

Fast Track Special Courts

Syllabus

Prelims - Indian Polity & Governance

Mains - GS II - Government Policies & Interventions | Judiciary

Why is in News?

The government has extended the Fast Track Special Courts (FTSCs) Scheme until 2026, allocating funds under the Nirbhaya Fund.

Fast Track Special Courts (FTSCs)

- FTSCs were launched under the Centrally Sponsored Scheme (CSS).
- **Established on** - October 2, 2019.
- **Objective** - To provide speedy justice in cases of sexual offenses, particularly under the Protection of Children from Sexual Offences (POCSO) Act and rape cases.
- **Other cases dealt by FTSCs**
 - Specific cases of heinous nature,
 - Civil cases related to women, children, senior citizen, disabled persons, persons infected with terminal ailments and
 - Property related cases pending for more than 5 years.
- Currently, 745 courts are operational across 30 States and UTs.
- These courts are established by State Governments in consultation with their respective High Courts.
- **Nodal Ministry** - Ministry of Law and Justice.
- **Funding**
 - 60:40 between Centre and States.
 - 90:10 for Northeastern, hilly States, and J&K.
 - 100% funding for UTs without a legislature.
- **Role in Speedy Justice** - FTSCs focus on rape and POCSO Act cases, ensuring swift legal proceedings.

Key Recommendations by Indian Institute of Public Administration (IIPA)

- Scheme Continuation - Essential for handling sexual offense cases.
- Specialized Appointments - Appoint trained Special Judges and female public prosecutors for POCSO cases.
- Modernization of Courts - Upgrade courtrooms with audio-video systems, digital records, and e-case filing.

- *Forensic Lab Support* - Increase forensic labs and train manpower for timely DNA report submissions.
- *Child-Friendly Courts* - Establish *Vulnerable Witness Deposition Centers (VWDCs)* and deploy child psychologists to support victims.

Reference

[PIB | Fast Track Courts](#)

