Condition of Education in Bihar

What were the recent controversies?

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- People climbed the high walls of an examination centre in Vaishali district to pass on chits to examinees.
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- The 2016 intermediate exam topper in humanities was unable to answer basic questions posed by reporters on her subjects.
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What preventive measures did the Board take?

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- Bar code on answer sheets was introduced to concealing students' identity.
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- CCTV cameras were installed.
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- Section 144 was imposed on the days of the exams.
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- Heavy police personnel were deployed along with regular visits of 'flying squads' at the exam centres.
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- Following this, 64% students failed to pass the Class XII exam in 2017.
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- As many as 654 schools failed to produce even a single successful candidate.
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- Authorities claimed all this was proof that only deserving students passed this year.
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What went wrong this year?

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- 2017 humanities topper again failed to answer even the basic questions of the subject in which he had got 83% marks.
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- He was also found to have fudged his age.
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- There were claims by some students of having cracked the all-India IIT-JEE tests and yet failing in their BSEB intermediate exams.
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- Some claimed that they had received marks in subjects they hadn't even appeared in.
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What are the reasons?

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- Campant corruption in the BSEB is prevalent.
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- Also Teacher absenteeism in higher secondary schools as high as 29%.
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- The government's decision to appoint teachers on contract while abolishing the post of Assistant Teachers is often faulted for marring the quality of education.
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- For 27.5 million students, there are only 5,00,000 teachers, of whom 4,00,000 are on contract.
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- Even basic infrastructure is woefully inadequate.
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Source: The Hindu

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