited discussions.

Proponents, like the Indigenous Faiths and Cultural Society of Arunachal Pradesh (IFCSAP), argue that the Act is vital to preserve indigenous traditions and counter the rising conversion rates.

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