INDIAN POLITY 09 October 2026

Supreme Court Upholds Right to Protest and Association

The Supreme Court affirmed fundamental rights while addressing concerns over restrictions in Delhi ahead of October 10 protests.

The right to association and peaceful protest are fundamental rights guaranteed to every citizen under the Indian Constitution.

KEY EXAM POINTS

- The **Supreme Court of India** affirmed that the **right to association** and **peaceful protest** is a **fundamental right** of every citizen.
- These remarks were made during an oral mention by **senior lawyers** regarding an "unprecedented **shutdown**" of **Delhi**.
- The context involved **protests** announced by the **Cockroach Janata Party (CJP)** on **October 10, 2026**.
- Over **20,000** **police and paramilitary personnel** were deployed across **central Delhi** for the protests.
- The **Supreme Court** also sought details regarding the **permissions** granted for the **October 10 protests**.

DID YOU KNOW..!?

The right to **freedom of speech and expression**, **assembly**, **association**, movement, residence, and profession are enshrined under **Article 19** of the **Indian Constitution**.

Specifically, the right to assemble **peacefully and without arms** is guaranteed by **Article 19(1)(b)**.

The right to form **associations or unions** is protected under **Article 19(1)(c)** of the Constitution.

These **fundamental rights** are not absolute and are subject to **reasonable restrictions** imposed by the state in the interest of **public order**, **sovereignty, and integrity of India**.

Part III of the Indian Constitution (**Articles 12-35**) deals with **Fundamental Rights**, which are **enforceable by courts**.

The **Supreme Court**, in various judgments (e.g., **Shaheen Bagh case**), has clarified that the **right to protest** cannot be absolute and must be exercised without causing **public nuisance or obstruction**.

REVISION FLASHCARD

Supreme Court reaffirmed the fundamental right to association and peaceful protest under Article 19.

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