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11 September 2023

West Bengal Regional News

Policy for compulsory rural posting for teachers

Context

To maintain a “suitable” pupil-teacher ratio (PTR) in schools, the State Education Policy of the West Bengal government has recommended a different transfer policy whereby **teachers will be asked to go for compulsory service in rural areas.**

Key points

- To maintain the suitable PTR in districts, the government may consider framing a policy for compulsory service of teachers in the rural areas of the state for **five years/ suitable period in line with compulsory services** of medical doctors, as decided by the government at the time of recruitment
- Though the state shows a healthy trend of pupil-teacher ratio at a macro level, there are disparities in the district, block and school levels.

State Education Policy: ‘Mother tongue’ first language in Bengal govt’s 3-language formula

Context

The West Bengal government has made the State Education Policy, 2023 public.

Key points


- It has recommended the introduction of a three-language formula in the upper primary level (class V to VIII) with the first language, the “mother tongue”, being the medium of instruction.
- It also recommended a **unique identity card for all students.**
- The **three-language formula** is to be introduced in schools, for the students of **class 5 to 8**, depending upon the availability of infrastructure and resources.
- It is suggested that the first language (mother tongue) would be the medium of instruction of the school eg Nepali in Nepali-medium school, Santhali in Santhali-medium school, Rajbanshi in Rajbanshi-medium school, Bengali in Bangla-medium school, English in English-medium school, Urdu in Urdu-medium school, Hindi in Hindi-medium school, Kurmali in Kurmali-medium school etc.
- The second language may be English in a non-English medium or any language other than first language, depending upon the choice of the student.
- The third language may be any other language opted by the student, other than first and second languages.
- The three-language formula shall be applicable for upper primary level only as the language learning ability in the primary stage should not be burdened, keeping in mind the development needs and abilities of students at that age.
- In the primary level, the education policy also recommended that ‘Bangla’ as a subject may be introduced from Class I to Class XII for students of other mediums of instruction, but not as the first language.



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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The 5+4+2+2 pattern for school education should be continued .i.e beginning with one year of pre-primary and four years of primary till class 4, the students move through four years of upper primary, to two years of secondary and two years of higher secondary.
<p>'Banglar Mati Banglar Jol' suitable song for West Bengal state anthem, say Tagore experts</p>	<p>Context The West Bengal Assembly passed a resolution declaring the first day of the Bengali calendar, Poila Baisakh, as statehood day and Rabindranath Tagore's song 'Banglar Mati Banglar Jol' as the state anthem.</p> <p>Key points</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 'Banglar Mati Banglar Jol', Nobel laureate Rabindranath Tagore's song which is adopted as West Bengal's state anthem, is entwined with the history of the Banga Bhanga movement against the division of the state and Raksha Bandhan, the bard's way of promoting communal harmony in 1905. The 'Banglar Mati Banglar Jol' song was always related to the Raksha Bandhan festival as Rabindranath Tagore tied a rakhi on October 16, 1905, singing this song, as part of the Banga Bhanga movement. The West Bengal Assembly also passed a resolution declaring the first day of the Bengali calendar, Poila Baisakh, as the statehood day.
<p>Project Samudrayaan</p> 	<p>In news:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Submersible Matsya to take a dip in Bay of Bengal next year. <p>Key points</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The mission is aimed at sending three personnel to 6000-metre depth in a vehicle called 'MATSYA 6000' for the exploration of deep-sea resources like minerals. 'MATSYA 6000' vehicle is being designed and developed by National Institute of Ocean Technology (NIOT), Chennai under Ministry of Earth Sciences. It has an endurance of 12 hours under normal operation and 96 hours in case of emergency for human safety. It is India's first unique manned ocean mission and is a part of the Rs 6000-crores Deep Ocean Mission.



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Population data of WB

Male	46,809,027
Female	44,467,088
Sex Ratio	947
Rank	4th
Urban %	31.87
Rural %	68.13
Density	1,000/km2 (2,700/sq mi)
Growth	13.84%
Highest Density	Kolkata (24,306)
% of total	1,01,12,599
Boys	51,87,264
Girls	49,25,335
Sex Ratio	950

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