



## GS PAPER -II

### 3. INDIAN POLITY

***The Union government must ensure convergence of political will by setting up a National Unity Cabinet with the purpose of overcoming the pandemic situation. Explain***

#### KEY POINTS

- International Labour Organization notes that at least 400 million informal workers have been pushed into poverty by the pandemic.
- Unity Cabinet would encompass India's best minds representing the Opposition, professionals and industry leaders with proven expertise.
- The decision-making in such a cabinet will not be blinkered by individual ideological proclivities.
- Apart from instilling a sense of trust and hope, the Unity Cabinet would be equipped and empowered to specifically tackle the combined financial, social, and health crises gripping our country.
- Since Parliament is in recess and parliamentary panel virtual meets have also been ruled out, the National Unity Cabinet can approve ordinances that allow for a preemptive policy-based approach, rather than relying on GOs that tend to be ad-hoc in nature.
- A Unity Cabinet can also forge domestic solidarity that would enable India to be more assertive in international fora to ensure unimpeded imports of crucial materials and secure intellectual property rights exemptions.
- The Supreme Court, very recently, set up a National Task Force (NTF) to streamline oxygen allocation and guarantee the availability of essential drugs, medicines to the states.
- The Cabinet Secretary will act as its convenor comprising doctors and medical experts across the country.

### 4. JUDICIARY

***Do you think that the judicial intervention during pandemic encroached the executive domain in the country? Examine***

#### KEY POINTS

- Judicial intervention in response to the Union government's response to the health crisis, with the Supreme Court order forming a 12-member national task force for the effective and transparent allocation of medical oxygen to the States and Union Territories.
- The Court has also mandated it to review and suggest measures for ensuring the availability of essential drugs and remedial measures to meet future emergencies during the pandemic.
- When the Karnataka High Court ordered last week that the Centre should supply 1,200 tonnes of medical oxygen daily to the State, the Centre rushed with a challenge to the apex court.