

## **Kerala & Digital Education**

## Why in News

Kerala has become the first state in the country to have **high-tech classrooms or high-tech labs** in **all government-run and aided schools** 

## **Key Points**

- As part of this flagship project of the government, high-tech labs have been set up in primary and upper primary schools and 40,000 classrooms in high school and higher secondary schools have been converted into smart classrooms.
- **High-speed broadband internet** has been ensured in 12,678 schools.
- The high-tech classroom project was implemented by Kerala Infrastructure and Technology for Education (KITE), the nodal agency for ICT education in schools.
- The Kerala government has also started **digital classrooms known as** <u>'First bell'</u> to impart education to 41 lakh students in the state after schools shut due to the lockdown
- The Kerala State government is also carrying out a unique programme called "Namath Basai" of teaching tribal children in their mother tongue.
  - The programme is being implemented by the Samagra Shiksha Kerala (SSK).
- Recently, the Central government has proposed <u>long-term measures</u> to address social inequities in online education, as highlighted by the <u>Covid-19 pandemic</u>.
- However, <u>digital education in India</u> still faces many challenges like lack of internet penetration, economic inequality, lack of trained teachers etc.

Source: IE

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