Bihar Sets Minimum Teacher Requirements for Primary & Middle Schools | Bihar | 29 Jan 2025

Why in News?

The **Bihar Education Department** has established new standards for the **minimum number of teachers** required in **primary** and **middle schools**.

Key Points

- According to these new guidelines, **primary schools (classes 1 to 5)** must have at least **five teachers,** including the **head teacher.**
  - For schools encompassing **classes 1 to 8**, a minimum of **nine teachers,** including the principal, is mandated.
- **District Education Officers** have been instructed to upload reports detailing the approved and required number of teachers for each school on the **e-ShikshaKosh portal** by 31 January 2025.
  - The department emphasizes that each teacher should have at least one dedicated classroom, and the actual assessment of teacher requirements will be based on the availability of rooms in each school.
- In primary schools with student numbers ranging from **1 to 120**, **five teachers** are mandatory.
  - For student numbers between **121 and 150, six teachers** are required. For every additional **40 students** beyond **150**, **one extra teacher** will be appointed.
- In **classes 6 to 8**, for student numbers up to **105**, the staffing requirements are as follows:
  - One teacher for **Science and Mathematics**
  - One teacher for **Social Studies**
  - One teacher for **Hindi**
  - One teacher for **English**
  - Additionally, provisions can be made for **Urdu** and **Sanskrit teachers** as needed.
  - For every additional **35 students** beyond **105**, one extra teacher will be appointed.
- These measures aim to ensure adequate teacher-student ratios and improve the quality of education in Bihar's schools.

e-ShikshaKosh Portal

- **About:**
  - **e-ShikshaKosh** is an integrated digital platform designed to streamline **educational data management, enhancing decision-making, optimizing resources,** and **enabling real-time monitoring** by consolidating data from various sources.
- **Key Benefits**
  - **Enhanced Decision-Making:** Consolidates data to improve decision-making and resource optimization.
  - **Real-Time Monitoring:** Provides up-to-date information for continuous monitoring.
  - **Efficiency:** Addresses inefficiencies, reduces redundancy, and ensures strong governance.
  - **Comprehensive View:** Offers a holistic view of educational metrics.
  - **Academic Improvement:** Supports continuous improvement in academic quality and equity.
  - **Sustainability & Inclusion:** Promotes a sustainable, inclusive, and well-managed learning environment.

- Integrated Functions: Combines multiple educational functions like teaching standards, student performance monitoring, and e-learning programs into one platform.

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