



UP to Curb Caste-Based Practices

Why in News?

The Uttar Pradesh government has issued a notification to curb **caste-based glorification** by **banning caste-based political rallies**, removing caste signboards, and prohibiting caste mention in police records to promote social harmony.

- This decision follows a ruling by the Allahabad [High Court](#) in the *Praveen Chetri v State of UP* case, which criticized caste recording in police records as regressive and against the principles of a **modern, secular India**.

Key Points

- **Ban on Political Rallies:** The notification imposes a blanket ban on political rallies based on caste identity, stating they promote social conflict and threaten “public order” and “national unity.”
- **Display on Vehicles:** Vehicles displaying caste-related stickers, slogans, or identifiers will be subject to penalties under the [Central Motor Vehicles Act, 1988](#).
- **Ban on Signboards:** Public signboards that glorify any particular caste or declare geographical areas as caste-based territories or estates must be removed immediately.
- **Revised Police Record Procedures:** The order mandates the deletion of caste details from police records such as [FIRs](#), arrest memos, and recovery documents.
 - The caste column in police databases ([CCTNS portal](#)) will be removed. Instead, the **mother's name will be recorded** alongside the father's name in all related documents.
- **Monitoring of Social Media:** The government has instructed authorities to [monitor social media platforms](#) and take action against individuals spreading caste-based hatred or glorifying any caste group.
- **Exemption for Scheduled Castes/Scheduled Tribes (SC/ST) Act, 1989:** The only exemption to the caste prohibition will apply to cases related to the SC/ST (Prevention of Atrocities) Act, 1989, where caste identification remains essential.

Constitutional and Legal Provisions Against Discrimination

- **Constitutional Provisions:**
 - **Equality Before Law:** According to [Article 14](#), no person shall be denied equal treatment before the law or the equal protection of the laws within the territory of India.
 - **Prohibition of Discrimination:** [Article 15](#) of the Constitution of India states that the State shall not discriminate against any citizen on the grounds only of religion, race, caste, sex, place of birth, or any of them.
 - Abolition of Untouchability: Article 17 of the Constitution abolishes [Untouchability](#).
- **Legal Provisions:**
 - **The Protection of Civil Rights Act, 1955:** The act was enacted to enforce **Article 17** of the Constitution of India, which abolished the practice of untouchability.
 - **The SCs and the STs (Prevention of Atrocities) Act, 1989:** It was enacted to safeguard the members of [SCs and STs from caste-based discrimination](#) and violence.

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