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5 December 2023

West Bengal News

<p>Indian Oil Corporation launches first electric vehicle battery-swapping station in Calcutta</p>	<p>Context Indian Oil Corporation (IOC) opened its first battery-swapping station in Kolkata for electric vehicles (EV).</p> <p>Key points</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• The oil marketing PSU opened the facility at its retail outlet in New Town on the eastern outskirts of the city in collaboration with Sun Mobility• This marks a significant step forward in promoting sustainable and accessible electric mobility solutions across the city.• The battery-swapping technology presents a significant opportunity for promoting sustainable electric mobility solutions.• This facility is expected to play a pivotal role in the adoption of EVs and spearhead the energy transition in eastern India.
<p>Sittong celebrates fruits of tourism</p>	<p>Context Tiny hamlet Sittong, once seen as the orange basket of Darjeeling hills, has emerged as a new tourist destination in recent years.</p> <p>Key points</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Known for its idyllic locale, Sittong now has several homestay accommodations and good tourist footfall.• To augment tourist footfall and showcase the famous Darjeeling orange, Sittong residents have planned to host an orange festival for the first time.
<p>Swastha Sathi cards</p>	<p>Context WB Chief Minister penalizes 55 private hospitals rejecting Swastha Sathi cards.</p> <p>About Scheme</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• The Swasthya Sathi Scheme, initiated in 2016, offers cashless medical treatment in West Bengal.• Key benefits: Rs.5 Lakhs health cover, cashless hospitalization, and zero premium.• No family size limit, including coverage for pre-existing ailments.• Eligibility: West Bengal residency, not enrolled in other government health insurance.• The scheme ensures accessible healthcare for residents, addressing financial barriers.



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Daily Current Affairs Encyclopedia

East Kolkata Wetlands (EKW)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• It is located on the eastern periphery of the city of Kolkata and extends up to the Bidyadhari-Matla River confluence.• It is a Ramsar Site and acts as an absorber basin for a large number of contaminants drained from Kolkata.• Agricultural lands, sewage-fed fisheries, garbage dumping fields, horticulture, and built-up areas are included in this protected area, which covers approximately 125 km².
National Crime Records Bureau (NCRB) report for 2022	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Kolkata is the safest city in India for the third consecutive year, with the lowest cognizable offences per lakh people among cities with over 20 lakh population.• The city's crime rate has steadily declined since 2016, reaching 86.5 offences per 1 lakh population in 2022, a significant improvement from 159.6 in 2016.• The decline is attributed to investments in technology, infrastructure, manpower, and effective policing practices, according to senior police officers.

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