



19 April 2024

West Bengal News

<p>West Bengal Heritage Commission</p>	<p>Context:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">The West Bengal Heritage Commission is advocating for the integration of heritage, hospitality, and entrepreneurship to conserve heritage sites in the state.Chairman Bandyopadhyay highlighted the importance of preserving Bengal's built heritage, which reflects its aristocratic past, and suggested that combining hospitality, heritage, and entrepreneurship is crucial for its conservation. <p>About:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">The West Bengal Heritage Commission was constituted through an Act called The West Bengal Heritage Commission Act 2001 by the West Bengal State Legislative Assembly. <p>Objective:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">The objective for creating such a Commission was to prepare an authentic list of buildings, monuments, precincts and sites as built heritage and to adopt measures for their restoration and preservation. <p>UNESCO Natural World Heritage Sites</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">Sundarbans National Park (1987) - Largest estuarine mangrove forest globally endangered by rising sea levels. <p>UNESCO Cultural World Heritage Sites:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">Santiniketan (2023) - It is the cultural and educational centre established by Nobel laureate Rabindranath Tagore.
<p>Buxa</p>	<p>Context:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">Polling teams in Buxa Hills trekked for nearly three hours to reach their polling stations, which were situated between 2,600 to 3,000 feet above sea level, to conduct the 18th Parliamentary elections in three booths of Buxa Hills of Alipurduar.Buxa, located at a height of 2,600 feet above sea level, houses 13 small and big villages with approximately 1,500 voters.



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	<p>About:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Location: Buxa is situated in the Alipurduar district of West Bengal within the Buxa Tiger Reserve.• Name Origin: Derived from Buxa Fort, a fort at an altitude of 867 meters on the Sinchula Range.• Significance: Guards one of the eleven routes into Bhutan.• Buxa Fort: Came under British India after the 2nd Doors War between Bhutan and the British subsidiary alliance of the Princely state of Cooch Behar.• Some parts of Buxa hills in the Sinchula range remain unexplored due to inaccessible terrain.• A recent survey indicates Buxa Tiger Reserve has the highest number of fish species in North Bengal.
<p>Cultural and Educational Collaboration</p>	<p>Context:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Sister Nivedita University, part of the Techno India Group, recently entered into a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with Unimarconi, the First Italian Digital University.• This agreement signifies a significant development in fostering cultural, scientific, and educational collaboration between the two institutions. <p>Key points:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• This partnership covers various areas of cooperation, including cultural and scientific collaboration, student training programs, and joint activities. <p>Objective:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• One of the primary objectives of this partnership is to facilitate joint cultural events, academic seminars, and collaborative research projects to enhance the cultural and scientific exchange between the two universities.
<p>13 polling stns in Jalpaiguri to be theme-based</p>	<p>Context:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• The Jalpaiguri District Election Commission has launched an innovative initiative to boost voter engagement in the tea plantation-rich Lok Sabha constituency of Jalpaiguri. <p>Key points:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• For the first time, 13 polling stations in Jalpaiguri will be adorned with distinct themes.• These stations will feature various themes such as tea



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gardens, vibrant democracy with women's participation, tourism, and environmental conservation through tree planting.

- The theme-based polling stations aim to inspire people to vote, with some booths showcasing the district's famous tea gardens and **others highlighting the role of women in democracy.**
- With the district having 927,339 female voters, 149 model women booths have been established with all-female staff, including poll workers and security personnel.

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