



KAMARAJ IAS ACADEMY
Only IAS Academy by Grandson of "Perunthalsivam Kamarajar"

Jallikattu at Chettipalayam, Coimbatore

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Context

- Jallikattu is a **traditional sport** that is popular in the Indian state of **Tamil Nadu**.
- The sport involves **releasing a wild bull into a crowd of people**, and the participants attempt to grab the bull's hump and ride it for as long as possible, or **attempt to bring it under control**.
- It is celebrated in the month of **January**, during the **Tamil harvest festival, Pongal**.

Jallikattu Issue

- The primary question involved was **whether Jallikattu should be granted constitutional protection as a collective cultural right under Article 29 (1)**.
- **Article 29 (1) is a fundamental right** guaranteed under Part III of the Constitution **to protect the educational and cultural rights of citizens**.
- The court examined if **the laws "perpetuate cruelty to animals" (or) were actually a means to ensure "the survival and well-being of the native breed of bulls"**.
- The **Supreme Court banned Jallikattu** through a judgment in **May 2014 in the Animal Welfare Board of India vs A. Nagaraja case on the grounds of cruelty to animals**.
- In **2018**, the Supreme Court referred the Jallikattu case to a Constitution Bench, where it is **pending now**.
- The bone of contention is the **Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (Tamil Nadu Amendment) Act of 2017 and Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (Conduct of Jallikattu) Rules of 2017 passed by the President**, which had **re-opened the gates** for the conduct of the popular bull-taming sport **in the name of culture and tradition despite a 2014 ban by the Supreme Court**.

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A gutsy tamer prevails over a ferocious bull during a jallikattu held at Chettipalayam in Coimbatore on April 27. PERIASAMY M.

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