




drishti

Case Study -14 : Pilgrimage Centre versus Women Right

 drishtiias.com/printpdf/rituals-women-rights-pilgrimage-tradition-patriarchy-inequality-constitution-ethics-case-study-gs-upsc-mains-paper-iv-4

You are a senior forest official who has recently been posted in a forest range which has a wildlife sanctuary and pilgrimage center of local hill tribes. The sanctuary is a famous trekking site, but is open only for males as the local tribal culture doesn't permit the entry of women to the hill site housing their deity.

Recently, the State High Court has lifted this unofficial ban on women following which there has been pressure from women's' group to open the trekking site for all, while the local tribal group opposes the same. You fear that opening the site might lead to protest from tribals, compromising law and order situation and endanger the safety of trekkers to the site.

1. What are the options open to you in this scenario? Discuss along with their merits and demerits?
2. Which would be the most appropriate action that you would take in this situation and why?