

Diamond Jubilee Celebration Of Supreme Court Of India

Why In News

- Prime Minister Narendra Modi inaugurated the **Diamond Jubilee celebration of the Supreme Court.**



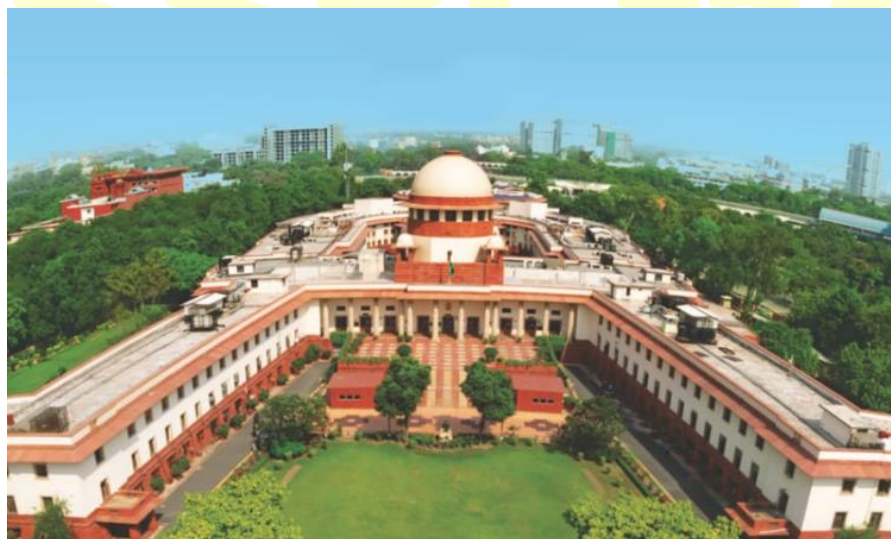
- Unveiling the **75th year of the Supreme Court**, Prime Minister Modi launched citizen-centric information and technology initiatives that include Digital Supreme Court Reports (Digi-SCR), Digital Courts 2.0 and a new website of the apex court.

Supreme Court Of India

- The promulgation of **Regulating Act of 1773 established the Supreme Court of Judicature at Calcutta** as a Court of Record, with full power & authority.
- It was established to hear and determine all complaints for any crimes and also to entertain, hear and determine any suits or actions in Bengal, Bihar and Orissa.
- The **Supreme Courts at Madras and Bombay** were established by King George – III in 1800 and 1823 respectively.
- The **India High Courts Act 1861** created High Courts for various provinces and abolished Supreme Courts at Calcutta, Madras and Bombay and also the Sadar Adalats in Presidency towns.
- These **High Courts had the distinction of being the highest Courts** for all cases till the creation of Federal Court of India under the Government of India Act 1935.



- The **Federal Court had jurisdiction** to solve disputes between provinces and federal states and hear appeal against Judgements from High Courts.
- After **India attained independence in 1947**, the Constitution of India came into being on 26 January 1950.
- The **Supreme Court of India** also came into existence and its first sitting was held on **28 January 1950**.



- The law declared by the **Supreme Court is binding** on all Courts within the territory of India.
- It has the **power of judicial review** – to strike down the legislative and executive action contrary to the provisions and the scheme of the constitution, the distribution of power between Union and States or inimical to the fundamental rights guaranteed by the Constitution.

What All Initiatives Taken

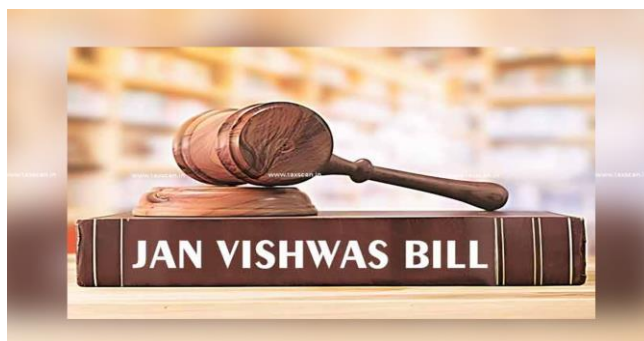
- **Prime Minister Narendra Modi** said ₹800 crore has been approved for the expansion of the **Supreme Court building complex**, while underlining that “**ease of justice** is the right of every Indian citizen and the Supreme Court is its medium”.
- Mr. Modi highlighted the **importance of using technology for ease of justice**. He said the entire legal system rests on the advice and direction given by the Supreme Court.



- The Prime Minister said accessibility to the apex court should be available to those in the farthest corners of the country.
- “Whether it is freedom of expression, personal freedom or social justice, the Supreme Court has **strengthened India’s vibrant democracy**.”
- A **strong judicial system** is the main foundation of a **Viksit Bharat**,” the Prime Minister said.



- Unveiling the **75th year of the Supreme Court**, the Prime Minister launched citizen-centric information and technology initiatives like the **Digital Supreme Court Reports** (Digi SCR), which has 36,308 cases of the apex court, dating back from 1950, accessible to the public in the digital format.



- The Prime Minister also inaugurated the launch of a **new bi-lingual website of the Supreme Court**. The government is working continuously and taking many decisions to form a trusted judicial system. The Jan Vishwas Bill is a step in this direction.”
- The **Bill proposes to amend 183 provisions** to be decriminalised in 42 central Acts administered by 19 ministries/departments.

What is Digi-SCR

- The **Digital Supreme Court Reports** (SCR) will make Supreme Court judgments available to citizens free of cost and in the electronic format.
- The **key features of Digi-SCR** are that **all 519 volumes of Supreme Court** reports since 1950, covering 36,308 cases, will be available in the digital format, bookmarked, user-friendly and with open access.

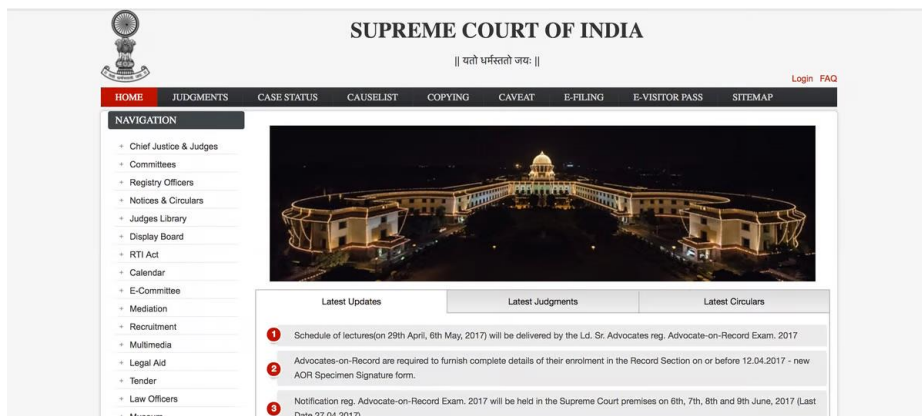


- The Digital Courts 2.0 application is a recent initiative under the **e-Courts project to make court** records available to judges of district courts in electronic form.

This is coupled with the use of artificial intelligence for transcribing speech to text on a real-time basis.

Launch Of New Website:

- Prime Minister Modi will also launch the **new website of the Supreme Court** which will be in a bilingual format in English and Hindi, and has been redesigned with a user-friendly interface.
- It will be presided by the Chief Justice of India along with companion judges of the court.



- The **chief justices of high courts and former judges of the Supreme Court** will also be a part of this occasion which will be also addressed by the Chief Justice of India, the Attorney General for India and the President of the Supreme Court Bar Association.

Conclusion

- Highlighted the **government's continuous efforts** to create a reliable legal framework, citing the enactment of the **Jan Vishwas Bill** as a step in the right direction while also reducing the number of pending cases, thereby alleviating unnecessary pressure on the judiciary.

