



Freedom of Speech and Expression on Social Media

Why in News

The **High Court of Tripura** has held that posting on social media was virtually the same as a **fundamental right** applicable to all citizens, including government employees.

- It also asserted that government servants are entitled to hold and express their political beliefs, subject to the restrictions laid under **the Tripura Civil Services (Conduct) Rules, 1988**.

Key Points

- In another significant judgement, the High Court of Tripura ordered the police to refrain from prosecuting the activist who was arrested over a social media post where he criticised online campaign in support of the [Citizenship Amendment Act \(CAA\), 2019](#) and warned people against it.
- The HC held that these orders are in line with the very essence of the Indian Constitution.

Other Recent Judgements

- The [Supreme Court of India](#) also gave judgement on the [internet shutdown and curbing of other civil liberties in the Jammu and Kashmir](#). It upheld the Right to access the Internet and released guidelines on imposition of [section 144 of CrPC](#).
- Recently, the **Kerala High Court**, in **Faheema Shirin v. the State of Kerala** case, declared the [Right to Internet Access](#) as a fundamental right, forming a part of the right to privacy and the right to education under **Article 21** of the Constitution.

[Source: TH](#)

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