



National Judicial Pay Commission

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Why in News

Recently, a Supreme Court Bench has made it clear to the States and Union Territories (UTs) that recommendations made by the **Second National Judicial Pay Commission** to nearly **triple the pay and allowances for subordinate judiciary** should be implemented **proactively**.

The Supreme Court highlighted, in its February 28, 2020 order, that a financially self-sufficient subordinate judiciary was **pivotal** for the existence of an independent judiciary.

Second National Judicial Pay Commission

- The Commission was **constituted in 2017** pursuant to the order of the Supreme Court in **All India Judges Association case**, under **Article 32 (Constitutional Remedies)** of the Constitution.
- It is headed by former Judge of Supreme Court **Justice P. Venkatrama Reddi**.
- Few of the **objectives** of the Commission are:
 - To evolve the principles governing the pay structure and emoluments of Judicial Officers belonging to the Subordinate Judiciary all over the country.
 - To examine the present structure of emoluments and conditions of services of Judicial Officers in the States and Union Territories and to make suitable recommendations including post-retirement benefits such as pension, etc.
 - To consider and recommend such interim relief as the Commission considers just and proper to all categories of Judicial Officers.
 - To make recommendations regarding setting up of a permanent mechanism to review the pay and service conditions of members of Subordinate Judiciary periodically by an independent Commission.
- The Supreme Court observed that the **Commission may consider**, if necessary, **sending reports** on any of the matters as and when recommendations are finalised.

- The Commission has been **empowered to devise its own procedure and formulate the modalities** necessary for accomplishing the task.

First National Judicial Pay Commission

- It was **constituted in 1996**, pursuant to the order of the Supreme Court of India in **All India Judges Association case**.
- It was headed by **Justice K. Jagannatha Shetty**, former Judge of the Supreme Court.
It was also referred to as the **Justice Shetty Commission**.
- The commission gave a **comprehensive report in the year 1999**, covering not merely the pay structure, allowances and conditions of service of Judicial Officers but also various other aspects concerning the Courts and judicial administration.

Source: TH