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Daily News Analysis

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1. Joint Crediting Mechanism (JCM)

- **Prelims** - Joint Crediting Mechanism (JCM)
- **Mains** - GS 3 - Environment

Why in the news?

- The Union Minister for Environment, Forests and Climate Change took part in the 11th Joint Crediting Mechanism Partner committee meeting in Brazil.

Joint Crediting Mechanism (JCM)

- **What is it?:** The Joint Crediting Mechanism (JCM) is a bilateral initiative launched to facilitate greenhouse gas emission reductions through the transfer and diffusion of advanced low-carbon technologies in partner developing countries.
- **Launch:** Launched by Japan in 2013
- **Key Features:**
 - It operates under **Article 6 of the Paris Agreement**, allowing mutual recognition and avoidance of double counting of emission reduction credits between partner countries such as India and Japan.
 - Projects involve the deployment of decarbonizing technologies, products, systems, or infrastructure in developing nations to reduce greenhouse gas emissions below a baseline level.
 - A Joint Committee comprising representatives from both countries governs the approval of methodologies, project registration, credit issuance, and monitoring.
 - Emission reduction credits generated are split between Japan and the partner country and credited to their respective registries for use towards their emission targets.
 - The mechanism supports technology transfer, financing, and capacity building to enable sustainable development.
 - As of 2025, Japan has bilateral agreements with over 30 countries, **including India** which has set up a National Designated Authority to oversee JCM projects.
- **India and JCM:**
 - India is a partner of JCM with Japan.



- Priority sectors in India include renewable energy with storage, sustainable aviation fuels, green hydrogen, green ammonia, biogas, steel, cement, and chemicals.
- The Bureau of Energy Efficiency is developing an Indian Carbon Market portal with a dedicated module for JCM projects to enhance transparency and project facilitation.
- India promotes the JCM as a model climate partnership that combines bilateral cooperation with multilateral climate goals, advocating its expansion globally for equitable and impactful climate action.



2. Pendency of Cases in the Judiciary

- **Prelims** - Pendency of Cases in Judiciary
- **Mains** - GS 2 - Polity

Why in the news?

- A Constitution Bench of the Supreme Court recently observed that the stagnation within the subordinate judiciary is contributing to prolonged litigation and the growing backlog of cases in the country's courts.

Pendency of Cases in the Judiciary

- **Current Status:**
 - **Total pending cases** across all courts: More than **4.5 crore**
 - ★ Supreme Court: Approximately 90,000
 - ★ High Courts: More than 60 lakhs
 - ★ District & subordinate courts: Over 4 crore
- **Causes of Pendency:**
 - Vacancies in judiciary and Inadequate number of judges: Nearly 30-40% vacancies in some HCs.
 - Procedural Delays: Owing to frequent adjournments as well as long-winding procedures and appeals.
 - Government as the Largest Litigant: In over 50% of the cases filed, the government stands as a party.
 - Investigative & Prosecution Delays: Weak Police-Prosecution coordination, Delay in filing charge sheets and Forensic backlogs.
 - Low awareness of ADR mechanisms
 - Complex laws leading to interpretational disputes
- **Impacts of Pendency:**
 - **On Citizens:**
 - ★ Delayed justice violates **Article 21** (Right to life and personal liberty).
 - ★ Prolonged pre-trial detention, especially for poor defendants.
 - ★ Civil disputes (property, marriage, contracts) remain unresolved for years.



>> Kozhikode

>> Ernakulam

>> Thiruvananthapuram

→ **On Economy:**

- ★ Stalled economic activity due to unresolved commercial disputes.
- ★ Increased transaction costs.

→ **On Governance:**

- ★ Reduced public trust in the judiciary.
- ★ Erosion of deterrence against crime.
- ★ Encourages extra-legal settlements.

● **Actions Taken:**

→ **Technology & Digital Reforms:**

- ★ e-Courts Mission Mode Project
- ★ National Judicial Data Grid (NJDG)
- ★ e-Filing, e-Summons, digital case records

→ **Institutional Reforms:**

- ★ Fast-track courts, special courts (POCSO, NDPS, commercial courts)
- ★ Formation of tribunals & Lok Adalats
- ★ Case flow management rules
- ★ Supreme Court's push for constitutional benches to reduce pendency of key cases

→ **Judicial Capacity Expansion:**

- ★ Increase in HC and district-level judges
- ★ Strengthening of judicial infrastructure through the National Mission for Justice Delivery and Legal Reforms

→ **ADR Mechanisms**

● **Way Forward:**

- Fill judicial vacancies on a fixed timeline
- Robust case management by courts
- Mandatory pre-litigation mediation in appropriate cases
- Comprehensive National Litigation Policy
- AI-based tools for scheduling & analytics
- Digital courts and paperless processes
- Online dispute resolution (ODR) for small-value cases



3. Supreme Court Response over Presidential Reference

- **Prelims** - Supreme Court Response over Presidential Reference
- **Mains** - GS 2 - Polity

Why in the news?

- A five judge bench of the Supreme Court of India has given their response to the 16th Presidential Reference in India.

Presidential Reference:

- **What is it?:** The President of India seeking the advisory opinion of the Supreme Court on **any question of law or fact that is of public importance** and is likely to arise or has already arisen.
- **Constitutional Provision:** Article 143
- **Supreme Court's Role:** Supreme Court **may tender or may refuse** to tender its opinion to the president.
- **Nature of the Advice:** The opinion expressed by the Supreme Court is only **advisory (non-binding)** and not a judicial pronouncement.

Supreme Court Response over Presidential Reference

- **Background:**
 - In its judgement in the State of Tamil Nadu Vs. Governor of Tamil Nadu case, a two-judge Bench prescribed clear and mandatory timelines for Governors and the President to act on Bills.
 - The Court invoked **Article 142** to hold that ten Tamil Nadu Bills had obtained “deemed assent,” noting that the Governor had failed to act on them for an excessively long time.
 - This raised constitutional questions and to resolve the ambiguity, the President invoked **Article 143(1)** and asked 14 questions to the Supreme Court.
- **Supreme Court's Response:**
 - The Supreme Court held that the **judiciary cannot prescribe fixed timelines** for the President or Governors to grant assent to bills passed by state legislatures under **Articles 200 and 201** of the Constitution.



- The Court overruled its April 2025 ruling, which had set specific deadlines (1-3 months) for Governors and the President to act on bills.
- The judgment emphasized that the constitutional provisions use elastic terms like "as soon as possible," giving discretionary power to these authorities without strict deadlines, in line with the doctrine of separation of powers.
- However, the Court made it clear that **indefinite delay or inaction by Governors** frustrates the legislative process and **cannot be allowed**.
- Courts can exercise limited judicial review to direct the Governor or President to act within a reasonable, time-bound period, without commenting on the merits of the bill.



4. International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) and Iran

- **Prelims** - IAEA and Iran
- **Mains** - GS 2 - International Relations

Why in the news?

- Iran rejected the resolution plan extended by IAEA which suggested Iran to fully cooperate by supplying “accurate information” on its stockpile of near-weapons-grade uranium and allowing inspectors access to its nuclear facilities.

International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA)

- **What is it?:** The International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) is an autonomous intergovernmental organization established in 1957 under the United Nations system, aiming to promote the safe, secure, and peaceful use of nuclear energy worldwide, while preventing its military use including nuclear weapons proliferation.
- **Headquarters:** Vienna, Austria.
- **Objectives:**
 - Promote peaceful use of nuclear technology
 - Establish safeguards against military use
 - Provide nuclear safety and security standards
 - Encourage scientific cooperation and technical assistance
- **Functions:**
 - Inspection and verification of nuclear facilities to prevent weaponization.
 - Technical cooperation with member states on nuclear science applications like health, agriculture, energy, and environment.
- **Reporting:** It reports to the UN General Assembly and Security Council but operates independently with its own governing bodies.
- **Governance and Structure:** Governed by the General Conference of all member states, a Board of Governors (35 members) overseeing policy, and a Secretariat led by a Director General managing daily operations.
- **Role in non-proliferation:**
 - Implements safeguards under the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty (NPT) focusing on non-nuclear weapon states.
 - Monitors peaceful use compliance and responds to nuclear emergencies.



● Importance for India:

- India is a founding member of the IAEA since its inception in 1957 and has been a 'designated member' actively serving on the IAEA Board of Governors.
- India has signed and complies with various IAEA-related nuclear safety and security conventions though it is **not a party to the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty (NPT)**.
- The Indian Department of Atomic Energy (DAE) coordinates India's engagement with the IAEA and implements nuclear policy and safety regulations domestically.

Iran

Iran

Why in the news?

- Iran rejected the resolution plan extended by IAEA which suggested Iran to fully cooperate by supplying "accurate information" on its stockpile of near-weapons-grade uranium and allowing inspectors access to its nuclear facilities..

Iran

- **Location:** West Asia
- **Capital:** Tehran
- **Border Countries:** Iraq, Turkey, Azerbaijan, Armenia, Turkmenistan, Afghanistan and Pakistan.
- **Border Sharing Waterbodies:** Caspian Sea, Gulf of Oman and Persian Gulf.
- **Key Cooperation with India :** Chabahar Port , INSTC.

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5. Transposon-associated proteins and TnpB- Gene Editing Technology

- **Prelims** - Transposon-associated proteins and TnpB- Gene Editing Technology
- **Mains** - GS 3 - Science and Technology

Why in the news?

- ICAR scientists were awarded a patent for a new genetic engineering technology based on transposon-associated proteins such as TnpB.

Transposon-associated proteins

- **What is it?:** Transposon-associated proteins are proteins encoded by transposable elements (TEs), the segments of DNA that can move (transpose) within a genome.
- **Major Transposon Assisted Proteins:** Transposase, Integrase, TnpA, TnpB, Reverse Transcriptase etc.
- **Significance:**
 - **Evolutionary Significance:** Show how primitive mobile elements evolved into complex immune systems like CRISPR and explains origins of RNA-guided defense mechanisms.
 - **Biotechnology & Gene Editing:** Used in Gene therapy, Stem cell engineering and Ultra-compact CRISPR alternatives.
 - **Medical Applications:** For understanding the mutations happening in diseases like Cancer, Hemophilia and Neurological disorders.
 - **Agricultural Applications:** Used in crop improvement.

TnpB- Based Gene Editing Technology

- **What is TnpB?:** It acts as "molecular scissors" to target and modify DNA with high efficiency.
- **Features of TnpB Technology:**
 - **Miniaturised Enzyme:** Size of TnpB is ~400–500 amino acids, smaller than Cas9 enzyme, making it easier to deliver genes into plant cells.
 - **Delivery Without Tissue Culture:** TnpB's compact size allows in vivo delivery, bypassing tissue-culture limitations.
 - **Indigenous Intellectual Property:** The innovation is fully India-owned, removing dependency on costly foreign CRISPR IP.



- **Significance:**

- **Enhanced Delivery Efficiency:** Small size permits easier packaging into viral vectors, facilitating gene editing directly inside plant tissues.
- **IP Independence:** Enables sovereign control over Genetically Engineered crop development.
- **Cost Reduction:** Cheaper agricultural biotechnology owing to no royalty payments as involved in CRISPR protocol.
- Supports Next-Gen Crop Improvement.



6. Inner Line Permit (ILP)

- **Prelims** - Inner Line Permit (ILP)
- **Mains** - GS 3 - Internal Security

Why in the News?

- Arunachal Pradesh has announced that the State government is set to implement a comprehensive digital overhaul of the Inner Line Permit (ILP) system

Inner Line Permit (ILP)

- **What is it?:** The Inner Line Permit (ILP) is a special travel document issued by the government of India that allows Indian citizens from other states to enter certain designated areas within the country. It is primarily used to regulate and restrict the movement of people into certain regions to protect indigenous cultures, traditions, and resources.
- **Purpose:** To protect the interests of indigenous or tribal communities and to preserve the unique cultural identity of these regions.
- **Scope:** It is applicable in specific states and union territories of India where it is deemed necessary for the protection of local culture and identity. Example: Arunachal Pradesh, Nagaland, Mizoram, and Manipur.
- **People who need this:** Indian citizens who are not residents of these protected states or regions need to obtain an ILP before entering. This includes tourists, government officials, and workers from other parts of India.
- **Exceptions:** There are certain categories of people who may be exempt from obtaining an ILP, such as residents of states where the ILP is not required, members of armed forces or paramilitary forces, and some categories of government officials.
- **Procedure:** Applying through designated authorities, such as state government offices or online portals. Applicants need to provide proof of identity and purpose of visit.
- **Validity:** An ILP is usually valid for a limited period, often for a specified number of days or months. It may specify the areas or districts within the state where the holder is permitted to travel or stay.
- **Enforcement:** Authorities in the respective states enforce the ILP regulations to ensure compliance and maintain control over the movement of people into the protected areas.