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9 February 2024

West Bengal News

<p>Gender & Child Budget</p>	<p>Context:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">In the recently presented Budget for the fiscal year 2024-25, the Bengal government has introduced a dedicated Gender and Child Budget aimed at enhancing the well-being of women and ensuring comprehensive development for children. <p>Key points:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">The allocation for the gender Budget for 2024-25 is Rs 21,380 crore under 100 percent women-specific schemes.Rs 74,891 crore for schemes with 30 percent to 99 percent dedicated to the development and empowerment of women, totaling Rs 96,271 crore for 2024-25.Some of the existing schemes that seek to bring about the empowerment of women and children are Lakshmir Bhandar, Kanyashree and 'Sishu Sathi'.'Lakshmir Bhandar and 'Kanyashree' are financial assistance schemes for women and school girls respectively; the 'Sishu Sathi' scheme for children who need heart surgery provides free treatment.
<p>Swasthya Sathi scheme</p>	<p>Context:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">The Swasthya Sathi scheme in West Bengal is being extended to provide healthcare benefits to migrant workers residing outside the state. <p>Key Points:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">Migrant workers registered in the Karmasathi Parijayee Shramik portal will now receive coverage under Swasthya Sathi.This extension aims to benefit over 28 lakh migrant laborers by providing access to hospital care through insurance coverage.An allocation of Rs 150 crore has been made for this purpose in the state Budget.The extension reflects the state government's commitment to expanding healthcare coverage through Swasthya Sathi.



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Daily Current Affairs Encyclopedia

Dearness Allowance Increase	Context: <ul style="list-style-type: none">The state government has announced a 4% increase in Dearness Allowance (DA) for government employees, teachers, and pensioners, effective from May 2024.This follows a previous 4% increase in January 2024.
Himalayan Red Pandas	Context: <ul style="list-style-type: none">The state forest department released a pair of Himalayan Red Pandas from the Padmaja Naidu Himalayan Zoological Park (PNHZZP) of Darjeeling at the Singalila National Park. About: <ul style="list-style-type: none">The red panda is slightly larger than a domestic cat with a bear-like body and thick russet fur.Almost 50% of the red panda's habitat is in the Eastern Himalayas.Primarily an herbivore, the name panda is said to come from the Nepali word 'ponya,' which means bamboo or plant-eating animal.IUCN Status : Endangered

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