

# Attorney General of India:

May 1, 2021

**In news:** Former Attorney General (AG) Soli Sorabjee recently passed away.

## **About AG-**

- The office of Attorney General of India is established under **Article 76** of the Constitution.
- India's Attorney General (AG) is a **member of the Union Executive**.
- He is the **country's top law enforcement official**.
- The Constitution does not specify the length of the office's term.
- The Constitution **does not specify the procedures or grounds for the suspension of the AG**.
- He/she serves at the **pleasure of the President** (may be removed by the President at any time).
- The Solicitor General of India and the Additional Solicitor General of India support the Attorney General in carrying out his official duties.
- It is the Advocate General's Corresponding Office in the United States.

## **Conditions for appointment-**

- He must meet the qualifications for appointment as a Supreme Court Judge.
- He should be a citizen of India.
- He must have served as a judge in the High Court of any Indian state for five years or as an advocate for ten years.
- In the President's view, he might even be an eminent jurist.

## **Powers and Functions-**

- In legal matters referred to him, the Attorney General is required to provide advice to the Government of India.
- He also carries out other legal responsibilities that the President has delegated to him.
- The Attorney General has the right of audience in all Indian courts, as well as the right to engage in, but **no Right to vote in Parliamentary proceedings.**
- The Attorney General represents the Government of India in all Supreme Court cases (including suits, appeals, and other proceedings) in which the Government of India is involved.
- He also represents the Indian government in any Supreme Court referral made by the President under Article 143 of the Constitution.
- Although the Attorney General may accept briefs, he or she cannot represent the government in court.
- He cannot represent a defendant in a criminal case while still serving as a director of a corporation without the approval of the government.
- Two Solicitor Generals and four Additional Solicitor Generals support the Attorney General.