

CENMUN 2023



LOK SABHA

AGENDA: IMPLEMENTING THE UNIFORM
CIVIL CODE FOR THE RIGHTS OF RELIGIOUS
MINORITIES AND TRIBALS

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LETTER FROM EXECUTIVE BOARD

Dear Delegates,

At the outset on behalf of the Executive Board, we extend a warm welcome to all of you and congratulate you on being a part of the LOK SABHA being simulated at CENMUN. The committee being simulated, would unlike most other simulations you must have heard of or been a part of; focus on political intellect, logical intellect, analytical application of thoughts, and strategic application of thoughts in addressing the issues at hand. This Introductory guide would be as abstract as possible, and would just give you a basic perspective on what you can expect from the committee and areas wherein your research should be focused at this given point in time. Given the extremely political and volatile nature of the agendas of the committee, your presence of mind and analytical aptitude is something that we at the executive board would be looking to test. Kindly do not limit your research to the areas highlighted herein but, ensure that you logically deduce and push your research to areas associated with and in addition to the issues mentioned. The objective of this background guide is to provide you with a 'background' of the issue at hand and therefore it might seem to some as not being comprehensive enough. We feel that 'study guides' are detrimental to the individual growth of the delegate since they overlook a very important part of this activity, which is Research. We are sure, however, that this a background guide gives you a perfect launching pad to start with your research. This guide shall deal with a skeletal overview of the agenda.

DISCLAIMER: The Content provided in the BG is a compilation of various research and literary works of various authors and thinkers blend with the intellect of the executive board. It is to be noted that the content provided below in no way reflects the personal ideologies of the executive board and has prepared keeping in mind a neutral point of view. Wishing you all very good luck.

Regards,

The Executive Board

AGENDA: DISCUSSION ON THE IMPLEMENTATION OF UCC (ARTICLE 44 OF THE INDIAN CONSTITUTION)

Uniform Civil Code (UCC) in India

Uniform Civil Code in India: The Uniform Civil Code, also known as the UCC, is a proposed law in India to create and execute personal laws of citizens that are applicable to all people regardless of their gender, sexual orientation, or religion. Currently, the religious texts of different communities regulate their personal laws.

History about UCC

The British government's 1835 report on colonial India, which emphasized the need for uniformity in the codification of Indian law with regard to crimes, evidence, and contracts and specifically suggested that personal laws of Hindus and Muslims be kept outside of such codification, is where the UCC first emerged.

The government was forced to create the B N Rau Committee in 1941 to codify Hindu law due to an increase in legislation addressing personal concerns at the end of British rule. Examining the issue of whether common Hindu laws are necessary was the Hindu Law Committee's responsibility.

According to the committee's recommendation, which was based on the scriptures, women would have equal rights under a codified version of Hindu law. The 1937 Act was reviewed, and the committee suggested establishing a civil code for Hindu marriage and succession.

Following the Shah Bano case in 1985, UCC became an important subject of discussion in Indian politics. The issue of applying some laws to all citizens without hurting their fundamental right to freedom of religion gave rise to the discussion.

The discussion then turned to Muslim Personal Law, which allows for unilateral divorce and polygamy and is considered one of the legal ways that Sharia law is applied. UCC was again suggested, in November 2019 and March 2020, however each time it was quickly removed without being introduced in parliament.

Arguments against UCC

The primary argument against a UCC is that it infringes on the right of citizens to practise the religion of their choice, which enables religious communities to adhere to their own local laws. For instance, Article 25 guarantees the autonomy of every religious organisation. They are entitled to maintain their unique culture under Article 29.

The fundamental rights subcommittee of the Indian Constituent Assembly purposefully omitted the inclusion of a UCC as a fundamental right. Tribal organisations have expressed a similar worry, such as the Rashtriya, Adivasi, Ekta, Parishad, which petitioned the Supreme Court in 2016 to request protection for its members' traditions and religious beliefs from a future UCC. Customary rules already in place take precedence over federal laws in Nagaland's tribal districts when it comes to private matters like marriage, property ownership, etc.

It is stated that "one nation, one law" cannot be applied to the unique personal laws of different communities if codified civil laws and criminal laws like the CrPC and IPC do not adhere to this principle. For instance, the governments of West Bengal and Tamil Nadu altered the federal Indian Evidence Act of 1872. Be aware that several states have various legal drinking ages when it comes to criminal law.

After all, personal laws were included in the Concurrent List as entry number 5, providing both the Parliament and State Assemblies the authority to enact personal laws. If the Constitution's creators had wanted personal laws to be uniform, they would have included them on the union list and given parliament full legislative authority over them.

Finally, it is claimed that a UCC will impose an Hinduized code on all communities. A UCC might, for instance, have clauses that, while conforming to Hindu tradition in matters like marriage, will legally obligate members of other communities to do the same.

Purpose of the Uniform Civil Code: The UCC in India aims to safeguard vulnerable communities, including women and religious minorities, as envisioned by Ambedkar, while simultaneously fostering nationalistic fervor via unity.

When put into effect, the code will aim to make laws that are currently divided based on religious views, such as the Hindu code bill, Sharia law, and others, simpler. The code will make the complicated regulations governing marriage ceremonies, succession, inheritance, and adoptions simpler and more universal. All citizens will then be subject to the same civil law, regardless of their religious affiliation.

Indian Constitution on UCC

Meanwhile, Articles 25-28 of the Indian Constitution, meanwhile, guarantee religious freedom to Indian citizens and permit religious organisations to conduct their own affairs. Article 44 of the Constitution requires the Indian state to apply directive principles and common law for all Indian citizens while establishing a nation's policies.

Due to the fact that Uniform Civil Code in India does not make distinctions based on gender or sexual orientation, this drought also inspires hope for the LGBTQIA+ population in India. No applicable law in India up to this point has acknowledged same-sex marriages as legal.

Difference between civil laws and criminal laws

Civil laws are impacted by faith, although criminal laws in India are uniform and apply to all people equally, regardless of their religious views. The personal laws which govern in civil disputes have always been applied in accordance with constitutional standards, despite being swayed by religious scriptures.

Personal laws

Laws that are relevant to a particular group of people based on their caste, religion, faith, and beliefs, are made after careful examination of traditional practices and religious scriptures.

Hindu and Muslim personal law derives from and is governed by the sacred books of their respective religions.

Hinduism recognises the application of personal laws to cases involving legal matters such as inheritance, succession, marriage, adoption, co-parenting, sons' duty to settle their father's debts, the division of family property, maintenance, guardianship, and charity contributions.

Islam has personal rules that are based on the Quran that govern issues including pre-emption, guardianship, guardianship, marriage, wakfs, dowry, inheritance, wills, succession, legacies, and marriage.

Political Landscape when Personal laws were drafted

For primarily Hindu and Muslim populations, personal laws were originally drafted during the British Raj. British officials decided against interfering more in this domestic matter out of concern for the community leaders' resistance.

Goa, a state in India, was expelled from the country Due to colonial rule in the formerly Portuguese Goa and Daman, the Indian state of Goa was cut off from the rest of India but kept its common family law, known as the Goa civil code, making it the only state in India to this day with a unified civil code.

Hindu code bills were introduced after India gained its independence and largely codified and reformatted personal laws in different sects of Indian religions like Buddhists, Hindus, Jains, and Sikhs while exempting Christians, Jews, Muslims, and Parsis because they were recognised as separate communities from Hindus.

Hindu Code Bill

After the Indian Constitution was adopted in 1951, a select committee headed by B. R. Ambedkar was convened, and they were given the Rau Committee report's draft to review. The Hindu Code Bill was discussed for a while before it expired and was resubmitted in 1952.

The Hindu Succession Act was subsequently passed in 1956 to reform and codify the legislation governing intestate or unwilled succession among Hindus, Buddhists, Jains, and Sikhs. The Act updated Hindu personal law and widened property rights and ownership opportunities for women. Their father's inheritance granted women property rights.

The Act of 1956's general rules of succession state that, in the case of an intestate male death, Class I heirs succeed before Class II heirs. The Act was amended in 2005 by the Hindu Succession (Amendment) Act 2005 to add more descendants, elevating women to Class I heirs. The daughter receives the exact same portion as a son. The Pre- 2005 Amendment Act or the Hindu Succession Act, 1956 was discriminatory on the grounds that women were not considered as coparceners to inherit the ancestral property since birth like the sons.

Legality

The Uniform Civil Code (UCC) is a proposed law that seeks to replace personal laws based on religious customs and traditions with a single, uniform code applicable to all citizens of India. The concept of a UCC has been the subject of debate in India for several decades, with proponents arguing that it will promote gender equality and communal harmony, while opponents argue that it will undermine the diversity of India's cultural and religious traditions.

In India, family laws governing marriage, divorce, inheritance, and adoption are based on personal laws, which differ according to the religion of the individual. For example, Muslim personal law is based on Islamic law, while Hindu personal law is based on ancient Hindu scriptures. Christian and Parsi personal laws are also based on religious customs and traditions. This has led to a situation where people of different religions are governed by different laws in matters of personal law, which has often resulted in legal complications and discrimination against women.

Proponents of the UCC argue that a uniform law will promote gender equality by eliminating discriminatory practices in personal laws, particularly those that discriminate against women. For example, the Pre- 2005 Amendment Act or the Hindu Succession Act, 1956, which governs inheritance for Hindus, discriminated against women by giving them limited rights to ancestral property. Similarly, Muslim personal law allowed men to divorce their wives unilaterally, while women did not have the same right.

Opponents of the UCC argue that it will undermine the diversity of India's cultural and religious traditions. They argue that personal laws are an integral part of the cultural and religious identity of communities, and that a uniform law will erode these traditions. They also argue that the UCC will be seen as an attempt by the Hindu majority to impose their cultural values on minority communities, particularly Muslims.

From a legal standpoint, the Uniform Civil Code would require a constitutional amendment to be implemented, as personal laws are protected under Article 25 and 26 of the Indian Constitution, which grants citizens the right to freely practice and propagate their religion. Any attempt to implement a UCC that interferes with these fundamental rights is likely to face legal challenges in the courts.

In conclusion, the issue of the Uniform Civil Code is a complex and contentious one, with arguments for and against. While proponents argue that it will promote gender equality and communal harmony, opponents argue that it will undermine the diversity of India's cultural and religious traditions. Any attempt to implement a UCC will require a constitutional amendment and is likely to face legal challenges.

Constraints in implementing a Uniform Civil Code (UCC) in India

There are several legal constraints in implementing a Uniform Civil Code (UCC) in India.

Some of the key constraints are:

Constitutional Protection of Personal Laws: The Constitution of India grants citizens the right to practice and propagate their religion under Article 25 and 26. Personal laws, which govern matters like marriage, divorce, inheritance, and adoption for different religious communities, are protected under these provisions. Any attempt to implement a UCC that interferes with these fundamental rights is likely to face legal challenges in the courts.

Lack of Political Consensus: The issue of UCC has been a contentious one in India, with different political parties taking divergent positions. While some parties support the idea of a UCC, others are opposed to it. Without a broad political consensus, it is unlikely that a UCC will be implemented.

Resistance from Religious Minorities: There is a perception among religious minorities, particularly Muslims, that a UCC is an attempt by the Hindu majority to impose their cultural values on minority communities. This has led to resistance from religious minorities and their leaders against the implementation of a UCC.

Diversity of Laws: India is a diverse country with a plurality of religions, languages, and cultures. Personal laws are deeply ingrained in the cultural and religious identity of communities, and any attempt to impose a uniform law is likely to face opposition from different groups.

Lack of Clarity on Implementation: There is a lack of clarity on how a UCC would be implemented and what it would entail. This has led to uncertainty and resistance from different quarters.

In conclusion, the implementation of a UCC in India faces several legal constraints, including the constitutional protection of personal laws, lack of political consensus, resistance from religious minorities, diversity of laws, and lack of clarity on implementation. Any attempt to implement a UCC will require careful consideration of these legal constraints and a broad-based political consensus.

Recent Developments

On June 14, 2023, the Law Commission of India issued a public notice soliciting opinions and comments on the Uniform Civil Code (UCC). This came after a five-year gap since the 21st Law Commission released a consultation paper on the same issue in August 2018. The new notification states that considering the relevance and importance of the subject, as well as the court orders related to it, the 22nd Law Commission of India deemed it necessary to revisit the topic. The Commission's notice invites views and ideas of the public and recognises religious organisations regarding the Uniform Civil Code.

The Law Commission of India has received an overwhelming response from citizens across the country to the proposed Uniform Civil Code (UCC) and said it will hold panel discussions and debates amongst all stakeholders. According to sources, over 1 crore responses have been received by the law panel on UCC. The panel had sought views from various stakeholders, including public and religious organisations, on the contentious issue.

The Prime Minister has himself made an argument in favour of UCC and with the elections around the corner, BJP would like to fulfil its promise made in its successive manifestos.

How does the UCC affect personal laws of different communities:

India has civil laws that guide marriage, divorce, adoption, inheritance and taxation. These laws are different for different communities. If a Uniform Civil Code comes into force, these laws are likely to get affected. Know what these personal laws are for different communities.

1. Hindu Community:

- **MARRIAGE:** The Hindu Marriage Act (1955) currently allows for certain exceptions when it comes to marriages under the Act. Section 2(2) of the Act says its provisions will not apply to Scheduled Tribes. Sections 5(5) and Section 7 say that customary practices will override the provisions of the Hindu Marriage Act. The UCC, once introduced, may do away with these exceptions.
- **SUCCESSION:** Under the Hindu Succession Act (1956), the husband's family members are recognised as primary heirs of the deceased wife and her parents and siblings are considered secondary heirs. The Act makes a distinction between ancestral property and self-acquired property. A grandchild has a birthright to ancestral property, but not over grandparent's acquired property. Who can be considered as legal heirs and how property is acquired under the Hindu Succession Act may be changed to bring about uniformity under the UCC.
- **INHERITANCE:** The Hindu laws related to inheritance clarify that full-blood relations are preferred over half-blood relations under Section 18 of the Hindu Succession Act. It also gives a list of people that are excluded from inheriting a property on different grounds. All of this may be subject to change with the introduction of the UCC.

• **ADOPTION:** The Hindu Adoption and Maintenance Act (1956) is meant only for Hindus, Jains, Sikhs, and Buddhists. Couples from these communities can adopt legally and give the child right to inherit their property. However, the UCC will attempt to bring uniformity even to the aspect of adoption. This could result in communities that are not allowed to legally adopt children currently, may be given such an option.

• **HINDU UNDIVIDED FAMILY (HUF): TAX BENEFITS FOR HUF:** A Hindu Undivided Family (HUF) is a separate entity from a legal point of view. The HUF has a separate PAN card and can run its business and invest in shares and mutual funds. The HUF enjoys tax exemption of Rs 2.5 lakh.

• If the government abolishes the tax, insurance, and investment exemptions given to an HUF as "discriminatory" it will impact millions of Hindu families. There will be implications of changing the existing loans, insurance policies, and bank account structures.

1. Muslim Community:

• **MARRIAGE:** The Muslim Personal (Shariat) Application Act, 1937, states that Shariat or the Islamic law will guide marriage, divorce, and maintenance. If a UCC comes in, the minimum age of marriage under the Shariat law would be changed and polygamy could be abolished.

• **ADOPTION:** At present, a Muslim can't adopt a child, but he can become a "Kafil" and provide for the maintenance and well-being of a child even if he is not the biological parent of the child. This will change if a UCC comes in.

• **AGE OF MARRIAGE:** This has been an ongoing debate with multiple petitions that have been filed before Courts demanding a uniform age for marriage, irrespective of religion. If done through UCC, the uniform age for marriage will also be applicable to the Muslims, effectively changing the current legal position under Muslim personal law.

• **POLYGAMY:** Under Muslim law, men have a right to contractually enter into four marriages at a time. Women, on the other hand, are bound towards their husband and cannot enter into multiple marriages. UCC may abolish polygamy altogether which means that Muslim men stand to lose their right to legally wed four different women.

• **DIVORCE/SEPARATION:** The UCC will ensure a greater balance between the rights of Muslim men and women. Also, there could be some specific legally accepted ways through which Muslims can dissolve their marriage that would be common to both men and women.

1. Christian Community:

• **MARRIAGE:** Under the Catholic law, Christian marriage is a sacrament and recognises principles of indissolubility, permanency and unity. With some religions recognising marriage as a sacrament and some recognising marriage as a contract, UCC is expected to bring uniformity across religions.

• **DIVORCE:** Since amongst Christians, marriage is a sacrament, the Catholic law does not recognise divorce. Christians, however, are allowed to file for divorce under the Indian Divorce Act, 1869. Uniform Civil Code is expected to bring uniformity in the rules and procedures related to divorce.

• **SUCCESSION:** The Succession Act (1925) gives Christian mothers no right in the property of their deceased kids. All such property is to be inherited by the father. Even in cases where the deceased kid's father does not survive, provisions under Section 43 of the Act requires the mother to share the property equally with the brothers/sisters of the deceased husband rather than being entitled to what her husband was entitled to. This provision could change under the UCC.

1. Sikh Community:

• **MARRIAGE & DIVORCE:** Marriage laws that govern Sikhs are covered under the Anand Marriage Act of 1909. There is no provision for divorce under the Sikh law. Sikh separations are governed by the Hindu Marriage Act. If a UCC is introduced, the Sikh marriage and registration under the Anand Marriage Act is likely to be subsumed under a common law.

Where does the tribal Community stands:

The UCC experiment may spark controversy in north-eastern India due to its potential impact on constitutionally protected ethnic practices. The proposal for the introduction of a uniform civil code (UCC) in the country has raised concerns among tribal and ethnic communities across India, with the leaders of many tribal bodies in Chhattisgarh, Madhya Pradesh, Jharkhand and elsewhere issuing statements in protest. Their fear is that the UCC will infringe on their customary laws and socio-cultural practices, which enjoy constitutional safeguards.

Apart from civil society organisations, even allies of the Bharatiya Janata Party in the National Democratic Alliance (NDA) and the North East Democratic Alliance (NEDA), which lead ruling coalitions in Mizoram, Meghalaya, and Nagaland, are in the forefront of the growing protests against the UCC.

In these three States, Scheduled Tribes constitute the majority in the population: 94.4 per cent in Mizoram, 86.1 per cent in Meghalaya, and 86.5 per cent in Nagaland. Additionally, these States and Arunachal Pradesh are dominated by Christian and other indigenous faith believers.

The opposition to the UCC has put the spotlight on Article 371A of the Constitution with respect to Nagaland, Article 371G with respect to Mizoram, and the provisions under the Sixth Schedule of the Constitution with respect to Meghalaya, Mizoram, Assam, and Tripura.

Articles 371A, 371G, and the Sixth Schedule

Article 371A states that no Act of Parliament in respect of

- (i) religious or social practices of the Nagas;
 - (ii) Naga customary law and procedure;
 - (iii) administration of civil and criminal justice involving decisions according to Naga customary law; and
 - (iv) ownership and transfer of land and its resources, shall apply to the State of Nagaland unless the Legislative Assembly of Nagaland by a resolution so decides.
- A similar provision is provided by Article 371G to Mizoram.

On February 14, the Mizoram Assembly unanimously passed an official resolution “to oppose any steps taken or proposed to be taken for enactment of UCC in India”. As president of the ruling Mizo National Front (MNF), Chief Minister Zoramthanga, in his letter to the Law Commission, wrote: “The said Resolution was moved, discussed and thereafter unanimously adopted by the Mizoram State Legislative Assembly for the reasons that the UCC, if enacted, ‘would disintegrate the country as it was an attempt to terminate the religious or social practices, customary laws, culture and traditions of religious minorities, including Mizos.’” Article 371G was inserted in the Constitution by the Constitution (53rd Amendment) Act, 1986, following the signing of the Memorandum of Settlement between the MNF and the Government of India on June 30, 1986. Mizoram became a full-fledged State on February 20, 1987, following this peace accord.

In numbers

94.4 per cent is the Scheduled Tribe population in Mizoram.

86.1 per cent is the corresponding figure in Meghalaya.

86.5 per cent of the population in Nagaland are tribal people.

According to the MNF, the “implementation of UCC is not in the interest of the ethnic minorities of India in general and of the Mizos in particular”. Conveying its opposition to the Law Commission in a letter, the Mizoram Church Leader’s Committee (Mizoram Kohhran Hruaitute Committee (MKHC)) stated that the UCC is “undeniably undermining the rights and privileges of minority enshrined in Constitution Article 371(G)” and “could be an instrument of oppression and assimilation of the minority communities and religious bodies in our land”.

In a statement on July 3, signed by secretary Lalnilawma Colney and chairman Rev. Dr Chawngmingliana, the MKHC said: “The MKHC by careful scanning of the content of UCC feels that UCC is detrimental to the unity in diversity of Indian culture, religions and customs which our forerunners have dearly held and cherished.”

Opposition in Nagaland

In Nagaland, the ruling Nationalist Democratic Progressive Party (NDPP), which is a constituent of the ruling coalition in the State that includes the BJP, expressed its firm opinion that “implementing the UCC will have a negative impact on the freedom and rights of the minority communities and the tribal people of India”. The NDPP cautioned that the UCC is “bound to have significant consequences” on the ongoing Naga peace process, which, it said, was at a critical juncture after 26 years of negotiations. “Having endured a long period of turmoil and bloodshed, today the Nagas want the peace that has been in place since the negotiations began to become permanent. However, to introduce a new law that will have deep impact upon the personal laws of the people will instead create further uncertainty and has the serious potential to threaten the peaceful environment,” its statement says.

Boys and girls of the Tiwa tribe take part in Moinari Kanthi Misawa festival in Magro

The Naga political party is of the view that “federalism is the basic structure of the Indian Constitution which should never be altered or destroyed; and the idea of India is based on tolerance, respect for all sections, and appreciation of all faiths”.

According to the Naga People’s Front (NPF), the UCC is “betraying the hope and trust of the minorities, especially the tribal communities for whom constitutional provisions like Article 371(A) or Sixth Schedule have been provided to protect and promote ‘our custom, values, and practices, things which have given us identity, worth, belongingness and purpose’.”

A statement by NPF Legislature Party leader Kuzholuzo (Azo) Nienu says: “The spirit of Indian nationalism or national integration cannot be achieved by questioning and insulting the wisdom and heritage of the minorities. In reality, it is the issues and questions of personal matters that constitute the heart and soul of modern democracy and liberty, for instance, religious freedom.”

“We are a matrilineal society. That is what our strength has been and that is what our culture has been. Now that cannot be changed.” Conrad Sangma Chief Minister, Meghalaya.

The Central Nagaland Tribes Council (CNTC) is the apex body for three major tribes in Nagaland, namely Ao, Sumi, and Lotha. In its representation to the Law Commission, the CNTC pointed out that the Consultation Paper on Reform of Family Law, brought out by the 21st Law Commission on August 31, 2018, had stated that “Article 371A contemplates a different treatment to the part of Nagaland in view of the difference between the needs of social conditions in Nagaland and various stages of development in different parts of the country”.

A letter to the Law Commission signed by its president Khondao Ngully and general secretary Captain G.K. Zhimomi says: “Different tribes in Nagaland have their own customs, culture and traditions that have been practices for centuries bounded by personal laws without any conflict with one another.” Imposing untested laws alien to the tribal communities will have serious repercussions, the CNTC warned. “Of late the pitch for ‘uniformity and conformity’ is creating deep insecurity particularly among the ethnic, cultural, linguistic and religious minorities that inhabit different parts of the country.”

Naga Hoho, another apex civil society organisation in Nagaland, expressed fears that “imposing a uniform civil code without taking into account the unique cultural and historical context of the Nagas would be tantamount to erasing their identity and diluting their cherished traditions”.

Highlights

- North-eastern India’s tribal and ethnic communities fear UCC will infringe on their customary laws and socio-cultural practices.
- Mizoram, Meghalaya, and Nagaland have seen opposition to the UCC from civil society groups and allies of the ruling coalitions.
- Article 371A, Article 371G, and the Sixth Schedule of the Constitution provide special provisions for these States.

Meghalaya’s concerns

Meghalaya Chief Minister Conrad Sangma stated that his National People’s Party (NPP) viewed the UCC as going against the idea of India itself. Stating that Meghalaya is a matrilineal society, the Chief Minister added: “That is what our strength has been and that is what our culture has been. Now that cannot be changed.”

The United Democratic Party (UDP), a constituent of the Sangma-led ruling Meghalaya Democratic Alliance supported by the BJP, wrote to the Law Commission that “the fact that our State falls under the purview of the Sixth Schedule, any infringement on the rights of the indigenous tribals will defeat the intent of this exercise”.

UDP general secretary Jemino Mawthoh further said that since there was no clarity on the matter, the party is “disinclined to support the proposed implementation of the uniform civil code”.

All three Autonomous District Councils under the Sixth Schedule in Meghalaya—the Khasi Hill Autonomous District Council, the Jaintia Hill District Autonomous Council, and the Garo Hill Autonomous District Council—have passed resolutions opposing the UCC at a joint meeting.

Suggested MOD topics

- 1) What changes would the implementation of UCC bring in the current laws.
- 2) Arguments for and against UCC – history, need, importance etc.
- 3) Legal constraints and Constitutional constraints.
- 4) Impact/Consequences of implementation of UCC on tribal community, personal laws with special emphasis on social and religious harmony.
- 5) How will the UCC be implemented.

Final Paper Work: (Will be explained in pre-conference session and on the first day of the conference.): List of changes in laws which the UCC will bring as per the ruling NDA delegates (distinguish before vs after, will be explained thoroughly before the committee.)

Crisis and Zero Hour

· **Crisis:** Any hypothetical situation will be given as per which the delegates have to make statements. This would be application of the delegate’s logical understanding of the agenda and politics in general.

Zero hour: Free flow of general debate (apart from the agenda) between ruling party and opposition will take place for certain amount of time.

General Instructions

- Delegates must follow their party's official position on the above given matters.
- Languages allowed– Hindi, English and other regional languages as per the discretion of the Chair.
- Regarding paperwork: Amendments, Resolutions and Communique will be drafted– could be unanimous or as per bloc positions.
- Position papers will be accepted till the end of first day's conference. (Will be explained during committee hours)

How to Research

- Read background guide and mentioned links.
- Discuss before hand with other fellow delegates about what MODs would be taken up.
- Read up articles on the related topics and formulate speeches (At least Five).
- Watch YouTube videos – enough content available.

MORE REFERENCES

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