

*Federation For Freedom and Another V. Union of Krypton*

1. The Union of Krypton is the second most populous country in the world and seventh largest in terms of area. It has a diverse population divided on the lines of religion, ethnicity, caste, language and culture. Krypton, previously a British colony, gained independence around 74 years back and is governed by a written constitution, structured to suit a quasi-federal system. Krypton, a developing country, is an active member of the international community as well as the United Nations Organization. It has a robust multi-party system instituted as well which caters to the needs of the citizens from various states of the country and represents their interests to the Center. Due to the multiplicity of parties within each state, claiming majority by a single party proved to be a herculean task. These imbalances led to various coalition governments being formed between the ruling party at the Center and the regional parties at the State level. With a renewed Cabinet, the Union introduced new legislation catering to the most significant aspects of the economy. This included the introduction of Agricultural Reforms Bill, 2019, Preservation of Sovereignty Bill, 2019 and Management of COVID 19 Bill, 2020. However, due to growing differences within the coalition government, the Bills did not see the light of day.
2. The Kryptonian Janta's Party [KJP] had been in power at the Union level for the past three decades and assumed a great deal of power and influence over most of the States. However, they started losing support from most of their allies as the National Kryptonian Party [NKP] had started gaining prominence in the country. The situation was such that the KJP could only remain in power if they would align themselves with North Eastern Alliance Party [NEAP], which was the strongest party consisting of MPs from the North-Eastern area of Krypton. It consisted of 7 States which were inundated with political and economical instability and turmoil.
3. During the general elections for the year 2020, the NKP and KJP were in a tussle, the only way to achieve a majority was to align themselves with NEAP. After a tough battle, Chief of NEAP, Mr. Clarke, declared that the party has decided to align themselves with KJP and formed a coalition government in the Center. For a long time, everything went smoothly. Owing to the constant turbulence in the North-East region of the country, a political organization called the North Eastern States' Federation for

Freedom [FFF] had gained much prominence. Their objective had been to improve their relations with the Center and work for advancing these states in terms of infrastructure, technology, industry. During the past decade, they had gained people's confidence, by being vocal about their disagreements with the Union with respect to the new Bills which were introduced and how they didn't benefit the North Eastern population. Fearing the loss of their popularity in these states, NEAP had to cater to the opinions of FFF. However, the problems faced by these states were rarely ever covered by the media, and it was allegedly claimed by the FFF that the Central Executive had always discriminated against these states and had led to a tainted perspective of citizens towards the Central Government.

4. After a few months of the successful working of the coalition, the relationship between both the Parties had deteriorated because of their differing agendas. The KJP wanted to introduce a bill to prohibit the cow slaughter and a bill for preservation of sovereignty of Krypton which, if passed, would oppose the religious sentiments of the people belonging to the North East Kryptonians and affect certain immigrants from neighboring nations respectively. The FFF commenced protests in the North-Eastern States to pressure NEAP to vote against the bills. Due to mounting pressure, the NEAP succumbed and voted against the Bill, thereby defeating the Bill in the Lower House.
5. In the midst of such events, the KJP Government introduced a bill in the Lower House of the Parliament to amend the Constitution. Under the Kryptonian Constitution certain regions of the different states were given special status based on the socio-political conditions and economic backwardness. The Government led by KJP decided to give them status of States instead of special status and amended the Constitution to create 10 new States (106th Constitution Amendment Act, 2021). And immediately held general elections to those new States and was successful in forming its own government in all the ten new States.
6. KNTV, a prestigious news outlet in Krypton, caught wind of a leaked report which suggested that KJP had introduced the constitutional amendment as a measure to ensure the retention of majority in the Parliament in the upcoming elections and to pave way for other amendments to the Constitution that requires the ratification of one half of the States. The government however, refuted the claims and reasoned their decision to

establish 10 new States on the grounds of better administration and governance according to the needs of such regions.

7. The 106<sup>th</sup> Constitution Amendment caused a huge uproar which was supplemented by the media. Violent protests broke out, the Union Government was accused of being anti-federal and violated the basic structure of the Constitution. Large protests were backed by the FFF who resorted to destruction of public property.
8. In the year 2021, the country was going through the havoc wreaked by deadly COVID - 19 pandemic. Krypton was badly hit due to overpopulated cities, poor health infrastructure and waning GDP. Owing to the difference in opinions between the Center and the North Eastern States, they did not cooperate with the Central Government and this cost the lives of people.
9. The ten new States and a few other States of Krypton had requested assistance from the Union for additional medical supplies. The Central Government, then, issued a direction to all the States that the surplus medical resources, for instance PPE kits, surgical masks, sanitiser, etc, are to be given to the Union which shall be further shared to the States having limited resources. However, the seven states anticipated a huge demand for those medical resources and hence did not give them to the Union. They were also vocal about questionable methods adopted by the Union in passing the 106th Constitutional (Amendment) Act, 2021.
10. Observing the conditions prevailing in the 7 states, the President upon receiving a report from the Governor, imposed Emergency in these 7 States under Article 356 of the Constitution of Krypton.
11. Several organizations rose up against the imposition of Emergency, claiming that the action is violative of basic structure of the Constitution of Krypton and destroyed the very essence of a federal system of government. Angered by the turn of events, FFF challenged the constitutional validity of the action of imposing President's Rule under the Constitution of Krypton.
12. Further Krypton being a member of the UN, had to work in pursuance of the Envision 2030, an initiative which laid down the 17 sustainable development goals for all countries to employ, one of them was the "Good Health and Well-Being" of all its

citizens. Thus the Union Government planned another set of amendments to the Constitution.

13. Owing to the fact that States were unable to perform their duties laid down under Chapter IV of the Constitution and to meet the Envision 2030 goals, the Union Government through 107th Constitution Amendment Act, 2022 moved Entry numbers 1, 6 and 14 from the State List to the Concurrent List of the Constitution of Krypton. With the help of the Governments in Ten new States and other States where KJP was in power independently or through alliance succeeded in getting the ratification of one half of the States of Union of Krypton.

14. Mr. Clarke filed a petition in the Supreme Court challenging the 107th Constitution Amendment Act 2022. The Supreme Court clubbed the matters filed by the FFF and Mr. Clarke. The hearing is fixed on 5th June 2022.

The following issues are for consideration of the Supreme Court of Krypton -

1. Whether the imposition of President's Rule in the North East States is justified under Art. 356?
2. Whether the 106th Constitutional Amendment Act, 2021 is constitutional?
3. Whether the 107th Constitutional Amendment Act, 2022 is constitutional?

NOTE: The laws of Krypton are in *pari materia* with the laws of India.