

February - 04

## TNPSC BITS

- ❖ India banned exports of all kinds of personal protection equipment, including clothing and masks used to protect people from air borne particles due to outbreak of deadly coronavirus.
- ❖ Union Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman has allocated Rs 100 crore for the preparation of the G20 Presidency meet, which will be held in India in 2022.
- ❖ Canada's Christine Sinclair became all-time top goal scorer in international soccer.
  - Sinclair now has 185 international goals, surpassing American player Wambach's total of 184.

## NATIONAL

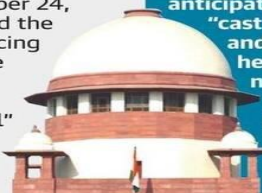
### SC's Judgement on Anticipatory Bail

- ❖ A constitution bench of the Supreme Court has ruled that an anticipatory bail cannot be limited to a fixed time period and can continue till the end of the trial.
- ❖ The judgment came in a reference to the case of Sushila Aggarwal vs State of NCT of Delhi regarding the scope of Section 438 of the Code of Criminal Procedure (CrPC).
- ❖ Section 438 (anticipatory bail) of the Code of Criminal Procedure deals with direction for grant of bail to a person apprehending arrest.
- ❖ The provision empowers only the Sessions Court and High Court to grant anticipatory bail.

**The back story of advance bail**

- The old Cr.PC of 1898 did not contain any specific provision corresponding to the present Section 438. There was a difference of opinion among various HCs whether court had an inherent power to grant pre-arrest bail
- The Law Commission of India on September 24, 1969, highlighted the need for introducing a provision in the Code enabling courts to grant "anticipatory bail" as an antidote to detention in false cases
- Clause 447 of the Draft Bill of 1970 was enacted with some modifications and became Section 438 of the Cr.PC, 1973

**A five-judge Supreme Court Bench in the 1980 case of Gurbaksh Singh Sibbia vs. State of Punjab interpreted that the power to grant anticipatory bail is "cast in wide terms and should not be hedged in through narrow judicial interpretation". It held that courts could impose conditions which were appropriate**





### **India's No-Fly List**

- ❖ The Civil Aviation Ministry has recently implemented India's first no-fly list measure which bans passengers from flying if they misbehave.
- ❖ The No-fly list specifies a list of passengers who are banned from flying for a minimum of three months to more than two years.
- ❖ Four airlines in India — IndiGo, SpiceJet, Air India and GoAir — have banned stand-up comedian Kunal Kamra from taking their flights after he allegedly heckled television news anchor Arnab Goswami on an IndiGo flight.

### **National Technical Textiles Mission**

- ❖ A National Technical Textiles Mission is proposed in Union Budget 2020.
- ❖ This will be implemented for a period of four-years from 2020-21 to 2023-24 at an estimated outlay of ₹1,480 crore.
- ❖ Technical textiles are materials and products manufactured primarily for their technical properties and functional requirements.
- ❖ Examples are medical textiles (e.g., implants), geotextiles (reinforcement of embankments), agrotextiles (textiles for crop protection) among others.

## **INTERNATIONAL**

### **National Consultation on the review of Beijing +25**

- ❖ To mark of 25 years of the adoption of Beijing Platform for Action, a National Consultation on the Review of Beijing+25 was held.
- ❖ It was organized by Ministry of Women & Child Development (MWCD), the National Commission for Women (NCW) and UN Women India organisations.
- ❖ The Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action of 1995 is the most ambitious road map for the empowerment of women and girls everywhere.
- ❖ The 1995 Fourth World Conference on Women, held in Beijing focused on gender equality and the empowerment of women.

### **IMO 2020 - new rules for ships**

- ❖ International Maritime Organization (IMO) put forward new regulations, called IMO 2020



- ❖ IMO 2020 bans ships from using fuels with a sulphur content above 0.5 per cent, compared with 3.5 per cent previously.
- ❖ Only ships fitted with sulphur-cleaning devices, known as scrubbers, are allowed to continue burning high-sulphur fuel.
- ❖ Ships can opt for cleaner fuels, such as marine gas oil (MGO) and very low-sulphur fuel oil (VLSFO).

#### About IMO

- ❖ A specialized agency of the United Nations responsible international shipping and to prevent pollution from ships.
- ❖ Founded in 1948 and headquartered in London, United Kingdom.

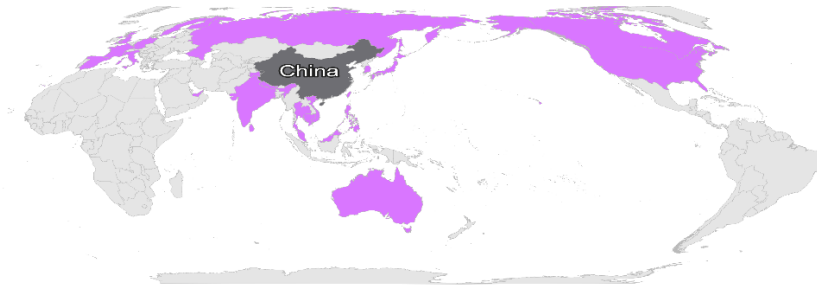
#### **Brexit**

- ❖ The United Kingdom formally left the European Union (EU) on January 31, 2020, ending 47 years of membership.
- ❖ Britain has become the first country to leave the 28-member bloc of EU.
- ❖ Queen Elizabeth II gave her royal assent to the Brexit bill on January 23, 2020, paving the way for Britain's smooth exit from the European Union.
- ❖ The UK will be able to work in and trade freely with EU nations and vice versa until December 31, 2020.
- ❖ However, it will no longer be represented in the EU's institutions.

#### **Coronavirus death outside China**

- ❖ A coronavirus death in Philippines marked the first fatality outside mainland China as the outbreak continues to spread.
- ❖ Hong Kong reported second Coronavirus Death Outside China.
- ❖ Countries including US, Australia, Russia, Japan, Pakistan and Indonesia have announced travel restrictions to all foreign visitors who had recently been to China.

### Cases of coronavirus outside China



Japan	20	Malaysia	8	Canada	4	Cambodia	1
Thailand	19	US	8	Italy	2	Finland	1
Singapore	18	Germany	8	UK	2	Nepal	1
South Korea	15	Vietnam	7	India	2	Sri Lanka	1
Australia	12	France	6	Philippines	2	Spain	1
Taiwan	11	UAE	5	Russia	2	Sweden	1

Source: European Centre for Disease Prevention and Control,

## ECONOMY

### Union Budget 2020-21

- ❖ The Union Minister of Finance Nirmala Sitaraman has presented the Budget 2020-21.
- ❖ The Budget is based on three prominent themes:
  - Aspirational India.
  - Economic Development for all.
  - Caring Society - both humane and compassionate.

### Budget

- ❖ Union Budget of India is the country's comprehensive Annual Financial Statement.
- ❖ The Union Budget consists of a detailed account of the government's finances, its revenues and expenditures.
- ❖ As mentioned in Article 112 of the Indian Constitution,
  - the Union Government lays a statement of its estimated receipts and expenditure for that year, From April 1 to March 31, before both the Houses of Parliament.

### Highlights

- ❖ India is now the fifth largest economy of the world in terms of GDP.
- ❖ Nominal growth of GDP - 10% (2020-21).
- ❖ Fiscal deficit - 3.8% of GDP (2019-20), 3.5% of GDP (2020-21).
- ❖ Revenue deficit- 2.7% of GDP (2020-21).



- ❖ 15th Finance Commission has cut state share of central taxes to the states by one percentage point to 41%.
- ❖ New tax slabs and lower income tax rates.
- ❖ 5% health cess to be imposed on imports of medical equipment.
- ❖ A budget allocation of ₹2.83 lakh crore for 16 action points on Agriculture.
- ❖ Bank deposit insurance cover has been increased from ₹1 lakh to ₹5 lakh per depositor.

<b>WHO GETS WHAT IN BUDGET 2020-21</b>		<b>UNION BUDGET 2020</b>	
<b>TOTAL OUTLAY (IN ₹CRORE)</b>			
Agriculture & allied activities	2.83 lakh	Development of Industry & Commerce	27,300
Transport Infra	1.7 lakh	Power & Renewable energy	22,000
Defence pension	1.33 lakh	Swachh Bharat Mission	12,300
Education	99,300	Sr. citizens & Divyang	9,500
Welfare of SCs & OBCs	85,000	Bharat Net Program	6,000
Healthcare	69,000	Development of Ladakh	5,958
Welfare of STs	53,700	Clean Air	4,400
Nutrition programme	35,600	Ministry of Culture	3,150
Development of J&K	30,757	Tourism & Development	2,500
Women-specific programmes	28,600	Hosting G-20 Summit	100

## ENVIRONMENT

### Indian gaur spotted in Konkan sanctuary

- ❖ Wildlife researchers recently documented the presence of an Indian gaur in the Phansad Wildlife Sanctuary (PWS), Maharashtra for the first time.
- ❖ Gaurs are the world's largest and tallest wild bovines.
- ❖ They are listed as Schedule I species under the Wildlife Protection Act, 1972.
- ❖ They have got IUCN Status as Vulnerable.



### **Yellow Rust**

- ❖ Yellow Rust was detected in wheat crops in parts of Punjab and Haryana.
- ❖ Yellow rust or stripe rust is a fungal disease which attacks the leaves of wheat crop by forming yellow stripes.
- ❖ It affects their photosynthesis that causes shrivelling of grain size.
- ❖ Rain, dew and fog favour the disease's development.
- ❖ Last year, a new variety of wheat called HD-3226 or Pusa Yashasvi was released by the Indian Agricultural Research Institute.
- ❖ It had higher levels of resistance against major rust fungi such as the yellow/stripe, brown/leaf and black/stem.



## IMPORTANT DAYS

### World Wetlands Day – February 02

- ❖ World Wetlands Day is celebrated on February 2 each year to mark the Day the Convention on Wetlands was adopted in the Iranian City of Ramsar in 1971.
- ❖ India is a party to the Convention since 1982 and committed to the Ramsar approach of wise use of wetlands.
- ❖ The theme for 2020 is ‘Wetlands and Biodiversity’.
- ❖ Wetlands are ecosystems saturated with water, either seasonally or permanently.
- ❖ They include mangroves, marshes, rivers, lakes, deltas, floodplains and flooded forests, rice-fields, and even coral reefs.
- ❖ Ramsar Convention on Wetlands releases Global Wetland Outlook.
- ❖ India has 37 Ramsar sites now, covering an area of 1.07 million ha.

