



Minority Status to Aligarh Muslim University | Uttar Pradesh | 09 Nov 2024

Why in News?

Recently, [The Supreme Court](#) ruled on the **minority status of Aligarh Muslim University (AMU)**. The case stemmed from petitions seeking to restore AMU's minority status, which was struck down by the Allahabad High Court in 2006.

Key Points

- The **Court overruled the 1967 Constitution Bench decision**, which had stated that AMU could not be considered a minority institution as it was established by a statute and was a central university.
- **Key Observations:**
 - The court held that an institution created by a minority community qualifies as a minority educational institution, regardless of how it is legally constituted.
 - The purpose of such institutions is to **preserve the community's cultural fabric**.
 - Minority status does not depend on the institution being solely for the community, but predominantly benefiting it.
 - The Court found that the loss of administrative control by the community does not strip the institution of its minority character.
- **Article 30(1) Significance:**
 - [Article 30\(1\)](#) grants minorities the **right to establish and manage educational institutions** to preserve their educational and cultural values.
 - The right to administer does not require community members to manage the institution but ensures its autonomy to maintain community-specific educational goals.
- **The AMU Case:**
 - AMU, established in 1875, was granted minority status by Parliament through the **AMU (Amendment) Act, 1981** but this provision was **invalidated by the Allahabad High Court in 2006**.
- **Government's Argument:**
 - The Centre argued that AMU, as an institution of national importance, **cannot be considered a minority institution** due to its national character.
 - The government contended that **AMU is not limited to any particular religion or community**.
- **University's Stand:**
 - AMU maintained that it was **originally established by the Muslim community** to provide education and empowerment to its members

New Rules for Appointing Police Chief | Uttar Pradesh | 09 Nov 2024

Why in News?

Recently, **The Uttar Pradesh government** has framed **new rules for appointing** the state's [Director General of Police \(DGP\)](#).

Key Points

- **Uttar Pradesh's New Rules on DGP Appointment are:**
 - The UP Cabinet approved the **Director General of Police, Uttar Pradesh Selection and Appointment Rules, 2024**.
 - DGPs will be selected by a committee **considering the officer's service record, experience, and remaining tenure**.
 - Only officers with at **least six months of service left before retirement are eligible** for the post.
 - Appointed DGPs will serve a **minimum of two years**.
 - The selection committee includes a retired [High Court](#) judge, UP Chief Secretary, [Union Public Service Commission \(UPSC\)](#) representative, and others.
- **Existing Practice:**
 - The state government must send a **list of eligible senior officers to the UPSC** three months before the incumbent DGP's retirement.
 - The UPSC reviews the list and **sends a shortlist of three candidates** to the state for the final appointment.
 - Only officers with a **minimum remaining tenure (before retirement) of six months** from the date of creation of the vacancy would be eligible for the appointment as DGP. Once appointed, the DGP would have a **minimum tenure of two years**.
- **Reason for New Rules:**
 - The rules were introduced in response to a **contempt notice from the SC following multiple petitions challenging the appointment** of temporary DGPs.
 - The petitions argue that temporary appointments violate SC directives meant to insulate the police from political influence.
 - Although 17 states have enacted their own Police Acts, UP had not done so until now.

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Police Reforms in India

CONSTITUTIONAL STATUS

- Police and Public Order: State subjects (7th Schedule)

NEED FOR REFORM

- Colonial Law
- Custodial Death
- Lack of Accountability
- Political Interference
- Poor Gender Sensitivity
- Communal/Caste Bias
- No Anti-Torture Law

RELATED DATA

- Police-People Ratio: 153 police/100,000 people (Global benchmark: 222 police /100,000 people)
- Custodial Deaths: 175 in 2021-2022 (as per MHA)
- Women's Share: 10.5% of entire force (India Justice Report 2021)
- Infrastructure: 1 in 3 police stations is equipped with CCTV (India Justice Report 2021)

IMPORTANT COMMITTEES/COMMISSION



RELATED INITIATIVES

- SMART Policing (pan-India)
- Automated Multimodal Biometric Identification System (AMBIS) (Maharashtra)
- Real Time Visitor Monitoring System (uses AI and blockchain) (Andhra Pradesh)
- CyberDome (Tech R&D Centre) (Kerala)

WAY FORWARD

- ↑ Police Budget, Resources
- ↑ Recruitment Process
- Implement Measures to Reduce Corruption
- ↑ Skills of Policemen
- Better Representation (Women, Minorities)

CHALLENGES WITH POLICING

- Low Police-Population Ratio
- Political Superimposition
- Unsatisfactory Police-Public Relations
- Infra Deficit
- Corruption
- Understaffed/Overburdened



Drishti IAS