# Revolt in the Higher Judiciary

## What is the issue?

\n\n

\n
- Recently, in an unprecedented move, the four senior-most judges of the Supreme Court openly revolt against the Chief Justice of India (CJI).
\n
- It is important that the judges of the Supreme Court should sort out their differences internally and amicably.
\n

\n\n

## Why did they revolt?

\n\n

\n
- The allegation was that the CJI has been assigning important cases, selectively to Benches of his preference, in contravention of the established convention.
\n
- In justification of their otherwise objectionable conduct of making public allegations, the senior judges claimed to have no other option.
\n
- They claimed that democracy is in peril, and stressed for radical steps for preserving the judicial institution.
\n
- They even stated that the impeachment of the CJI is for the nation to decide.
\n
- This incident has sent shock waves across the country in general and in the legal circles in particular, and has got a mixed response for all quarters.
\n

\n\n

## How has the reactions been?

\n\n

\n

- While most senior jurists strongly condemned the act, there were some supportive voices too, who stressed on the need to focus on the issues raised.
\n
- The action of the four judges has caused serious damage to the credibility of the institution, and has set a bad precedent of going public with grievances.
\n
- Also, this has given an opportunity for politicians to assertively muddle in the functioning of the judiciary with loose statements.
\n
- Notably, the CJI, PM and the government have been maintaining silence on the developments to prevent escalation, which is commendable.
\n
- The Bar Council of India and the Attorney General of India have urged for an amicable solution by the judges, which spells optimism for the future.
\n

\n\n

## What is the way forward?

\n\n

\n
- The CJI also cannot absolve himself of responsibility from the current fiasco.
\n
- While he is mandated to lead the judiciary, it does not mean that he is empowered to act arbitrarily in exercising his powers.
\n
- The CJI is the first among equals and he is the captain who has to carry the whole team with him, while enjoying their goodwill and support.
\n
- The judges now have to sit together and arrive at a consensus and present a united forum for the public to see.
\n

\n\n

\n\n

**Source: The Hindu**

\n

SHANKAR IAS PARLIAMENT
Information is Empowering