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CUREENT AFFAIRS JANUARY 2025

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1. Right to Access to justice Not Absolute

Acknowledging the right to access justice as a democratic cornerstone, SC recently penalized a petitioner for filing multiple frivolous litigations burdening the judicial system.

Right to Access to Justice :

Meaning: A rule of law principle enabling people to seek remedies through justice

institutions. SC in Anita Kushwaha v. Pushap Sudan (2016) ruled it a Fundamental Right under Articles 14 and 21.

Other Provisions/Mechanisms:

Constitutional

Preamble ensures social, economic, and political justice. Article 39A (free legal aid), Articles 32 and 226 (remedies and writs). Public Interest Litigation: Relaxing locus standi.

Alternative Dispute Redressal (ADR) Mechanisms:

Informal, low-cost grievance redressal.

2.. Designing Innovative solutions for Holistic Aacess to Justice(DISHA) Scheme

Hamara Samvidhan – Hamara Swabhiman

Campaign launched to mark the 75th

anniversary of India's Constitution and Republic status under the DISHA Scheme.

About DISHA Scheme:

Launch: Initiated in 2021 by the Department of Justice, Ministry of Law and Justice, spanning 2021-2026

Aim: To ensure "Justice" as per the Preamble and Articles 39A, 14, and 21 of the Constitution.

3. Amendement to Prision Manual and Corrcectional services act

Ministry of Home Affairs amended the Model Prison Manual, 2016, and Model Prisons and

Correctional Services Act, 2023, to tackle castebased discrimination in prisons nationwide.

Amendments align with the SC's ruling in Sukanya Santha vs. Uol & Others, addressing caste-based discrimination.

4. Docterine of merger

Recently, the Supreme Court emphasized the Doctrine of Merger. About Doctrine of Merger Explained in Kunhayammed v. State of Kerala, (2000).

Under this doctrine, only one decree or order governs a subject at a time.

Thus, once a superior court rule—by altering or affirming the lower court's decree—its order becomes final, merging the lower court's decision.

5.vikishit Panchyat Karmayogi

Ministry of Personnel, Public Grievances & Pensions launched 'Viksit Panchayat Karmayogi' Initiative on Good Governance Day. Good Governance Day, 25th December, honors Atal Bihari Vajpayee's birth anniversary.

About Viksit Panchayat Karmayogi':

Initiative Aim: Boost Panchayati Raj Institutions' (PRIs) capacity with tools and knowledge for effective

governance and planning.

Part of 'Prashasan Gaon Ki Aur'.

Promotes decentralized, grassroots

6.State consent for CBI

Supreme court ruledthat CBI doesn't need state government sanction to file cases under Central laws like the Prevention of Corruption Act against Central employees in a state.

This reversed an Andhra Pradesh High Court ruling dismissing cases for lack of state consent.

About State Consent for CBI

Law: Section 6 of Delhi Special Police Establishment (DSPE) Act, 1946 mandates state consent for CBI to probe crimes in a state.

2 Consent types: General and Case-specific.

7...Pay Commission

Union government approved the Eighth Pay Commission.

About Pay Commission

Formed by central government. Since 1947, seven commissions established. 7th Pay Commission, implemented in 2016, ends in 2026.

Chaired by Justice Ashok Kumar Mathur.

Role: Sets salaries, allowances, and benefits for government employees.

8. Edelman trust barometer

The annual Edelman Trust Barometer was recently released before the World Economic Forum Annual

Meeting.

Conducted by Edelman Trust, it surveys 28 countries to explore trust in government, media, business, and NGOs.

Key Findings

Among low-income groups, India dropped to 3rd place, behind China and Indonesia, for trust in media. government, businesses, and

Among high-income groups, India ranked 4th.

India placed 13th for trust in Indianheadquartered companies by people in other countries.

9. Panchayat se Parliament 2.0

Lok Sabha Speaker launched Panchayat Se Parliament 2.0.

About Panchayat Se Parliament 2.0

Organised by National Commission for Women, Lok Sabha Secretariat, and Tribal Affairs Ministry.

Aims to empower ST women from Panchayati Raj with knowledge of Constitution, Parliament, and governance