

Jallikattu pleas go to Constitution Bench

They contended that the amended laws had opened the gates for the conduct of the popular bull-taming sport in the name of culture and tradition despite a 2014 ban by the Supreme Court.

It is the first time the Supreme Court is considering the question of granting constitutional protection to jallikattu as a collective cultural right under Article 29 (1), a fundamental right guaranteed under Part III of the Constitution to protect the educational and cultural rights of citizens. "It has never been looked into whether a State can claim constitutional protection under Article 29 (1) for what it thinks is a cultural right," Chief Justice of India Dipak Misra had orally observed in the previous hearing.

Finally, the Bench would examine whether the new Jallikattu laws are "relatable" to Article 48 of the Constitution, which says it is an endeavour of the State to organise agriculture on modern and scientific lines.

END

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