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23 October 2023

West Bengal News

<p>Notice to W.B. over bid to include 87 castes in the OBC list</p>	<p>Context The National Commission for Backward Classes (NCBC) has issued a notice to the West Bengal government seeking the required documentation for its proposal to include 87 castes in the State in the Central List of Other Backward Classes (OBCs)</p> <p>About NCBC</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 102nd Constitution Amendment Act, 2018 provides constitutional status to the National Commission for Backward Classes (NCBC). • It has the authority to examine complaints and welfare measures regarding socially and educationally backward classes. • Previously NCBC was a statutory body under the Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment
<p>KMC announces 'Kolkata Shree' Puja Award winners</p>	<p>Context The Kolkata Municipal Corporation (KMC) announced the list of Pujas that have been declared winners under various categories for the Kolkata Shree Awards.</p> <p>About Award</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • KOLKATA SHREE award is given to different puja organizers in Kolkata. • Eminent personalities from various fields along with corporation officials visit the puja pandals of Kolkata during Durga Puja Festival. • Out of more than 3000 puja pandals in Kolkata, few get shortlisted and among them, some are given awards.
<p>New Town Zoo to get pair of tigers, and lions by Dec</p>	<p>Context The State Forest minister informed them that by December this year, they would bring tigers and lions to the New Town Zoo.</p> <p>About Zoo Harinalaya Mini Zoo, popularly known as Newtown Mini Zoo, is a 12.5-acre park.</p>
<p>Bengal is all set to become self-sufficient in egg production by December 2023</p>	<p>Context Bengal is all set to become self-sufficient in egg production by December 2023 while plans are afoot for setting up at least seven first-of-its-kind environmentally-controlled commercial air-conditioned poultry farms.</p>



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Key points

- Bengal leads in **goat meat production** in the country
- It ranks **third** in total meat production.
- The new incentive policies relating to the poultry sector are scheduled to be announced in the upcoming Bengal **Global Business Meet (BGBS)**.

Lakshmir Bhandar scheme

Context

A group of rural women in Alipurduar organized a Durga Puja in their village with their savings from “**Lakshmir Bhandar**”

About Scheme

- The Lakshmir Bhandar Scheme is a **flagship program** launched by the West Bengal Government in **February 2021**.
- It is to provide financial assistance to women from economically weaker sections of society, for the empowerment of women in the age group of 25-60 years and enrolled in ‘**Swasthya Sathi**’
- It **provides ₹ 1000/- every month** to women from SC/ST households and ₹ 500/- per month from others.
- Over 1.5 crore applications were received and processed.
- The scheme aims to empower women and make them financially independent by providing them with a one-time grant to buy essential goods and services.



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