## Outrage over Approval of New Slaughterhouses in Nuh District

## Why in News?

Recently, the Haryana government's decision to approve **21 additional slaughterhouses** in <u>Nuh district</u> has triggered protests from local residents, leading them to approach the <u>National Green Tribunal (NGT)</u> over environmental and health concerns.

## **Key Points**

- Environmental Concerns:
  - The NGT has issued notices to the Haryana State Pollution Control Board and Central Ground Water Authority to respond to allegations of contamination in air, water, and soil.
  - Residents claim existing slaughterhouses violate pollution norms, leading to degradation of the local environment.
- Health Hazards:
  - Local activists report that the villages around these slaughterhouses are experiencing severe health impacts, with children falling ill and blood from slaughterhouses contaminating fields.
  - Waste is allegedly being dumped into the soil and <u>water stream</u>s, creating an unbearable stench and causing health problems.
  - Residents point out the contradiction in policies, with **Uttar Pradesh** shutting down slaughterhouses, while **Haryana is expanding them in Nuh.**

## National Green Tribunal (NGT)

- It is a specialised body set up under the National Green Tribunal Act (2010) for effective and expeditious disposal of cases relating to environmental protection and conservation of forests and other natural resources.
- With the establishment of the NGT, India became the 3<sup>rd</sup> country in the world to set up a specialised environmental tribunal, only after Australia and New Zealand, and the first developing country to do so.
- NGT is mandated to make disposal of applications or appeals finally within6 months of filing of the same.
- The NGT has five places of sittings, New Delhi is the Principal place of sitting and Bhopal, Pune, Kolkata and Chennai are the other four.