



# 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 'First bell'** 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 **long-term measures** to address social inequities in online education, as highlighted by the **Covid-19 pandemic**.
- However, **digital education in India** still faces many challenges like lack of internet penetration, economic inequality, lack of trained teachers etc.

**Source: IE**

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