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21 February 2024

West Bengal News

International Mother Language Day



Context:

- **International Mother Language Day (IMLD)**, annually celebrated on **February 21st**, serves as a crucial reminder of the **importance of linguistic and cultural diversity**.
- It was **initiated by Bangladesh and formally recognized by UNESCO in 1999**, aiming to:
 1. **Promote awareness:** Highlight the value of linguistic and cultural diversity for sustainable societies.
 2. **Preserve languages:** Encourage the protection and revitalization of endangered languages.
 3. **Promote multilingualism:** Advocate for using and learning multiple languages for individual and societal benefits.

Theme for 2024:

- **"Multilingual education is a pillar of intergenerational learning."**
- This theme emphasizes the role of mother tongue-based education in fostering learning, literacy, and the transmission of traditional knowledge across generations.

Did you Know?

- On **21st February 2000**, the **first International Mother Language Day** was observed.

Governor launches 'Mission Sandeshkhali'

Context:

- **WB Governor C.V. Ananda Bose** launched **"Mission Sandeshkhali"** as a **shield against future assaults** on the dignity and honour of women of India.

Mission Goals:

- **Protect women's dignity and honor:** This mission aims to create a shield against future assaults on women in India.
- **Empower women:** It emphasizes empowering women in various aspects, including social, economic, and political.
- **Raise awareness:** Mission Sandeshkhali seeks to spread awareness among civil society about the importance of women's empowerment.



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	<p>Key Action Points:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">● Rapid Action Force: Establishing a women-led force to intervene in situations where women's rights are violated.● Research centers: Setting up research centers focused on women's rights and well-being.● Empowerment programs: Implementing programs to equip women with skills and knowledge for self-reliance and participation in public life.
<p>28 stations under Eastern Railway to be redeveloped</p>	<p>Context:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">● 28 stations under the Eastern Railway (ER) have been selected for redevelopment under the 'Amrit Bharat Station Scheme.'● The foundation stone for the same will be laid by Prime Minister Narendra Modi. <p>About:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">● Under ER, there are four divisions – Sealdah, Howrah, Asansol and Malda.● Eight stations, including Bangaon Junction, Barasat, Dum Dum Junction, Gede, Kalyani, Madhyamgram, Naihati Junction and Sonarpur Junction under Sealdah Division will be redeveloped with a total project cost of Rs 121.47 crore for which foundation stone will be laid on February 26.● Similarly, stations under Howrah Division, including Bally, Chandannagar, Dankuni, Khagraghat Road and Sainthia Junction will be redeveloped with a project cost of Rs 78.14 crore.● The project cost for Asansol Division for seven stations is Rs 93.71 crore.● While for seven stations under Malda Division Rs 104 crore is allocated
<p>State hopes to commence physical mining of minor minerals on pvt land</p>	<p>Context:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">● The West Bengal Mineral Development and Trading Corporation (WBMDTCL) aims to initiate physical mining of minor minerals on private land by March 2024.● This initiative stems from the "Raiyati" policy introduced in November 2022, streamlining the application process and online portal launch. <p>Key Points:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">● Over 200 applications were received, with Lols issued for more than 120.



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	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Majority seeking environmental clearance and preparing mining plans.• Applications primarily in Bankura, Purulia, Birbhum, West Midnapore, and Jhargram.• Black stone (construction) leads in applications, followed by fireclay, china clay, and granite.
Malda: 'Processing unit to make manure from daily household waste from next year'	<p>Context:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• The English Bazar Municipality (EBM) in Malda, is setting up a processing unit to convert daily household waste into manure and fuel.• The unit will be located at Kanchanter initially, with a permanent location planned later.• The civic body is also setting up 2 dumping grounds for the waste disposal at Bahadurpur and Kanchanter areas• At Bahadurpur, a land of 3.295 acres and at Kanchanter, 6.28 acres of land has been specified for the project.• The project is expected to be operational by the next financial year. <p>About:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• The processing will produce two main outputs:<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Manure: This organic fertilizer can be used in agriculture, reducing dependence on chemical fertilizers.2. Refuse Derived Fuel (RDF): This fuel can be burned to generate electricity, offering a renewable energy source.

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