

# KSG:NEWSPAPER CRUX

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## NEWSPAPER HIGHLIGHT

- Given the phenomenal expansion in feminist jurisprudence over the last decade, particularly on the issue of a woman's right to choose to have an abortion, it now appears quite plain that the central government's amendment to the abortion laws not only retains the traditional notion that the state must intervene and decide for women as to when and in what circumstances abortions may be carried out.
- No less than 13 members of the transgender community have been selected recently as constables under the Chhattisgarh police. This is truly historic and thrilling for a community that had no legal recognition till the Supreme Court in NALSA vs. Union of India (2014) ruled that transgender persons have the right to decide their self-identified gender.
- Justice delayed is justice denied. Access to justice for the poor is a constitutional mandate to ensure fair treatment under our legal system. Hence, Lok Adalats (literally, 'People's Court') were established to make justice accessible and affordable to all. It was a forum to address the problems of crowded case dockets outside the formal adjudicatory system.
- Armed with a renewed mandate to contain inflation within a 2 percentage point range of the target 4%, and mindful of the pandemic's latest wave, the RBI's monetary policy committee has opted to reaffirm its growth supportive "accommodative stance" and keep interest rates unchanged.
- At the latest count by the nonprofit Energy and Climate Intelligence Unit (ECIU), at the beginning of April, 32 countries had declared, in some documented form, their proposed intention to achieve carbon neutral status by mid-century or thereabouts. Of these, only eight have any firm status, the rest being in the form of proposed legislation or mentions in policy documents.

## INTEGRATED HEALTH INFORMATION PLATFORM

- 1.The Ministry of Health & Family Welfare has launched the Integrated Health Information Platform (IHIP), that is the next generation highly refined version of the presently used Integrated Disease Surveillance Programme (IDSP).
- 2.It will track 33 diseases (as compared to the earlier 18 diseases) and will ensure near-real-time data in digital mode. **It will provide a health information system developed for real time, case-based information, integrated analytics, advanced visualization capability.**
- 3.The collection of authentic data will become easy as it comes directly from the village/block level; the last mile from the country.
- 4.This digital platform for scouting the earliest signs of disease spread in the smallest of villages and blocks in the country will immensely **help in nipping in the bud any potential outbreak or epidemic.It is in sync with the National Digital Health Mission (NDHM).**

## DIRECT PAYMENT OF MINIMUM SUPPORT PRICE

- 1.After the recent orders from the Food Corporation of India (FCI), the farm unions warned that the Centre's insistence on direct payment of Minimum Support Price (MSP) could derail the crop procurement process.
- 2.The Centre wants **to make direct online MSP payment to farmers' bank accounts, to remove middlemen from the process.** MSP is the price that government agencies pay whenever they procure the particular crop.
- 3.Currently, **arhtiyas** (commission agents) get the payments in their accounts, which they in turn pay to farmers through cheques. The Centre has to pay 2.5% commission to arhtiyas who facilitate procurement of the crop from farmers to government agencies.
- 4.Since arhtiyas play **a key role in the Punjab and Haryana farm ecosystem** by providing farm loans, the move has been opposed by a large section of farmers, as well as the Punjab government.

## CENTRAL VIGILANCE COMMISSION

- 1.The Central Vigilance Commission (CVC) has modified the guidelines pertaining to the transfer and posting of officials in the vigilance units of government organisations, restricting their tenure to three years at one place.
- 2.There are 3 principal actors at the national level in the fight against corruption: the Lokpal, the CVC and the Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI).
- 3.It has been observed that undue long stay of an official in such a sensitive post at one place, **has the potential of developing vested interests, apart from giving rise to unnecessary complaints/allegations etc.** To ensure transparency, objectivity, and uniformity in approach.
- 4.The CVC was set up by the Government in February, 1964 on the recommendations of the Committee on Prevention of Corruption, headed by K. Santhanam. The Parliament enacted Central Vigilance Commission Act, 2003 (CVC Act) conferring statutory status on the CVC.

## AI PORTAL SUPACE

- 1.The Chief Justice of India (CJI) launched an Artificial Intelligence (AI) based portal '**SUPACE**' in the judicial system aimed at assisting judges with legal research. SUPACE is short for Supreme Court Portal for Assistance in Court's Efficiency.
2. Earlier, the E-Courts Project was conceptualised on the basis of "National Policy and Action Plan for Implementation of Information and Communication Technology (ICT) in the Indian Judiciary - 2005" submitted by the e-Committee of the Supreme Court.