

SUMMARY MAINS 365

POLITY

-  AHMEDABAD
-  BENGALURU
-  BHOPAL
-  CHANDIGARH
-  DELHI
-  GUWAHATI
-  HYDERABAD
-  JAIPUR
-  JODHPUR
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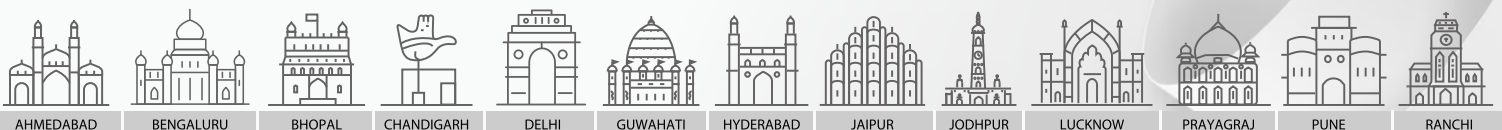
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STUDENT NOTE

Dear Students,

-  To support you, we have **distilled essential information from VisionIAS Mains 365 resources**, renowned for their comprehensive coverage of current affairs.
-  The summary of Mains 365 provides a **comprehensive overview of key political developments**, their significance, concerns, significant judgments, and essential constitutional provisions relevant for your UPSC Mains answers.
-  This summary helps you **revise key topics quickly and effectively**.
-  The document is designed in an **infographic format, making it easy to replicate in your answers**.
-  Utilize these insights to enhance your preparation and **ensure a strong performance in the UPSC Mains examination**.



Lakshya

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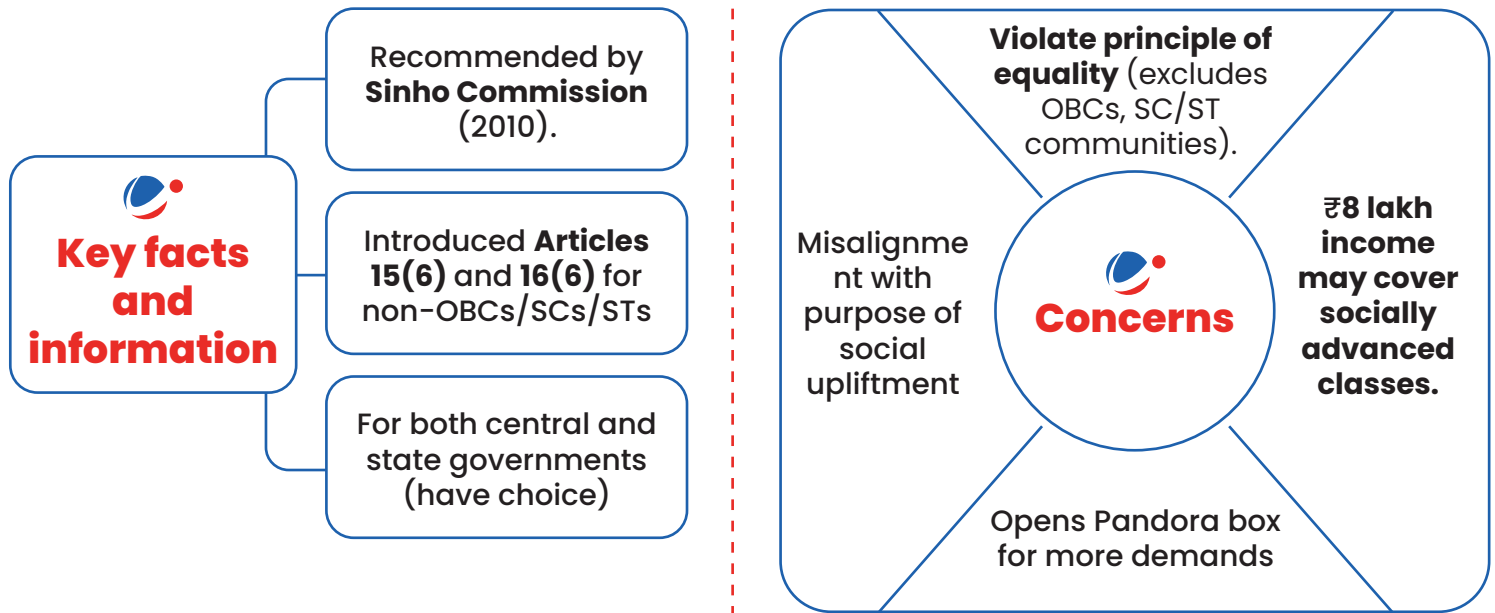
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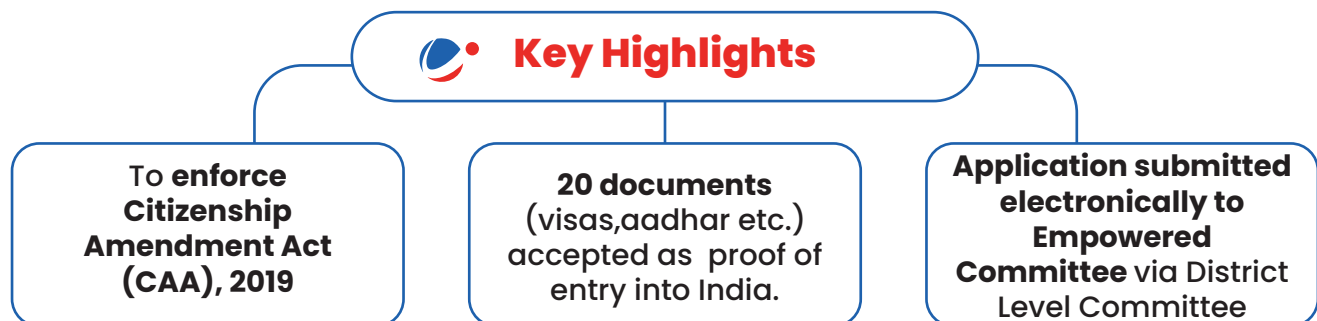
1. INDIAN CONSTITUTION, PROVISIONS AND BASIC STRUCTURE

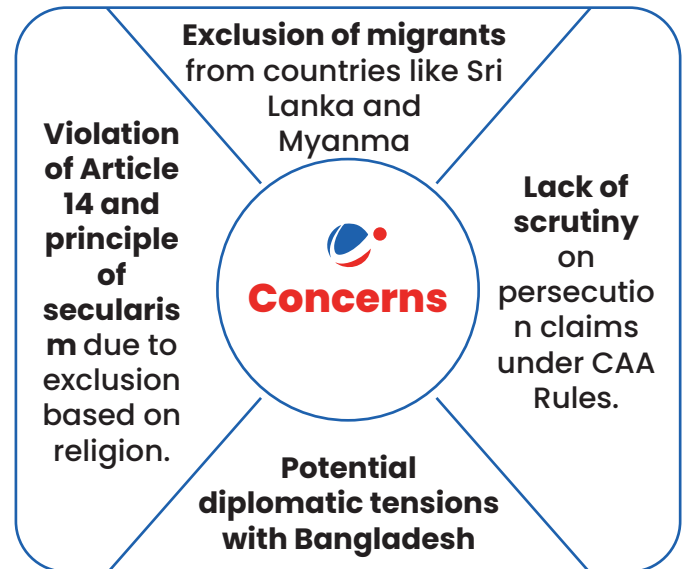
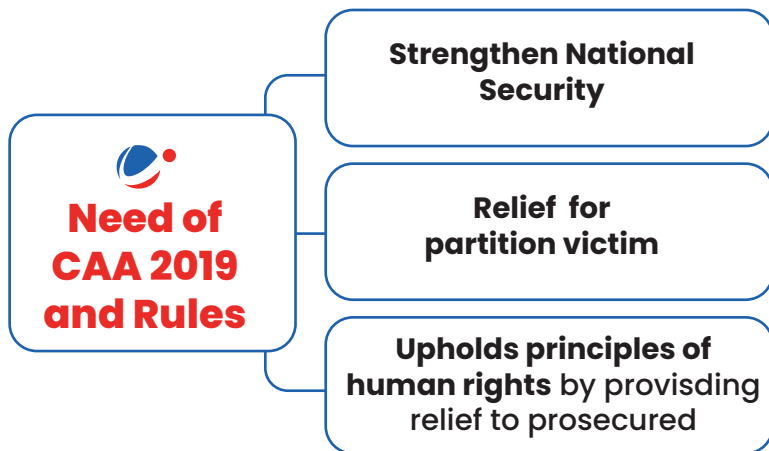
1.1 Economically Weaker Sections (EWS) Reservation

About: The Supreme Court upheld the **103rd Amendment**, validating the 10% EWS quota in **Janhit Abhiyan v. Union of India, 2022**.



1.2 Citizenship (Amendment) Rules, 2024

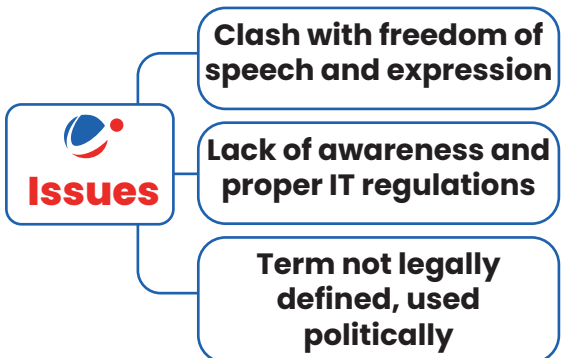
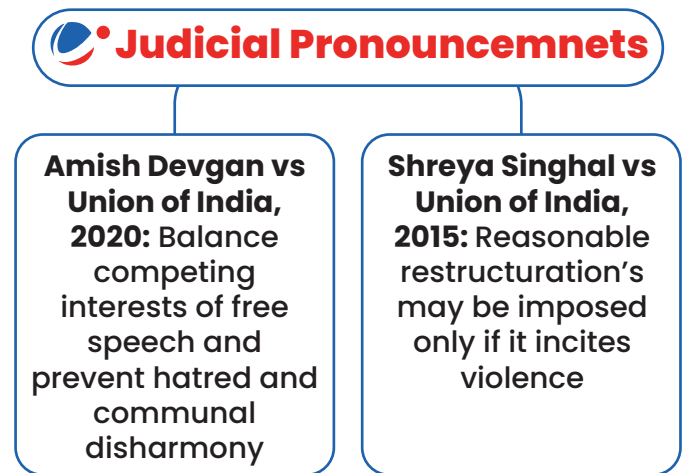
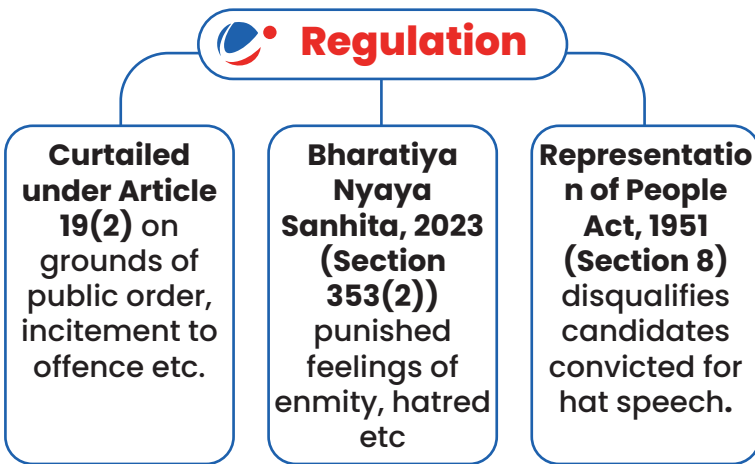


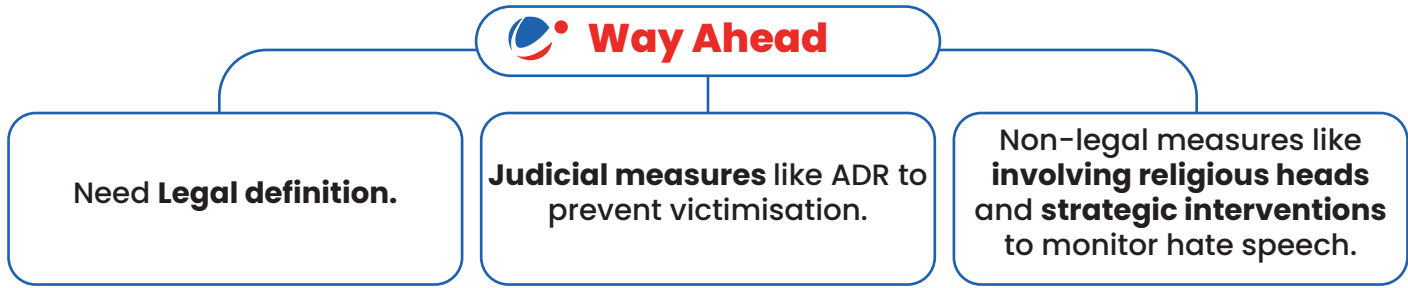


Conclusion

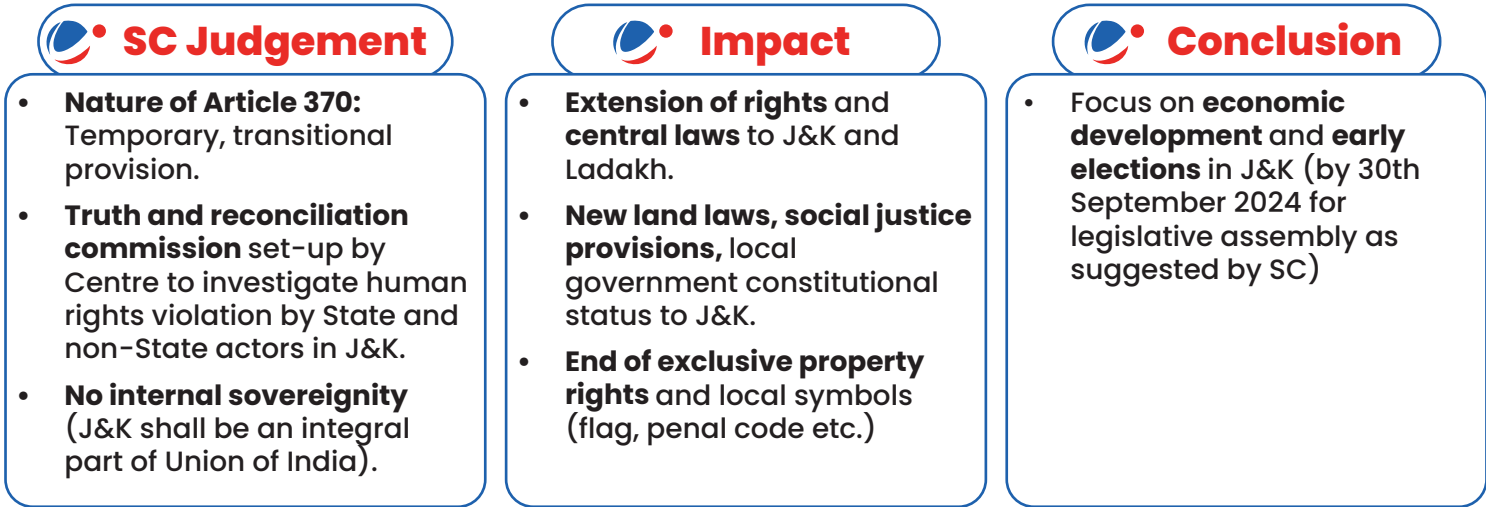
While the Constitutional Amendment Act aims to address the concerns of persecuted minorities, it is imperative to address the raised concerns to ensure a comprehensive and inclusive approach.

1.3 Hate Speech

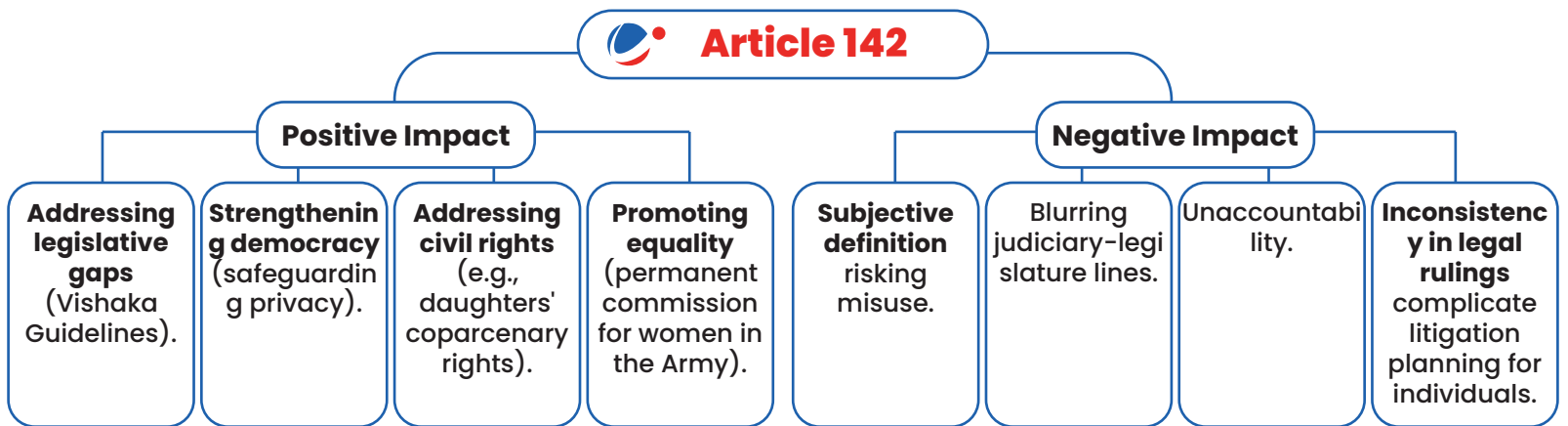




1.4 Abrogation of Article 370



1.5 Article 142



Way forward

- Ensure **decisions** under Article 142 are based on relevant facts
- Create **regulatory framework** and refer cases to 5 judge Constitution Bench
- Establish **guidelines** for 'complete justice'

1.6 Uniform Civil Code (UCC)

About UCC

UCC aims to **establish one law for all religious communities**, covering marriage, divorce, inheritance, adoption, and succession.

Goa is the only state where a **form of common civil code is in practice**, Portuguese Civil Code 1867.

Judicial pronouncements / Recommendations

Shah Bano Case (1985): SC Highlighted need for UCC among religions

Paulo Coutinho vs Maria Luiza Valentina Pereira (2019): SC Highlights need for uniform laws for consistency

Law Commission (2018): No UCC needed now, amends existing laws.

Personal Laws in India

Hindu Succession Act 1956 for Hindus, Sikhs, Jains and Buddhists

Muslim Personal Law for Muslims

Indian Succession Act 1925 for Christians, Parsis and Jews

Special Marriage Act for interfaith marriage

Arguments for UCC

Constitutional mandate under DPSP (Art 44)

Secular state

Common citizenship fosters National Unity

Gender Justice

Simplifies legal procedures

Update laws with modern principles

Arguments against UCC

Undermines cultural and religious identities

Resistance and social unrest

Disrupt principles of cooperative federalism

Way Forward

Seek consensus

Piecemeal approach

Review existing personal laws

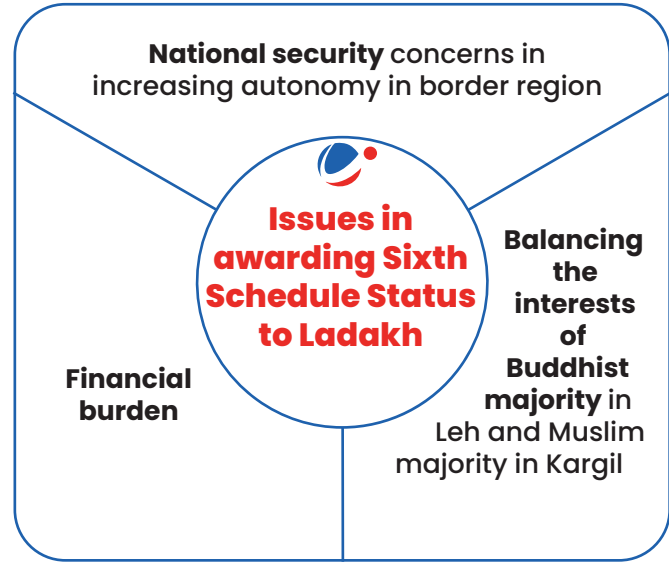
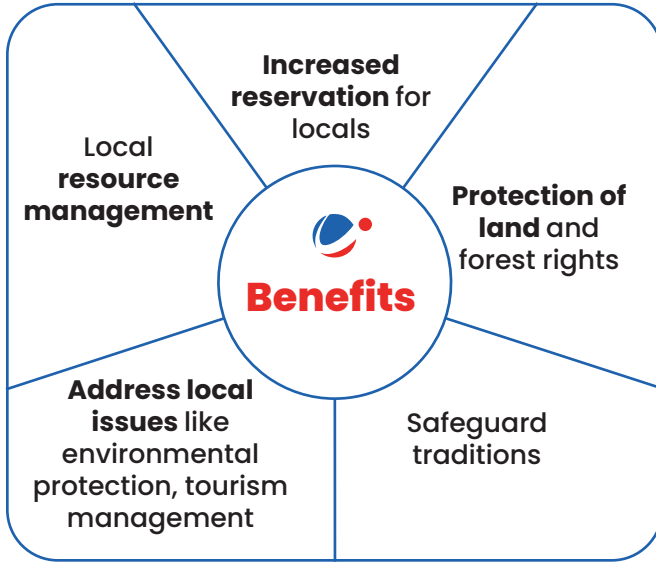
1.7 Ladakh Demands for Sixth Schedule

The people of Ladakh are protesting for Ladakh to be recognized as a tribal area under Sixth Schedule

Provisions of the Sixth schedule

Governor to create **Autonomous District Councils** and **Autonomous Regional Councils**

Conferred certain **executive, Legislative and Judicial powers** to ADCs and ARCs.



Conclusion

Dialogue with Ladakhs' representatives
Find alternative solution

1.8 Ninth Schedule

Ninth Schedule

Contains laws immune to judicial review

Added by the First Constitutional Amendment Act, 1951.

Judicial Pronouncements

IR Coelho Vs State of Tamilnadu, 2007: Constitution bench ruled that Ninth Schedule can be challenged for violating basic structure of Constitution.

Waman Rao V Union of India, 1981: SC held that amendment to Constitution which was made before 24th April 1973 is valid

Issues with Ninth Schedule

Against fundamental rights as it provides blanket protection

Against judicial review, however in **L. Chandra Kumar case 1997**, SC affirmed that **power of judicial review** is an essential feature of Constitution

Misuse for political gains

Outlived its utility to safeguard land reform laws

Conclusion

Implement periodic review to ensure relevance of laws.

1.9 Delimitation Commission

About Delimitation

Redrawing boundaries **based on population changes**

Provides equal representation and fair geographical division

Constitutional Provisions related to Delimitation

Article 82: Parliament enacts a Delimitation Act after every Census which establishes a delimitation commission.

Article 170: States get divided into territorial constituencies as per Delimitation Act after every Census.

Delimitation Commission

Appointed by **President of India**

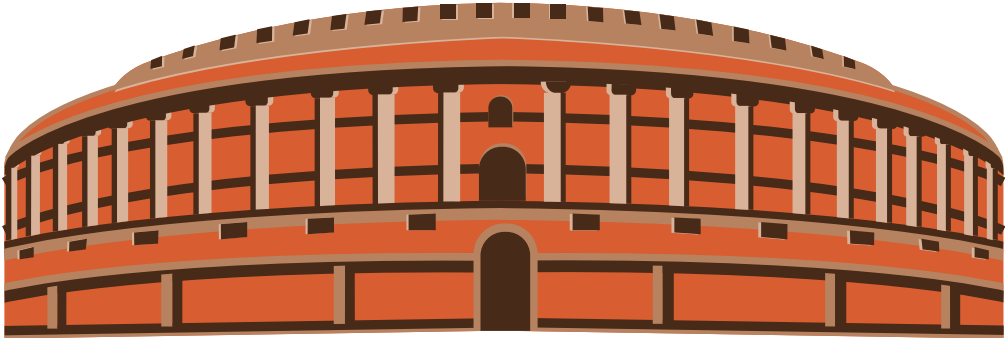
Its **order cannot be questioned** before court of law

Commission has **3 ex-officio members**

Issues

- Decreased voice of states with population control
- Dilution of 'One Citizen One Vote' principle
- Disenchantment in underrepresented states

- Chairperson:** Retired judge of SC
- Chief Election Commissioner (CEC)** or Election Commissioner nominated by CEC
- State Election Commissioner** of concerned state



2. ISSUES AND CHALLENGES PERTAINING TO THE FEDERAL STRUCTURE

2.1 Cooperative Federalism

Need of Cooperative federalism in India



Challenges

Over-centralization of power (e.g., Disaster Management Act during COVID-19)

Inter-state river-water disputes (e.g., Cauvery dispute)

Inadequate consultation with states (e.g., new farm laws controversy)

Steps taken to foster Cooperative federalism in India

Share of states in central tax revenue has been increased to 41% (15th Finance Commission).

States have freedom to plan their expenditure.

Restructuring of centrally sponsored schemes.

Ujwal DISCOM Assurance Yojana (UDAY) for financial sector bailout.

Way Forward

Expand Inter-State Council's role

Grant constitutional status to NITI Aayog

Transfer financial allocations to a permanent Finance Commission

Share best practices among states (e.g., Karnataka's "Bhoomi" project)

2.2 Fiscal Federalism

Issues

- Borrowing limits set at 3% of GSDP
- Vertical fiscal imbalance (e.g., Union retains tax-raising powers)
- Increased developmental expenditure from 8.8% of GDP (2004-05) to 12.5% (2021-22)
- Non-sharing of cess revenue, with collections rising by 133% (2017-18 to 2022-23)
- Decline in grants-in-aid
- States finance higher shares in Centrally Sponsored Schemes

Way Forward

- Role of 16th Finance Commission for state-specific issues (demographic transition)
- Review off-budget borrowing practices
- Address horizontal imbalances with minimum fiscal resource value for states

2.3 Special Category Status (SCS)

Key facts and information


- First Recommended by Fifth Finance Commission
- Funding based on Gadgil-Mukherjee formula
- Ceased to exist following 14th Finance Commission recommendations

Benefits with SCS

- Favorable funding for centrally sponsored schemes (90:10)
- Continuity of unspent money to next financial year
- Incentives (e.g., tax concessions)

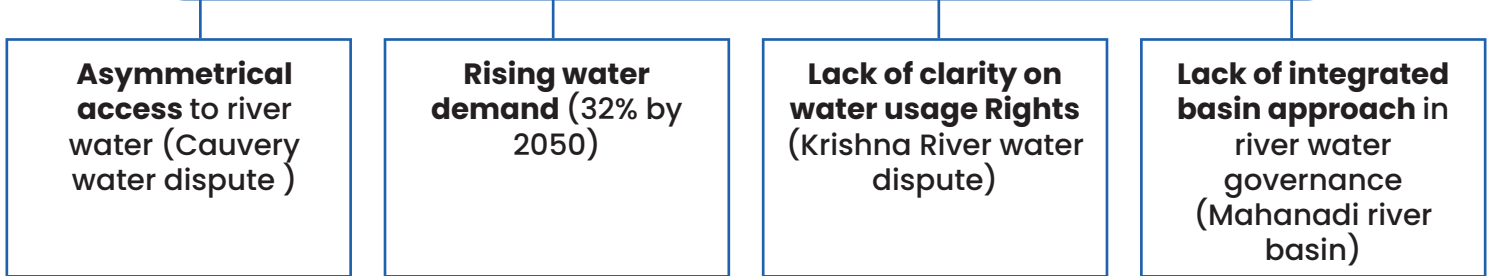
Concerns

- Lack of consensus on SCS criteria
- Inter-state disparities
- Encourages fiscal indiscipline
- Poses a fiscal burden on Centre

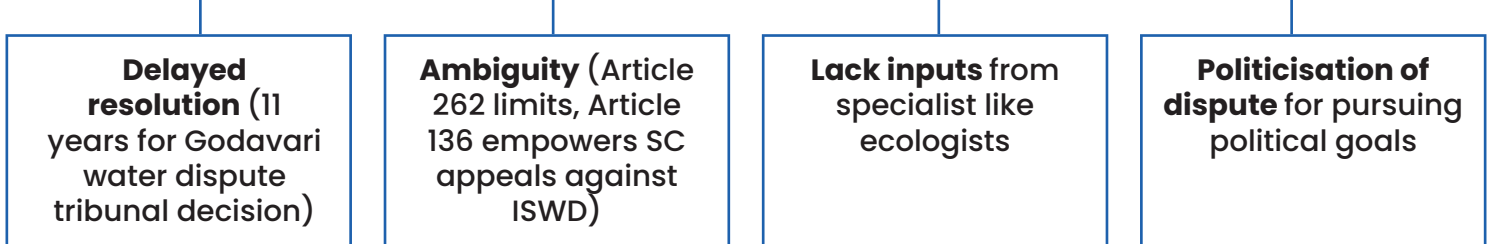
 Way forward	Reduce dependency on central assistance
	Review SCS criteria to include socio-economic backwardness
	Promote inter-state collaboration and knowledge sharing

2.4 Inter-State Water Dispute (ISWD)

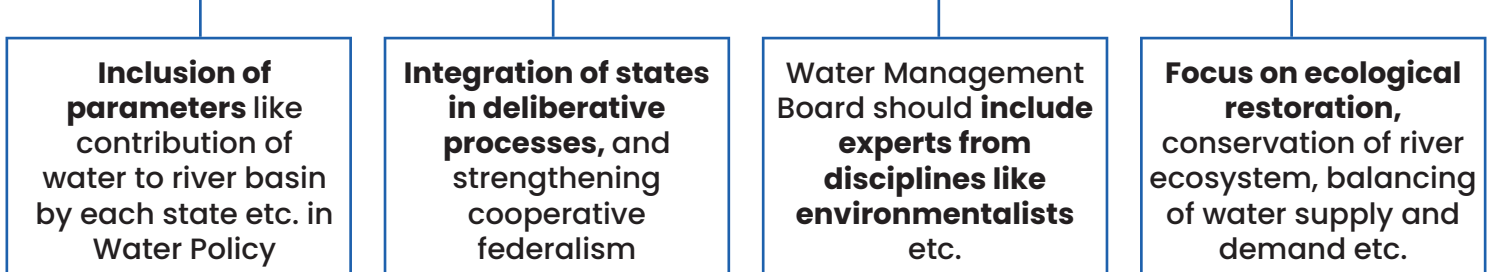
Factors responsible for Inter- State water dispute






Challenges



Way forward






2.5 Role of Governor

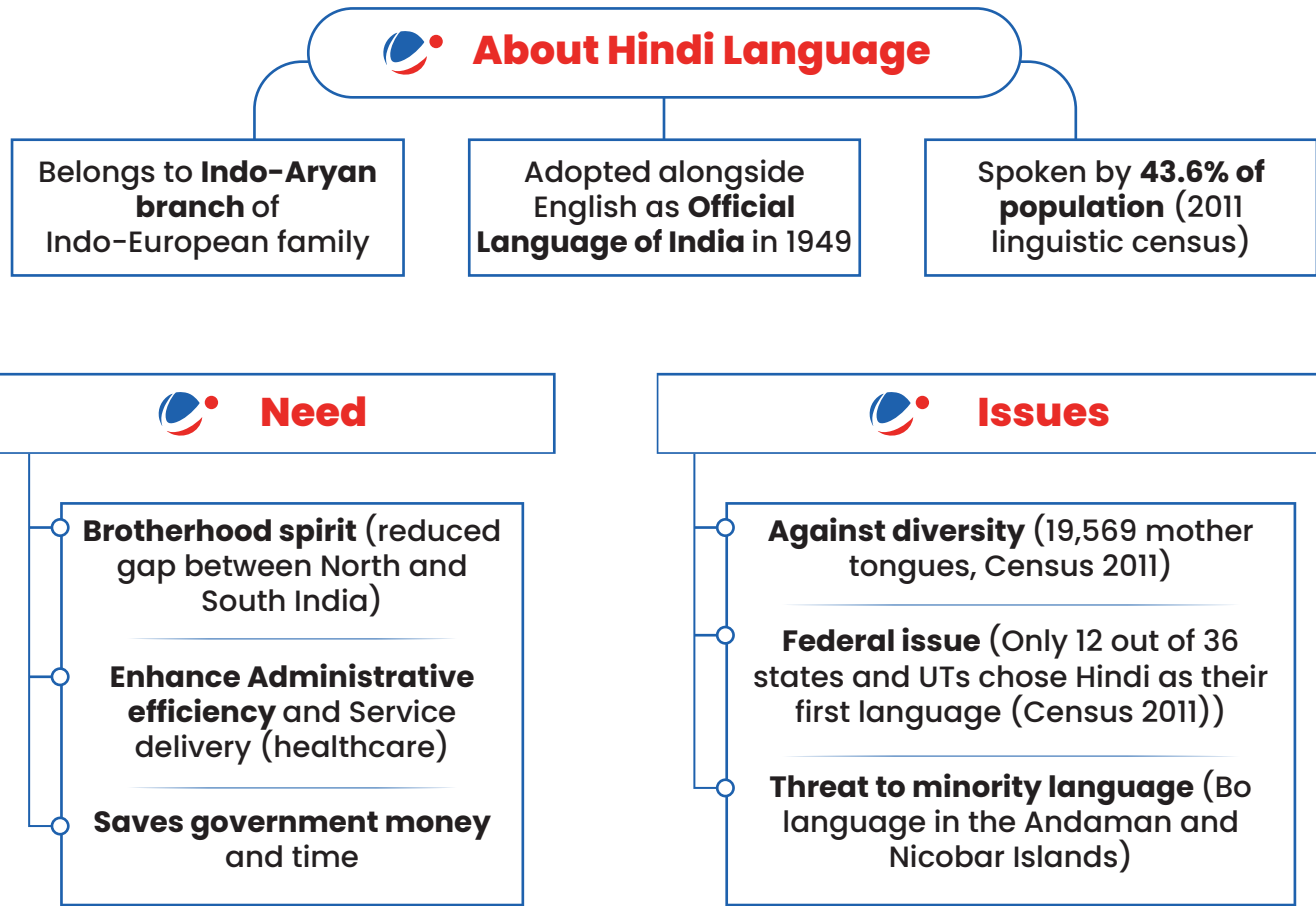
 SC Judgements	Nabam Rebia case (2016): If a governor exercised his discretion beyond his jurisdiction or power, it would fall under subject matter of judicial review.
	Tamil Nadu Governor case (2023): SC stated that Governor cannot refer bills to President after Assembly has re-enacted the Bills following the Governor's declaration of withholding the assent.
 Issues	Pending decisions and delays disrupt parliamentary democracy.
	Administrative inefficiency due to friction with state governments.
	Burden on judiciary from disputes related to Governor's actions or exercise of discretionary powers.
 Way Forward	Sarkaria Commission: Rare use of discretion, Appointee should be a detached outsider, not act as an agent of President etc.
	Punchhi, Commission: Expected to be independent, and act in a manner devoid of any political consideration.
	Venkatachaliah Commission: Governor should make use of advice of CoM in day-to-day administration of state.

2.6 Government of National Capital Territory of Delhi (Amendment) Act 2023

Parliament passed the GNCTD (Amendment) Act 2023, repealing NCTD (Amendment) Ordinance 2023.

 Key Provisions	 Key Issues	 Way Forward
Establishes National Capital Civil Services Authority (NCCSA) .	Central government controls officer transfer and posting.	Explore different governance models for capital cities (Berlin, Washington DC)
Expands discretionary role of LG by giving powers to approve recommendations of NCCSA.	Breaks triple chain of accountability	Decentralize decision-making (Australia, Sydney is divided into 31 local governments,).
Ministers consult LG via CM, Chief Secretary before orders on key issues (Peace and tranquillity of Delhi).	Violates collective responsibility and enhances LG's discretionary powers.	Provide enforcement powers to municipalities

2.7 One Nation One Language



Conclusion

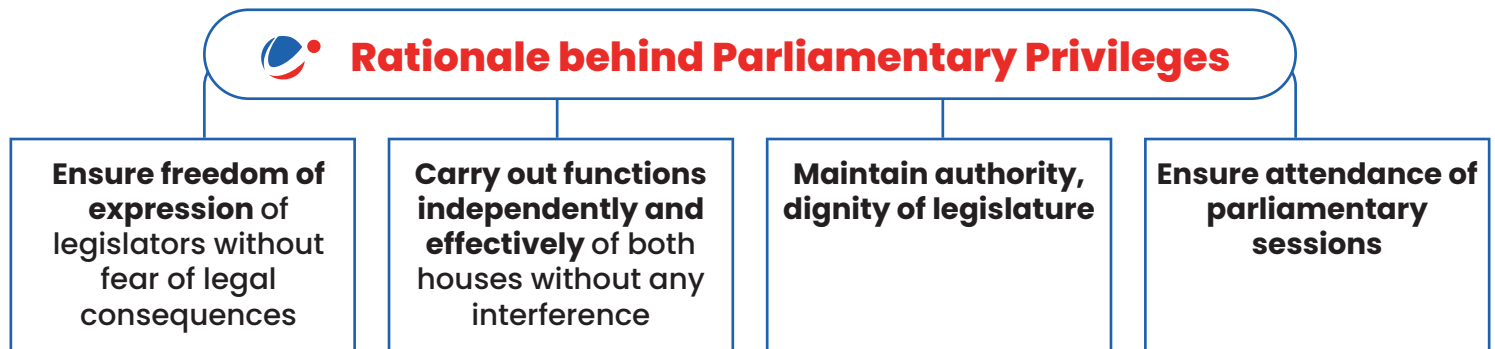
A single language can enhance unity and administrative efficiency, but steps should be taken to strengthen and respect linguistic diversity, as per Article 29.




3. PARLIAMENT AND STATE LEGISLATURES: STRUCTURE AND FUNCTIONING

3.1 Parliamentary Privileges of Lawmakers

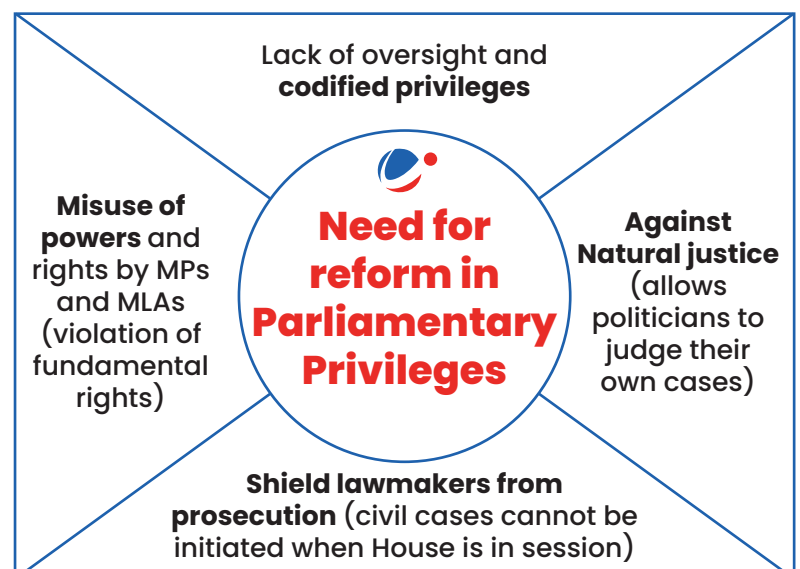
Recently, SC set up a seven-judge bench headed by CJI for reconsideration of its 1998 five-judge Constitution bench judgement in P V Narasimha Rao case.



 SC Judgements	PV Narasimha Rao vs. State: SC stated that members need wider protection of immunity against all civil and criminal proceedings that bear a nexus to their speech or vote.
	M.S.M. Sharma case: SC stated whenever there is a condition of imbalance between provision of Part V, Article 194(3) (privileges) and fundamental rights conferred by part III, fundamental right will remain supreme over others.

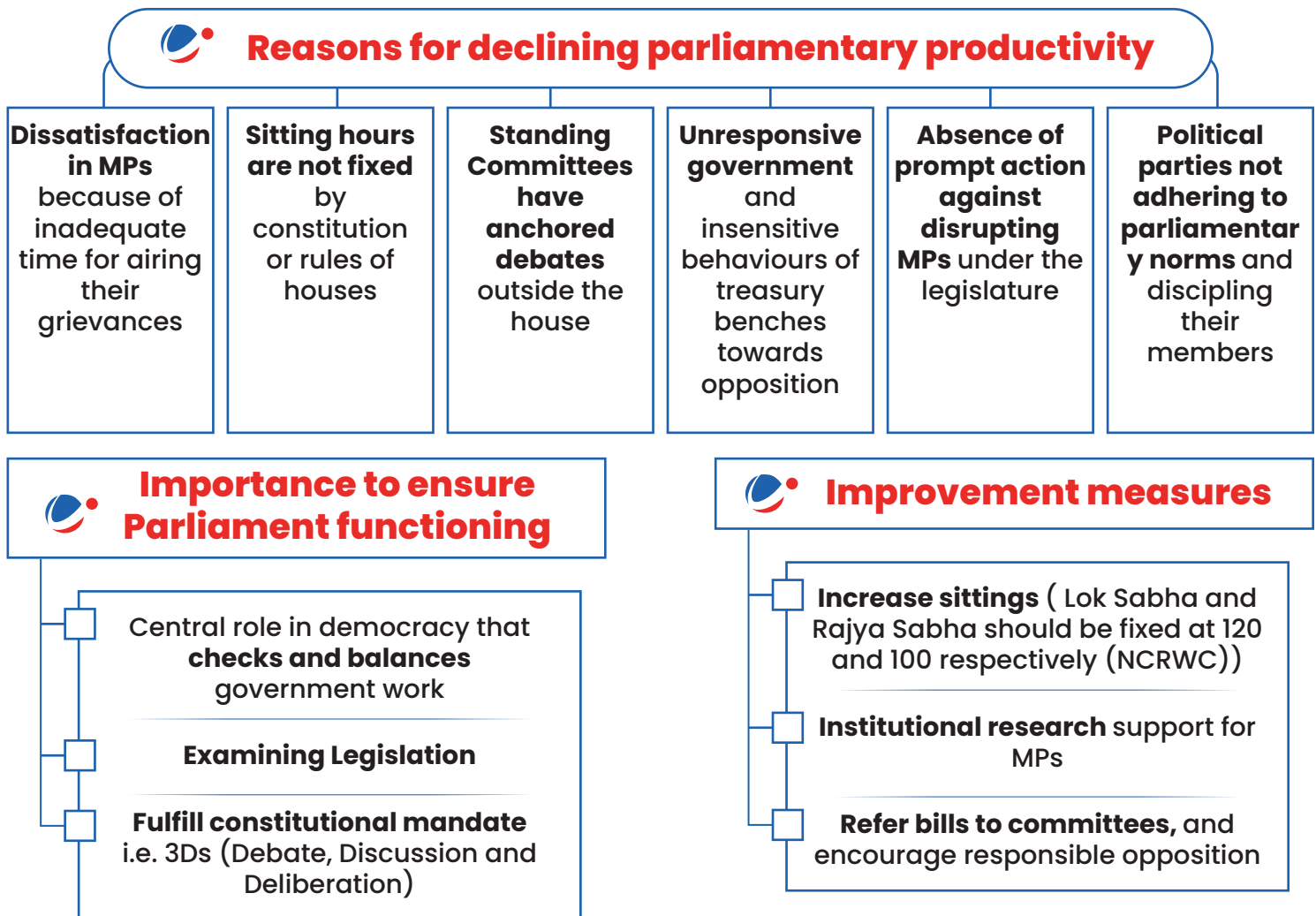
Conclusion

Providing immunity to parliamentarians is essential. Also, Parliament can establish clear boundaries by enacting specific legislation to monitor the misuse of parliamentary privileges by its members.

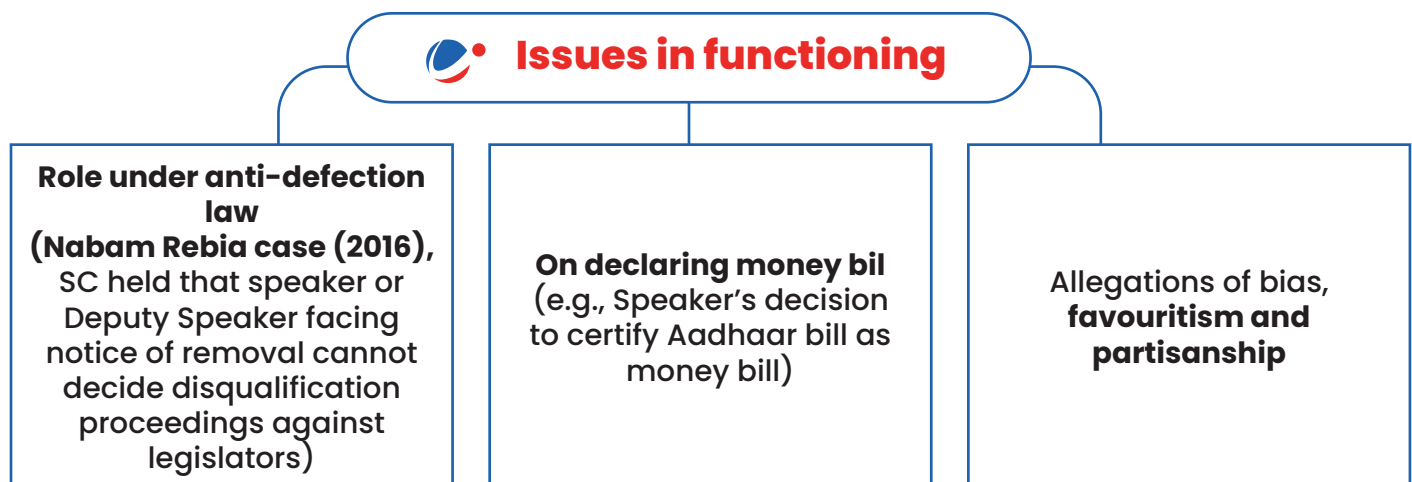


3.2 Parliament Functioning

17th Lok Sabha held 274 sittings as compared to 331 sittings in 16th Lok Sabha.

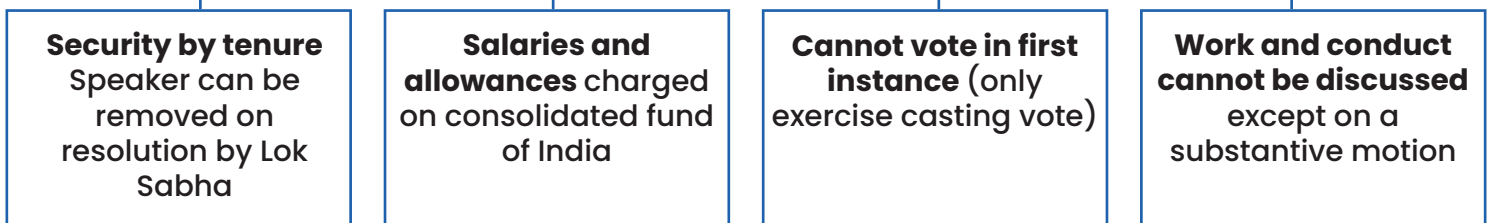


3.3 Office of Speaker



<p>Suggestions to reform office of speaker</p>	<p>Reduce speaker's role in Anti-defection law (Current mechanism where disqualification petitions are entrusted to Speaker can be replaced by permanent Tribunal (Keisham Meghachandra Singh case))</p>
	<p>Follow Britain's model (parties refrain from opposing Speaker during elections to uphold impartiality)</p>
	<p>Restrictions on political office</p>

How neutrality of Speaker is ensured?



3.4 Anti-Defection Law

Need for an Anti-Defection Law



<p>SC Judgements</p>	<p>Kihoto Hollohan versus Zachillu and Others, 1992: SC said that judicial review is applicable on Speaker's decision but cannot be available at a stage prior to making of a decision by Speaker/Chairman.</p>
	<p>Keisham Meghachandra Singh vs. Hon'ble Speaker Manipur Legislative Assembly & Ors. Case, 2020: SC held that disqualification petitions under Tenth Schedule should be decided by Speakers within three months.</p>


Need for Overhaul

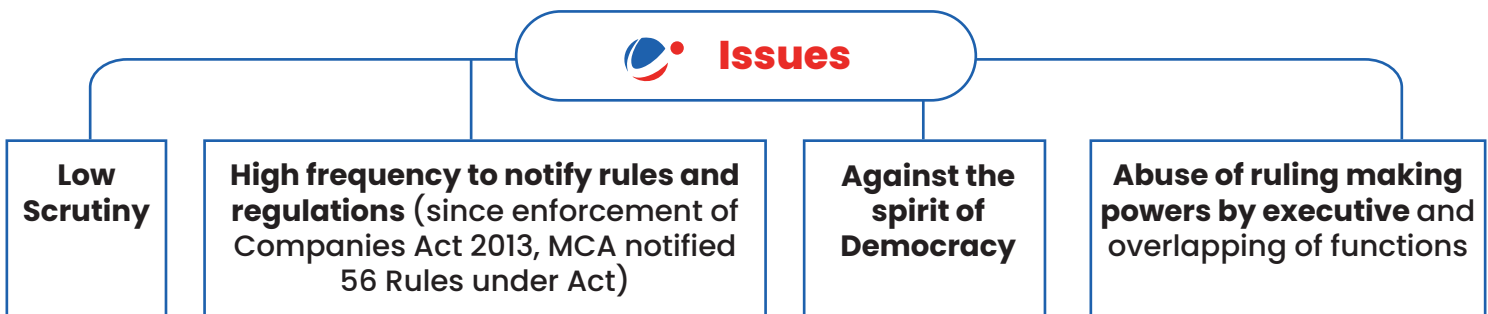
- Absolute power to presiding officer and limited space for dissent
- Expulsion does not attract disqualification
- No liability for political parties (only punishes legislators for switching parties)
- Problem with merger provision

Way ahead

- Define actions constituting defection
- Active involvement of ethics committee
- Issue of disqualification of members on grounds of defection should be decided by President/Governor on advice of EC (2nd ARC recommendation)

3.5 Delegated Legislation

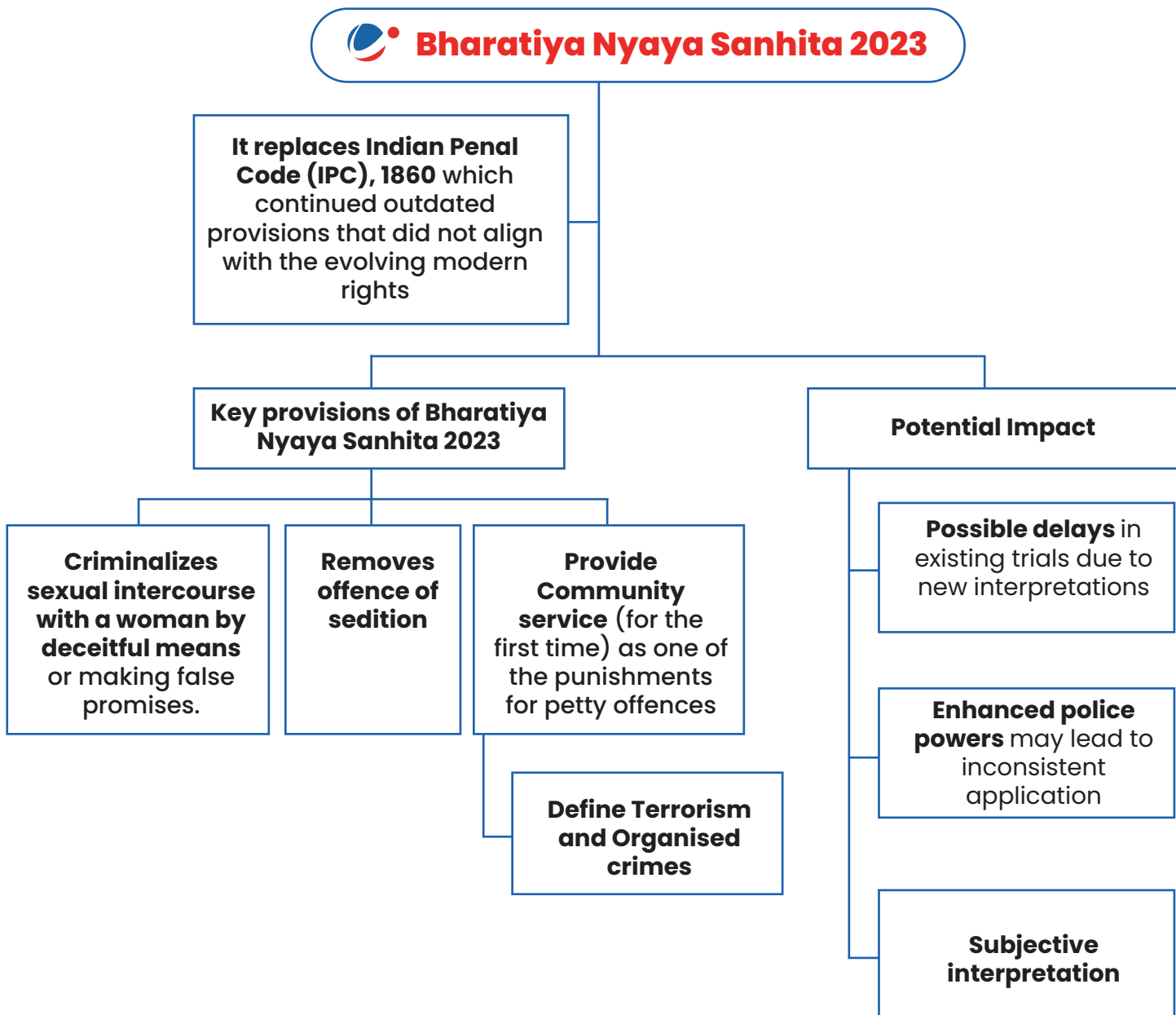
 SC Judgements	Petition Vivek Narayan Sharma vs Union of India (Demonetisation case), 2016: SC upheld validity of delegated legislation by upholding Centre's 2016 decision on demonetisation.
	D. S. Garewal vs State of Punjab and Another: Court held that Article 312 of Constitution deals with powers of delegated legislation.

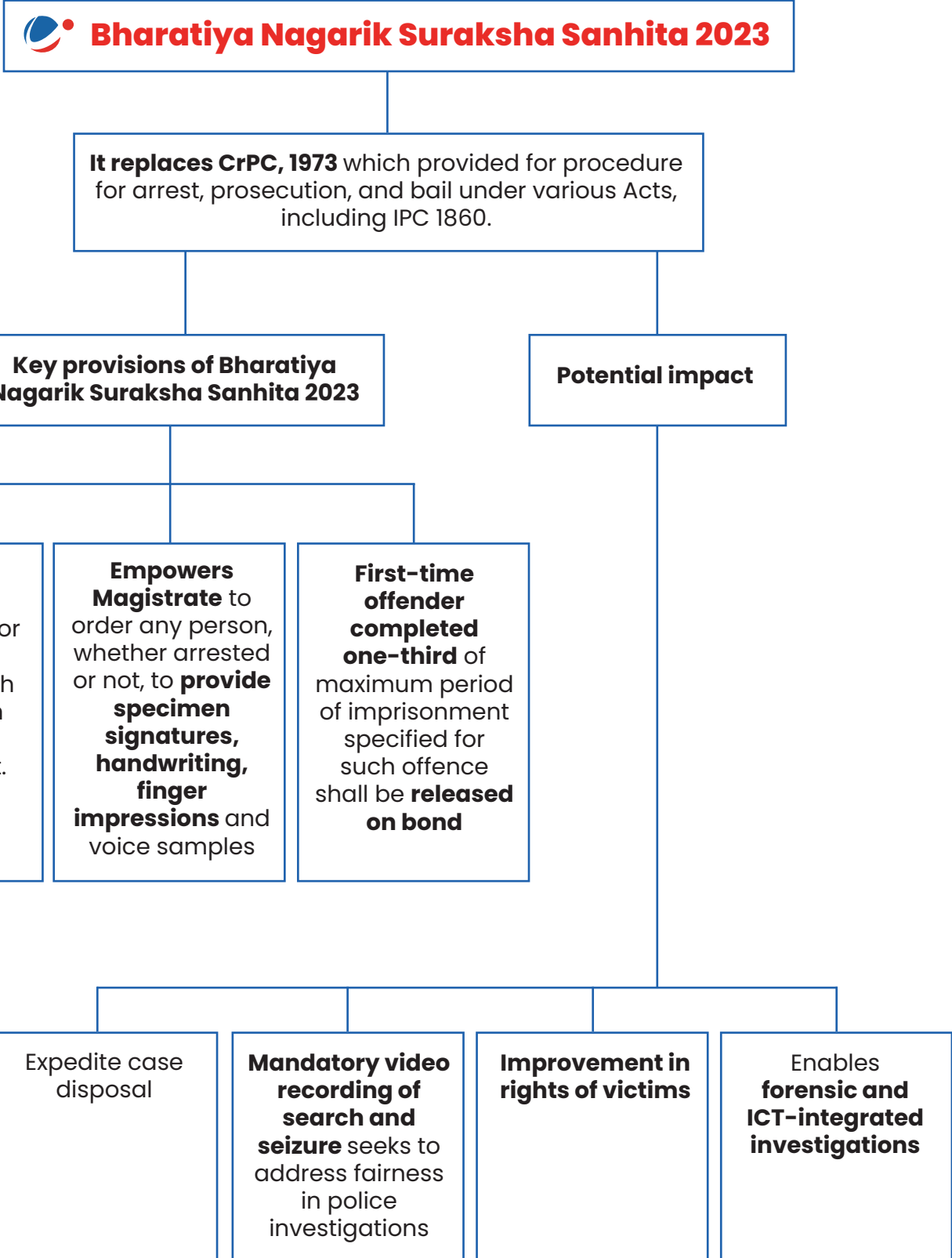


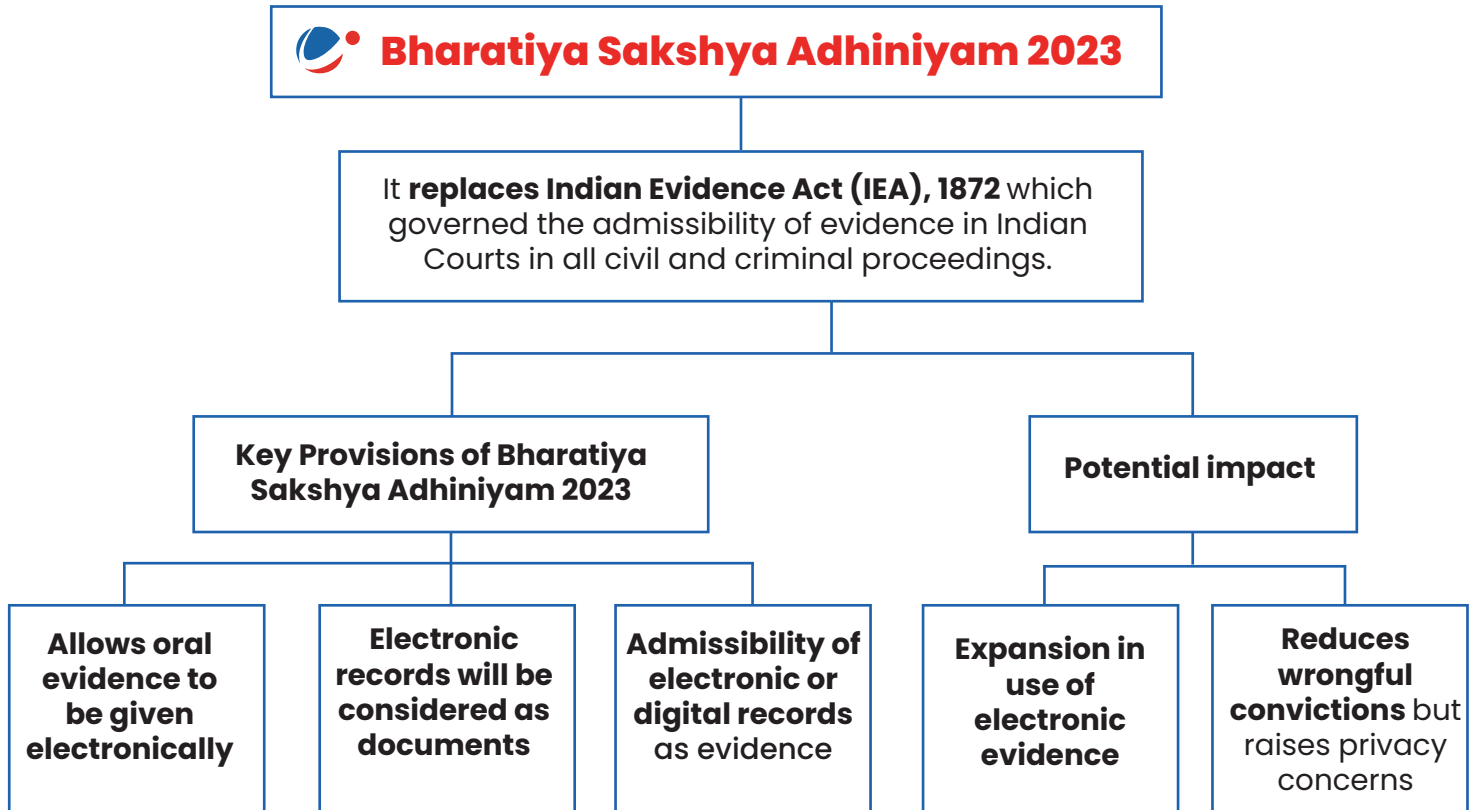
4. STRUCTURE AND FUNCTIONING OF JUDICIARY AND OTHER QUASI-JUDICIAL BODIES

4.1 Criminal Law Reform Acts

Three new criminal laws—Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita, Bharatiya Nagarik Suraksha Sanhita, and the Bharatiya Sakshya Adhiniyam—came into effect across the country on, July 1







4.2 Prison Reform

Prisons/ Persons detained therein is a 'State' subject.

Challenges in prison governance

Difficulty in obtaining bail

Overcrowding (130.2% occupancy rate)

Understaff (approximately 30%)

Prison budget (only 0.6% spent on vocational/educational training)

Low representation of women staff (only 13.77%)

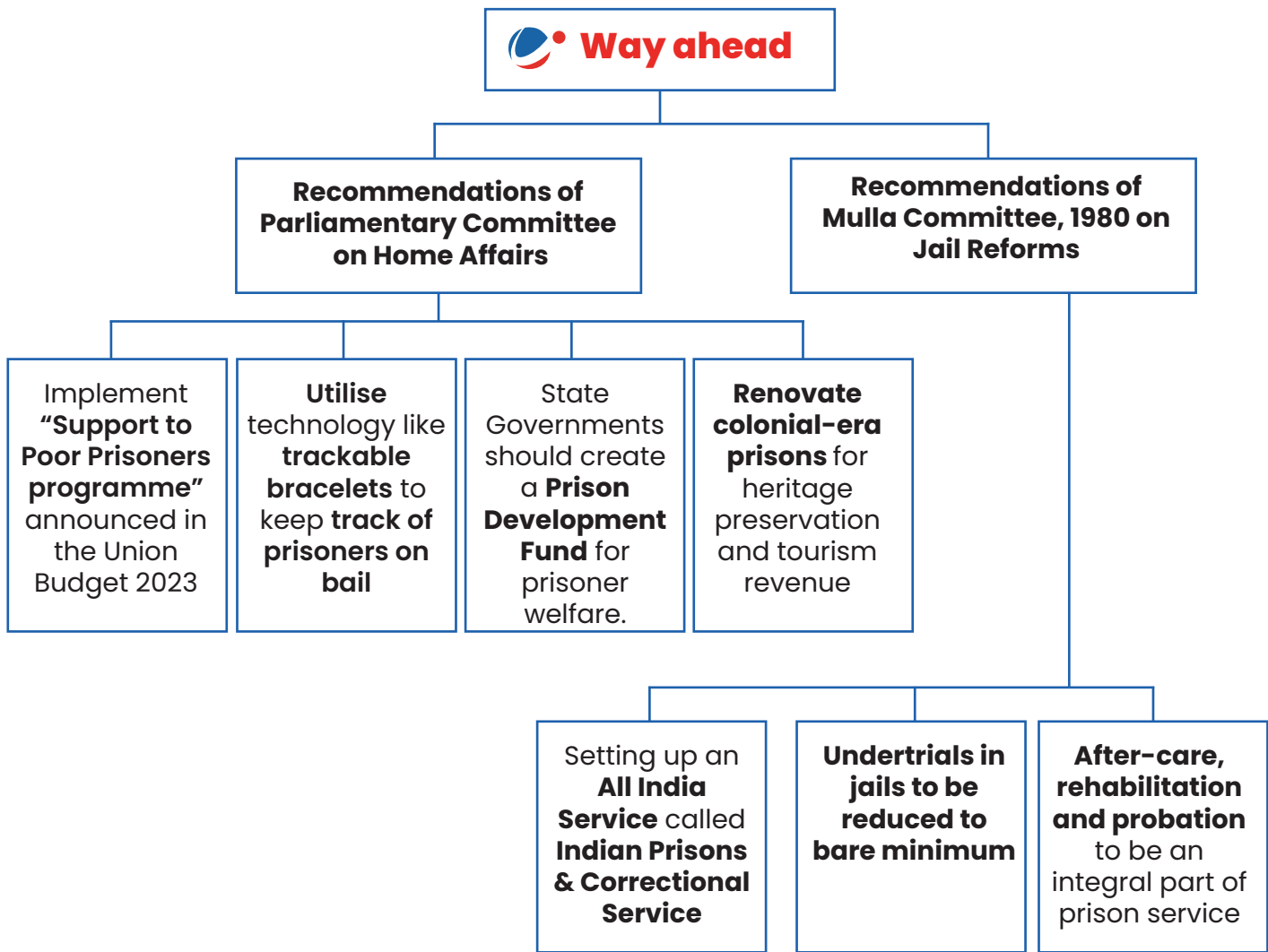
Steps taken by the Centre for Prison Reforms

Model Prison Manual 2016 **standardizes** prison administration

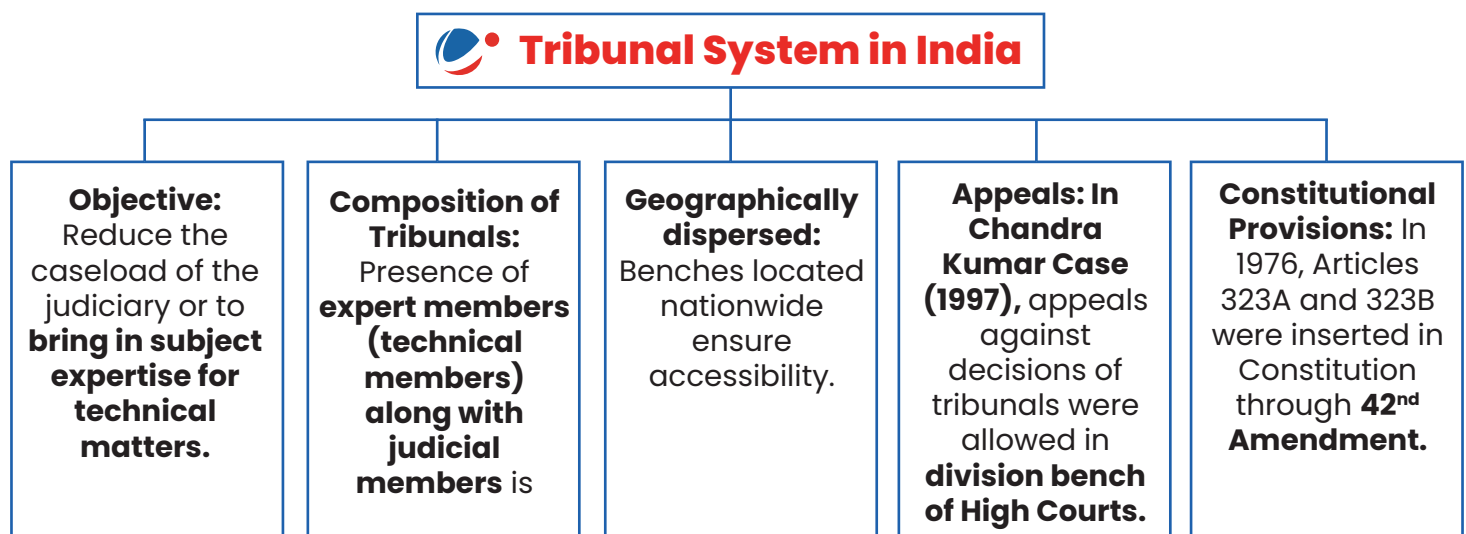
The Model Prisons Act 2023 **updates outdated laws**

Modernization Scheme **enhances infrastructure and logistics**

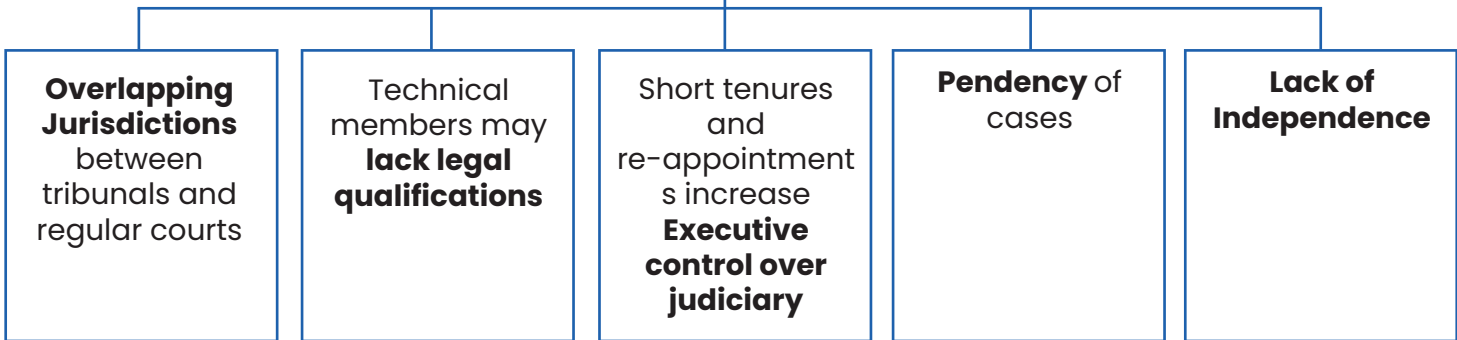
The E-Prison Project **improves management**



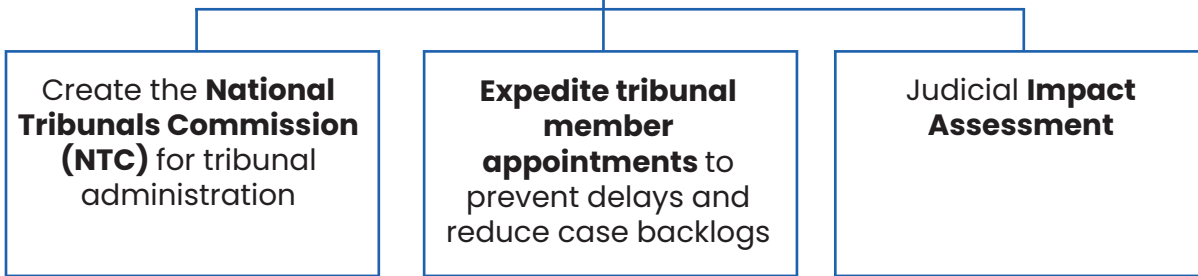
4.3 Tribunal System in India



Concerns with Tribunals

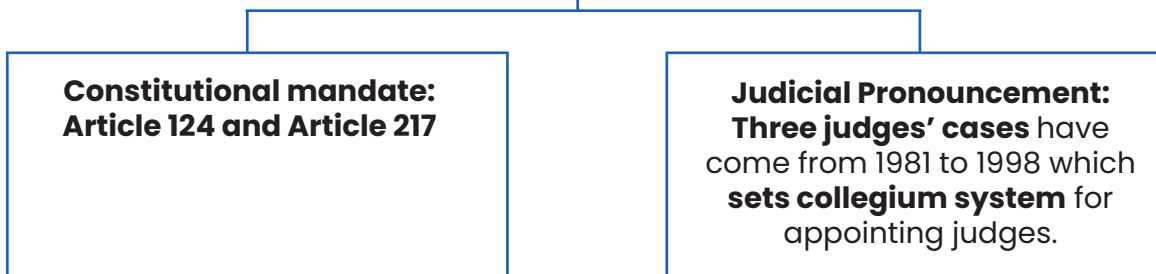


Way Ahead



4.4 Judicial Appointments

Judicial Appointments



Issues in Judges Appointment/ Collegium system in India

Judges appointing judges undermines the separation of powers and the principle of checks and balances

Judge appointments need a **secretariat** and **background checks**

Promotion of mediocrity

Lack of transparency

Steps to ensure transparency in judicial appointments

Public Disclosure

Inclusive Selection Process

Establish **Search-cum-Evaluation Committee (SEC)**

Objective Eligibility Criteria

4.5 All India Judicial Services (AIJS)

AIJS is a reform that seeks to **centralize the recruitment** of judges at **level of additional district judges and district judges** for all states.

Need for AIJS

Reduce pendency of cases

Solution to judicial vacancies

Qualified legal talent (116th Law Commission Report).

Social Inclusivity

Improving quality and efficiency of Judiciary

Issues with setting up an AIJS

Structural issues E.g. infrastructural issues or varying pay and remuneration across states

Career uncertainty

Local language barrier

Difference of opinion among the States and HCs

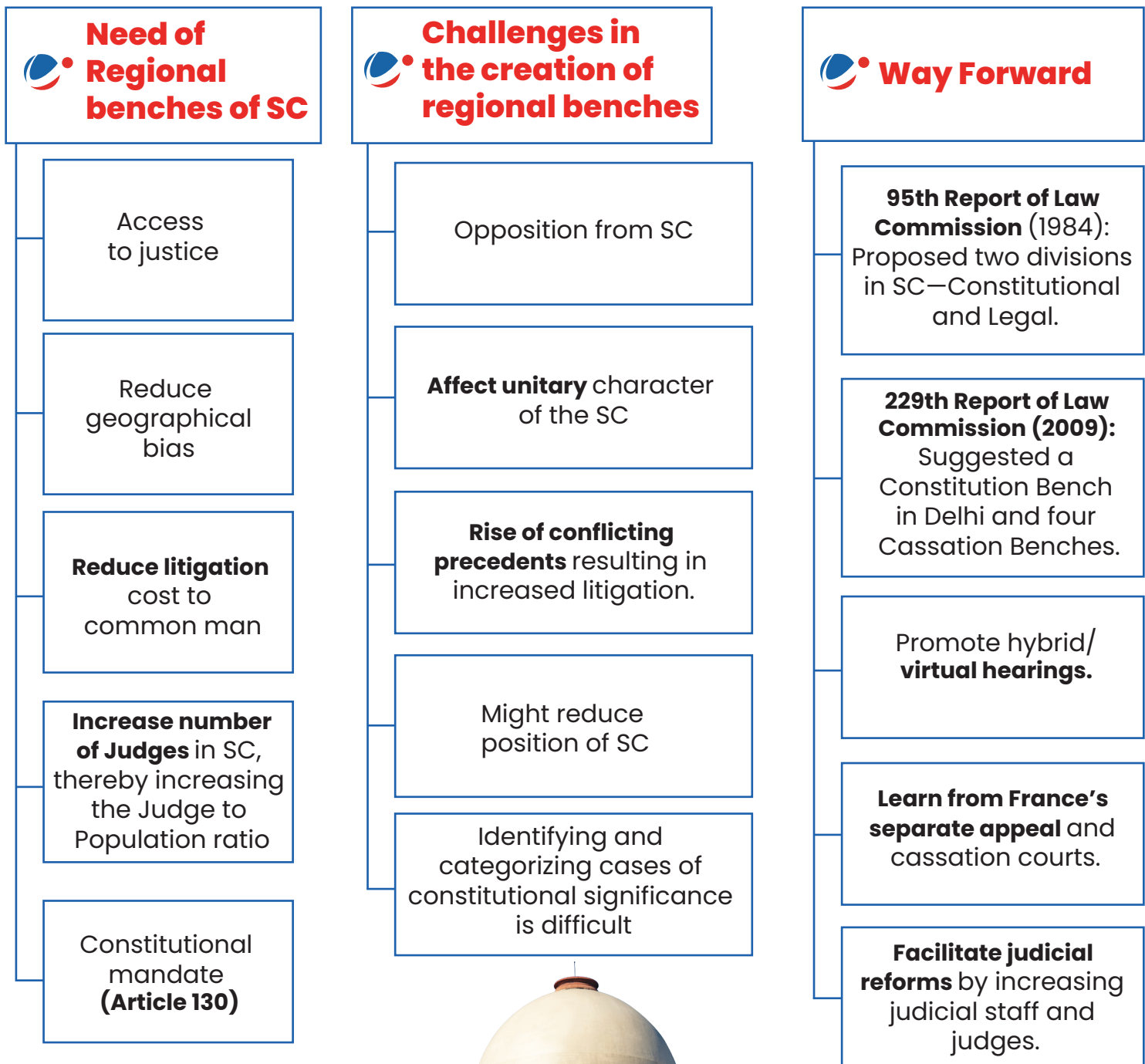
Way forward to effectively implement AIJS

Stakeholder Consultation

Include a **local language proficiency** test in the recruitment process.

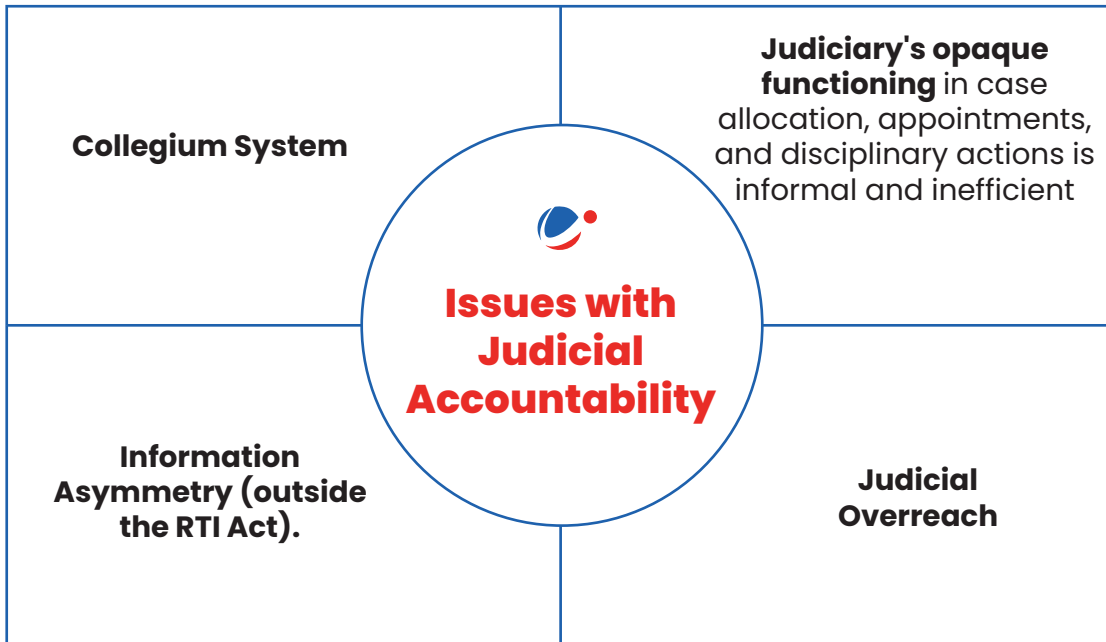
Establish a **monitoring mechanism** to ensure efficient system operation Launch on pilot basis in select states to evaluate effectiveness and feasibility

4.6 Regional Benches of Supreme Court



4.7 Judicial Accountability

It is defined as the set of mechanisms aimed at **making judges and courts personally or institutionally responsible for behaviours and decisions** contrary to constitutional or legal standards.

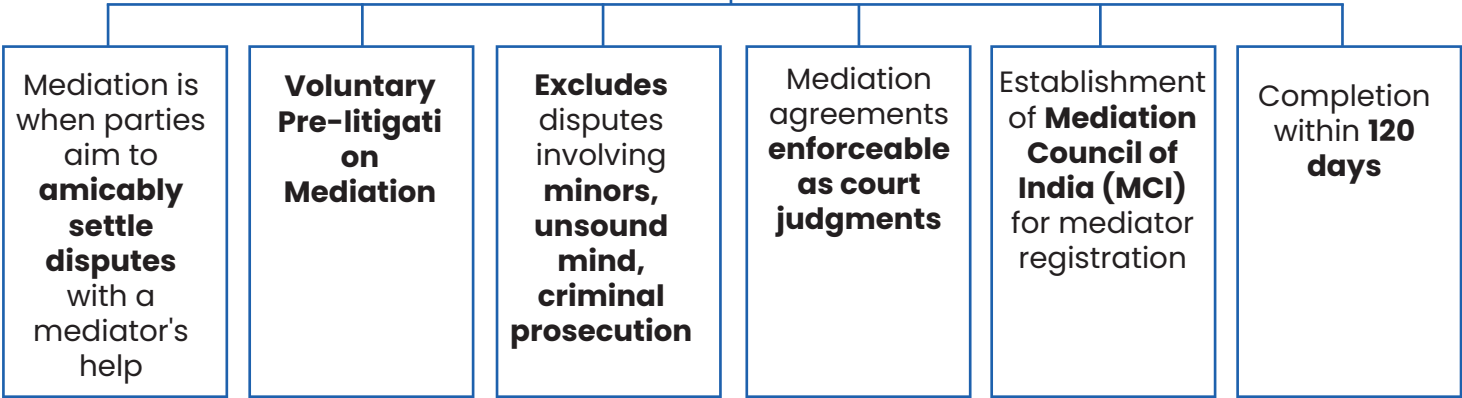


Conclusion

A more **formal and comprehensive Code of Conduct for Judges** should be put in place which is enforceable by law.

4.8 Mediation Act, 2023

Key Features



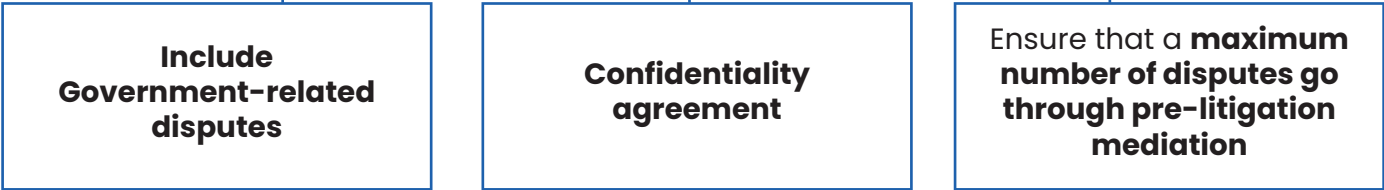
Need of Mediation Act

- Aligns with India's commitment to the **Singapore Convention on Mediation.**
- Less Time Consuming** as compared to courts
- Reduces cost** of Mediation
- Reduces burden** of court
- Dedicated Act**
- Amicable Solution**

Concerns related with the Act

- No penalties** for confidentiality breaches
- Online Mediation** limited by 55% internet access in India.
- No enforcement for international mediation** agreements conducted outside India
- Mediation Council needs central government approval, causing **potential conflicts of interest.**

Way Forward



4.9 National Legal Services Authority (NALSA)



Issues with NALSA

Lack of Awareness:
Despite 80% eligibility, only 15 million used legal aid since 1995

Budget Constraints:
0.75 paise per capita annually in 2017-18

Lawyer Compensation:
Low fees deter pro bono work

Staff Shortages:
20 out of 34 positions filled (Dec 2022)

Underutilized Para-Legal Volunteers

Recommendations

NALSA should **aid vulnerable groups**, especially undertrials, and address prolonged detentions.

Increase NALSA funding, mandate annual pro bono work, and establish Senior Advocate Panels.

Recognize pro bono contributions with Merit Certificates.

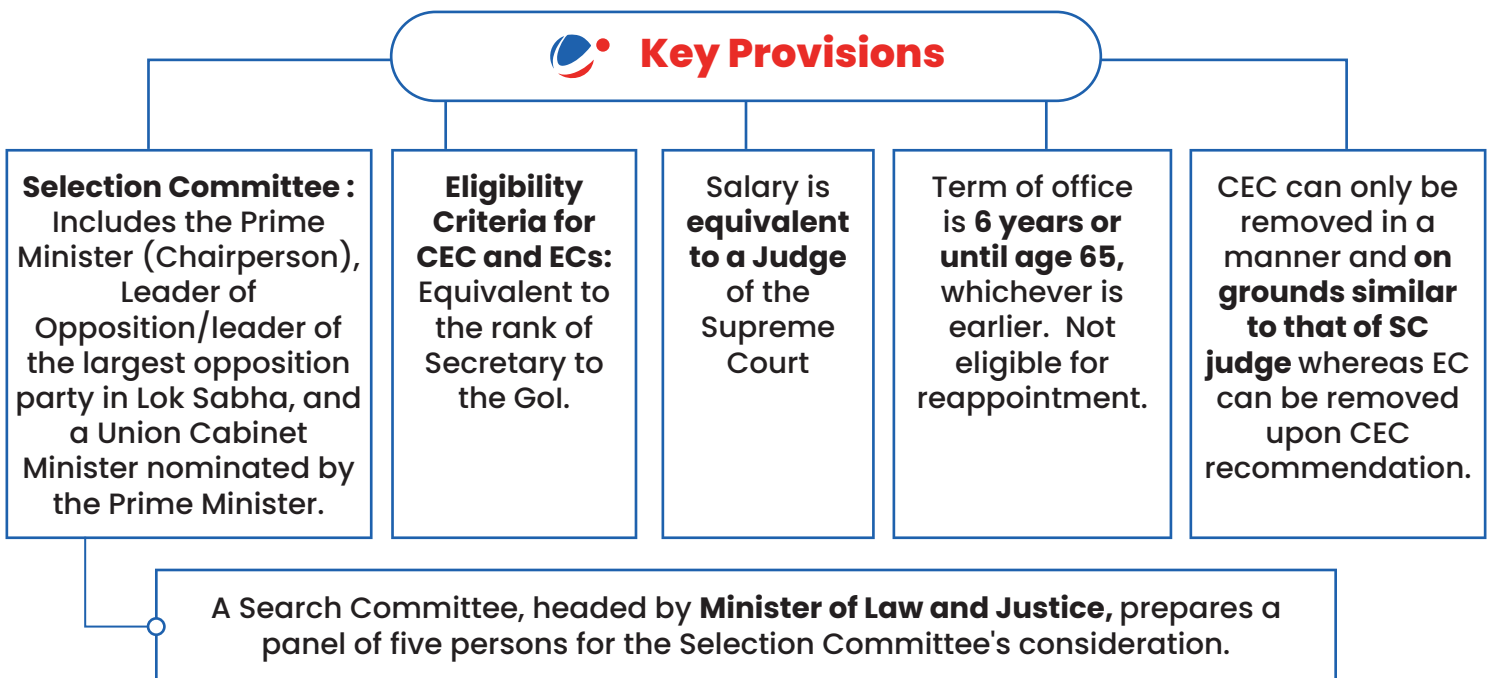
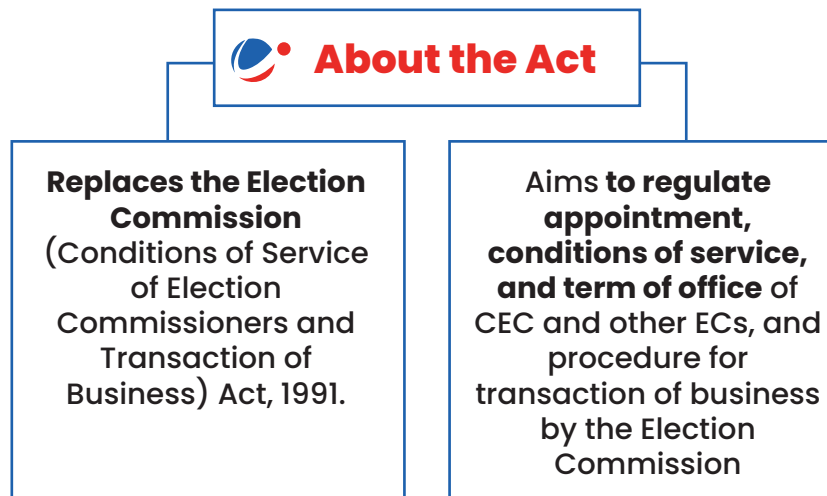
Upgrade Lok Adalats with technology and resources.

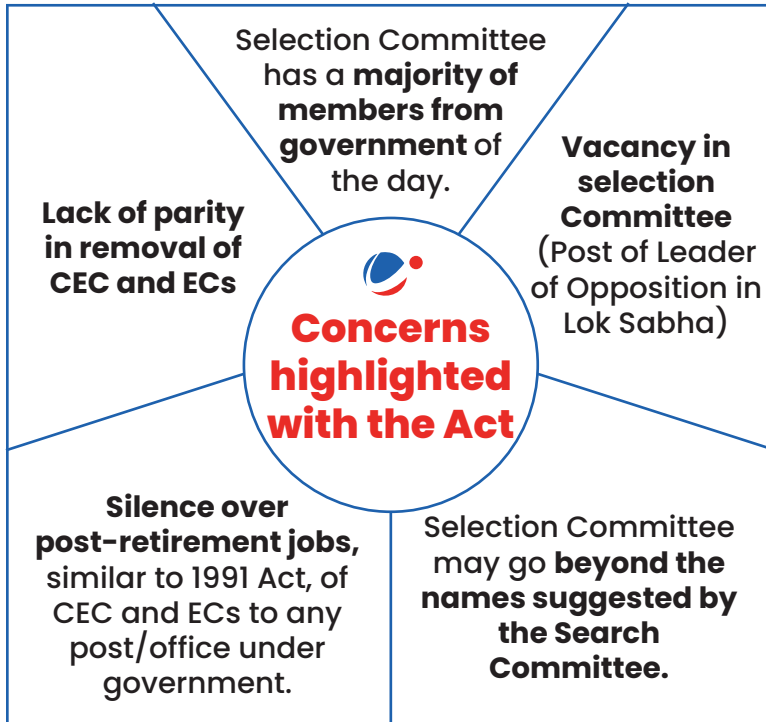
Train and fairly compensate PLVs, and fill vacancies promptly.

5. ELECTIONS IN INDIA

5.1 Chief Election Commissioner and other Election Commissioners Act, 2023

The President has given her assent to the Chief Election Commissioner (CEC) and other Election Commissioners (Appointment, Conditions of Service and Term of Office) Bill, 2023.





Way forward

The **Goswami Committee and 255th Law Commission Report** recommend including the CJI in the Selection Committee.

Post-retirement prohibitions to maintain independence

Goswami Committee and ECI recommend an **independent ECI secretariat and equal protection**

5.2 Simultaneous Elections

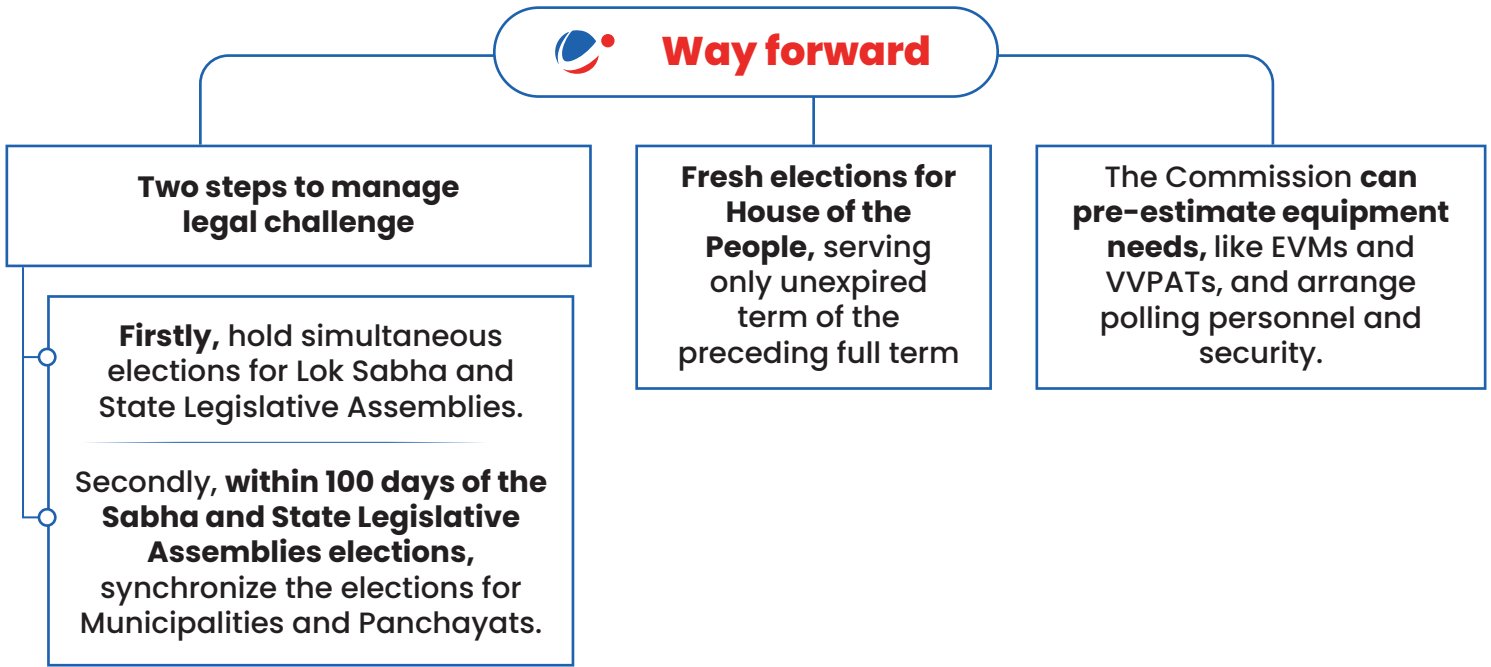
Synchronize Lok Sabha, State Assemblies elections, Municipalities and Panchayats such that voters in a particular constituency vote on the same day

Need for simultaneous elections

- Cost savings
- Frequent imposition of MCC halt development programs
- Enhance Administrative efficiency
- Enhanced Voter Turnout

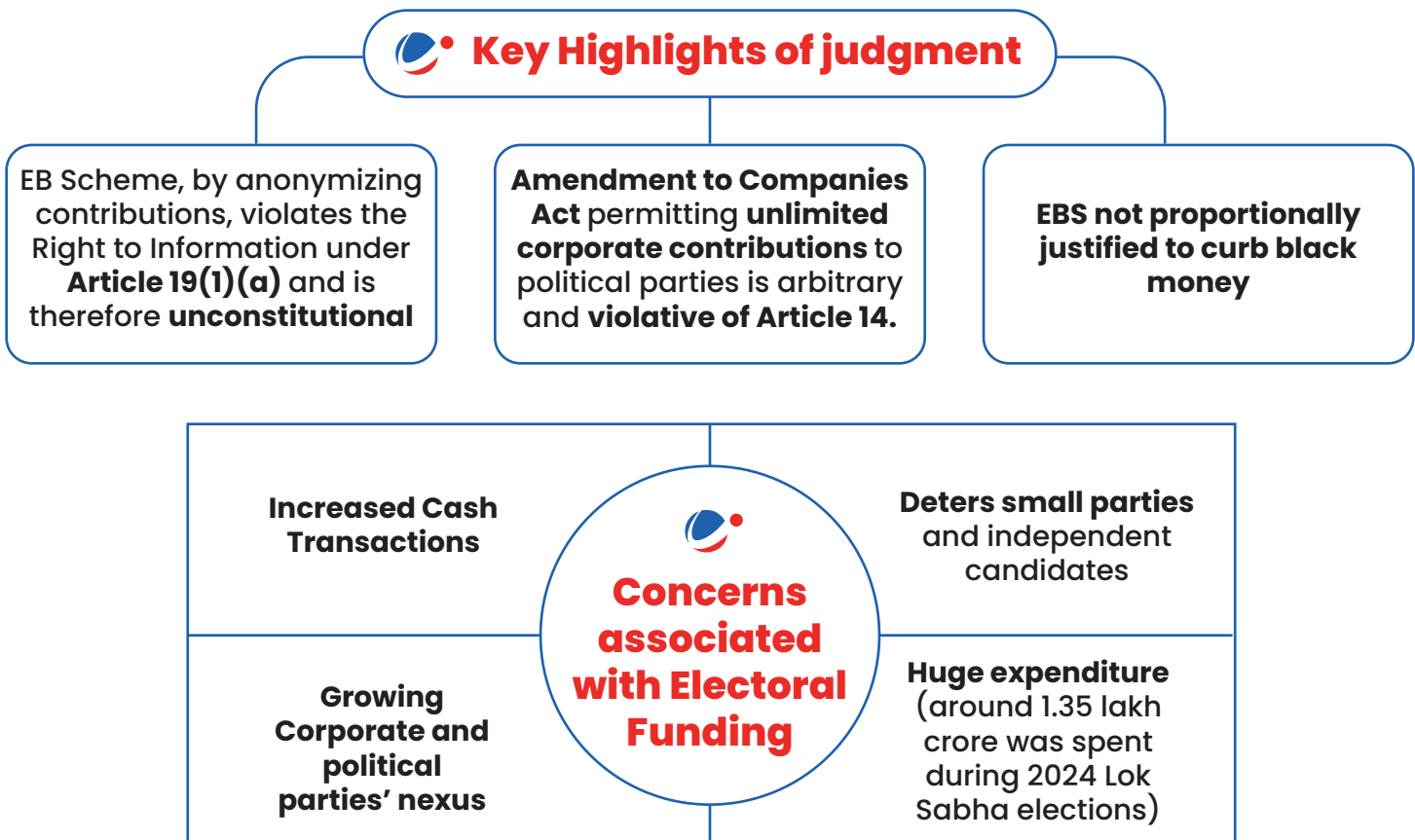
Issues with Simultaneous elections

- Legal challenges to amend Constitution to synchronise election
- Challenges related to **logistics and manpower**, including EVMs, VVPATs
- Altering state elections would **violate rights of the states**
- Issue of hung Parliament/Assembly and premature dissolution



5.3 Electoral Funding

SC in **Association for Democratic Reforms vs Union of India (2024)** unanimously struck down Electoral Bonds Scheme (EBS), which aimed to enhance transparency in electoral funding.



5.4 Inner Party Democracy

Inner party democracy refers to **inclusion of party members in the decision making and deliberation** within the party structure.

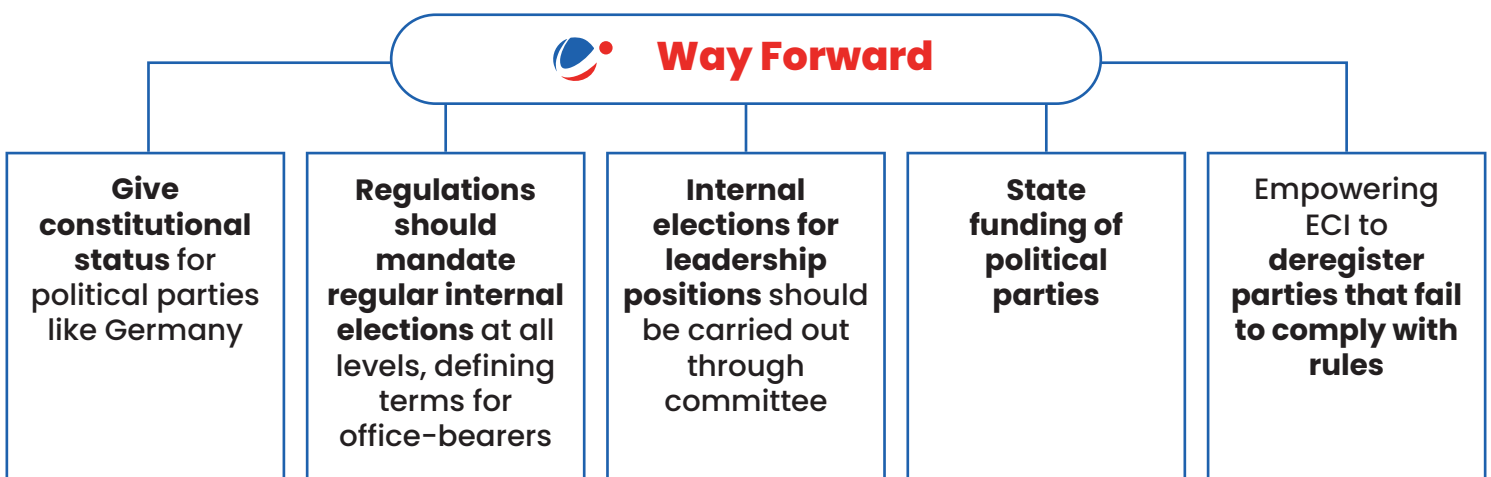
- **Dinesh Goswami Committee, Tarkunde Committee and Indrajit Gupta Committee** has argued for more transparent working of the political parties in country.
- **Draft Political Parties (Registration and Regulation of Affairs) Act, 2011** aims to regulate constitution, functioning, funding, accounts and audit, and other affairs of political parties participating in elections.

Need for Inner party democracy in India

- Reduce criminalization of politics
- Facilitate decentralisation of power and decision making
- Promote transparency and accountability in handling party funds
- Prevents nepotism and dynasty politics
- Ensuring equal representation to participate in politics and contest elections

Challenges for setting up Inner-Party Democracy

- Elitism in Party Leadership
- Resistance from Dynastic, Caste, and Religious Parties
- The **anti-defection law binds legislators** to the party whip, discouraging individual voting preferences
- No legal basis to mandate elections within political parties
- Inadequate Power with Election Commission



5.5 Criminalization of Politics

About

- 2nd ARC report in its 'Ethics in Governance' report stated Criminalization of Politics as participation of criminals in electoral process

Judicial pronouncements/Recommendations

- Union of India v Association for Democratic Reforms, 2002:** SC stated that electors have a fundamental right to know the antecedents of candidates.
- Lily Thomas v Union of India, 2013:** SC ruled Section 8(4) of RP, 1951 unconstitutional, disallowing convicted MPs and MLAs from retaining posts.
- Public Interest Foundation v. Union of India, 2018:** SC ordered political parties to publish criminal records of their candidates on their social media handles, and newspapers

Causes of Criminalization of Politics

- Winnability of candidates** (twice compared to other candidates, ADR report).
- Delays in conviction of cases**
- Legal loopholes:** Section 8 of RPA, 1951, bans only convicted politicians from contesting
- Limited powers given to Election Commission**

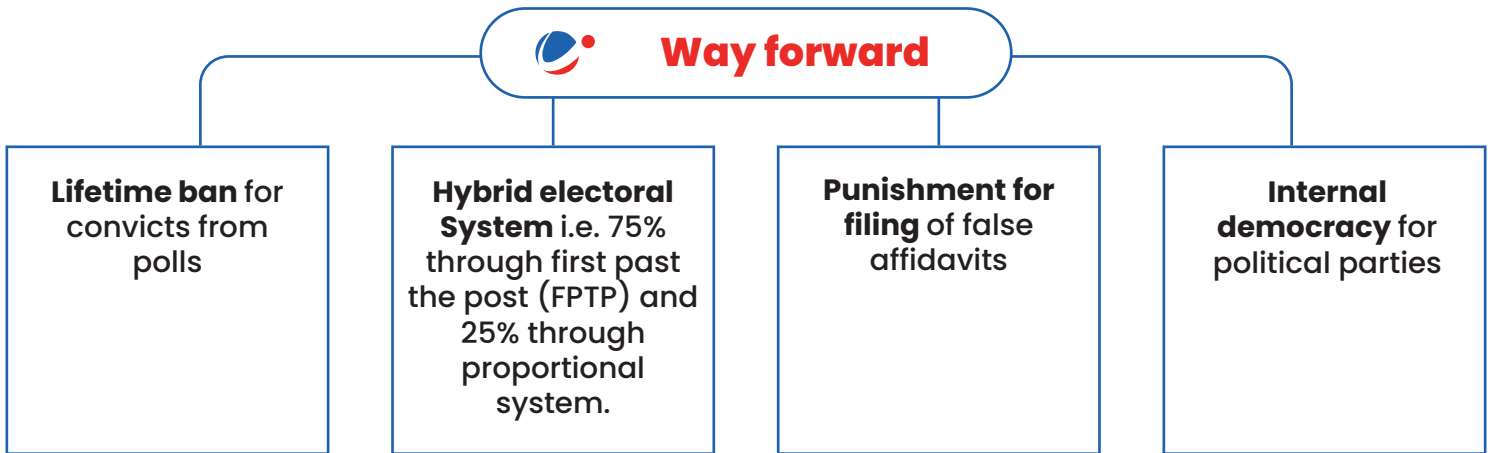
Impact of Criminalization of Politics

- Criminalization of **Political Parties**
- Affects working of investigation and prosecution agencies**
- Institutionalized corruption and trust erosion**
- Pending cases against lawmakers** (5,097 cases are pending against lawmakers)

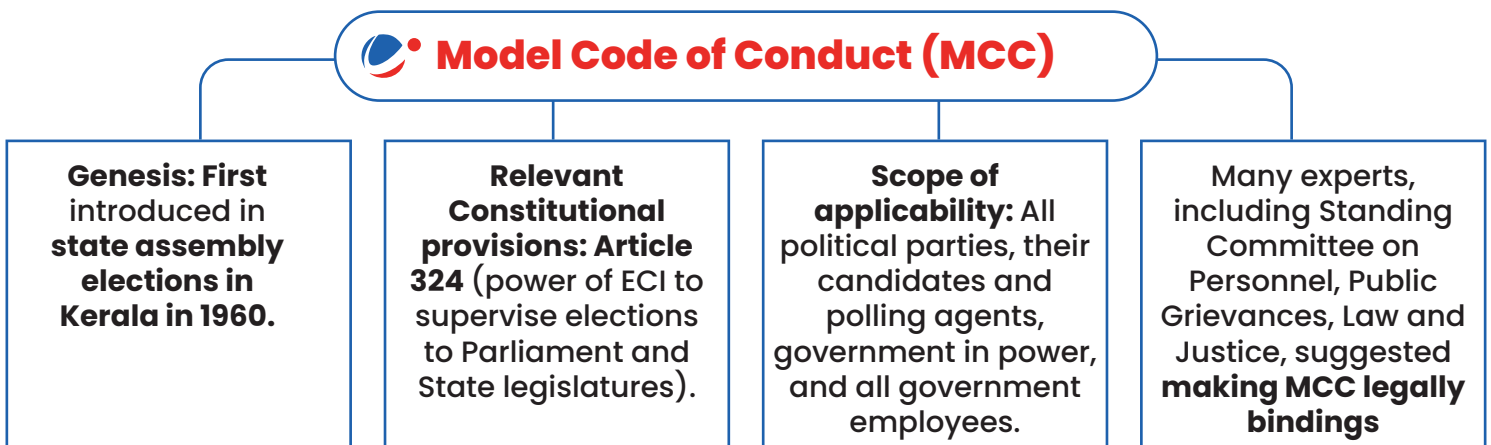
Measures to check Criminalization of Politics

Section 8(3) of RPA 1951 says any lawmaker sentenced to at least two years in jail remains disqualified for six years upon their release.

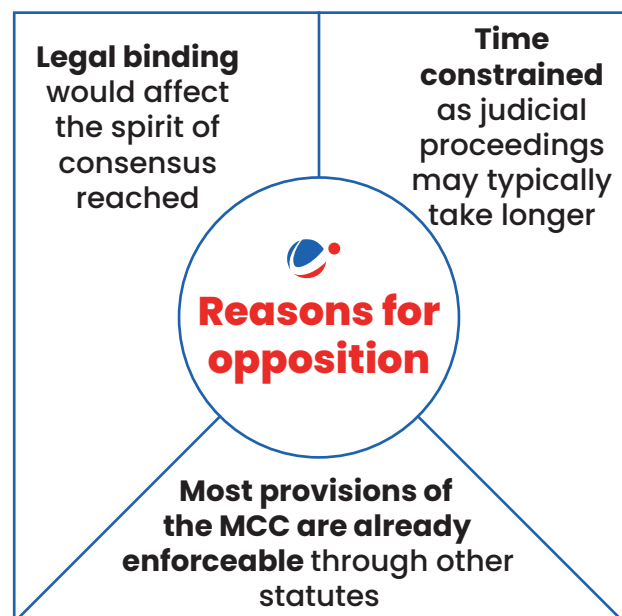
Web portal launched by ECI for political parties to file their financial accounts online

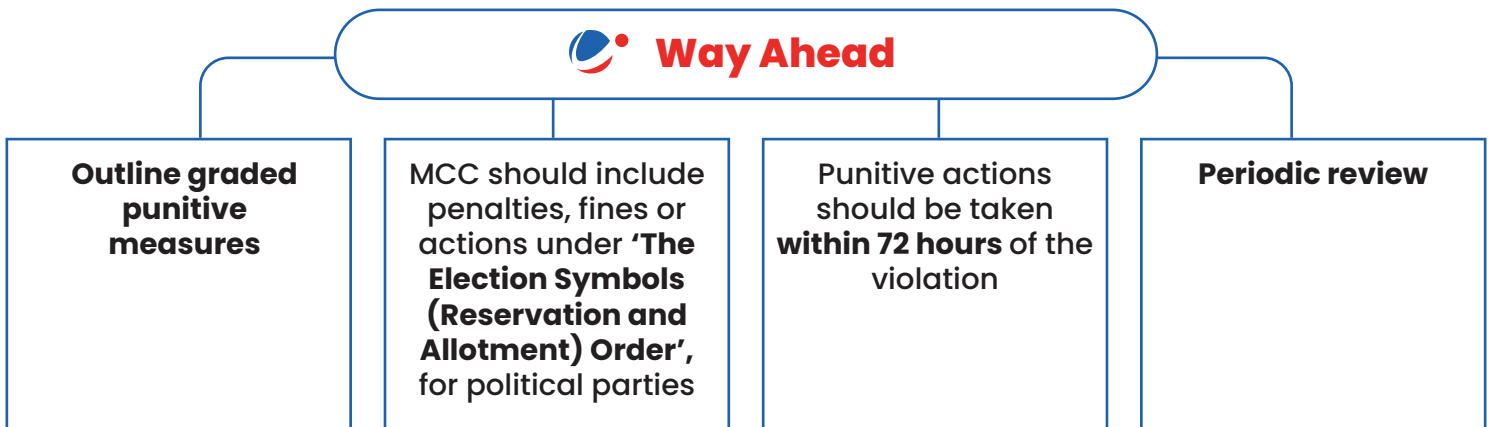


5.6 Model Code of Conduct (MCC)

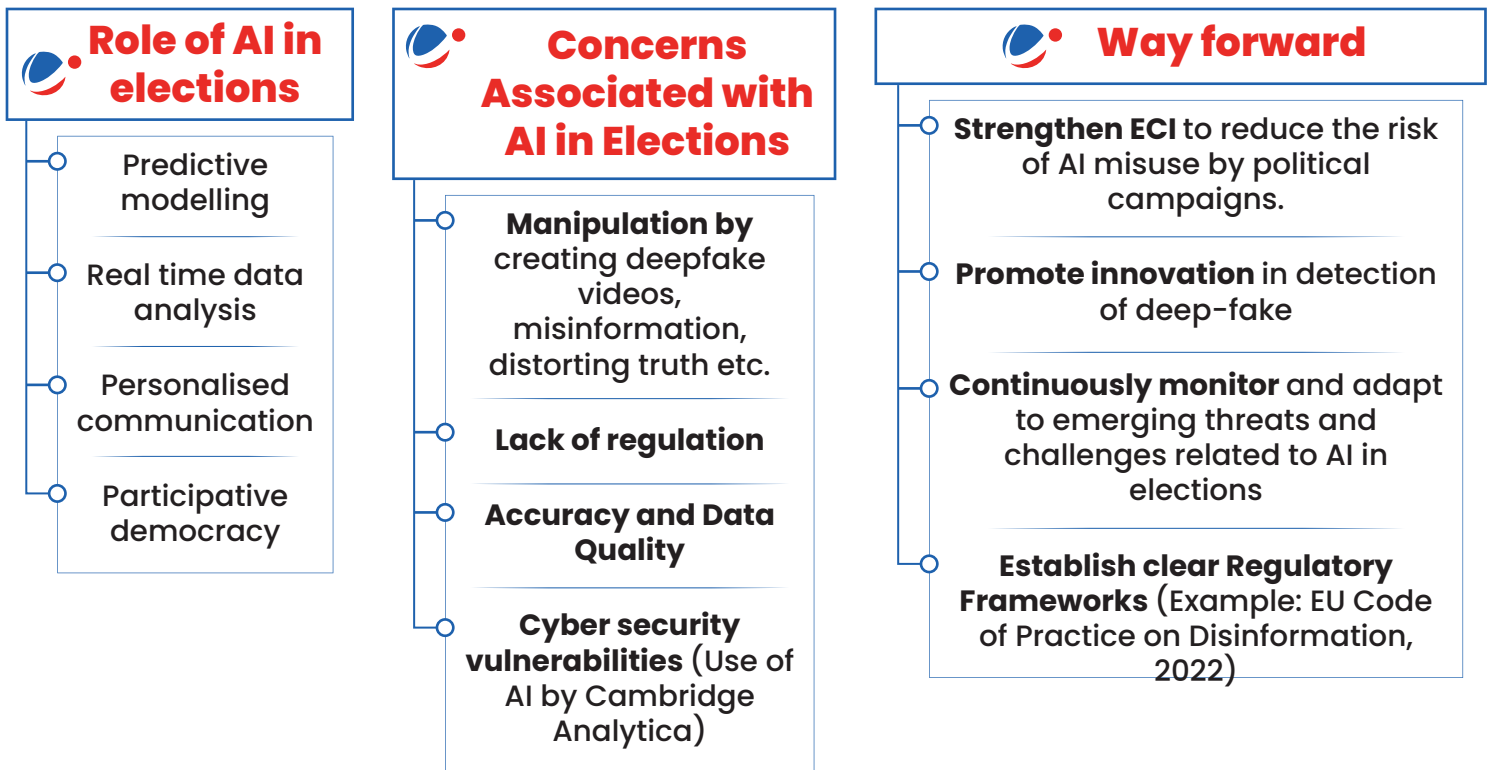


Short duration	The lack of statutory backing and defined punitive measures weakens enforcement
Issues associated with the implementation of MCC	
Policy paralysis	Lacks comprehensive guidelines to regulate and check violations on digital platforms



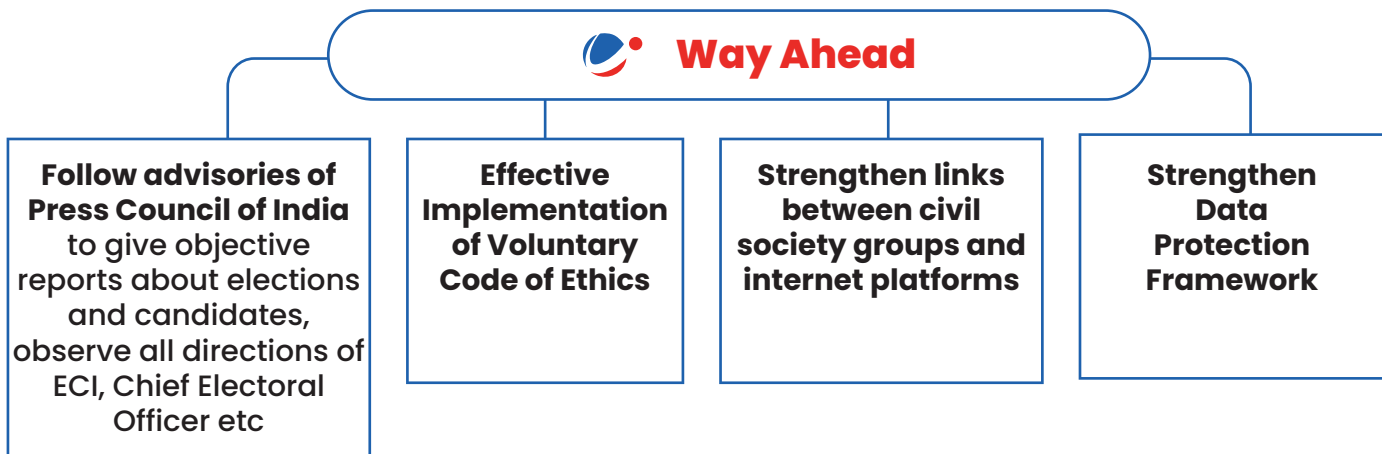
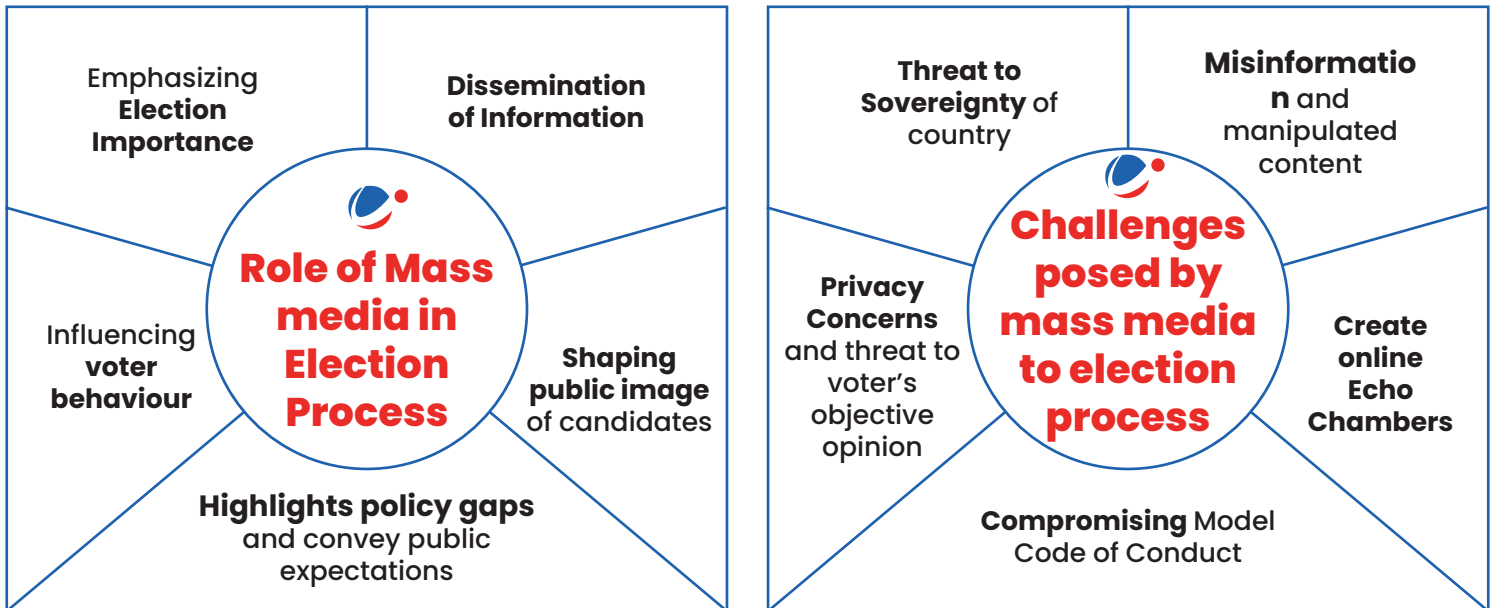


5.7 Artificial Intelligence and Elections



5.8 Mass Media and Election

ECI issued **guidelines for ethical use of Social Media Platforms (SMPs)**.



5.9 Municipal Elections

Need for fair and timely Municipal Elections

'First-mile'
Connect as India has 87,000+ councilors across its 4,700+ cities

Tackle grassroots level issues

Efficient utilization of funds

Challenges in Municipal Elections

Untimely elections (despite the SC-specific direction in **Suresh Mahajan v. State of Madhya Pradesh (2022)**)

Delay in Council Formation.

Delimitation and reservation

Inconsistent Mayoral terms

SECs lack power as they depend on state governments to complete the delimitation of ward boundaries

Low voter turnout for municipal elections than parliamentary and state assembly elections

Way forward

Power of delimitation must be vested in SECs or an independent Delimitation Commission in each State

Single electoral roll for all three tiers of Government

Strengthening SECs by giving them significant role in **elections of mayors, deputy mayors and standing committees**

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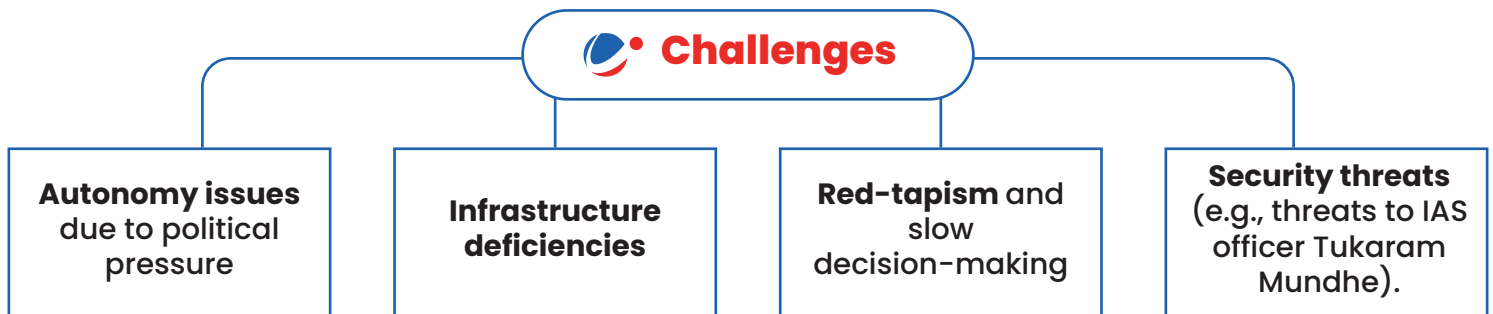
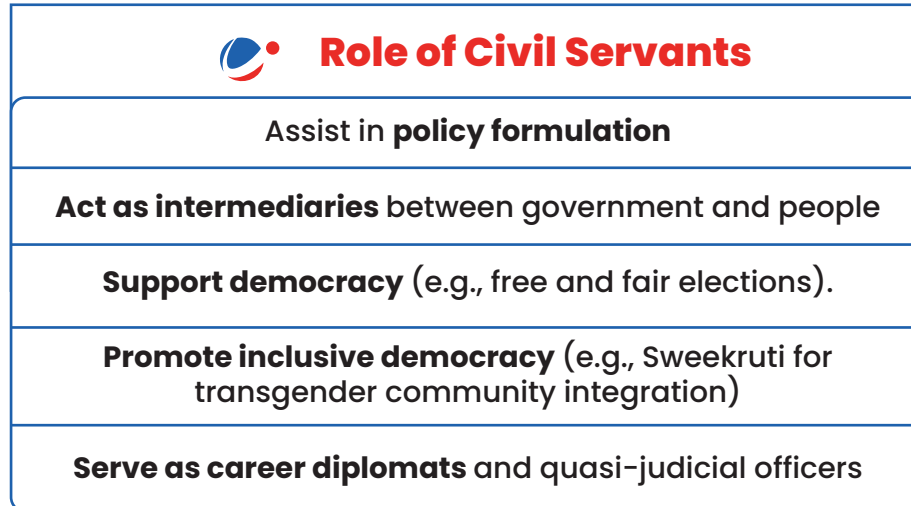
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6. GOVERNANCE

6.1 Role of Civil Servants in Governance



Conclusion

Civil servant's transparency, efficiency, and integrity contribute to good governance. However, restructuring is necessary to meet contemporary needs.



6.2 Revamped Scheme for Administrative Reforms

About the Scheme

To be implemented in next two years **(2024-25 and 2025-26)** of 15th Finance Commission Cycle.

Scheme will take up ambitious **next generation administrative reforms** in matching with the new aspirations of **Viksit Bharat**.

Reasons

Promotes **transparency and accountability**.

Enhances **training and capacity building**.

Facilitates **seamless service delivery**.

Streamlines **bureaucratic procedures**.

Integrates various **governmental portals**.

Encourages **innovation**.

Concerns

Lack of **uniformity**.

Federal dynamics.

Complexity and Bureaucratic Hurdles

Resource constraints.

Way Forward

Positive **attitudinal changes** in civil servants.

Inclusive **grievance redressal mechanisms**.

Recommendations from the 2nd ARC: Public grievance officers and financial penalties for delayed grievance resolution.

6.3 Lokpal and lokayuktas

Lokpal and Lokayukta Act 2013

It aims to inquire into **allegations of corruption** against certain public functionaries.

Lokpal consists of a **chairperson and maximum 8 members**.

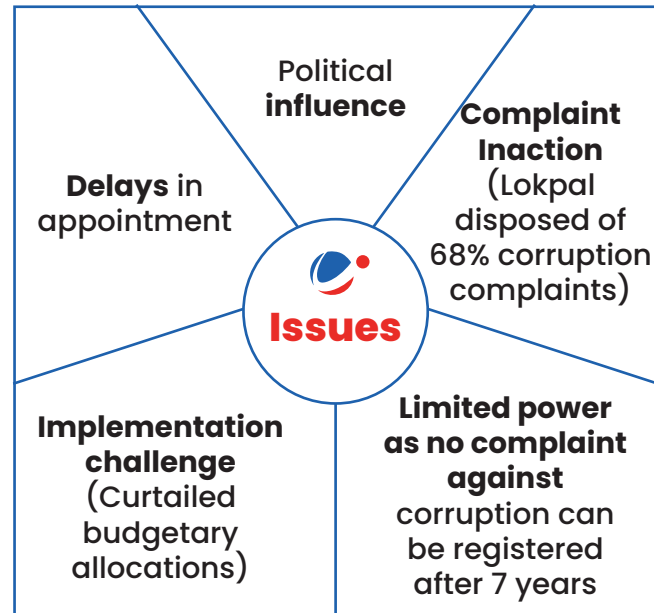
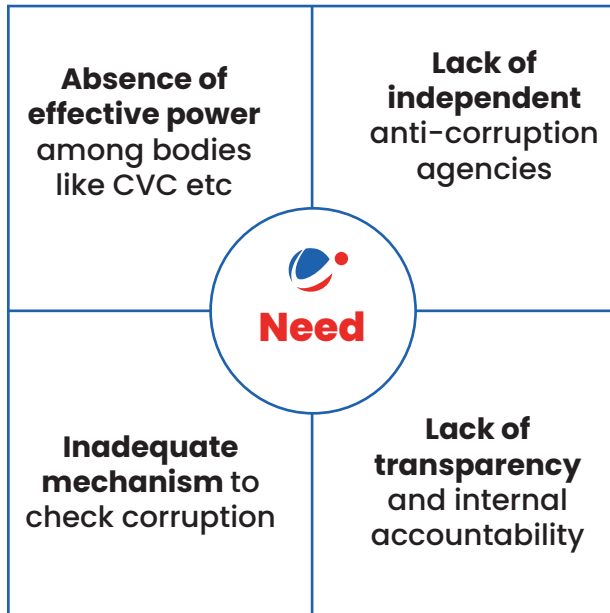
Lokpal Jurisdiction extends to **PM, Ministers, MP, Group A, B, C and D** officers and officials of central government.

Lokayukta shall have jurisdiction over **CM, Ministers, MLAs**, all state government employees.

Exceptions in Jurisdiction of Lokpal

Corruption charges against the PM if the allegations **involve international relations, security, public order, atomic energy, or space**.


Judiciary and armed forces.

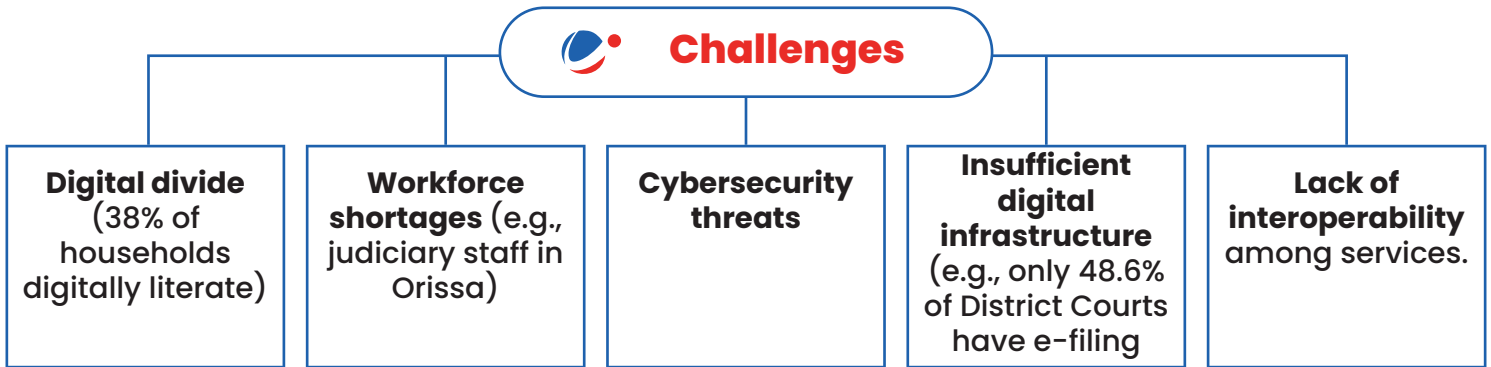


Wayforward

- Lokpal and Lokayukta **must operate independently** from those they investigate and prosecute.
- **Decentralized Institutions:** with robust accountability mechanisms.
- **State-Level Lokayuktas:** Lokayuktas should be established in states similar to Lokpal.

6.4 Role of Technology in Public Services Delivery

 Significance	Saves time and money (e.g., e-Hastakshar for electronic document signing)
	Increases efficiency (e.g., VAHAN platform for vehicle data)
	Eliminates ghost beneficiaries and leakages (e.g., linking Aadhar with MGNREGA)
	Enhances accountability and reduces corruption
	Combines data from various sources (e.g., linking PAN and Aadhar).



Wayforward

Enhance digital literacy, Establish a robust legal framework for data protection, Improve cybersecurity infrastructure, Enhance service interoperability.

6.5 Digital Personal Data Protection Act 2023

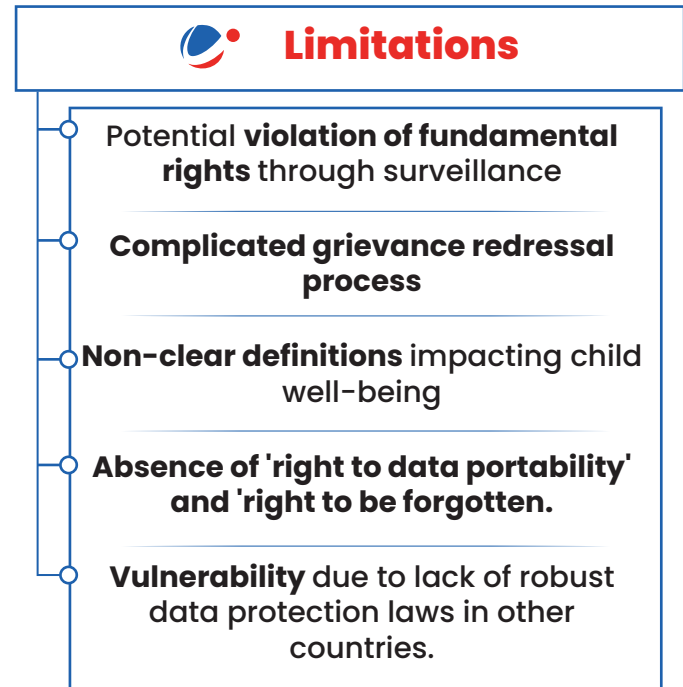
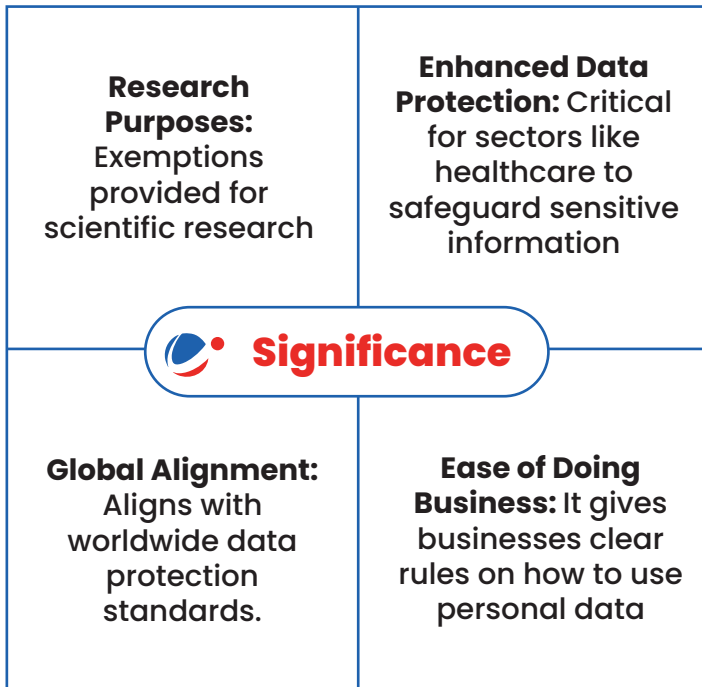
About DPDP Act 2023

Regulates the processing of digital personal data while ensuring individuals' right to protect their data and the need to process it for lawful purposes.



Key-Provisions

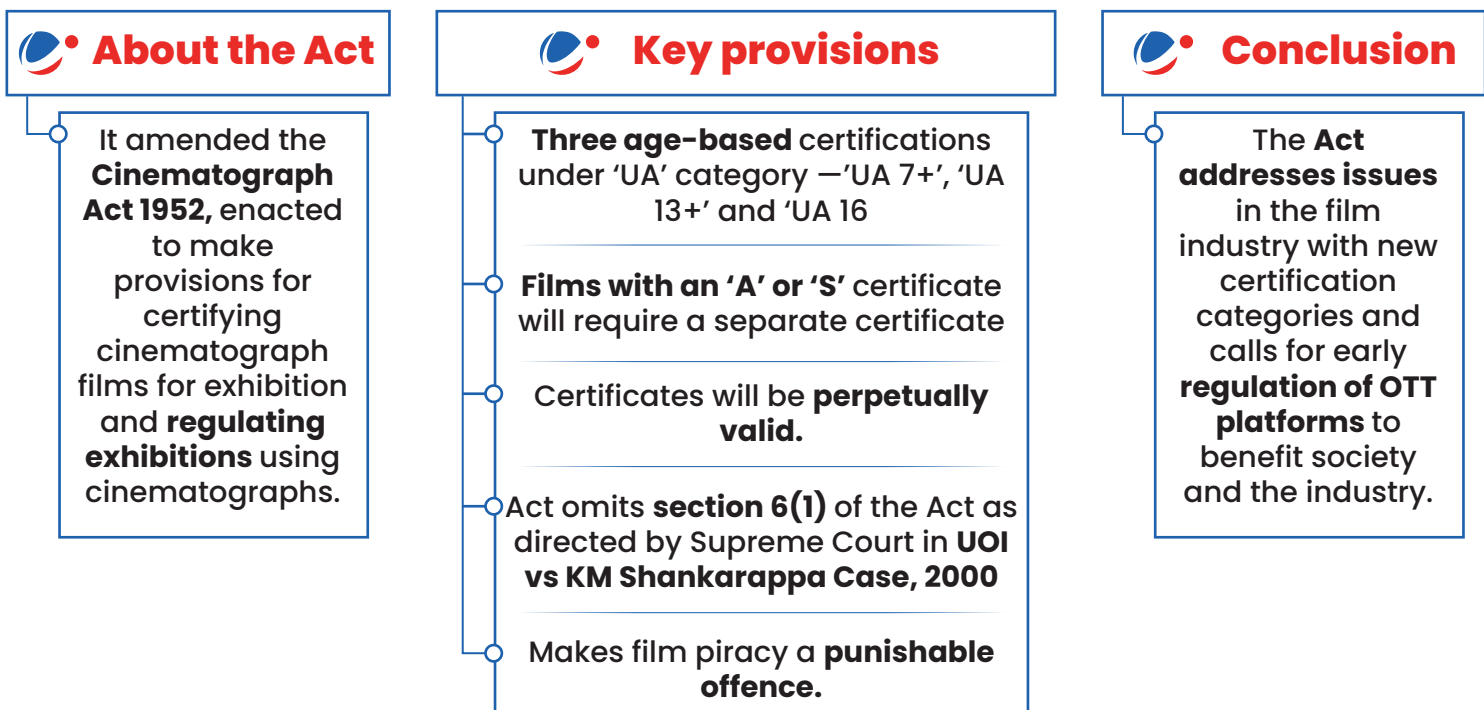
- Applicability:** Covers processing of digital personal data within India and data processed outside India (if offering goods/services in India)
- Consent:** Data may only be processed for lawful purposes after obtaining consent from the Data Principal
- Exemptions** include government services, medical emergencies, etc
- Data Protection Board of India:** Established to monitor compliance, impose penalties, and handle grievances
- Significant Data Fiduciaries:** Obligated to maintain data accuracy, secure data, and delete it once its purpose is met.



Wayforward

Develop cross-border data governance mechanisms, Grant 'right to data portability' and 'right to be forgotten.', Clearly define terms like sovereignty and integrity of India, Specify a time duration for data deletion after its purpose is met or consent is withdrawn.

6.6 Cinematography (Amendment) Act, 2023



6.7 Cinematograph (Certification) Rules, 2024

Key provisions

- A member of Board shall hold office during pleasure of the Central Government
- 1/3rd of members in Board shall be women
- Improved efficiency:** By reducing timelines for the processing of film certification
- Provision for priority screening:** in case of any urgency felt by filmmaker(s)
- Change of Category** of Film for Television

Judicial Pronouncement related to Cinematograph

S. Rangarajan vs P. Jagjivan Ram (1989): SC observed that if the film is unobjectionable and cannot constitutionally be **restricted under Article 19(2)**, freedom of expression cannot be suppressed on account of threat of demonstration and processions or threats of violence.

Fails to tackle online piracy	Not regulate content on OTT platforms
Issues	
Delays in certification	Potentially hinder artistic freedom and creative expression.

Conclusion

While streamlined processes and diverse representation in the revamped Cinematograph (Certification) Rules, 2024 are positive steps, concerns linger over censorship, content control etc. Striking the right balance between creative freedom and societal responsibility remains the true test ahead.



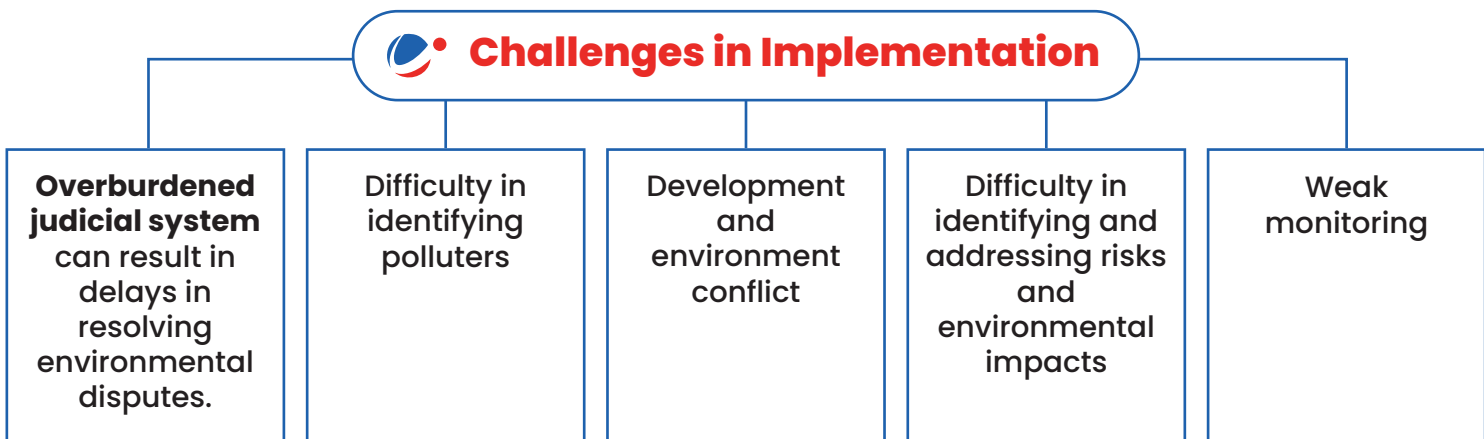
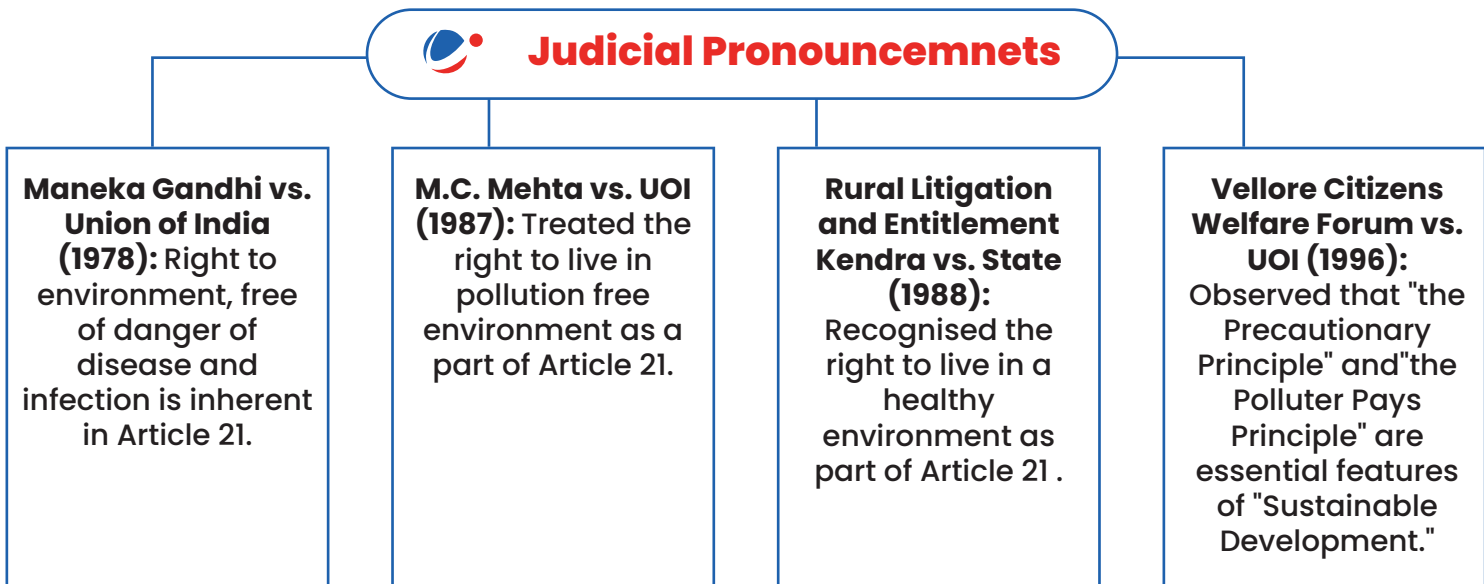
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6.8 Constitutionalization of Environmental Issues

SC, in a recent judgment, stated that the right to be free from the adverse effects of climate change should be recognised by **Articles 14 and 21** of the Constitution.

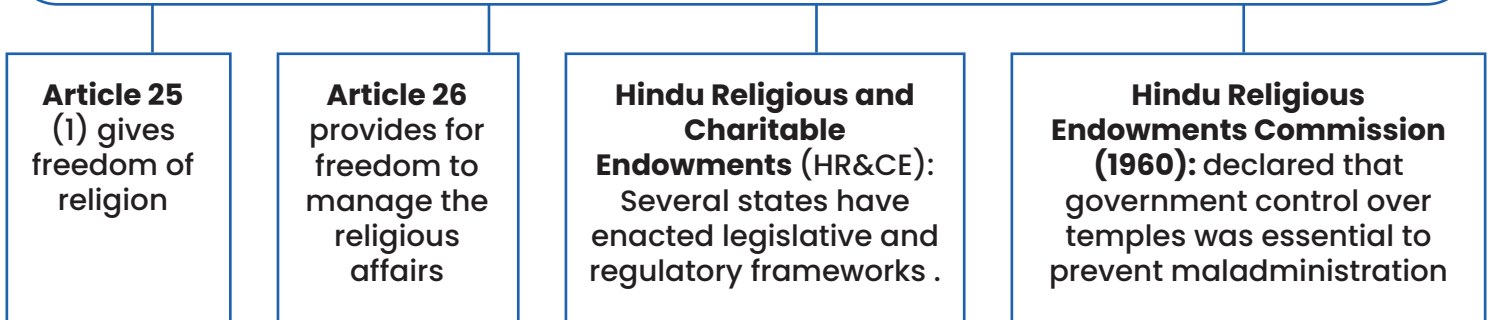


Wayforward

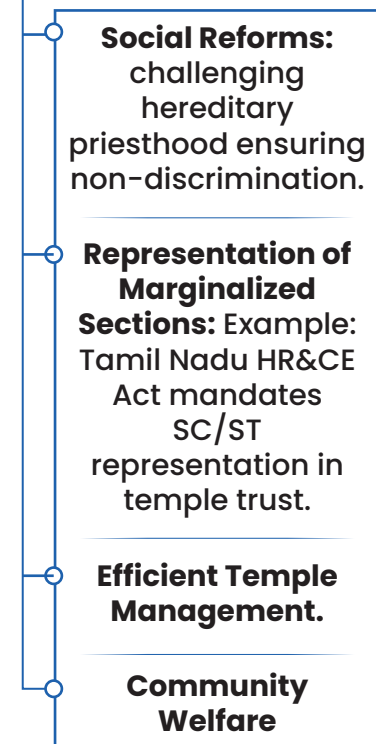
- Government can set up more separate machinery, **like NGT**.
- Need for **umbrella legislation** which relates to climate change.
- Strengthen institutional capacity by allocating adequate financial resources.
- **European Court of Human Rights** ruling supported a citizen lawsuit against government for climate change inaction. Such cases can generate awareness globally.

6.9 Temple Regulation in India

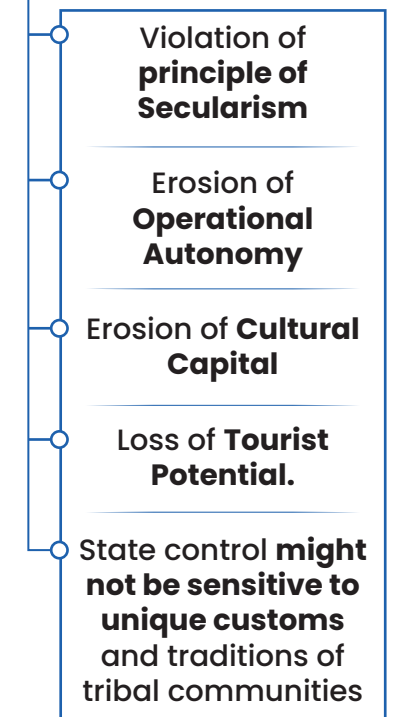
Legal and Institutional Framework to Regulate Temples in India



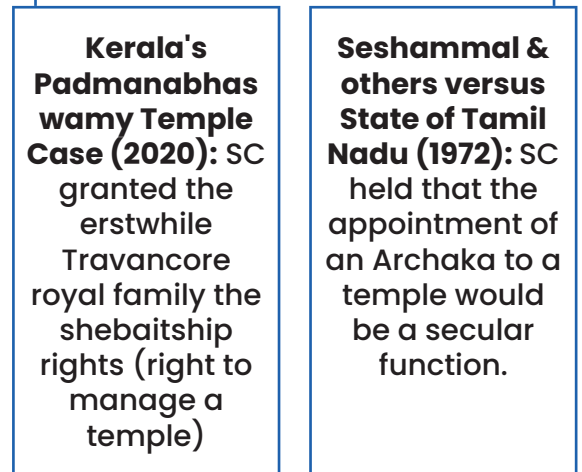
Arguments in favour



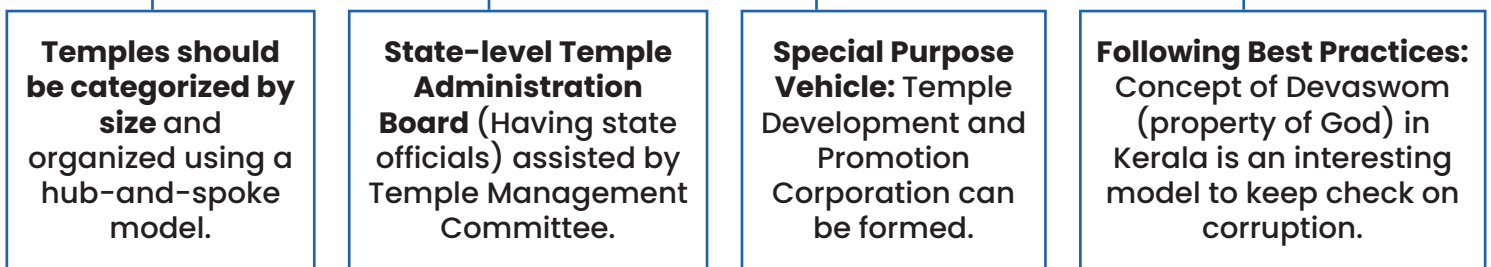
Argument in against



Judicial pronouncements related to temple



Way forward



7. LOCAL GOVERNANCE

7.1 Urban Governance in India

Key challenges plaguing urban governance in India

Growing Urban Population: Urban share projected to exceed 50% by 2050

Spatial Planning: 39% of capital cities lack active plans

74th CAA: Provisions are non-binding due to discretionary language

Low Municipal Budget: Indian revenue <1% of GDP, vs. 7% in Brazil

Accountability Issues: Rajkot fire report shows inaction by authorities

Initiative taken

Local area plan and town planning scheme

Smart cities mission

PM SVANidhi scheme

Atal Mission for Rejuvenation and Urban Transformation (AMRUT) Mission

Way forward

Balance the 4 Es - **Economic growth, Environmental sustainability, Equitable access to opportunities and services, and democratic Engagement** to secure India's urban future

Decentralized Planning

Develop a **comprehensive digital public financial management system**

Implement **Indore Municipal Corporation practices** for public services

Form a high-powered council like the GST council for overhaul of the 74th CAA

Alternative Sources of Financing (Municipal Bonds, Pooled Financing)



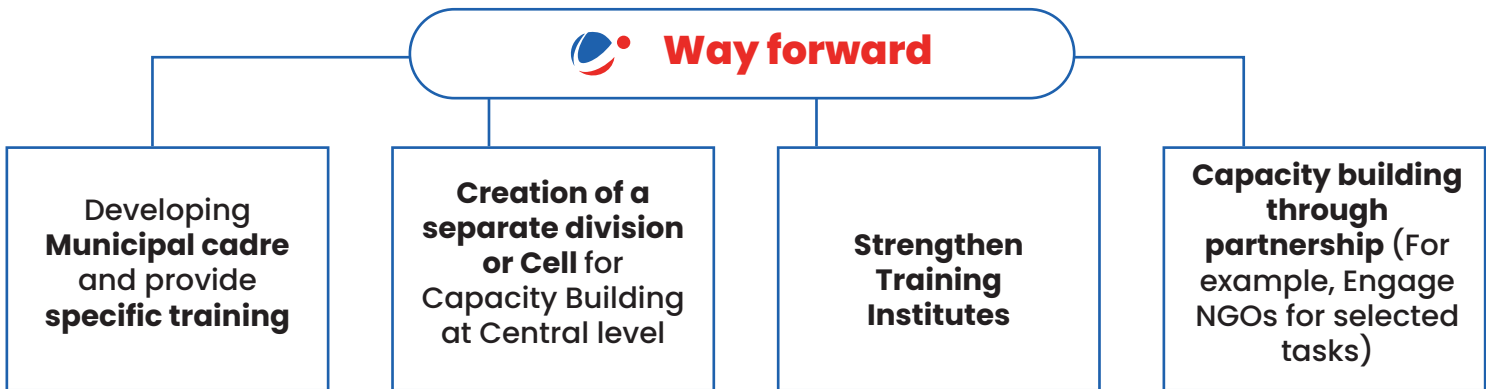
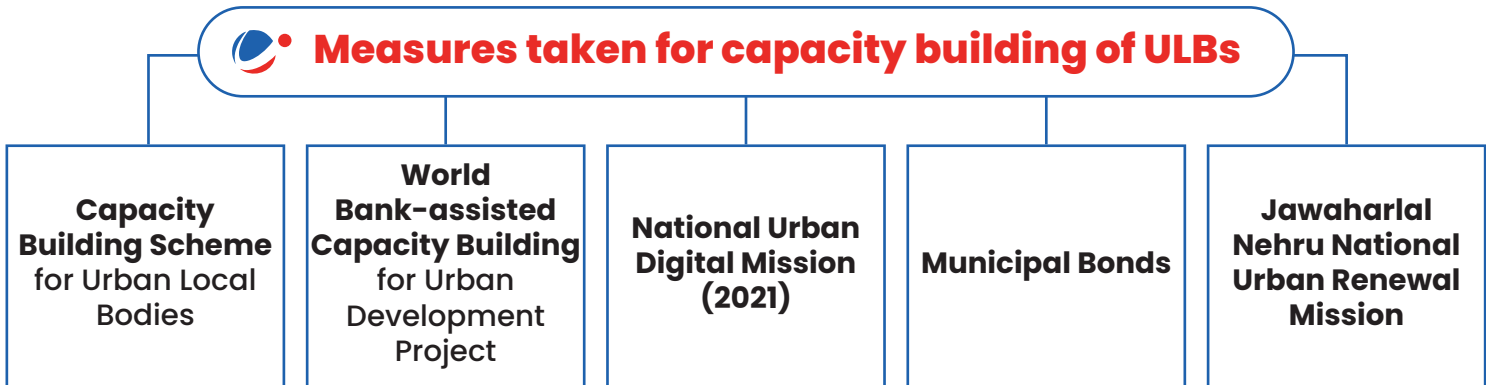
7.2 Capacity Building of Urban Local Bodies (ULBs)

Need for Capacity Building for ULBs

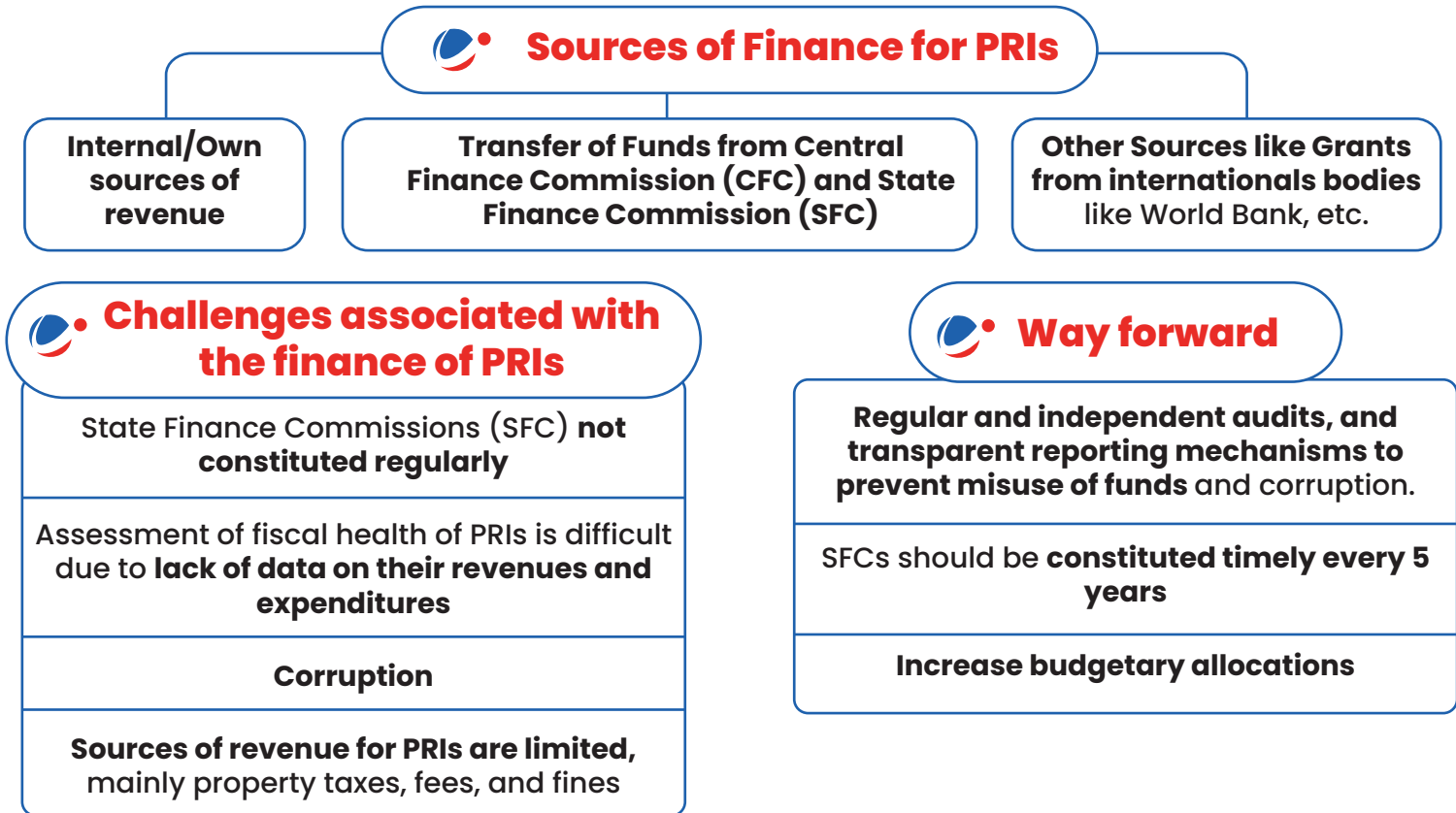
- Streamline planning and institutional roles for ULBs
- Urban centers drive two-thirds of India's economic growth
- To deal with regional aspirations
- Ensure effective implementation of schemes like Smart City and AMRUT Missions

Challenges associated with Capacity Building of Urban Local Bodies

- Partial Devolution
- Absence of formal structures, comprehensive cadre and cadre rules etc.
- Lack of personnel with appropriate skill sets
- Ineffective communication channels with private sector and civil society



7.3 Finances of Panchayati Raj Institutions (PRIs)



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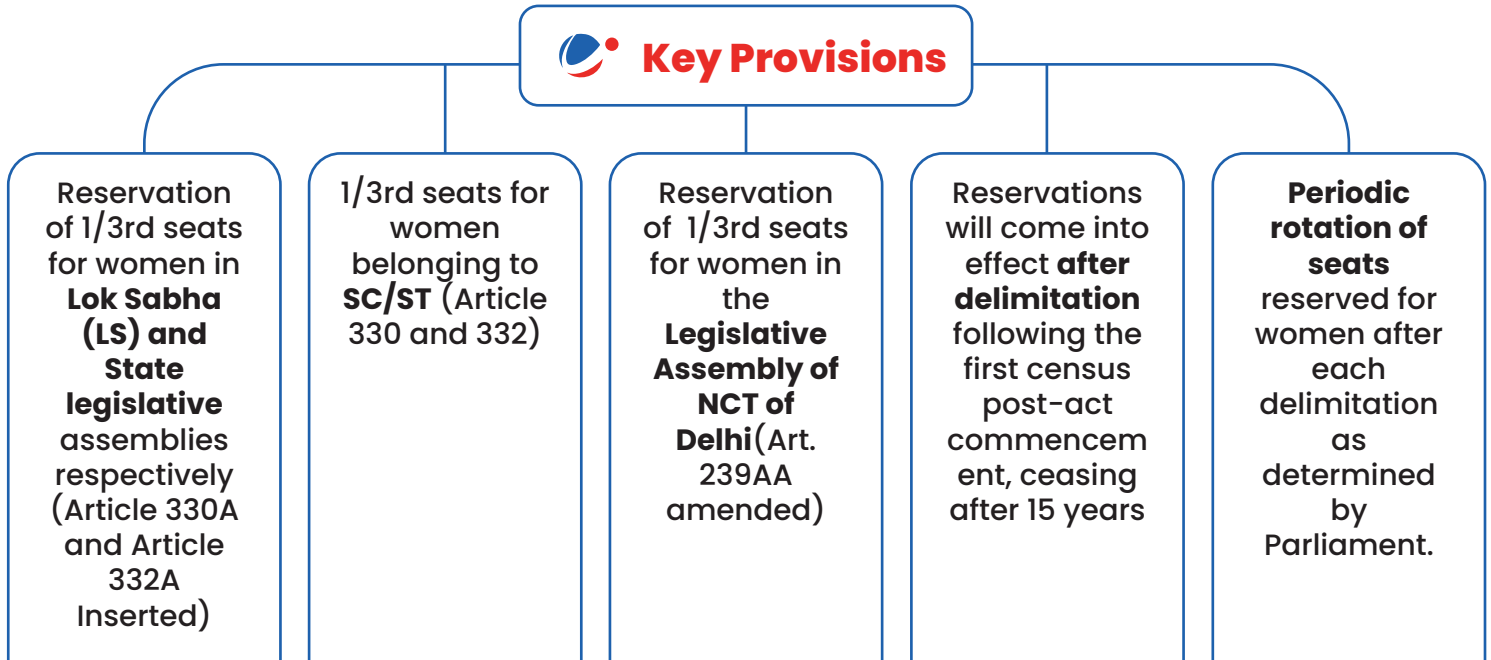
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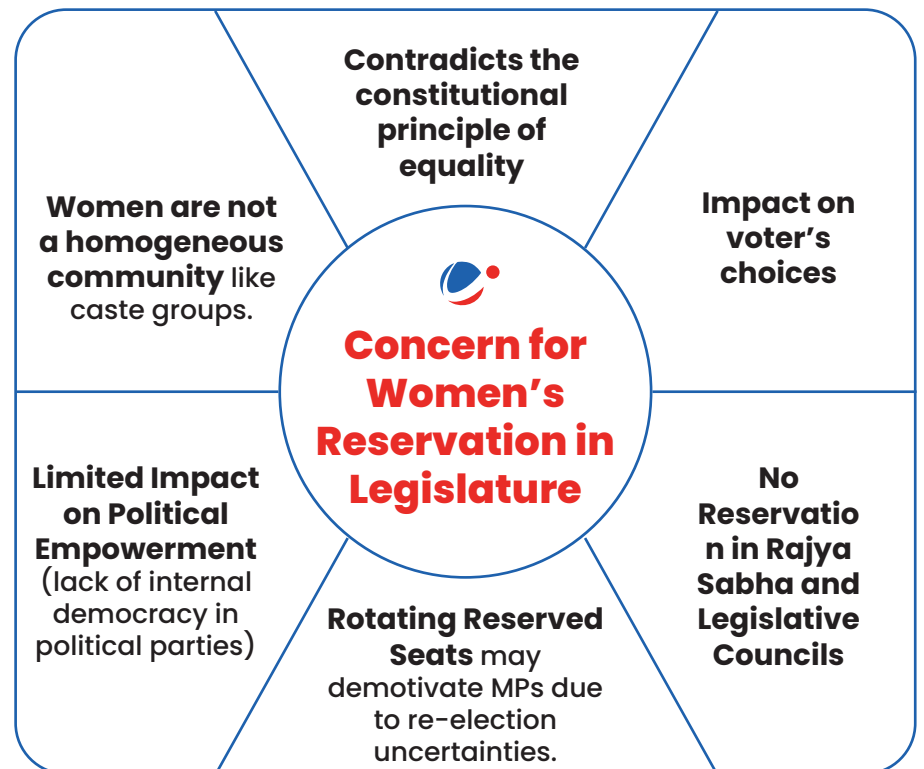
8. IMPORTANT ACTS AND LEGISLATIONS

8.1 Nari Shakti Vandan [Constitution (106th Amendment)] Act, 2023



Need for Women's Reservation in Legislature

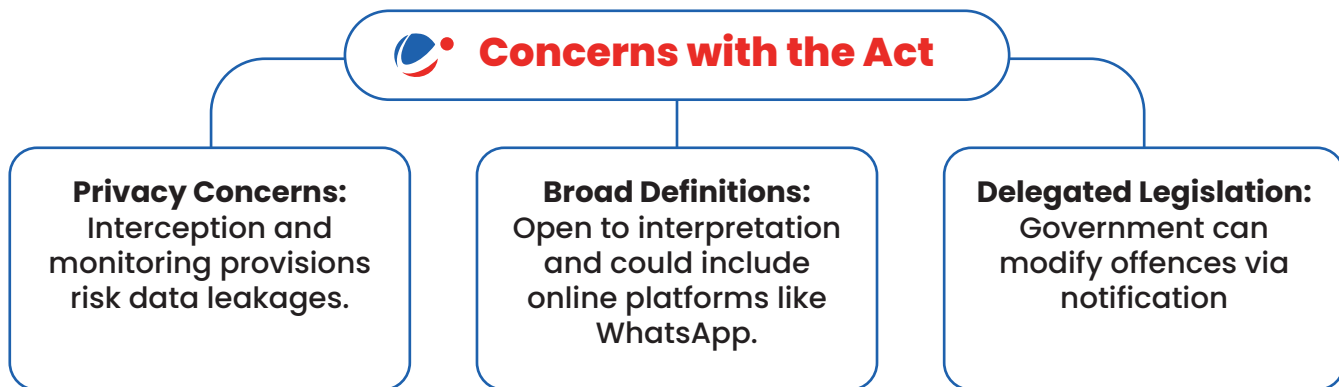
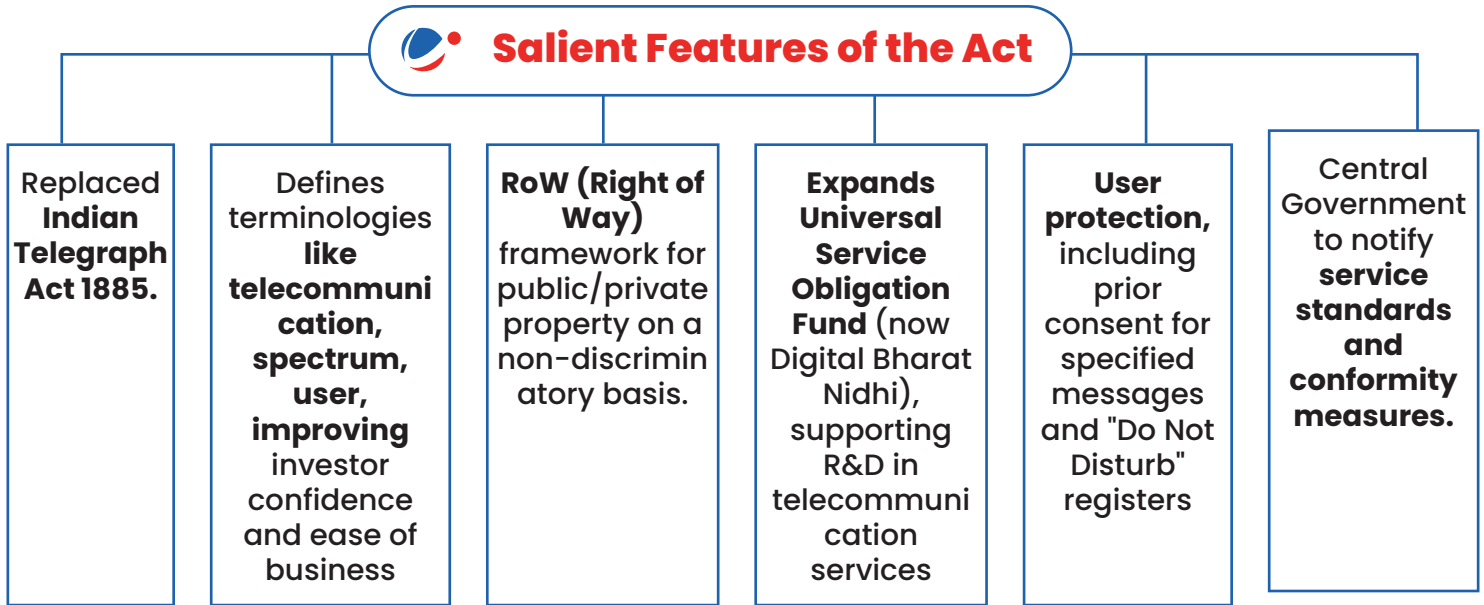
- Under-representation** (Only 74 women MPs in 18th Lok Sabha)
- Gender-Sensitization of Public Policy.**
- Evidence from Local Level Reservations** (increase in reporting of crimes better access to amenities, etc)
- Patriarchal nature of political parties**



Conclusion

Conduct and publish census data and delimitation exercises timely. Capacity building with civil society to provide training and mentorship to women leaders.

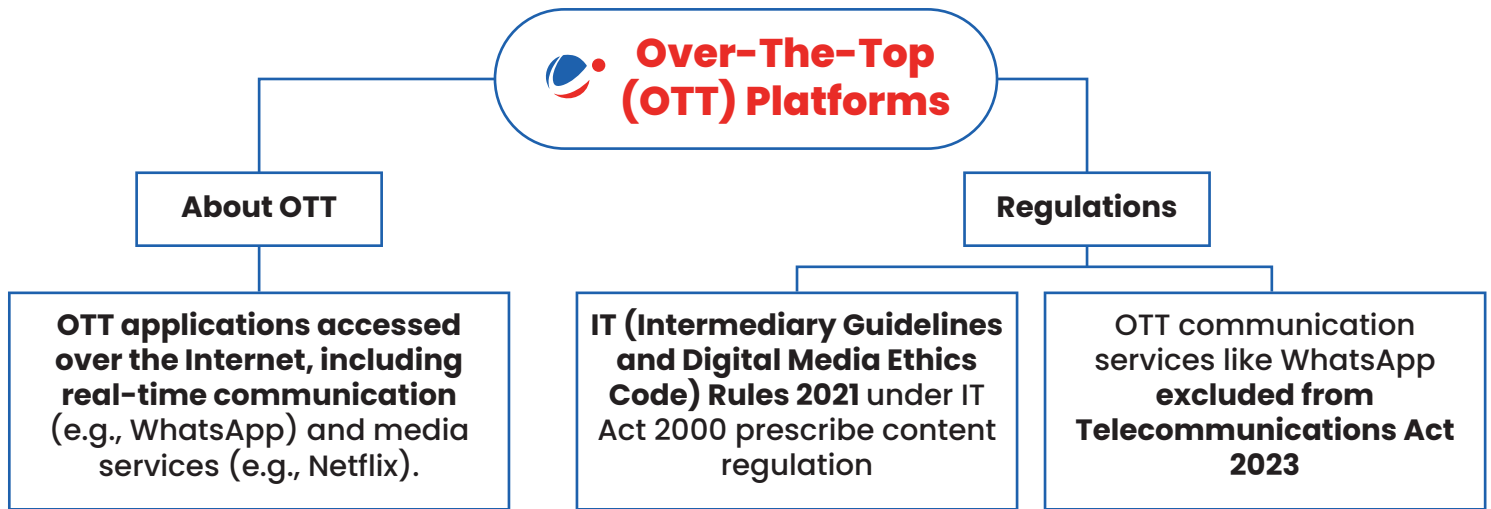
8.2 Telecommunications Act, 2023



Conclusion

Addresses telecom sector issues like spectrum allocation. Multi-stakeholder approach needed for implementation.

8.3 Over-The-Top (OTT) Platforms Regulations



Reasons for regulations

- Consumer Protection
- Prevent misuse by terrorists and anti-social
- Fair competition with traditional media.
- Ensure proper reporting and taxation

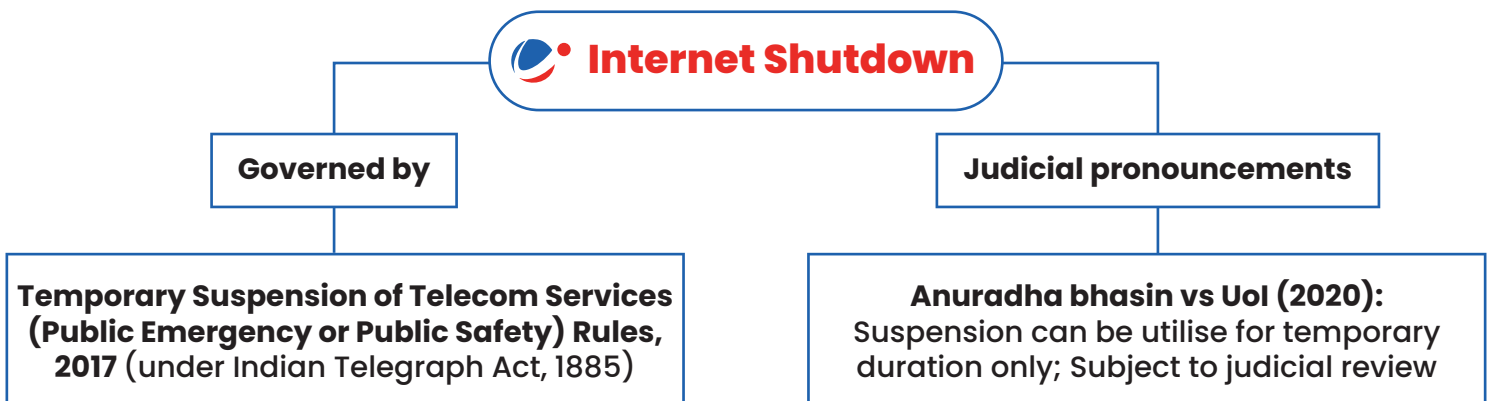
Concerns

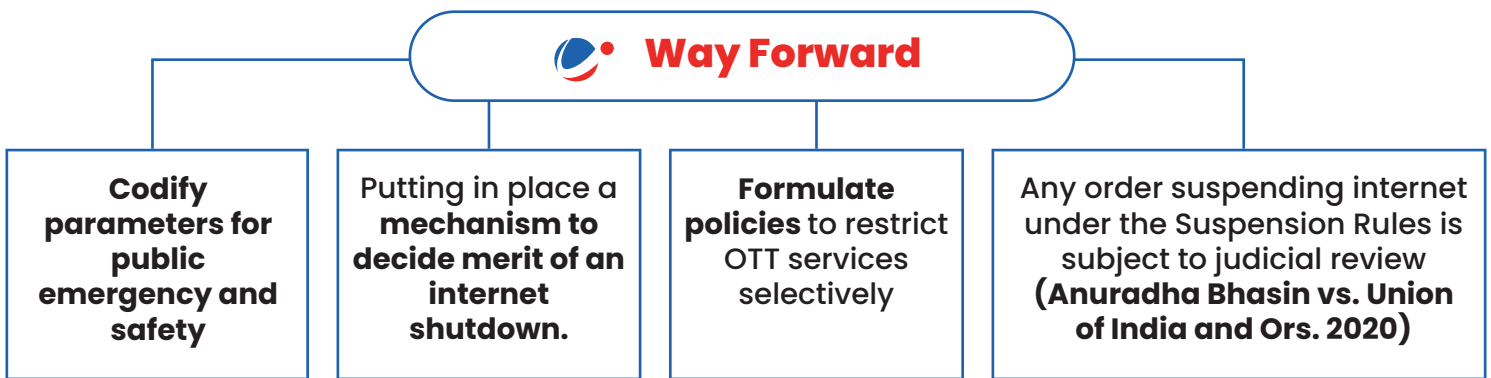
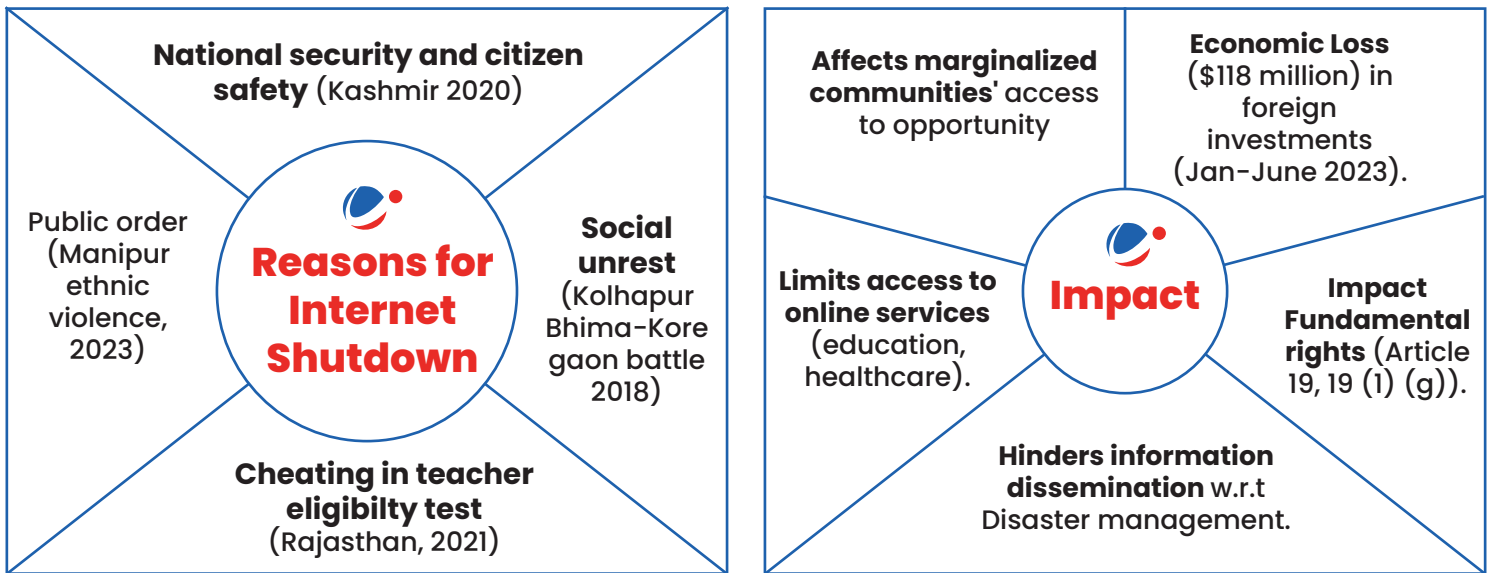
- Over Regulation
- Higher costs for OTTs may drive up consumer prices.
- Complex regulations hinder new entrants
- Global operations complicated by local regulations

Way forward:

Develop a comprehensive and dynamic regulatory framework balancing creative freedom and competition.

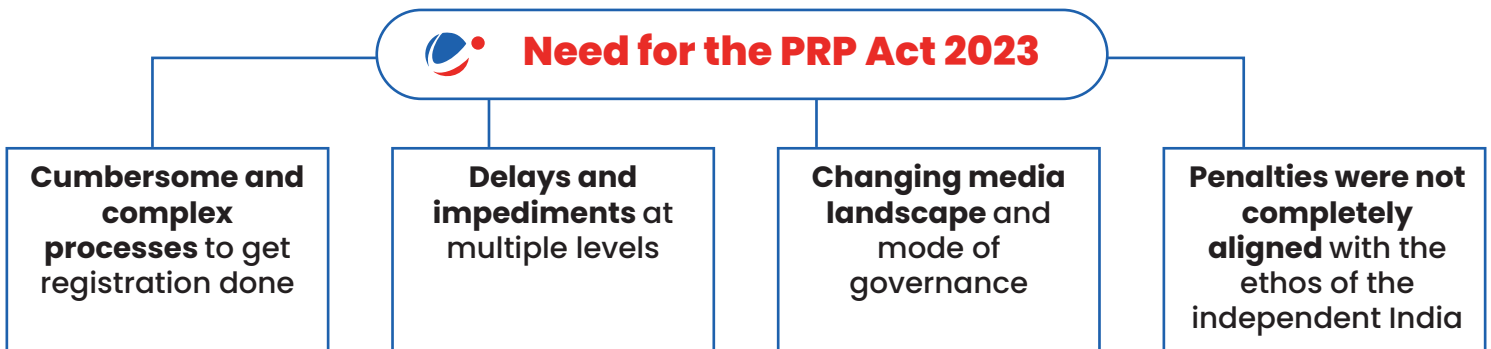
8.4 Internet Shutdown

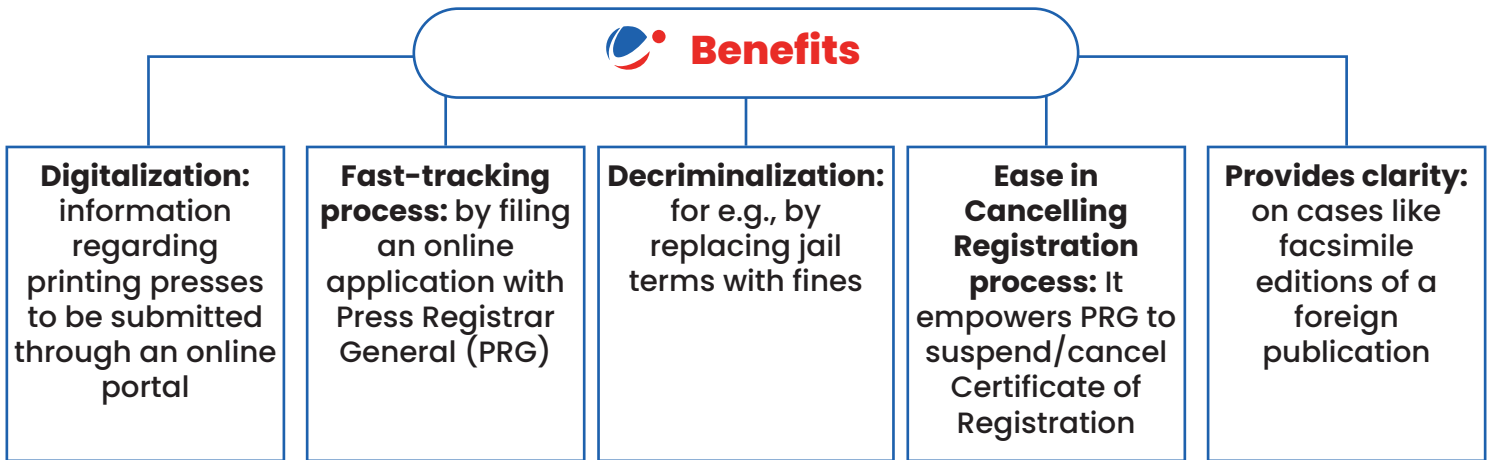




8.5 Press and Registration of Periodicals Act, 2023

About Act: It repealed the colonial era law of the **Press and Registration of Books Act, 1867**.





Conclusion

The 2023 Act aligns with the modern era of free press and media freedom, emphasizing digital governance for faster and more efficient service delivery through trust, transparency, and technology.

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- ▶ **LIVE / ONLINE** Classes Available
- ▶ Available in English & हिन्दी

LIVE / ONLINE

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Foundation Course GENERAL STUDIES

PRELIMS CUM MAINS

2025, 2026 & 2027



16 JULY, 1 PM | 18 JULY, 9 AM | 29 JULY, 1 PM | 30 JULY, 9 AM | 31 JULY, 5 PM

GTB Nagar Metro | 19 JULY, 8:30 AM | 23 JULY, 5:30 PM

► Includes comprehensive coverage of all topics for all the four papers of GS Mains, GS Prelims, CSAT and Essay

► Access to Live as well as Recorded classes on your personal online Student Platform

► Includes Personality Development Programme

► Duration for 2025 Program: 12 months

► Duration of each class: 3-4 hrs, 5-6 days a week (If need arises, classes can be held on Sundays also)

AHMEDABAD 12 JULY	BENGALURU 12 JULY 18 JULY	BHOPAL 18 JULY
CHANDIGARH 18 JULY	HYDERABAD 24 JULY	JAIPUR 22 JULY
JODHPUR 11 JULY	LUCKNOW 17 JULY	PUNE 5 JULY

NOTE-Students can watch LIVE video classes of our COURSE on their ONLINE PLATFORM at their homes. The students can ask their doubts and subject queries during the class through LIVE Chat Option. They can also note down their doubts & questions and convey to our classroom mentor at Delhi center and we will respond to the queries through phone/mall.



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Heartiest Congratulations

to all Successful Candidates



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Ruhani



Srishti Dabas



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