CURRENT AFFAIRS 22nd & 23rd March 2024

National News

India's First Battery Storage Gigafactory to Start Operations in J&K

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GoodEnough Energy has announced that it will start operations at India's first battery energy storage gigafactory in the northern region of Jammu and Kashmir by October 2023. According to GoodEnough, the facility will help industries cut more than 5 million tons of carbon emissions in a year. India has set a goal to become net zero by 2070.

International News
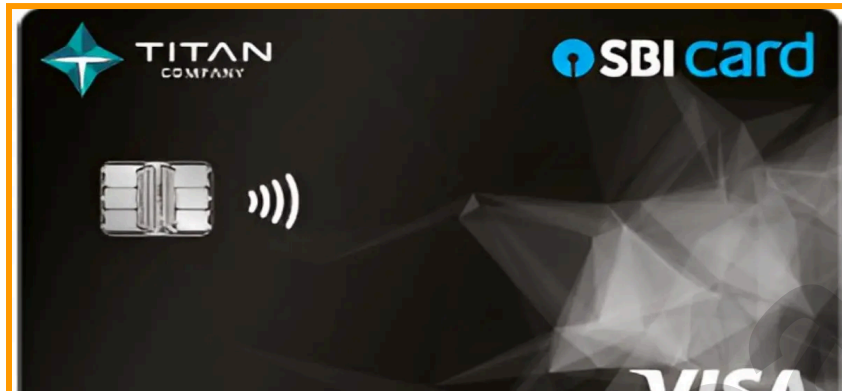
New Zealand Bans Disposable E-Cigarettes and Vapes

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The New Zealand government has announced a ban on disposable e-cigarettes or vapes. The move comes less than a month after the country repealed a law that aimed to phase out tobacco smoking.

SBI Cards And Payment Services Ltd, In Collaboration With Titan Company Ltd, Presented Titan SBI Card

SBI Cards and Payment Services Ltd, in collaboration with Titan Company Ltd, proudly presents the Titan SBI Card, an exclusive shopping credit card designed to offer unparalleled benefits to its users. With a focus on cashbacks, gift vouchers, and reward points, this card promises benefits worth over ₹2,00,000 annually.

PolicyBazaar Establishes Wholly Owned Subsidiary 'PB Pay Private Limited'

PolicyBazaar, a prominent player in insurance and financial services, has unveiled plans to diversify its offerings by establishing a wholly owned subsidiary named 'PB Pay Private Limited.' This subsidiary, approved by the Board of Directors on March 20, 2024,

aims to specialize in payment aggregation services, both domestically and internationally, subject to regulatory clearances.

<mark>Important Days</mark>

World Water Day 2024, Date, Theme, History and Significance

Every year on March 22, we celebrate World Water Day to recognize the importance of freshwater. This year, the occasion holds extra significance amid the ongoing Bengaluru water crisis. The tech hub is facing severe water shortage due to failed monsoons and drying groundwater resources. The theme for World Water Day 2024 is 'Water for Peace'. The 2024 edition of the UN's World Water Development Report (WWDR), which explores this theme, will be released today.

<mark>Defence News</mark>

India Joins Hands with Mozambique and Tanzania for TRILAT-2024 Maritime Exercise

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The Indian Navy is all set to participate in the second edition of the India-Mozambique-Tanzania Trilateral Exercise (IMT TRILAT-2024), a joint maritime exercise scheduled from 21-29 March 2024. The Indian Naval Ships INS Tir and INS Sujata will represent India in this trilateral exercise. INS Tir and INS Sujata will engage with the respective Navies at the ports of Zanzibar (Tanzania) and Maputo (Mozambique).

'Operation Indravati' To Evacuate Indian Nationals From Haiti Begins

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Haiti is facing a severe crisis due to escalating gang violence. Armed gangs have launched attacks in the suburbs of Port-au-Prince, prompting India to launch Operation Indravati to evacuate its nationals to the Dominican Republic. Similarly, the US has airlifted more than 15 Americans to Santo Domingo.

Appointments News

M V Rao Elected as New Chairman of Indian Banks Association

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The Indian Banks' Association (IBA) has elected M V Rao, Managing Director and Chief Executive Officer of the Central Bank of India, as its new Chairman. The decision was taken during the IBA's managing committee meeting held on Thursday.

Naveen Jindal Takes Over as President of Indian Steel Association

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Naveen Jindal, Chairman of Jindal Steel and Power, has been unanimously elected as the President of the Indian Steel Association (ISA) by the apex committee, which is the governing body of the ISA. He took charge on Thursday, succeeding Dilip Oommen, CEO of ArcelorMittal Nippon Steel India.

Ashwani Kumar Elected as New President of FIEO

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Ashwani Kumar, Partner at Victor Forgings in Jalandhar, has been unanimously elected as the new President of the Federation of Indian Export Organisations (FIEO). Ashwani Kumar is a well-known business entrepreneur and exporter from Jalandhar, Punjab, representing the engineering sector