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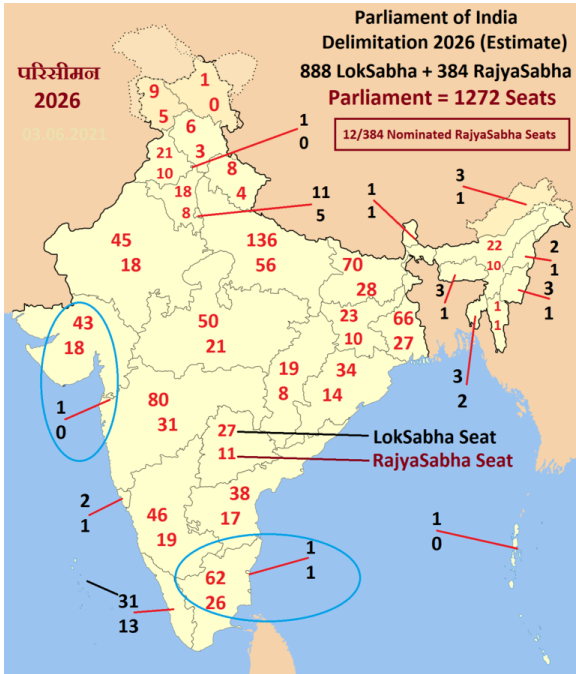
7 February 2024

National & International News

<p>Uttarakhand's UCC Bill</p> <p>About UCC:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Article 44, enshrined in Chapter IV of the 1950 Constitution of India, outlines that "The State shall make efforts to ensure the implementation of a Uniform Civil Code (UCC) across all of India's territories." • Chapter IV of the Indian Constitution elaborates on DPSP (Articles 36-51), which are guidelines for the State to enact policies for the overall welfare of society. • Our Constituent Assembly adopted the Directive Principles of State Policy (DPSP) from the 1937 Irish Constitution. • The UCC seeks to establish uniform personal laws applicable to all religions in India. • Areas covered by the UCC include Marriage, Inheritance, Maintenance, Guardianship, Succession, Adoption, and others. 	<p>Context:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Uttarakhand Chief Minister Pushkar Singh Dhami presents the Uniform Civil Code (UCC) Bill in the State Assembly. • The UCC encompasses various aspects such as live-in relationships and divorce, aiming for uniformity across communities. • Notably, Scheduled Tribes are excluded from the Bill's provisions. <p>Key Provisions</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The UCC ensures equal rights in divorce matters, eliminating practices like 'Halala' and 'Iddat'. • Marriages under the UCC are restricted to one man and one woman, with specified ages for marriage. • Registration of marriages and divorces becomes mandatory, penalizing non-compliance. • The Bill addresses live-in relationships, imposing penalties for non-registration or false information. • Children born from such relationships are recognized as legitimate under the UCC. • Sons and daughters are granted equal rights in property inheritance, regardless of their status. • Widows and children gain equal inheritance rights in a deceased person's property, a departure from previous laws.
<p>Tax-to-GDP Ratio Set to Reach New High in FY25</p>	<p>Context:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Revenue Secretary, Sanjay Malhotra, forecasts India's tax-to-GDP ratio to hit a record 11.7% in 2024-25, with direct taxes leading the increase. • Simplification and rationalization of the tax regime are ongoing to minimize disputes and enforcement issues. <p>Key findings:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • This is primarily because of direct taxes increasing from 6.1% of GDP in 2022-23 to 6.6% this year and 6.7% next year.



Delimitation Exercise



- As the economy grows and per capita income increases, the tax-to-GDP also increases.
- Malhotra anticipates a surge in direct tax collection, driven by more taxpayers opting for the new tax regime.
- The new regime offers a higher tax-free income threshold but disallows deductions.

Context:

- Delimitation entails **fixing the number of seats and boundaries of constituencies**, including reserved seats for SC and ST, as per **Articles 82 and 170 of the Constitution**.
- It's carried out by the **Delimitation Commission** after each Census.

Background:

- Delimitation has been frozen as per the **1971 Census** to encourage population control measures.
- This was done through the **42nd Amendment Act till the year 2000** and was extended by the **84th Amendment Act till 2026**.

Issues:

- The uneven population growth among states poses challenges.
- Discussions revolve around **redistributing seats among states or increasing the total number of seats**, both potentially disadvantageous to certain regions.

International Practices

- **the United States:** Seats in the House of Representatives are redistributed after each Census, aiming for equal proportion representation among states.
- **European Union:** The EU Parliament allocates seats based on a principle of degressive proportionality, where population size influences the number of seats.

(The mentioned figure is just an estimate)

Request for Neutrality

Context:

- The United Naga Council (UNC) Appeals for the Non-involvement of Nagas in **Meitei-Kuki-Zo Conflict**.



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ADDAPEDIA

Daily Current Affairs Encyclopedia

- The UNC, representing Nagas in Manipur, seeks to distance Nagas from the ongoing ethnic strife between Meiteis and Kuki-Zos.

Overview of Ethnic Violence in Manipur

- On 3 May 2023, ethnic tensions flared up in Manipur, a north-eastern state in India, primarily between the **Meitei community residing in the Imphal Valley** and the **Kuki-Zo tribal group inhabiting the surrounding hills**.

Causes:

- Following a court directive on 14 April 2023, the **Manipur High Court instructed the state government to forward a proposal to the central government regarding the Meitei community's demand for Scheduled Tribe status**.

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