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Q4

Khap panchayats have been in the news for functioning as extra - constitutional authorities, often delivering pronouncements amounting to human right violations. Discuss critically the actions taken by the legislative, executive and judiciary to set the things right in this regard.

UPSC Civil Services Mains 2015 · GS II · 12 marks · Federal Structure and Devolution

Functions and responsibilities of the Union and the States, issues and challenges pertaining to the federal structure, devolution of powers and finances up to local levels and challenges therein.

Facts & figures for this PYQ only.

Numbers move. Confirm the latest Budget, Economic Survey or census round. This sheet is for revision, not a substitute for the model answer.

<https://wrapexams.com/upsc/mains-answers/gs-2/2015/khap-panchayats-have-been-in-the-news-for-functioning-as-extra-constitutional-authorities-often-delivering-pronouncements-amounting-to-human-right-violations-discuss-critically-the-actions-taken-by-the-legislative/>

Part IX panchayats

Constitutional local governments elected under State law; khap councils are caste bodies outside that scheme.

Lata Singh v. State of U.P. (2006)

Supreme Court directed protection for an adult who chose her partner and condemned honour-based harassment.

Arumugam Servai v. State of Tamil Nadu (2011)

Held khap-type panchayats that instigate violence against inter-caste couples illegal and bound States to protect them.

Bhagwan Dass v. State (NCT of Delhi) (2011)

Treated honour killing, on those facts, as calling for the rarest-of-rare approach to punishment.

Indian Penal Code

Murder, hurt, intimidation, unlawful assembly and conspiracy already cover khap-led crimes; the gap is a special preventive duty.

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