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National and International News

<p>Waqf Amendment Bill 2024</p>	<p>Why in news?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Recently, the panel meeting on the Waqf Bill concluded with intense disagreements. <p>Key Points:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Waqf (Amendment) Bill 2024, introduced in the Lok Sabha on August 8, 2024, proposes significant changes to the governance and management of Waqf properties in India. This legislation seeks to amend the Waqf Act of 1995, aiming to enhance transparency, accountability, and efficiency in the administration of Waqf properties while addressing long-standing issues within the system. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> A Waqf is a property donated by Muslims for a specific religious, charitable, or private purpose. Ownership of the property is considered to belong to God, while its benefits are directed to the specified purposes. Key Provisions: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Waqf Formation: Waqfs can be formed by (i) declaration, (ii) recognition of long-term use, or (iii) endowment when succession ends. Government Property: Government properties identified as waqf will revert to state ownership. The District Collector will determine ownership in disputed cases. Central Waqf Council: Two non-Muslim members are added. MPs, judges, and eminent persons need not be Muslims. However, Muslim members must include two women. Appeals: Tribunal decisions can be appealed to the High Court within 90 days. Separate Waqf Boards: Separate Waqf Boards are allowed for Bohra and Agakhani sects.
<p>Places in news: Tadoba-Andhari Tiger Reserve & Simlipal Tiger Reserve (STR)</p>	<p>Why in news?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Odisha government has translocated a female tiger from Maharashtra's Tadoba-Andhari Tiger Reserve to the Simlipal Tiger Reserve, the State's largest, to enhance the genetic diversity of its tiger population. <p>Key Points:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Simlipal Tiger Reserve (STR) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Location: STR is located within the Mayurbhanj District, in



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	<p>the Northernmost part of Odisha.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ It is surrounded by high plateaus and hills, the highest peak being the twin peaks of Khairiburu and Meghashini (1515m above mean sea level). ○ It was declared a 'Tiger Reserve' in the year 1956 and included under the national conservation programme 'Project Tiger' in 1973. ○ Terrain: The terrain is mostly undulating and hilly, interspersed with open grasslands and wooded areas. ○ Vegetation: It is a mix of different forest types and habitats, with Northern tropical moist deciduous dominating some semi-evergreen patches. ○ It is the only landscape in the world that is home to melanistic tigers. ○ The region around STR is home to a variety of tribes, including Kolha, Santhala, Bhumija, Bhatudi, Gondas, Khadia, Mankadia and Sahara. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Tadoba-Andhari Tiger Reserve <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Location: It is located in the Chandrapur district in Maharashtra. ○ It is the largest and oldest Tiger Reserve of Maharashtra. ○ Corridor: The reserve has corridor linkages with Nagzira-Navegaon and Pench Tiger Reserves within the State. ○ Vegetation: Southern Tropical Dry Deciduous
<p>Indian Cyber Crime Coordination Centre (I4C)</p>	<p>Why in news?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● The Indian Cyber Crime Coordination Centre (I4C) has issued a warning about illegal payment gateways set up with mule bank accounts by transnational cyber criminals involved in money laundering. <p>Key Points:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● I4C has been established under the Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA) to deal with cybercrime in the country in a coordinated and comprehensive manner. ● The I4C focuses on tackling issues related to cybercrime for citizens, including improving coordination between various Law Enforcement Agencies (LEAs) and stakeholders. ● The center is located in New Delhi. ● Functions: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ To act as a nodal point in the fight against cybercrime. ○ Identify the research problems and needs of LEAs and take up R&D activities in developing new technologies and forensic tools in collaboration with academia / research institutes within India and abroad. ○ To prevent misuse of cyberspace for furthering the cause of extremist and terrorist groups. ○ Suggest amendments, if required, in cyber laws to keep pace with fast changing technologies and international



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	<p>cooperation.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> To coordinate all activities related to implementation of Mutual Legal Assistance Treaties (MLAT) with other countries related to cybercrimes in consultation with the concerned nodal authority in MHA.
<p>Justice (Retired) K S Puttaswamy vs Union of India Case</p>	<p>Why in news?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Justice K.S. Puttaswamy, who challenged the government's view that privacy is a privilege for the wealthy, passed away at 98. <p>Key Points:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Retired Justice Puttaswamy challenged the constitutionality of Aadhar before the SC by filing a writ petition. The petitioner contended that all the previous apex court judgements upheld the Right to Privacy as a fundamental right and the Aadhar procedure violated this right. The petitioner put forth that the right to privacy of an individual was an intrinsic part of the right to life and personal liberty as guaranteed by Article 21 of the Constitution. The judgment, pronounced by a 9-judge bench of the SC upholds the fundamental right to privacy emanating from Article 21. The court also laid down that the ambit of Article 21 is ever-expanding due to the agreement over the years among the SC judges as a result of which a plethora of rights has been included within Article 21. Significance of Puttaswamy Judgement <ul style="list-style-type: none"> It formed the cornerstone of privacy jurisprudence in the country, holding that the right to privacy was an integral part of the fundamental rights under the Indian Constitution. Six separate opinions of the Court spelt out an expansive interpretation of the right to privacy. It enables us to make free decisions, and is deeply tied to human dignity and autonomy.
<p>International Court of Justice</p>	<p>Why in news?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> South Africa has submitted "evidence" of a "genocide" allegedly committed by Israel in the Gaza Strip to the International Court of Justice. <p>Key Points:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The ICJ, also known as the World Court, is the principal judicial organ of the United Nations (UN). It was established in June 1945 by the Charter of the UN and began work in April 1946. The seat of the Court is at the Peace Palace in The Hague (Netherlands). Of the six principal organs of the UN, it is the only one not located in New York, United States. The hearings of the ICJ are always public. Official Languages: French and English



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- The ICJ decides disputes in accordance with international law as reflected in **international conventions, international custom, general principles of law recognized by civilized nations, judicial decisions, and the writings** of the most highly qualified experts on international law.

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