

# Women Prisoners In Custody Getting Pregnant, Calcutta HC Urged To 'Bar' Entry Of Male Employees

## Why In The News?

- While Hearing A Peculiar Case Of The Rising Number Of **Pregnancies Among Female Prisoners** During Their Custody Inside Prisons, The Calcutta High Court Was Urged To Bar The Entry Of Male Employees Of The Correctional Homes Inside The Enclosure Of Women Prisoners.
- "It Is Interesting To Note That Women Prisoners, While In Custody, Are Getting Pregnant. Subsequently, Babies Are Born In Prisons. At Present, **196 Babies Are Staying In Different Prisons Of West Bengal**," Amicus Curiae Of All Correctional Homes In The State Informed The Calcutta High Court.



## Who Is Amicus Curiae?

- An Amicus Curiae Is An Individual Or Organization Who Is **Not A Party To A Legal Case**, But Who Is Permitted To **Assist A Court** By Offering Information, Expertise, Or Insight That Has A Bearing On The Issues In The Case. Whether An Amicus Brief Will Be Considered Is Typically Under The Court's Discretion.

## What Do We Know?

- After Placing Two Notes Before The Calcutta High Court's Division Bench Of Chief Justice TS Sivagnanam And Justice Supratim Bhattacharya, The Amicus Curiae Urged **To Prohibit The Entry Of Male Staffers** Of The Correctional Homes Inside The Enclosure Of Women Prisoners.
- At Present The Matter Has Been **Assigned To Another Division Bench** In The High Court. The Next Hearing In The Case Will Be Held On Monday.
- According To A Senior IPS Officer Of **West Bengal Correctional Services**, If A **Woman With A Child Less Than Six Years Old** Is Arrested, Then The Child Is Allowed To Stay With The Mother.
- Expressing Concern Over The Matter, The **IPS Officer Also Said That He Has No Information In This Regard** And Assured Of Taking Strict Action If It Comes To His Notice.

