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SC backs TN Speaker on MLA disqualification

The Supreme Court upheld the Tamil Nadu Assembly Speaker's decision to drop disqualification proceedings against AIADMK MLAs.

This case involves the powers of the Assembly Speaker regarding the disqualification of legislators under the anti-defection law.

KEY EXAM POINTS

- The **Supreme Court** declined to intervene in the **Tamil Nadu Assembly Speaker**'s decision.
- The Speaker's decision was to close **disqualification proceedings** against a group of **AIADMK legislators**.
- These legislators had supported **C. Joseph Vijay**'s **Tamilaga Vettri Kazhagam (TVK)**-led government during a **trust vote** in May.
- The Supreme Court observed that the **Speaker's decision** could not be challenged by an **"interloper"**.
- A Bench of **Chief Justice Surya Kant** and Justices **Joymalya Bagchi** and **V. Mohana** dismissed the plea.
- The plea challenging the Speaker's decision was filed by **advocate P.V. Selvakumar**.
- The **Supreme Court's ruling** was delivered on Friday, **October 9, 2026**.

DID YOU KNOW..!?

The **Anti-Defection Law** was enacted by the **52nd Constitutional Amendment Act** of **1985**.

This law is enshrined in the **Tenth Schedule** of the **Indian Constitution**.

Under the Anti-Defection Law, the **Speaker** of the **Lok Sabha** or the Chairman of the Rajya Sabha (or respective State Assembly Presiding Officer) is the final authority on **disqualification**.

The Supreme Court, in the **Kihoto Hollohan vs. Zachillhu case** (**1992**), ruled that the Speaker's decision under the Tenth Schedule is subject to **judicial review**.

Article 191(2) of the Indian Constitution deals with the **disqualification** of members of the **State Legislative Assembly**.

Article 212 states that courts shall not inquire into the **proceedings of the Legislature**.

The **Speaker** of the **Tamil Nadu Legislative Assembly** is elected by the members of the Assembly from among themselves.

The **91st Constitutional Amendment Act** of **2003** limited the size of the **Council of Ministers** to **15%** of the total strength of the Lok Sabha or State Assembly.

REVISION FLASHCARD

Supreme Court upheld TN Speaker's decision on MLA disqualification under anti-defection law.

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