






22 June 2024

West Bengal News

<p>New criminal laws</p>	<p>Why in news?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">Bengal Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee asked Prime Minister Narendra Modi to delay the start of three new criminal laws which will be effective from July 1, 2024. <p>Key Points</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">The new laws are the Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita, the Bharatiya Nagarik Suraksha Sanhita and the Bharatiya Sakshya Act.They will replace the colonial-era Indian Penal Code, the Code of Criminal Procedure and the Indian Evidence Act of 1872 respectively.These laws aim to overhaul the criminal justice system by providing clear definitions of various offenses and punishments.
<p>Sericulture</p> 	<p>Why in news?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">The state Agriculture Ministry has directed district officials to ensure that sericulture farmers receive state government benefits to boost the sericulture sector.Special emphasis was placed on involving local farmers from various regions of North Bengal, proper utilization of lands dedicated to sericulture, and focusing on seed production. <p>About</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">Sericulture is an agro-based industry that involves the rearing of silkworms for the production of raw silk, which is the yarn obtained out of cocoons spun by certain species of insects.Domesticated silkworms (Bombyx mori) are raised for the purpose of sericulture.There are five major types of silk obtained from different species of silkworms.<ul style="list-style-type: none">MulberryOakTasar & Tropical TasarMugaEriWest Bengal is the only state in the country to produce raw material for all four silk variants - Mulberry, Tasar, Eri and Muga.The Government of India has allocated ₹2161.68 crores for the 'Silk Samagra' scheme (central sector) from 2017 to 2020 to promote sericulture in the country.



	<p>Think What is the “Silk Samagra” scheme?</p>
<p>Guppy Fish to prevent mosquito-borne disease</p> 	<p>Why in news?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Jalpaiguri Zilla Parishad (ZP) has planned to release guppy fish in the district as an initiative to prevent mosquito-borne diseases like dengue. <p>Key Points</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mosquito-borne diseases are those spread by the bite of an infected mosquito. Diseases that are spread to people by mosquitoes include Zika virus, West Nile virus, Chikungunya virus, dengue, and malaria. Mosquito-fish or guppy fish is a freshwater fish. It is named mosquitofish as it eats mosquito larvae. There are two species of mosquitofish - <i>Gambusia affinis</i> and <i>Gambusia holbrooki</i>. In recent times, states like Andhra Pradesh, Odisha, and Punjab have released mosquitofish into water bodies to handle mosquito menace.
<p>River Teesta The Ganges-Brahmaputra Basin</p> 	<p>Why in news?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Heavy monsoon rains have caused landslides in many parts of Sikkim and made the Teesta River rise, eroding the ground under NH10. <p>Key Points</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Teesta River is a major right-bank tributary of the Brahmaputra (known as Jamuna in Bangladesh), flowing through India and Bangladesh. It originates in the Himalayas near the Tso Lhamo Lake, in Sikkim and flows to the south through West Bengal before entering Bangladesh. Source: Pahurni glacier, Khangse glacier and ChhoLhamo Lake. The river joins the Brahmaputra in Bangladesh before it flows into the Bay of Bengal. Two major large barrages were constructed on Teesta - <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Gajoldoba in West Bengal, India Duani, Bangladesh <p>Did you know?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> National Highway 10 (NH 10) (old NH 31A) is a national highway in North East India that connects the Indo/Bangladesh border via Siliguri to Gangtok. It passes through the Indian states of West Bengal and Sikkim.



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Daily Current Affairs Encyclopedia

<p>Important Days: Foundation Day of West Bengal</p>	<p>Why in news?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Shillong celebrated the Foundation day of the state of West Bengal at the Raj Bhavan with the Governor of Meghalaya, Phagu Chauhan as the Chief Guest. It is celebrated in line with the “Ek Bharat Shreshtha Bharat” initiative of the Government of India which aims to enhance interaction and promote mutual understanding between people of different states/UTs. The programme included a traditional dance called “Chhau”, recreations of Rabindranath Tagore such as “Meghamallar”, “From the Depth of Darkness” and “Chandalika” emphasizing the state's contribution.
<p>Calcutta HC orders 1% transgender quota</p>	<p>Why in news?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Calcutta High Court mandates a 1% reservation for transgender persons in public employment in Bengal, in line with the Supreme Court's NALSA judgment and constitutional rights protection. <p>Key Points:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> A “Transgender” is defined as a person whose gender does not match with the gender assigned to that person at birth. It includes trans-person with intersex variations, gender-queer and people having such socio-cultural identities as kinnar, hijra, aaravani and jogta. The Supreme Court in National Legal Services Authority (NALSA) Vs. Union of India (2014) recognized them as the “Third Gender”. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> It recognized that third-gender persons were entitled to fundamental rights under the Constitution and International law. The judgment directed the Centre and the State governments to provide trans people “all kinds of reservation” in admissions to educational institutions and in employment. <p>Think NALSA vs Union of India (2014)</p>

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