

SS-2 - Judiciary.

2. Supreme court has shown sound restraint while examining the issue of misuse of free speech. Examine in the context of recent verdict.

Art 19 provides for freedom of speech and expression as one of fundamental right. It also provides reasonable restrictions on the state

Recent Issue of free speech

- Ministers inflammatory speeches - raised question whether government is responsible/accountable for individuals minister's speech. Clash between Right of free speech (vs) Reasonable restrictions

Court's verdict

- no additional restrictions are required to curb free speech of ministers
- Government can't be held accountable for some ministers oral comments outside parliament (or) State Legislature
- In multi party system and coalition government the prime minister / chief minister can't be imposed disciplinary control on ~~some~~ by issuing whip

for comments of some ministers.

Dissenting view

1. Ministers must be careful of their say in public
2. provided their influence and reach, impact on public, they must owe duty be responsible and subject to reasonable restriction
3. Court also extended the for restrictions on free speech to both State & individuals

Way forward

Supreme court's majority verdict, relieved burden on government and also strike balance between protection of free speech and dignity of individuals. from inflammatory speeches