POLITY & CONSTITUTION 13 July 2026

Supreme Court Questions POCSO Misuse in Teen Relationships

The Supreme Court questioned the misuse of the POCSO Act in teen relationships, highlighting parents' role in criminalizing consensual elopements for 'honour'.

The Protection of Children from Sexual Offences (POCSO) Act, 2012, is a special law enacted to protect children from sexual abuse and exploitation.

KEY EXAM POINTS

- The **Supreme Court** questioned the invocation of the **POCSO Act** against teenagers involved in **voluntary sexual relationships**.
- A **Bench** of **Justices B.V. Nagarathna** and **R. Mahadevan** made the observation.
- The Court noted that **parents** often resort to **criminal proceedings** to protect their **'honour'** when teenage girls elope with their partners.
- The questioning occurred on Monday, **July 13, 2026**, in **New Delhi**.

DID YOU KNOW..!?

The **Protection of Children from Sexual Offences (POCSO) Act** was enacted in **2012**.

The **POCSO Act** defines a **child** as any person below the age of **18 years**.

The Act aims to provide a **child-friendly legal framework** for **sexual offenses**.

The **Supreme Court of India** is the **highest judicial body** and the **final court of appeal** under the Constitution.

Article 21 of the **Indian Constitution** guarantees the fundamental **right to life and personal liberty**.

The **Indian Penal Code (IPC) 1860**, contains provisions related to **kidnapping**, **abduction**, and other offenses.

REVISION FLASHCARD

Supreme Court questions POCSO Act misuse in consensual teen relationships.

Syllabus Relevance: High

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