

Skill Development Scam

Setback For Chandrababu Naidu As SC Delivers Split Verdict On Corruption Act

Why In The News?

- The Supreme Court Delivered A Split Judgment On A Petition By Telugu Desam Party (TDP) President And Former Andhra Pradesh Chief Minister N Chandrababu Naidu For Quashing A Case Filed Against Him By The CID In The Alleged **₹371 Crore Alleged Development Scam**.



What The Supreme Court Said?

- A Bench Of Justices Aniruddha Bose And Bela M Trivedi Delivered A Split Verdict On The Interpretation And Applicability Of **Section 17A** Of The Prevention Of Corruption Act In The Case. **Section 17A** Was Introduced By An Amendment With Effect From **July 26, 2018**.
- Under This Section Stipulates A Mandatory Requirement For A Police Officer To Seek **Prior Approval From The Competent Authority** For Conducting Any Enquiry Or Inquiry Or Investigation Into Any Offence Alleged To Have Been Committed By A Public Servant Under The Prevention Of Corruption (PC) Act.
- **Justice Bose** Said Prior Approval For Conducting Probe For The Alleged Offences Under The PC Act Against Naidu Was Needed. Meanwhile, **Justice Trivedi** Said

Section 17A Will Not Apply Retrospectively And Upheld The High Court Order Refusing To Quash The FIR.

- The Judges Noted That Apart From The Charges Under The PC Act, The TDP Chief Was Also Booked For Offences Under The Indian Penal Code And Therefore, The Remand Order Could Be Upheld. The Bench Said In View Of Divergent Opinions, The Matter Be Placed Before The **Chief Justice Of India For Appropriate Directions.**

