

Supreme Court transfers 'bulldozer justice' pleas to High Courts

The Supreme Court transferred contempt petitions concerning 'bulldozer justice' to State High Courts for detailed inquiries.

'Bulldozer justice' refers to the practice of demolishing properties of individuals accused in criminal cases, often without due process.

KEY EXAM POINTS

- The **Supreme Court of India** transferred contempt petitions regarding '**bulldozer justice**' to the **State High Courts**.
- **Chief Justice of India Surya Kant** stated that the petitions involve disputed facts requiring separate and **in-depth inquiries**.
- The Supreme Court had previously declared **illegal demolitions** by States as an "**arbitrary use of power**" less than two years ago.
- The judicial move was made on Thursday, **July 16, 2026**, through a '**standard order**'.

STATICS & SYLLABUS FOCUS

Article 129 of the Indian Constitution grants the **Supreme Court** the power to punish for **contempt of itself**.

Similarly, **Article 215** empowers **High Courts** to punish for **contempt of themselves**.

The **Contempt of Courts Act, 1971**, defines and limits the powers of certain courts in punishing **contempt of court**.

The **Right to Property**, originally a fundamental right under **Article 31**, is now a legal right under **Article 300A**.

The principle of '**Due Process of Law**' ensures fair treatment and protection of **individual rights** under the legal system.

Judicial Review is the power of the **Supreme Court** and **High Courts** to examine the constitutionality of legislative enactments and executive orders.

Article 214 states that there shall be a **High Court** for each State in India.

The **Supreme Court of India**, established under **Article 124**, is the highest judicial court and the **final court of appeal** under the Constitution.

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Syllabus Relevance: High

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