



# **Constitutional Bench Update**

Ashok Kumar Jain v. Union of India

Extension of reservations in the Lok Sabha and State Legislative Assemblies beyond 10 years





# 66—

#### **Bench:**

D.Y.Chandrachud J., M.R.Shah J., Krishna Murari J., Hima Kohli J., P.S.Narasimha J.

Case Admitted on: October 17, 2000 / February 26, 2016

> Last Date of Hearing: September 7, 2022

Next Date of Hearing: November 1, 2022





## Background:

- The petitioner has filed a petition challenging the validity of the 79th Constitutional Amendment Act, 1999, which altered Article 334 of the Constitution to allow reservations to the Anglo-Indian community, Scheduled Castes, and Scheduled Tribes in the Lok Sabha and State Legislative Assemblies.
- The provision was initially supposed to operate for ten years. Nevertheless, further amendments extended the reservations for the SC/ST communities to 80 years and for the Anglo-Indian community to 70 years..







- The Petitioner contended that the aforementioned Amendment violated Right to Equality under Article 14 of the Constitution because it repeatedly extended restricted reservations, which undermined everyone's ability to have equal representation and also deprived them of their democratic rights.
- On 2nd September, 2003, the Division Bench of Supreme Court referred the matter to a 5-Judge Constitution Bench.







### **Issues under Consideration:**



 Does the extension of the reservation period for SC/STs and Anglo-Indians from 50 years to 60 years under the 79th Constitutional Amendment violate the Right to Equality?



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