



7 December 2023

West Bengal News

Accidental Deaths and Suicides in India 2022	<p>Context:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Kolkata saw a 31.5% decrease in suicides in 2022 compared to the pandemic-hit 2021. <p>Key Points:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> In 2022, 283 suicides were reported in Kolkata, a decline from 413 in 2021 and lower than 278 in 2020. Experts link the 2021 suicide surge to pandemic-induced factors like lockdown isolation and disrupted mental health treatment. The data highlights the significant impact of the pandemic on citizens' mental health.
Australia at 29th KIFF	<p>Context</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> At the 29th Kolkata International Film Festival (KIFF), Australia was unveiled as the Special Feature Country. The inclusion of Australia as the Special Focus Country emphasizes the shared commitment to fostering cultural understanding and strengthening ties through the art of storytelling.
Jalangi River	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> It is a branch of the Ganges river in Murshidabad and Nadia districts in the Indian state of West Bengal. It flows into the Bhagirathi River and strengthens its lower channel, the Hooghly. The river below the point where the Jalangi meets the Ganges is known as Hooghly and the course above it from the point of its separation from the main flow of the Ganges to its confluence with the Jalangi, is called Bhagirathi
Sandakphu or Sandakpur	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> It is a mountain peak in the Singalila Ridge on the border between India and Nepal. It is the highest point of the ridge and of the state of West Bengal, India. The peak is located at the edge of the Singalila National Park and has a small village on the summit with a few hotels. Four of the five highest peaks in the world, Everest, Kangchenjunga, Lhotse and Makalu can be seen from its summit. It also affords a pristine view of the entire Kangchenjunga Range. Sandakphu is also known as the land of poisonous flowers.



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Daily Current Affairs Encyclopedia

State to soon bring modified guideline for school buses, and pool cars

Context

The state Transport department will bring a modified guideline for school buses and pool cars.

Key points

- The department will put up banners in front of schools to help parents identify registered and safe pool cars which they can opt for their wards.
- The banners will include different parameters that parents need to check before choosing a pool car which includes **Vehicle Location Tracking Device and Speed Limit Device (SLD)** among others.

Malda launches 'Bank Chalo' initiative

Context

The Malda district administration has launched the '**Bank Chalo**' initiative to bring more beneficiaries under several government schemes.

Key points

- It has been noticed that bank approval schemes are taking longer than usual due to a gap regarding testimonials between the beneficiaries and the bank branch.
- **To bridge this gap**, government officials are visiting different branches of the banks in the presence of beneficiaries so that the problem can be resolved on the spot.

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