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Daily news summary**Tribunal Reforms Bill 2026 National Tribunal Commission**

UPSC Civil Services · 24 August 2026 · Prelims and Mains

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WHY IN NEWS

- Parliament passed the Tribunal Reforms Bill, 2026, establishing the **National Tribunal Commission** (NTC) as an overarching regulatory body for quasi-judicial tribunals.

WHAT IS THE BACKGROUND OF TRIBUNAL REFORMS?

- The **Tribunal Reforms Act, 2021** previously governed the selection, appointment, and tenure conditions of members across various tribunals.
- In November, the Supreme Court struck down core provisions of the 2021 Act for violating judicial independence and **separation of powers** by granting executive control over appointments.
- The Supreme Court mandated the creation of an independent statutory body to oversee appointments and administrative functioning.

KEY PROVISIONS OF THE 2026 LEGISLATION

- **Repeals the Tribunal Reforms Act, 2021** and establishes the **National Tribunal Commission** (NTC) as an independent apex regulator.
- Transfers member appointment and selection oversight from executive ministries to the NTC framework.
- Standardizes terms of service, tenure, and disciplinary procedures across specialized benches such as NCLT and Consumer Courts.

WHY IT MATTERS

- Addresses structural deficiencies in quasi-judicial functioning while upholding **Article 50 (Separation of Powers)**.
- Aims to reduce pendency of litigation in High Courts and the Supreme Court by streamlining tribunal administration.

KEY TERMS

- **Quasi-judicial Body:** An entity other than a court authorised to hold hearings and conduct adjudication on specialized regulatory disputes.

- **Separation of Powers:** A constitutional doctrine preventing concentration of authority by keeping legislative, executive, and judicial branches distinct.

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PRELIMS FACTS

- Tribunal Reforms Bill 2026 repeals the 2021 Act to establish the **National Tribunal Commission**.

MAINS DISCUSSION

- Evaluate the role of the **National Tribunal Commission** in safeguarding judicial independence and operational efficiency.

KEY DATA

- **New Entity:** **National Tribunal Commission** (NTC) - Independent regulatory authority mandated by the judiciary to handle tribunal appointments.
- **Repealed Act:** **Tribunal Reforms Act, 2021** - Struck down by Supreme Court due to executive dominance over judicial appointments.

[Official source](#)

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