



18 October 2023

West Bengal News

'Sufal Bangla Green' at New Town



Context

WB's Agricultural Marketing department unveiled the first-of-its-kind '**organic haat**' (market) christened as '**Sufal Bangla Green**' at New Town.

Key points

- Organic haat will act as a platform for selling seasonal vegetables and fruits and various other ingredients that are produced through organic farming.
- The seven-story building on 988.5 sq. meter land will soon have an advanced laboratory with skilled professionals for testing the organic products.
- This dedicated hub of organic fertilizer will ensure that the farmers get an assured return through organic farming.

WB govt to release Rs 197 cr to 2.46 lakh farmers



Context

WB government is releasing Rs 197 crore to 2.46 lakh affected farmers under **Bangla Shasya Bima (BSB)** who could not sow paddy due to deficit rainfall.

About Bangla Shasya Bima (BSB)

- It is a full state government-funded **crop insurance scheme**.
- The entire premium amount is paid by the government.
- Remote sensing, satellite imagery, weather data, and ground truthing are used to monitor crop health and claim assessment for BSB.
- Assessment of claims is faster thereby allowing quicker claim settlement for the affected farmers under the scheme.

Karmasathi portal

Context

The government has decided to launch massive outreach programmes in states like Kerala, Maharashtra, Tamil Nadu, Gujarat, and Karnataka to get more migrant laborers from Bengal registered on the **Karmasathi portal**.

About Karmasathi portal

- It was launched as part of an initiative to offer a better deal to people leaving Bengal in search of livelihood.
- The Karmasathi portal will have details of the workers available and the companies can choose the required hands from among them.



### A bill on MLAs' salary

#### Context

The West Bengal legislative assembly failed to pass a **money bill** drafted to hike the salary and allowances of legislators and ministers after the governor **did not give his clearance**.

#### Key points

- During the last assembly session, the chief minister declared that the salaries of MLAs would be increased by ₹40,000 a month.
- The chief minister's salary would remain the same because she does not draw it
- At present, Bengal ministers and MLAs receive around ₹1,10,000 and ₹81,000 a month respectively including allowances.

#### Key facts:

##### State Legislative Money Bill Rules:

- Only introduced in the legislative assembly, with the governor's recommendation.
- Treated as a government bill and introduced by a minister.

### WB CM announces financial assistance for flood-hit Kalimpong

The Ganges-Brahmaputra Basin



#### Context

WB CM announced financial assistance and initiatives for residents of Kalimpong affected by the devastating flash flood in the Teesta.

#### About Teesta River

- Teesta River is a tributary of the **Brahmaputra** (known as Jamuna in Bangladesh), flowing through India and Bangladesh.
- It originates in the **Himalayas near Chunthang, Sikkim**, and flows to the south through West Bengal before entering Bangladesh.
- The Teesta Barrage dam helps to provide irrigation for the plains between the upper Padma and the Jamuna.

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