

Madhya Pradesh Cabinet Approves UCC Draft Bill

The Madhya Pradesh Cabinet approved the Uniform Civil Code (UCC) draft bill for presentation in the State Assembly.

The Uniform Civil Code (UCC) aims to replace diverse personal laws based on religion with a common set of laws governing matters like marriage, divorce, inheritance, and adoption for all citizens.

KEY EXAM POINTS

- The **Madhya Pradesh Cabinet** approved the **Uniform Civil Code (UCC)** draft bill on **July 19, 2026**.
- The special meeting for approval was held in **Jagdishpur** near **Bhopal**.
- The bill seeks to prohibit **polygamy** and **multiple marriages** across all communities.
- Practices like **nikaha halala** are declared **illegal and punishable offences** by the bill.
- **Tribal communities** are **excluded** from the provisions of the bill for **cultural protection**.
- The draft bill was prepared by a **six-member committee**.
- The committee was headed by **retired Supreme Court Judge Ranjana Prakash Desai**.

STATICS & SYLLABUS FOCUS

Article 44 of the **Indian Constitution** mandates the State to endeavour to secure a **Uniform Civil Code** for the citizens throughout the territory of India.

Article 44 is part of the **Directive Principles of State Policy (DPSP)** under **Part IV** of the Constitution.

Goa is currently the **only Indian state** with a Uniform Civil Code, inherited from the **Portuguese Civil Code of 1867**.

The **Supreme Court** has, in various judgments (e.g., **Shah Bano case 1985**, **Sarla Mudgal case 1995**), urged the government to implement a UCC.

The **21st Law Commission of India**, in its **2018** consultation paper, stated that a UCC is "**neither necessary nor desirable** at this stage."

The **22nd Law Commission of India**, in **2023**, initiated a fresh examination of the Uniform Civil Code and **sought views** from the public and religious organizations.

Personal laws in India include the **Hindu Marriage Act of 1955**, the **Muslim Personal Law (Shariat) Application Act of 1937**, and the **Indian Christian Marriage Act of 1872**.

REVISION FLASHCARD

Madhya Pradesh Cabinet approved UCC draft bill, excluding tribal communities.

Syllabus Relevance: High

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