

Government to criminalize insult to Vande Mataram

The Union Government introduced a Bill in Rajya Sabha to make insulting the National Song Vande Mataram a criminal offence.

Vande Mataram is India's National Song, and the Prevention of Insults to National Honour Act, 1971, currently penalizes disrespect to the National Flag and Constitution.

KEY EXAM POINTS

- The **Prevention of Insults to National Honour (Amendment) Bill, 2026** was introduced in **Rajya Sabha**.
- The Bill aims to **criminalize insults** to **Vande Mataram**, which is India's **National Song**.
- This legislation seeks to **amend** the **Prevention of Insults to National Honour Act, 1971**.
- The **existing law** already penalizes acts of disrespect towards the **National Flag** and the **Constitution of India**.
- **Lok Sabha** is also set to take up a separate Bill to **increase the number of Supreme Court judges**.

STATICS & SYLLABUS FOCUS

Vande Mataram was first publicly sung at the **1896** session of the **Indian National Congress**.

Vande Mataram was adopted as the **National Song** of India on **January 24, 1950**.

The **National Anthem**, **Jana Gana Mana**, was also adopted on **January 24, 1950**.

The **Prevention of Insults to National Honour Act** was enacted in **1971** to prevent disrespect to national symbols.

Article 124 of the **Indian Constitution** deals with the **establishment and constitution of the Supreme Court**.

Originally, the **Supreme Court** consisted of a **Chief Justice** and **7 other judges**.

The **Parliament** has the power to **increase the number of judges** in the **Supreme Court** by law.

Currently, the **Supreme Court** comprises a **Chief Justice** and **33 other judges**, totaling **34 judges**.

REVISION FLASHCARD

Bill to criminalize insult to Vande Mataram introduced in Rajya Sabha.

Syllabus Relevance: High

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