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

UPSC Civil Services · 25 August 2026 · Prelims and Mains

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WHY IN NEWS

- Parliament passed the Tribunal Reforms Bill, 2026, formalizing the establishment of the **National Tribunal Commission**.

WHAT IS THE TRIBUNAL REFORMS ACT, 2021?

- Statute governing the appointment, tenure, and service conditions of members across various quasi-judicial tribunals in India.
- Provisions fixing four-year tenures and minimum age requirements were struck down by the Supreme Court in 2021 for compromising judicial independence.

KEY CHANGES IN THE 2026 BILL

- Establishes the **National Tribunal Commission** (NTC) as an independent apex statutory regulator for quasi-judicial bodies.
- Transfers member search and selection oversight to the NTC to eliminate executive dominance in tribunal appointments.

WHY IT MATTERS

- Enforces separation of powers under **Article 50** by insulating administrative tribunals from executive bias.
- Addresses persistent structural vacancies and excessive writ litigation directly reaching High Courts.

KEY TERMS

- **National Tribunal Commission**: An apex statutory body designed to independently oversee member appointments, infrastructure, and administration of quasi-judicial tribunals.
- **Quasi-Judicial Body**: An entity other than a court, such as a tribunal, given powers resembling those of a court to adjudicate specific statutory disputes.

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PRELIMS FACTS

- Tribunals were incorporated into the Constitution via **Articles 323A and 323B** by the 42nd Amendment in 1976.

MAINS DISCUSSION

- Assess whether an independent **National Tribunal Commission** effectively restores judicial independence under **Article 50**.

KEY DATA

- **Parent Statute:** **Tribunal Reforms Act, 2021** - The parent law replaced by the new statutory framework following Supreme Court directives on judicial independence.
- **Constitutional Provision:** **Article 323A and 323B** - Articles added by the 42nd **Constitutional Amendment Act, 1976**, enabling Parliament to establish administrative and subject-matter tribunals.

[Official source](#)

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