

## Advocate Mukul Rohatgi reappointed as Attorney General for India



Senior Advocate Mukul Rohatgi is set to become the Attorney General for India for the second time.

### Key facts

- Senior advocate Mukul Rohatgi is set take up the post of the top law officer in India from October 1.
- The tenure of the current Attorney General K.K. Venugopal will end on September 30 and he refused second term in the office because of his advanced age.
- Venugopal, age 91, was appointed as the Attorney General for India on June 30, 2017 and was given several extensions.
- Mukul Rohatgi served as the Attorney General for three years from 2014 to 2017.
- He is the son of former Delhi High Court Judge Justice Awadh Behari Rohatgi.
- Mukul Rohtagi was appointed as the Additional Solicitor General in 1999, when Vajpayee was the Prime Minister.
- He represented the Gujarat Government in the 2002 riot cases at the Supreme Court.
- As the Attorney General, he defended the National Judicial Appointments Commission Act and the 99<sup>th</sup> Constitution Amendment, which enabled the establishment of the National Judicial Appointments Commission to appoint judges of the Supreme Court and High Courts.
- While defending the use of biometric data in the Aadhaar Case, he advocated that an individual does not have absolute right over his or her own body.
- After his tenure as AG ended, Rohatgi challenged the constitutionality of Article 377, which criminalized same sex offences and held that the sexual orientation is natural and innate to a person's identity.
- He was unsuccessful in defending the Maharashtra law introducing job and admission quota for the Maratha community.
- He defended the founder of the Republic TV Arnab Goswami after his arrest by Maharashtra Police.
- He recently represented the Uttar Pradesh government to oppose a petition challenging the denial of sanction to prosecute Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath in 2007 case for allegedly delivering an inflammatory speech.

### Attorney General for India

Attorney General for India is the Indian Government's chief legal advisor and its principal advocate before the Supreme Court. Article 76 of the Indian Constitution allows the Indian President to appoint a person, qualified to be appointed as a SC Judge, as the Attorney General for India.