Elizabeth Warren: US Presidential Candidate

Why in news?

Elizabeth Warren, Democratic Senator of Massachusetts, has announced her likely candidacy for the 2020 U.S. presidential race.

Who is Elizabeth Warren?

- Elizabeth Warren is a Harvard graduated consumer advocate.
- She was a law professor for more than 30 years.
- She taught courses on commercial law, contracts, and bankruptcy.
- She was a former member of Republican Party and changed her affiliation to Democratic Party in 1996.
- She stated that the Republican Party was tilting the playing field in favor of Wall Street.
- She was elected to the United States Senate from the state of Massachusetts in 2012.
- She is an expert on bankruptcy and the financial pressures facing middle class families.
- She is widely credited for the original thinking and political courage that led to the creation of the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau.
- In the aftermath of the 2008 financial crisis, she served as Chair of the Congressional Oversight Panel for the Troubled Asset Relief Program (TARP).
- Her independent and tireless efforts to protect taxpayers and to hold Wall Street accountable during the post financial crisis were lauded.

What are her stands on different issues?

- Elizabeth Warren favors abortion and Planned Parenthood.
- She is a critic of crypto-currency.
- She has been in the forefront of the student debt crisis to save the students from the vicious debt cycle.
- She is also a critic of the present US President Mr. Trump.
- She also favors legalizing marijuana so that it will reduce the opioid

deaths.
- She supported Obama's Immigration reform and also supported the DREAMS at which gave a life for the immigrants children.

What challenges she might face in the coming presidential race?

- First, the general expectation is that the field for the Democratic nomination will widen considerably over through 2019.
- It means that more than three dozen Democratic candidates-in-the-making are said to be considering joining the race for presidential election.
- For instance senators such as Kamala Harris of California or Cory Booker of New Jersey who hold stronger appeal with millennial voters and people of color will be a tough competitor for the job.
- Second, it is hard to predict how Ms. Warren will fare against Democratic socialist candidate Bernie Sanders, or Senator Sherrod Brown of Ohio.
- Both of them are economic populists who could hypothetically cut into her share of voters of a similar ideological persuasion.
- Finally, the risk of pursuing a populist theme from the centre-left of the political spectrum is that she would be an easy target for conservatives.
- They may deride her as an out-of-touch liberal academic and a threat to free enterprise.
- However as a candidate for the nation's highest office, Ms. Warren's ideology framework is set.

Source: The Hindu

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