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7 February 2024

West Bengal News

<p>Samagra Shiksha Scheme</p>	<p>Context:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The West Bengal Education minister, Bratya Basu, informed the state assembly that only 12 percent of the proposed funding for the Samagra Shiksha Mission (SSM) has been received from the central government, with a significant shortfall remaining. <p>About:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Government of India has launched Samagra Shiksha - An Integrated Scheme for school education, w.e.f. 2018-19 is an overarching programme for the school education sector extending from preschool to class XII. It aims to ensure inclusive and equitable quality education at all levels of school education. It subsumes the three erstwhile centrally sponsored schemes i.e. Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan (SSA), Rashtriya Madhyamik Shiksha Abhiyan (RMSA) and Teacher Education(TE).
<p>New IT Hub for Kurseong</p>	<p>Context:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Kurseong is poised to receive a new IT Hub for Rs. 48 crore, jointly developed by WEBEL and the GTA. This initiative aims to foster entrepreneurship in North Bengal and is expected to be completed within two years. <p>Economic Opportunities and Infrastructure Development:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The IT hub is anticipated to create significant economic opportunities for entrepreneurs in North Bengal and facilitate connections with neighboring countries like Nepal, Bangladesh, and Bhutan.
<p>Sishu Sathi Scheme</p>	<p>Context:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Central Government has ceased funding for the 'Sishu Sathi' scheme, leading the Mamata Banerjee administration to allocate emergency funds to approximately Rs 300 crore to sustain the program. This initiative, pioneered by Mamata Banerjee, facilitates critical heart surgeries for children at no cost. Despite appeals to the Centre for fund clearance, the government was met with a demand to rename the scheme as 'Rashtriya Bal Suraksha Karyakram'.



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About:

Launched under the leadership of the Chief Minister of West Bengal on Aug 21, 2013, the '**SishuSaathi**' scheme aims to offer free medical treatment, particularly cardiac surgeries, to children in need, regardless of their family's financial status.

RTIS Implementation

Context:

- Eastern Railway equipped nine locomotives with the **Real-Time Train Information System (RTIS) in January.**
- This brings the total number of locomotives fitted with RTIS in the ER to 462.
- ER is gradually transitioning from manually provided train movement information to automatic, satellite-based RTIS.
- This system enables the **automatic acquisition of train movement data via satellites** and relays it to the Control Office Application (COA) for automatic chart plotting.

Importance

Critical Component of Advanced Train Control: Commissioning RTIS devices in locomotives is integral to enhancing the efficiency and control of train operations.

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