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Arunachal to Mark Schools as 'Hard' and 'Soft'

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Why in News

Arunachal Pradesh has launched **Teachers' Transfer & Posting Policy, 2020**, for ensuring need-based distribution of teachers to protect the academic interest of students and optimise job satisfaction among the teachers in a free and transparent manner.

Key Points

- **Categorisation of Schools:**

Under the policy, all government schools will be divided into **three** categories – **hard, medium and soft** – based on **topography, accessibility and degrees of difficulty in staying** at the place of posting.

- **Hard Schools:**

- It includes areas with **difficult accessibility and topography.**
- All **new recruits** will be given a hard posting for a **mandatory three years**, inclusive of their probation period.

- **Medium Schools:**

- It includes areas with **medium accessibility, connectivity and topography.**
- After completing hard schools phase the new teachers will be spending the **next five years** in schools with levels of medium difficulty.

- **Soft Schools:**

- It includes areas with easy accessibility and connectivity **majorly urban areas.**
- After completing hard and medium schools phase the teachers will be allotted soft schools.

- **Motto of the scheme:**

Teacher absenteeism has been a major issue across government schools in Arunachal Pradesh. The **student-teacher ratio** has consequently been **skewed in favour of urban centres** with **better connectivity**.

The state has been facing difficulties in posting teachers in remote areas where schools have adequate students, but hardly anyone to teach them.

- The policy also entails the **transfer of teachers through online requests**.

Source: TH