



Reconstitution of National Integration Council

Why in News

In the backdrop of due Ayodhya verdict, the reconstitution of the National Integration Council (NIC) has gained prominence.

National Integration Council

- It is an **extra-constitutional** body.
- **Chaired by:** Prime Minister of India.
- **Composition:** Council members include Cabinet ministers, Chief Ministers of states, political leaders, Chairman of the University Grants Commission, **Commissioner for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes**, representatives of industry, business and trade unions.
- **Background:** The NIC was constituted to combat the evils of **communalism, casteism, regionalism, and linguism** as a follow up of **National Integration Conference** held under the chairmanship of the then Prime Minister Pt. Jawaharlal Nehru in **1961**.
 - The **main task** of the council is to examine the problem of national integration in all its aspects and make necessary recommendations to deal with it.
- **Meetings: Sixteen meetings** of NIC have been held till 2019.
 - **First meeting** of NIC took place in **1962**.
 - The **last meeting** of the NIC took place in **September 2013** which passed resolution on maintaining **communal harmony and ending discrimination** by condemning atrocities on Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes.

Source: IE

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