



Appeal Against CAT Order in Contempt Proceedings

Why in News?

Recently, the Allahabad High Court has held that an appeal against an order of the [Central Administrative Tribunal](#) while exercising its contempt jurisdiction under **Section 17 of the Administrative Tribunals Act 1985** lies before the Supreme Court [under Section 19 of the Contempt of Courts Act, 1971](#).

- The Court held that no such order can be challenged before the High Court under [Article 226 of the Constitution of India](#).

Key Points

- **The Central Administrative Tribunal** was established under **Article 323 - A of the Constitution**.
 - It **provides for adjudication of disputes and complaints with respect to recruitment and conditions of service** of persons appointed to public services and posts in connection with the affairs of the Union or other authorities under the control of the Government.
 - There are **19 Benches in the CAT all over India**.
 - The CAT is a specialist body consisting of Administrative Members and Judicial Members who by virtue of their specialized knowledge are better equipped to dispense speedy and effective justice.
 - A **Chairman** who has been a sitting or **retired Judge of a High Court** heads the CAT.

Article 226 of the Constitution

- Article 226 of the Constitution **empowers a high court to issue writs** including habeas corpus, mandamus, certiorari, prohibition and quo warranto **for the enforcement of the fundamental rights of the citizens and for any other purpose**.
 - The phrase 'for any other purpose' refers to the enforcement of an ordinary legal right. This implies that the **writ jurisdiction of the high court is wider than that of the SC**.
 - This is because the **SC can issue writs only for the enforcement of fundamental rights and not for any other purpose**, that is, it does not extend to a case where the breach of an ordinary legal right is alleged.
- The high court can issue writs to any person, authority and government **not only within its territorial jurisdiction but also outside its territorial jurisdiction** if the cause of action arises within its territorial jurisdiction.

