



27 November 2024

National and International News

<p><b>75th anniversary of the adoption of the Indian Constitution</b></p>	<p><b>Why in news?</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>President Droupadi Murmu stated that marking the 75th anniversary of the adoption of the Indian Constitution, that the Constitution is a progressive document.</li> </ul> <p><b>Key Points:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>Significance of the 75th anniversary of the Constitution of India:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>November 26</b> marks the 75th anniversary of the Constitution of India.</li> <li>This milestone is a chance for all stakeholders in Indian democracy to celebrate and reflect on constitutional governance.</li> <li>It is about instilling a strong constitutional culture among Indians, regardless of their backgrounds.</li> </ul> </li> <li><b>Core Constitutional Values of India:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>Respect for Democratic Institutions:</b> Since the Constitution's adoption in 1949, India's life expectancy has increased from 32 to 70 years. This development has fostered respect for democratic institutions. The 2024 general election saw a voter turnout of 65.79%, demonstrating faith in democracy.</li> <li><b>Smooth Transition of Power:</b> Over seven decades, India has seen peaceful transitions of power across various political parties. Despite intense election campaigns, results reflect the will of the people. This commitment to democratic processes is a key value.</li> <li><b>Protection of Rights and Freedoms:</b> The Constitution safeguards fundamental rights through courts. The framers, many of whom were part of the freedom movement, prioritized protecting individual rights from state power. This principle remains robust in India.</li> <li><b>Federalism:</b> India's federal system respects its diversity. State-level political parties have grown in strength, contributing to coalition governments. The 73rd and 74th Constitutional Amendments strengthened local governance through panchayati raj institutions and nagarpalikas.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ <b>Role of Media and Civil Society:</b> Media and civil society contribute to democracy by providing diverse perspectives and access to information. While challenges exist, media transparency has fostered an informed electorate, strengthening India's democratic framework.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Pennaiyar River</b></p>	<p><b>Why in news?</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● The Supreme Court directed the Union government to submit the report prepared by a committee that is mediating the dispute between Tamil Nadu and Karnataka regarding the sharing of Pennaiyar river water.</li> </ul> <p><b>Key Points:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● In 2018, Tamil Nadu filed an original suit against Karnataka for constructing check dams and diversion structures on the Pennaiyar river.</li> <li>● On November 30, 2019, Tamil Nadu formally requested the Union government to constitute a Tribunal for adjudication of disputes over the waters of the river.</li> <li>● In mid-December, the court gave the Centre three months to constitute the tribunal to resolve the dispute between Tamil Nadu and Karnataka.</li> <li>● <b>About Pennaiyar River:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ The river originates in the <b>Nandi Hills</b> in the Chikkaballapura district of Karnataka and flows through Tamil Nadu before emptying into the Bay of Bengal.</li> <li>○ It is also known as the <b>South Pennar River, Dakshina Pinakini in Kannada and Thenpennai or Ponnaiyar or Pennaiyar in Tamil.</b></li> <li>○ This is the <b>second longest river in Tamil Nadu</b>, with a length of 497 km, after the Kaveri.</li> <li>○ It is the <b>second largest interstate East flowing river basin among the 12 basins</b> lying between Pennar and Cauvery basins.</li> <li>○ It <b>covers a large area in the State of Tamil Nadu besides the areas covered in the states of Karnataka and Andhra Pradesh.</b></li> </ul> </li> </ul>
<p><b>National Investigation Agency (NIA)</b></p>	<p><b>Why in news?</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● The National Investigation Agency (NIA) has initiated an investigation into three incidents of violence in Manipur.</li> </ul> <p><b>Key Points:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● NIA is the <b>Central Counter Terrorism Law Enforcement Agency</b> of India.</li> <li>● <b>Parent Ministry:</b> Union Ministry of Home Affairs.</li> <li>● <b>Establishment:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ It was created after the 2008 Mumbai terror attacks, as the need for a central agency to combat terrorism was</li> </ul> </li> </ul>



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	<p>realised.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ It was established under the <b>National Investigation Agency Act, 2008.</b></li> <li>● The NIA, with its <b>headquarters in New Delhi</b>, has 18 branch offices across the country.</li> <li>● <b>It investigates and prosecutes offences that affect:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ the sovereignty and integrity of India;</li> <li>○ the security of our country;</li> <li>○ friendly relations with foreign countries; and</li> <li>○ our implementation of international treaties, agreements, etc. of the United Nations and other international organisations.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
<p><b>National Green Tribunal (NGT)</b></p>	<p><b>Why in news?</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● The National Green Tribunal (NGT) has served notice to the Centre and other parties regarding the rapid growth of Himalayan glacial lakes, expressing concerns about the escalating risk of natural disasters.</li> </ul> <p><b>Key Points:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● NGT has been established under the <b>National Green Tribunal Act 2010</b> for effective and expeditious disposal of cases relating to environmental protection and conservation of forests and other natural resources.</li> <li>● <b>New Delhi is the principal place of sitting of the tribunal</b> and Bhopal, Pune, Kolkata, and Chennai shall be the other four places of sitting of the tribunal.</li> <li>● <b>Powers:</b> The NGT has the power to hear all civil cases relating to environmental issues and questions that are linked to the implementation of laws listed in Schedule I of the NGT Act.</li> <li>● NGT has appellate jurisdiction to hear appeals as a Court.</li> <li>● The Tribunal is <b>not bound by the procedure laid down under the Code of Civil Procedure, 1908</b>, but shall be guided by principles of natural justice.</li> <li>● NGT is <b>mandated to make disposal of applications or appeals finally within 6 months of the filing</b> of the same.</li> </ul>
<p><b>PAN 2.0 Project</b></p>	<p><b>Why in news?</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● PAN 2.0 Project of the Income Tax Department has got a nod from the cabinet committee on Economic Affairs.</li> </ul> <p><b>Key Points:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● PAN 2.0 Project has been launched as an <b>e-governance project that will modernise the way we file our taxes.</b></li> <li>● The project will upgrade the current PAN and TAN services through technology driven upgrades.</li> <li>● <b>Key Features of PAN 2.0 Project:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Existing PAN card holders do not need to apply for the new PAN as they all will remain valid so the transition must be a hassle-free and smooth process.</li> <li>○ The incorporation of QR codes on PAN cards ensures</li> </ul> </li> </ul>



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	<p>digital advancements, enhances security measures, and improves the user experience.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Users can look forward to quicker service delivery, streamlined processes of data integration, and reduced paperwork contributing to eco-friendly practices.</li> <li>● <b>The goal is to make the process less complicated, easier and faster in ways including,</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ People will now be able to file for a PAN Card very easily.</li> <li>○ It will make the process of tax filing less cumbersome, fast and accurate with all updated features.</li> <li>○ With the digitalisation of the whole process, it would significantly help in environment sustainability with less paper wastage.</li> </ul> </li> <li>● This project will <b>help overcome the problems of cybercrimes and ensure better cyber security.</b></li> </ul>
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