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Kerala High Court Bans Agitations on Campus

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Why in News

The **Kerala High Court** has **banned all forms of agitations by student groups on school and college campuses.**

- The Kerala High Court has issued this order while hearing a petition filed by 20 educational institutions against campus politics.
- The High Court had prohibited campus politics in 2017 also but the decision was not implemented in the State.

Highlights of the Judgement

- The Court has **imposed a ban on strikes in schools and colleges** that impact the functioning of the campuses.
- Educational institutions are meant for academic- related activities and not protests. However, these institutions can be made a venue for peaceful discussions.
- There should not be any form of agitation that affects the academic atmosphere on campuses. **Right to education is a fundamental right (Article 21-A of the Constitution)** and nobody has the right to violate that right.

Arguments Against the Judgement

- Student wings of political parties consider that the verdict infringes upon fundamental rights (including **Article 19(1)(a)** - Right to Freedom of speech and expression). Campus politics has a larger role in socialising students and instilling in them the values of democracy and secularism.
- A student group is also a type of a **Pressure Group**.
 - A pressure group is a group of people who are organised actively for promoting and defending their common interest.
 - It is called so, as it attempts to bring a change in public policy by exerting pressure on the government.

Source: IE