



KAMARAJ IAS ACADEMY
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Indian Governor's conference

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Why in news?

The two-day conference will be held in Rastrapathi Bhavan, New Delhi.

The conference will be the first Conference of Governors to be presided over by Murmu.

About:

Governor's conference is **extra constitutional device** for securing cooperation and coordination between the states in India.

In this conference, deliberation over important issues related to states and union territory.

For example, recent conference discussed some of the following key issues and policies.

1. Security- Internal and External with special focus on terrorism and insurgency activities;
2. Creating jobs for youths: special focus on skill development for school dropouts;
3. Implementation of flagship programmes of the Government.
4. Improving quality of Higher Education;
5. Issues relating to Fifth and Sixth Schedule of the Constitution of India and development related issues of North Eastern Areas.

"Govt wants Governors to pro-actively share views on social media when states-Centre differ on policy issues", This is one of a set of suggestions that finds mention in an official agenda note in the run-up to the two-day Conference of Governors beginning August 2.

Article 341 of the constitution

- The Supreme Court on Thursday ruled that the sub-classification of scheduled castes (SC) and Scheduled tribes (ST) is permissible for providing reservations in government jobs and education.
- The seven-judge constitution bench, headed by Chief Justice D.Y. Chandrachud in a 6:1 majority verdict overruled the court's 2004 judgement, which held that SCs form a homogenous group and hence could not be sub-divided into categories.
- The 2004 verdict had stated that only parliament, and not state legislatures, can exclude castes deemed to be SC from the presidential list under article 341 of the constitution.

Article 341:

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Authority on Scheduled Castes Designation: It authorises the President to declare certain castes and classes as Scheduled Castes in a state or a union territory.

- It also states that the Parliament can include or exclude any caste or tribe from the list.

Application:

This authority applies to any State or Union Territory.

For States, the President must **consult with the Governor** before making a designation.

- **Article 14** of the constitution which pertains to equality before the law, permitted the sub classification of caste.
- The judgement added that historical evidence and social parameter shows **that all SCs and STs do not constitute a homogenous group.**
- The bench noted that the sub-classification of these groups was also not against the Article 341 of the constitution, which conferred upon the president the right to make changes on the list of SC and ST.
- The bench noted that “the sub-categorisation within a class is a constitutional requirement to secure substantive equality”.
- The bench highlighted the Indra Sawhney case in which the 9 judge bench held it constitutional to classify backward class as “backward and more backward”.