

SC Debates Defining 'Digital Arrest' as a Standalone Offence

Supreme Court examined whether 'digital arrest' should be classified as a distinct standalone offence under penal law.

Digital arrest is a cyber fraud tactic where scammers intimidate victims online by posing as law enforcement officials.

KEY EXAM POINTS

- **Chief Justice of India** questioned if **digital arrest** requires a separate definition or falls under **extortion** and robbery.
- **Supreme Court** suggested seizure of assets of accused individuals upon establishing a **prima facie** case in cyber fraud.
- Bench noted that existing penal laws already cover ingredients of **robbery**, **extortion**, and **dacoity** in cyber scams.
- Hearing highlighted the rising threat of **cyber frauds** and victim implications across the country.

STATICS & SYLLABUS FOCUS

Article 142 of the Constitution empowers the **Supreme Court** to pass orders necessary for doing complete justice.

Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita 2023 replaced the **Indian Penal Code 1860** with effect from **July 1, 2024**.

Information Technology Act 2000 is the primary legal framework governing cybercrime and electronic commerce in India.

Section 66D of IT Act 2000 prescribes punishment for cheating by personation by using computer resource.

Indian Cyber Crime Coordination Centre was established under **Ministry of Home Affairs** in **2018** to combat cybercrime.

National Cyber Crime Reporting Portal helpline number is **1930** for reporting financial cyber frauds.

REVISION FLASHCARD

Supreme Court examined defining 'digital arrest' as a standalone offence under Indian criminal laws.

Syllabus Relevance: High relevance for Group 1 & Group 2 regarding judicial observations, penal law reforms, and cyber security regulations.

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