

# Extra judicial killings in Manipur

#### Why in news?

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The Supreme Court has directed a probe by the CBI into the alleged extra-judicial killings by security forces and police in Manipur.

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## What happened in Manipur?

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- The court was hearing a PIL seeking probe and compensation for around 1,500 alleged extra-judicial killings in Manipur from 2000 to 2012.
- The case was made against both the security forces and police.
- Manipur is one of the states where the controversial Armed Forces Special Powers Act (AFSPA) is in place.
- AFSPA confers special powers to the armed personnel which includes unwarranted arrest and search in disturbed areas.
- $\bullet$  Various reports and evidences have made serious allegations against armed forces personnel for constant rights violations.  $\mbox{\sc h}$

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## What is the need for a CBI probe?

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• Courts and commissions earlier have proposed elaborate measures to prevent the abuse of immunity.

- The Army had earlier told the Supreme Court that it cannot be subjected to FIRs for carrying out anti-militancy operations in insurgency hit areas.
- The army argues that local factors which are biased come in the way of the probe reports which went against the armed forces.
- This has necessitated an independent probe by CBI.

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#### What impact does the case make?

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• AFSPA has kept the counter-insurgency operations in the north-eastern states opaque.

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- The apex court's decision has sent a clear message that AFSPA does not allow the security forces to use excessive force.
- The Act must operate with due respect for the rights and freedoms of citizens.

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### **Source: The Indian Express**

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