

VILLAGE COURT

- 1. Village Court** — For the trial of suits and cases in the village with the Sirdar, Siem Raid, Basan, Lyngdoh, Lyngskor or headman as Chairman and other members elected by the village adults. In civil cases the village court is empowered to award costs and compensations. In criminal cases it is empowered to impose a fine of Rs. 150/-. It has no power to pass a sentence of imprisonment. The village court tries suits and cases in accordance with the customary laws of the village.

ADDITIONAL SUBORDINATE DISTRICT COUNCIL COURT

- 2. Additional Subordinate District Council Court**—For the trial of suits and cases within the Syiemship, Lyngdohship, Sirdarship, Wahadarship not triable by village courts to be presided over by the Syiem, Lyngdoh, Sirdar, Wahadar, as the case may be with such number of Myntris or customary elders. In civil cases its pecuniary jurisdiction is unlimited and in criminal cases it can exercise powers as may be invested as defined in Chapter III of the Cr.P.C. It hears appeals from the decision of the village courts both civil and criminal. In civil cases its procedure is guided by the spirit but not bound by the letter of the Civil Procedure Code, 1908 as amended. In criminal cases its procedure is guided by the spirit of the Code of Criminal Procedures. 1973 as amended upto date.

SUBORDINATE DISTRICT COUNCIL COURT

3. **Subordinate District Council Court** – For the trial and cases for the whole of the Khasi Hills Autonomous District not triable by village courts and under its jurisdiction to be presided over by the Judicial Officer designated as Magistrate. In Civil Cases it has got unlimited power and in Criminal Cases it has been invested with the Power of the Magistrate 1st Class with 7(seven) years power of imprisonment. It also hears appeals from the decisions of the Village Court both Civil and Criminal.

In Civil Cases its procedure is guided by the spirit but not bound by the letter of the code of Civil Procedure, 1908 as amended up-to-date. In Criminal Cases, its procedure is guided by the spirit of the code of Criminal Procedure, 1973 as amended up-to-date.

At present, there are three Subordinate District Council courts at Shillong and they are trying a large number of cases both Civil and Criminals arising from different part of the Khasi Hills Autonomous District Council comprising East Khasi hills District, West Khasi Hills District and Ri-Bhoi District and many civil and criminal cases had been disposed of from time to time.

ADDITIONAL DISTRICT COUNCIL COURT

4. **Additional District Council Court** – For the trial of Suit and Cases not triable by the Village Courts, Additional Subordinate District Council Courts and Subordinate District Council courts for the whole of the Khasi Hills Autonomous District Council comprising of the three Districts viz., East Khasi hills District, West Khasi Hills District and Ri-Bhoi District. It is presided over by the Judicial Officer designated as Additional Judge. In Civil Cases it has got unlimited power and in Criminal Cases its Presiding Office (Additional Judge) has been invested by the Governor with all the powers of a sessions Court. It hears appeals and

Revisions both Civil and Criminal from the decision of the Additional Subordinate District Council Courts and Subordinate District Council Courts as may be endorsed by the District Council Court. In Civil Cases / appeals / Revisions, it procedure is guided by the spirit but not bound by the letter of the Code of civil Procedure, 1908 as amended up-to-date. In Criminal Cases, the procedure is guided by the spirit of the Criminal Procedure code, 1973 as amended up-to-date. Presently, it tries many cases both Civil and Sessions Cases and had disposed of quite a large number of Civil and Criminal cases from time to time. Appeal from the Additional District Council Court goes to the High Court.

DISTRICT COUNCIL COURT

5. **District Council Court** - For the trial of suit and Cases not triable by any Council Court. It exercise jurisdiction within the whole of the Khasi Hills Autonomous District Council and is presided over by the Judicial Officer designated as the Judge. In Civil Cases, it has got unlimited powers and in Criminal Cases its Presiding Officer (The Judge) has been invested by the Governor with all powers of a Session Court. It hears appeals and Revisions both Civil and Criminal from the decision of the Additional Subordinate District Council Court and Subordinate District Council Court. In Civil cases, appeals, revisions etc., its procedure is guided by the spirit but not bound by the letter of the Civil Procedure Code, 1908 as amended up-to-date. In Criminal Cases, the procedure is guided by the spirit of the Criminal Procedure Code, 1973 as amended up-to-date. Presently, its tries many Civil and Session Cases and had disposed of quite a large number of Civil and Criminal cases from time to time. Appeal/revision against the order / Judgement of the District Council Court lies to the High Court. The District Council Court is not subordinate to any other Court in the State except the High Court.

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