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**Why in the News?**

Supreme Court nullifies Chandigarh Mayor election outcome

Exercise of power under Article 142 for "complete justice"

**ARTICLE 142**

**About Article 142**

Supreme Court jurisdiction

Pass decree or order for complete justice

Executive and legislative functions

Guidelines, directives, orders

Intervention in public interest matters

Human rights, constitutional values

Protector of constitution

Ultimate interpreter of law

**Issues with Article 142**

Subjectivity in definition

Wide discretion leading to misuse

Blurs branches' boundaries

Confusion in roles and jurisdiction

Unaccountability

Immunity from scrutiny or challenge

Lack of consistency

Complicates litigation planning

**Positive Impacts of Article 142**

Address urgent issues without legislation

Example: Vishaka Guidelines leading to Prevention of Sexual Harassment Act, 2013

Strengthen Democracy

Example: K.S. Puttaswamy (Privacy) vs. Union of India (2017)

Provides Checks and Balances

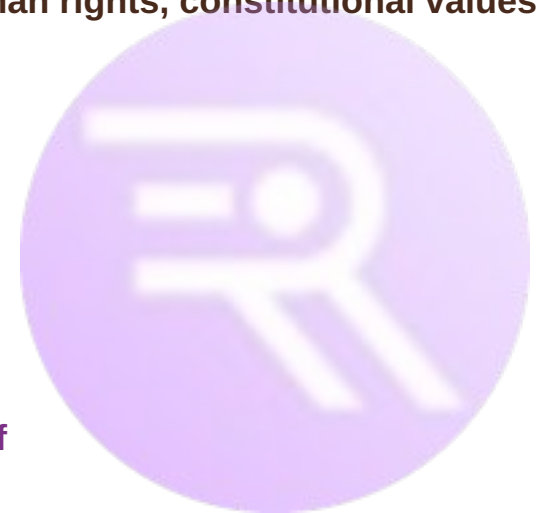
Example: Cancellation of illegal coal block allocations in 2014

Civil rights and social justice

Example: Vineeta Sharma vs. Rakesh Sharma & Ors. (2020)

Promotes equality

Example: Granting permanent commission to women officers in the Indian Army



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