

SC Declines PIL on Prophet Remarks, Cites Procedure

The Supreme Court declined a Public Interest Litigation (PIL) concerning derogatory remarks about Prophet Muhammad.

A Public Interest Litigation (PIL) is a legal action initiated in a court of law for the protection of public interest.

KEY EXAM POINTS

- The **Supreme Court** refused to "short-circuit" standard legal procedures on **July 6, 2026**.
- The court declined an **oral plea** seeking direct cognisance of alleged **derogatory remarks**.
- **Justice Ahsanuddin Amanullah** stated that the issue raised in the plea was "**very grave**."
- The **Supreme Court** emphasized strictly following the procedure of **filing a complaint** with the **police** first.
- A **due investigation** by the **police** must precede any direct **court intervention** in such matters.
- This ruling reinforces the importance of **established legal processes** for handling **sensitive issues**.

STATICS & SYLLABUS FOCUS

The concept of **Public Interest Litigation (PIL)** originated in the **United States of America**.

In India, **Justice P.N. Bhagwati** and **Justice V.R. Krishna Iyer** are considered **pioneers of PIL**.

A PIL can be filed in the **Supreme Court** under **Article 32** or in **High Courts** under **Article 226** of the Constitution.

The primary objective of PIL is to ensure **access to justice** for **marginalized sections** of society.

The **Supreme Court** has laid down guidelines to prevent the **misuse** of **Public Interest Litigations**.

Article 19(1)(a) of the Indian Constitution guarantees the **freedom of speech and expression**.

Article 25 guarantees **freedom of conscience** and the right to freely profess, practice, and **propagate religion**.

Section 295A of the **Indian Penal Code** deals with deliberate and malicious acts intended to outrage **religious feelings**.

The **Code of Criminal Procedure (CrPC)** outlines the process for filing **police complaints** and **investigations**.

REVISION FLASHCARD

SC declined PIL on Prophet remarks, stressing adherence to legal procedures.

Syllabus Relevance: High

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