



15 September 2023

West Bengal News

Person in news: Bikash Sinha

Context:

- Renowned nuclear physicist Bikash Sinha dies at 78

Key points

- **Renowned nuclear physicist Bikash Sinha**, was a former director of the Saha Institute of Nuclear Physics (SINP) and the Variable Energy Cyclotron Centre (VECC)
- The SINP and VECC, under his directorship, collaborated with the CERN (European Organisation for Nuclear Research) for experiments in particle physics.
- **Born in a zamindar family of Kandi in West Bengal's Murshidabad district**, he studied physics at Presidency College in Kolkata, before pursuing higher studies in the subject at King's College, Cambridge.
- A recipient of **Padma Shri** in 2001 and the **SN Bose Birth Centenary Award** of the Indian Science Congress Association in 1994, he was conferred by the West Bengal government the **state's highest award 'Bangabibhushan' in 2022** and also the **'Rabindra Smriti Puraskar'** in the same year.
- Sinha was the Vice-chancellor of West Bengal University of Technology.

WB CM meets La Liga chief in Spain, talks on investment in football clubs of Bengal

Context

WB CM, who is currently touring Spain, met La Liga president Javier Tebas and invited the European football league to invest in the state to promote sports.

Key points

- Banerjee was accompanied by cricketer Sourav Ganguly and officials of two Kolkata-based football clubs — Mohun Bagan and Mohammedan Sporting Club — during her closed door meeting with Tebas
- Chief Secretary (West Bengal Government) HK Dwivedi met Spain Government's Director General (Spanish Language) Guillermo Escribano to impart Spanish education to students in West Bengal and provide necessary training to the teachers.

Spanish pages added to Tilottma's book, Mamata's visit to Madrid signed by 'Mou' of two book fairs

Context

In 2023, the theme country for Kolkata International Book Fair was Spain. This time, the Spanish chapter was covered in the pages of Tilottma's book.

Key points

- The 'MoU' was signed between the 'Publishers and Booksellers Guild' (organiser of the Kolkata Book Fair) and the Madrid Book Fair.
- It has been informed by the state government that initiatives will be taken for continuous exchange of views, words and thoughts between the writers, readers and book lovers of the two countries.
- A joint committee will also be formed in the field of promotion, dissemination and marketing of books



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IIM-Calcutta, IIT-Kharagpur pact with Bengal panchayat department to train newly elected rural leaders

Context

The state panchayat department has signed up with IIM-Calcutta and IIT-Kharagpur to impart training to the newly elected panchayat functionaries in areas such as fiscal prudence, transparency, time management, office management and teamwork.

Key points

- The training programme — billed as the first such attempt to impart management skills to elected representatives
- Sabhadhipatis and sahakari sabhadhipatis of all 20 zilla parishads will undergo a four-day residential training on IIM-Calcutta campus in Joka.
- It will be helpful as they will get to know from experts how to deal with development projects

Textile giant Tempe Grupo Inditex to start production in Bengal: Mamata Banerjee

Context

Mamata Banerjee met senior officials of Tempe Grupo Inditex in Spain's capital Madrid and said its textile manufacturing would be shifted to Bengal.

Tempe Grupo Inditex (Zara), a major player in the textile industry, is expanding its operations. They are partnering with private entities to shift manufacturing to West Bengal, with production

Sundarbans honey and Darjeeling tea among 'Made in India' gifts for G20 leaders

Key points:

- Among the gifts handed over to world leaders who visited India for the recent G20 summit, was Sundarbans Honey.
- The famous Sundarbans honey that comes under the brand name of 'bonphool' is marketed by the joint forest management committees under the Bengal forest department.
- Another product from Bengal that made it to the list was Darjeeling tea.

West Bengal Bhabishyat Credit Card Scheme

Context:

- West Bengal government is supporting the MSME (micro, small and medium enterprises) sector by creating an enabling eco-system by way of providing incentives like tax breaks, subsidies and guarantees for loans.

Salient features of the Scheme

– Area of the operation : Entire state - both urban and rural

– Tenure : Five years from 1st April, 2023

– Target coverage : 2 lakh youth in a year

– Eligibility:

- Indian national and residing in the state of

Key points:

- **West Bengal Bhabishyat Credit Card Scheme** - This scheme gives collateral-free loans to the MSME sector.
- This scheme facilitates the youth to become self employed, leading to income generation, wealth creation, and creation of further employment opportunities in rural and urban areas of the State.
- Bhabishyat Credit Card Scheme is being introduced for the young entrepreneurs in the age group 18-55 years by offering subsidy linked and collateral free loans for setting up new ventures/ projects/ micro enterprises in manufacturing, service and business/ trading/ agro based activities.



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West Bengal for the past 10 years.

- Any eligible individual including Motor Transport workers and Building & other construction workers aged between 18 - 55 years.
- Only one person from one family is eligible under the scheme where the "family" means self and spouse.

– Annual income family: No bar

BHABISHYAT CREDIT CARD SCHEME

Eligibility

- Indian National and residing in West Bengal for past **10 years**
- Motor Transport Workers, Building and other Construction Workers age between **18 - 55 years**
- One person from one family is eligible where 'family' means self and spouse



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