

31st Southern Zonal Council Meeting Held in Mamallapuram

Union Home Minister Amit Shah chaired the 31st Southern Zonal Council meeting near Mamallapuram to discuss inter-state issues.

Zonal Councils are statutory bodies established to promote cooperative federalism and resolve inter-state disputes through advisory dialogue.

KEY EXAM POINTS

- The **31st Southern Zonal Council** meeting took place near **Mamallapuram** in Tamil Nadu.
- **Union Home Minister Amit Shah** presided over the meeting as the Chairman of the Council.
- The Chief Minister of the host state, **Tamil Nadu**, served as the **Vice-Chairman** of the meeting by rotation.
- The **Southern Zonal Council** comprises Tamil Nadu, Kerala, Karnataka, Andhra Pradesh, Telangana, and the Union Territory of **Puducherry**.
- The recommendations made by the Zonal Council are purely **advisory** in nature and **not legally binding**.

DID YOU KNOW..!?

Zonal Councils are **statutory bodies** established under Part III of the **States Reorganisation Act, 1956**.

The States Reorganisation Act, 1956 established **five original Zonal Councils**: Northern, Central, Eastern, Western, and Southern.

The North-Eastern Council was established separately under the **North-Eastern Council Act, 1971**.

The **Union Home Minister** acts as the common **Chairman** for all five Zonal Councils.

Chief Ministers of the member states serve as the Vice-Chairman on a rotational basis for a term of **one year**.

Unlike Zonal Councils, the **Inter-State Council** is a constitutional body established under **Article 263** of the Constitution.

The headquarters of the **Southern Zonal Council** is located in **Chennai**.

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Zonal Councils are statutory bodies under the States Reorganisation Act 1956, chaired by the Union Home Minister.

Syllabus Relevance: High relevance for Group 1, 2, and 4 in Unit 5 (Indian Polity: Statutory Bodies, Inter-State Relations, Zonal Councils).

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