**JUDICIAL REVIEW**

It is a process through which judiciary examines whether a laws enacted by a legislature or an action of executive is in .accordance with the Constitution or not. The power of judicial review was first introduced in America.Now it is freely exercised by the Supreme Court of India and in many other countries.

Judicial Review does not mean that every law passed by the legislature is taken up by the Supreme Court for review.It only means that the Court will review the law as and when its get opportunity. This is possible in two ways. First,the Court can review the law if its validity is challenged. The Court may get an opportunity to review a law in another situation also. If a person or institution feels that his/her rights are violated, or a certain benefit due to him under a law is being denied,the Court while examining such a petition may come to the conclusion that the law under which relief is sought, is itself unconstitutional .Therefore, relief may not be granted.

In a democratic country like India the power of JudicialReview is an important guarantee of the rights of the people.Besides, the Supreme Court has been interpreting various provisions of the Constitution.Its ruling is treated as law of the land.

Let us now see how the Supreme Court has played its role as a custodian of the civil liberties and in particular of the fundamentalrights.

The Right to Equality is an important right,which ensures equality before law.The Right to Equality is an important right, which ensures equality before law. The Right to Equality also means absence of special privileges and inequality of treatment. So,the Supreme Court in the name of Protective Discrimination has justified the benefits or concessions in the form of reservations or relaxation of eligibility conditions.

The Right to Freedom has given various kinds of freedom to all. . But the freedom of press was not mentioned in the Constitution. It was decided by the Supreme court that freedom of press as a right is implied in right to freedom of expression . Thus, the Court expanded the right to freedom

The Supreme Court had ruled that the Right to life in , Article 21 implies and includes the right to Education and clean environment also.

Regarding the delay in deciding cases,The Supreme Court has held that delay in trial constitutes denial of justice..It has also laid down that speedy trial , release on bail of under trials,free legal aid to the poor and accused are also the fundamental rights.

The Supreme Court has used its power of judicial review and given various historic decisions to safeguard the rights of the individuals. It has tried to safeguard the linguistic rights of the minorities,religious rights of the people,welfare of the workers and daily wage earners.

It has also taken action to protect bonded labour, prevent exploitation of women, children and deprived sections of society. The power of judicial review is an important guarantee of the rights of the people.It does not allow any violation of the constitution . It has given several new interpretations to the constitutional provisions.Thus it has protected as well as expanded the Constitution.