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MARCH- 01



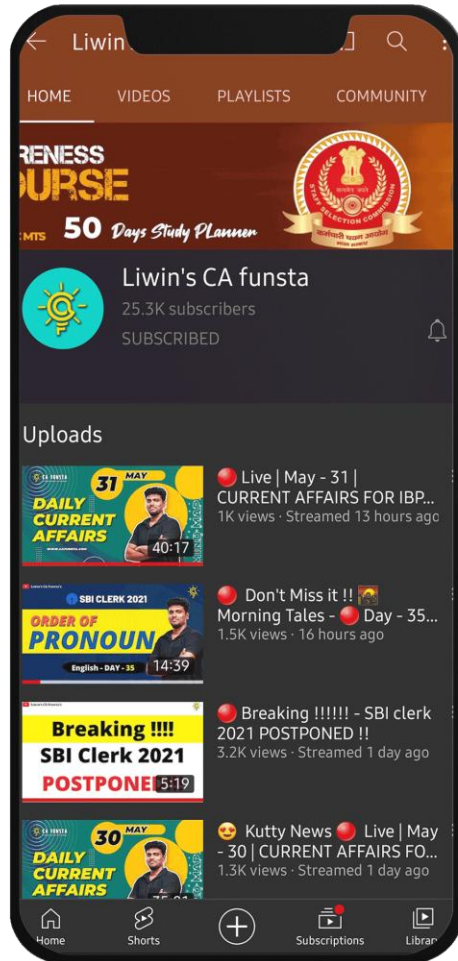
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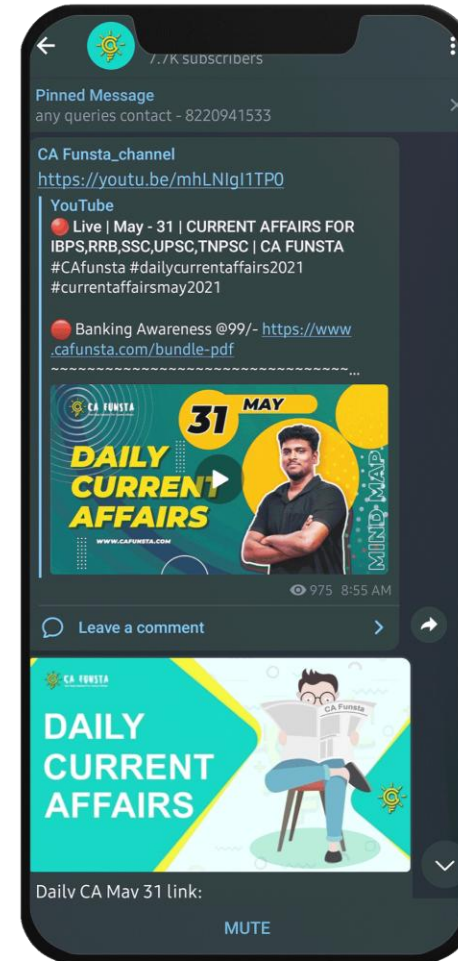
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Important Days



➤ World Civil Defence day 2023 celebrated on _____?

- A) March 1
- B) March 2
- C) March 3
- D) March 4
- E) None of these

Answer
A) March 1



Important Days



Explanation

- DAY : **March 1**
- DATE : **World Civil Defence day 2023**
- OTHERS : **World Civil Defence Day is observed to raise awareness about the significance of civil defence measures in preventing accidents, natural disasters, and other emergencies from affecting people and their property.**



Important Days

➤ Zero Discrimination Day 2023 observed on_____?

- A) March 1
- B) March 2
- C) March 3
- D) March 4
- E) None of these

Answer
A) March 1



Important Days



Explanation

- DAY : **March 1**
- DATE : **Zero Discrimination Day 2023**
- OTHERS : The ultimate aim of celebrating this day is **to initiate a movement of solidarity on an international level to eradicate all forms of discrimination.**



➤ SBI raised \$1 bn under how many year syndicated social loan for ESG funding?

- A) 2
- B) 3
- C) 4
- D) 5
- E) None of these



Answer

D) 5



Explanation

- **The country's largest lender, State Bank of India, has raised \$1 billion in its largest syndicated social loan for onward lending to ESG projects, affordable housing and self-help groups (SHGs).**
- The deal was the largest Environmental, Social, and Governance (ESG) loan by a commercial bank in the Asia Pacific and the second largest social loan globally.
- **SBI executives said the five-year loan was priced at the secured overnight financing rate (SOFR) of three months plus 130 basis points.**
- This was all-in cost pricing.



Titbits

State Bank of India

- Founded : **01/07/1955**
- HQ : **Mumbai**
- Chairman : **Dinesh Kumar Khara**
- Tagline : **With You all the way, Pure Banking**
Nothing Else, The Nation Bank on Us, The Banker to Every Indian, A Bank of the Common Man



➤ Which bank & V-Guard partners will finance rooftop solar systems?

- A) Au Small Finance Bank
- B) Equitas Small Finance Bank
- C) Capital Small Finance Bank
- D) ESAF Small Finance Bank
- E) None of these



Answer

D) ESAF Small Finance Bank



Explanation

- **ESAF Small Finance Bank and electric equipment manufacturer V-Guard Industries signed an agreement to provide financing options to customers looking to install solar rooftop power systems.**
- Under the agreement, ESAF Bank will provide various financing options, including loans and attractive installment payment plans, a statement said.
- With the strategic alliance with ESAF Bank, it said, **consumers can opt to finance up to 80 per cent of the total cost of the rooftop solar power system**, including the cost of installation for residential or commercial applications.
- This collaboration will not only reduce the burden on customers to make an upfront payment but also enable them to generate their own electricity, thereby reducing their dependence on the grid, it said.
- **This partnership will enable customers to switch to clean energy with ease and affordability**, it added.



➤ **IDFC & which bank partnered with Sa-Dhan on UPI123PAY?**

- A) CUB
- B) Federal Bank
- C) ICICI
- D) HDFC
- E) None of these



Answer

B) Federal Bank



Explanation

- Private sector lenders **IDFC First and Federal Bank will partner with association of microfinance institutions Sa-Dhan and Delhi-based fintech solutions provider NextGen to promote digital payments by feature phone users.**
- "Digitization in collections in the microfinance sector has been a great challenge as most of the MFI clients do not possess smartphones.
- The association with NextGen, **Federal Bank and IDFC First will help in developing a new payment and collection system by using feature phones with the technological intervention being provided by them,**" said Jiji Mammen, ED & CEO, Sa-Dhan.



Titbits

Federal Bank Limited

- Formed : **23 April 1931**
- Headquarters : **Aluva, Kerala**
- MD & CEO : **Shyam Srinivasan**



➤ Which bank became the owner of Citibank's India Consumer Business?

- A) CUB
- B) Axis
- C) ICICI
- D) HDFC
- E) None of these



Answer

B) Axis



Explanation

- **Axis Bank has completed its ₹11,603 crore acquisition of Citibank's India Consumer Business from CBNA and the NBFC Consumer Business from CFIL as going concerns.**
- Accordingly, the businesses of CBNA and CFIL stand transferred to Axis Bank, and the bank becomes the owner of Citibank's India Consumer Business and NBFC Consumer Business effective, per the bank's regulatory filing.



Titbits

Axis Bank

- Formed : **03/12/1993**
- HQ : **Mumbai**
- MD & CEO : **Amitabh Chaudhry**
- Tagline : **Bandhti Ka Naam Zindagi**



➤ All-India House Price Index rised _____ pc in Q3?

- A) 2.8 per cent
- B) 3.9 per cent
- C) 4.7 per cent
- D) 5.8 per cent
- E) None of these

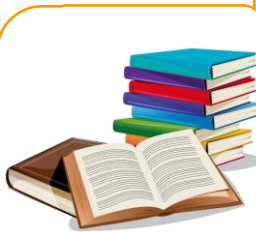
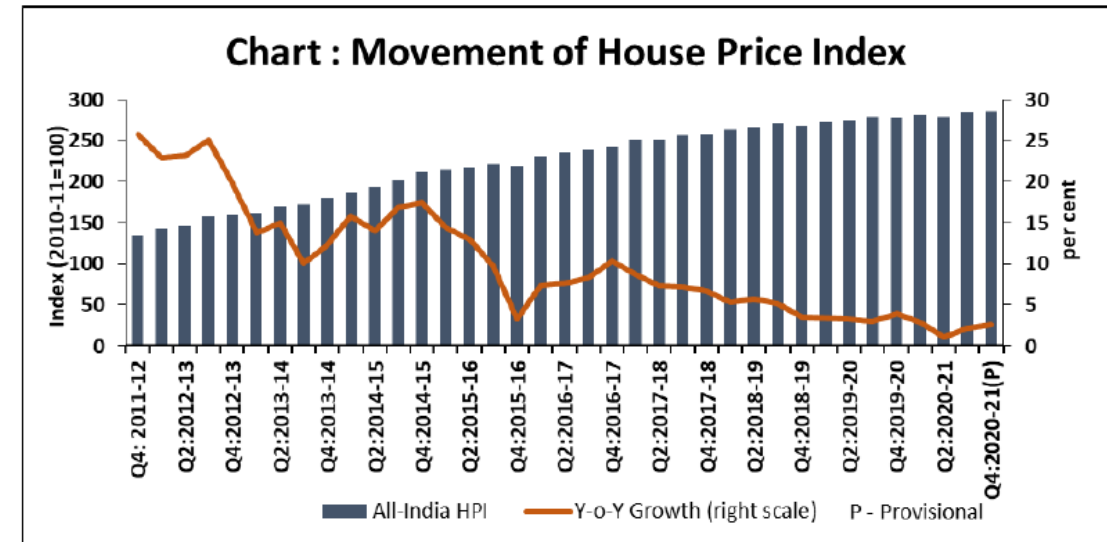
Answer

A) 2.8 per cent



Explanation

- The all India house price index (HPI) rose 2.8 per cent in the **October-December quarter of 2022-23** as compared with 3.1 per cent a year ago, according to data released by the Reserve Bank of India.
- The RBI releases quarterly HPI based on transaction-level data received from the registration authorities in ten major cities.
- The cities are: **Ahmedabad, Bengaluru, Chennai, Delhi, Jaipur, Kanpur, Kochi, Kolkata, Lucknow, and Mumbai.**



ACQUISITIONS AND MERGERS



➤ Who partnered with HDFC Bank to launch India's most rewarding co-branded travel credit card?

- A) IRCTC
- B) Air Asia
- C) Ganga Cruise
- D) All of these
- E) None of these

Answer
A) IRCTC



ACQUISITIONS AND MERGERS



Explanation

- **Indian Railway Catering and Tourism Corporation Ltd (IRCTC)**, the public sector undertaking under the Ministry of Railways, and **HDFC Bank**, India's largest private sector bank announced a partnership **to launch one of India's most rewarding co-branded travel credit cards.** Known as the IRCTC HDFC Bank Credit Card, the newly launched co-branded card is in a single variant and is **available exclusively on NPCI's Rupay network.**



APPOINTMENTS



➤ Who won Nigeria's presidential election?

- A) Nnamdi Azikiwe
- B) Johnson Aguiyi
- C) Yakubu Gowon
- D) Bola Tinubu
- E) None of these

Answer

D) Bola Tinubu



APPOINTMENTS



Explanation

- **Bola Tinubu, the candidate of the ruling party in Nigeria, was declared the winner and sworn in as president of Africa's most populous country in the early hours of March 1**, after a weekend election that the major opposition parties have disputed.
- Former governor of Lagos state, Mr. Tinubu, will take command of a nation battling Islamic insurgencies in the northeast, armed attacks, homicides, and kidnappings, strife between farmers and cattle herders, shortages of cash, fuel, and power, and enduring corruption.
- According to the Independent National Election Commission (INEC), Tinubu received 8.79 million votes, surpassing Atiku Abubakar, the leading competitor, who received 6.98 million. Younger people preferred the outsider Peter Obi, who received 6.1 million votes.



AWARDS



➤ Which country won GSMA Government Leadership Award 2023?

- A) India
- B) China
- C) Russia
- D) Pakistan
- E) None of these

Answer
A) India



AWARDS



Explanation

- The **GSM Association (GSMA)** has conferred **Government Leadership Award 2023 to India for implementing best practices in telecom policy and regulation.**
- Speaking on the occasion of India receiving the award, the Minister for Communications, Electronics & IT and Railways, Ashwini Vaishnaw said, “GSMA Awards represent global recognition of the telecom reforms carried out by PM Shri Narendra Modi ji.
- We all have seen the effect of reforms.
- RoW permissions which used to take more than 230 days, now get approval within 8 days.
- **More than 85% mobile tower clearances are now instantaneous.**
- With nearly 1 Lakh sites in 387 districts, India’s 5G roll-out is one of the fastest in the world.
- **Indian telecom sector has emerged as a sunrise sector and the whole world has taken note of this rise.”**
- GSMA, which represents more than 750 mobile operators and 400 companies in the telecom ecosystem, recognizes one country every year.
- **India was declared the winner in the ceremony held at Mobile World Congress Barcelona on 27 Feb, 2023.**



AWARDS



➤ Vinod Kumar Shukla won US literary award and he is a _____?

- A) Marathi singer
- B) Hindi writer
- C) Tamil Actor
- D) Telugu writer
- E) None of these



Answer

B) Hindi writer



AWARDS



Explanation

- **Vinod Kumar Shukla, among the most distinctive and distinguished of contemporary Hindi writers, will receive the 2023 PEN/Nabokov award for achievement in international literature,** a press release by PEN America said.

The award, to be presented, “is conferred annually to a living author whose body of work is of enduring originality and consummate craftsmanship,” the release said.



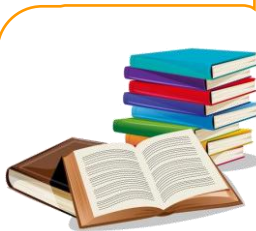
INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS



➤ Which country hosted first meeting of governing board of BIMSTEC Energy Centre?

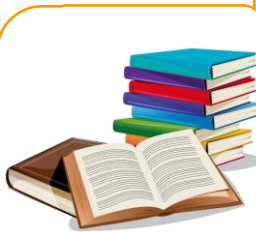
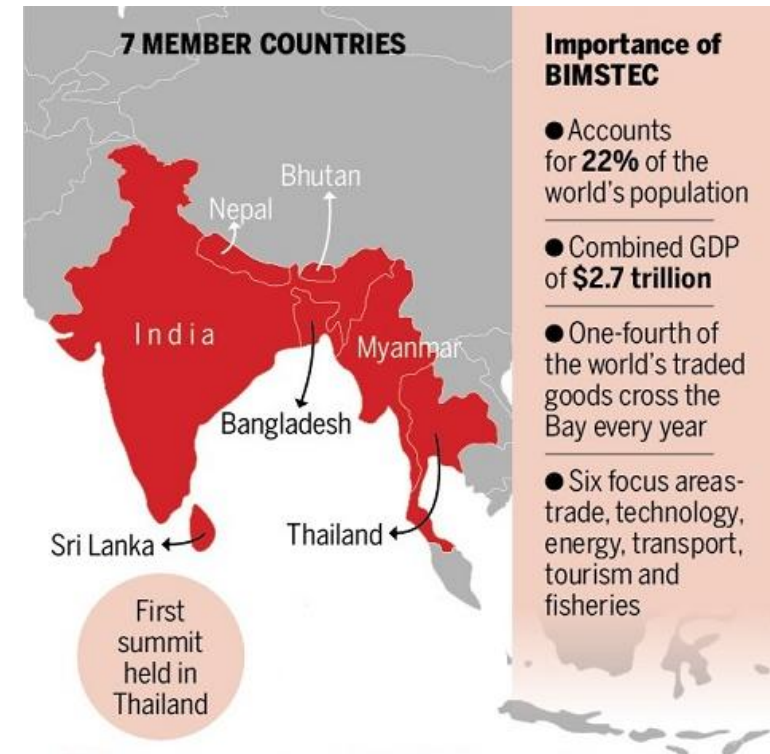
- A) India
- B) China
- C) Russia
- D) Pakistan
- E) None of these

Answer
A) India



Explanation

- The central government hosted the first meeting of the governing board of BIMSTEC Energy Centre (BEC) on 27 February, 2023 in Bengaluru.
- The meeting witnessed active participation from member countries **Bangladesh, Bhutan, India, Myanmar, Nepal, Sri Lanka and Thailand.**



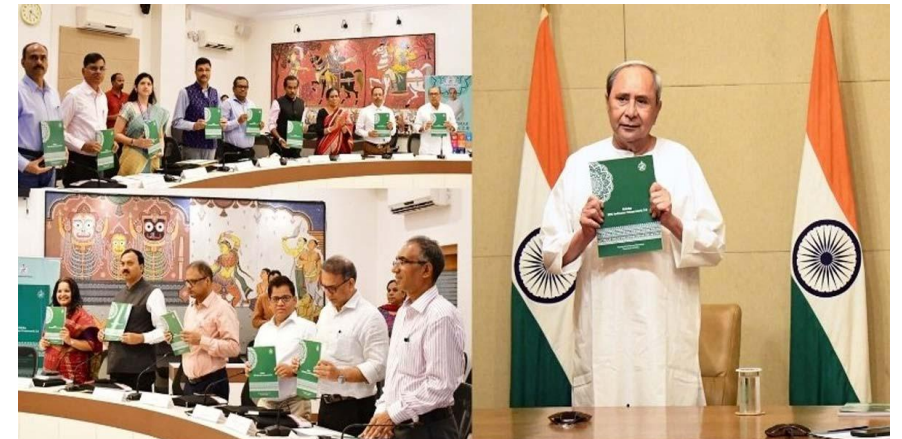
NATIONAL AFFAIRS



➤ CM Patnaik launches 'Odisha SDG Indicator Framework-2.0' will achieve _____ goals?

- A) 2030
- B) 2025
- C) 2035
- D) 2040
- E) None of these

Answer
A) 2030



Explanation

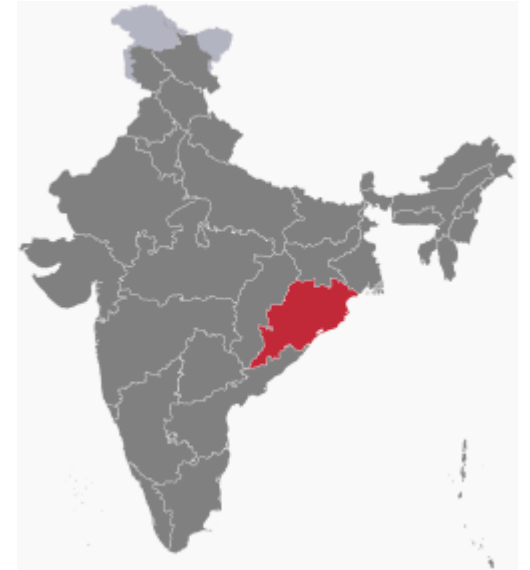
- Odisha Chief Minister **Naveen Patnaik** launched the **second version of the Odisha SDG Indicator Framework (OSIF 2.0)** and urged every Department to make **intelligent use of this framework as together we march towards 2030.**
- Pronouncing the commitment to the SDGs, he said, **"Together we can; Together we will."**



Titbits

Odisha

- Capital: **Bhubaneshwar**
- CM: **Naveen Patnaik**
- Governor: **Ganeshi Lal**
- Language: **Odia**
- National Park: **Bhitarkanika National Park**
- Wildlife Sanctuary: **Sunabeda Wildlife Sanctuary**
- Ramsar Site: **Bhitarkanika Magroves, Chilka Lake**
- Tiger Reserve: **Satkosia Tiger Reserve**
- Power Station: **Odisha Power Generation Corporation Limited**
- Dams: **Indravati (RIVER: Indravati)**
- RRB: **Odisha Gramya Bank (IOB), Utkal Grameen Bank (SBI)**
- UNESCO Site: **Sun Temple Konark**



NATIONAL AFFAIRS



➤ India's unemployment rate rose to _____% from 7.14% in January?

- A) 7.45%
- B) 6.55%
- C) 8.65%
- D) 9.35%
- E) None of these

Answer

A) 7.45%



Explanation

- **India's unemployment rate rose to 7.45% in February from 7.14% in January**, data from the Centre for Monitoring Indian Economy (CMIE) showed.
- The **urban unemployment rate declined to 7.93% in February from 8.55% in January**, while the rural unemployment rate rose to 7.23% from 6.48%, the data showed.



NATIONAL AFFAIRS

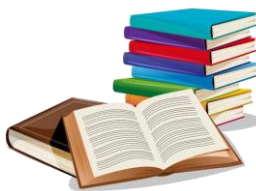
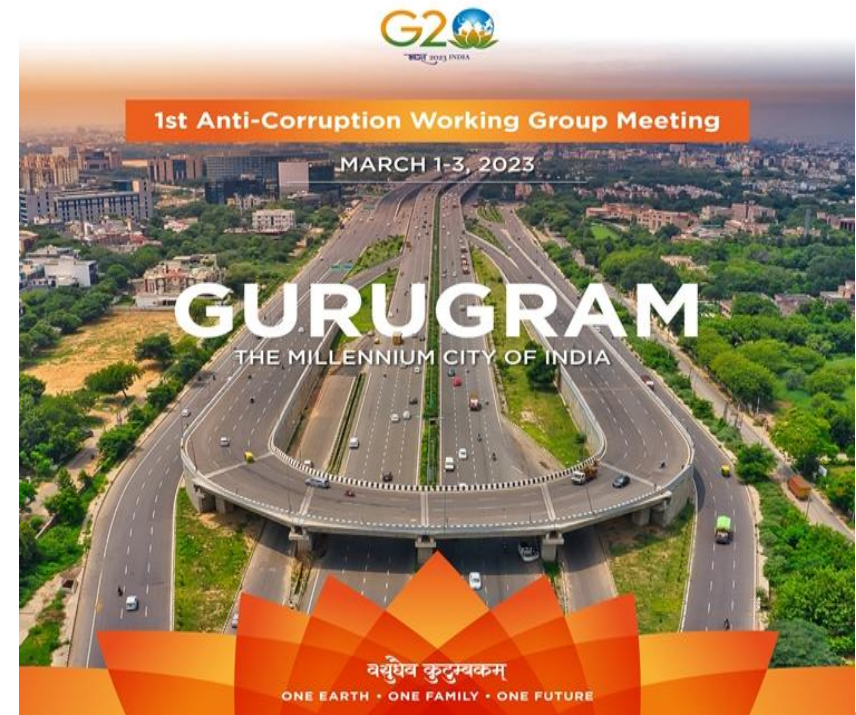


➤ G-20 meeting of Anti Corruption Working Group began in _____?

- A) Gurugram
- B) Chennai
- C) Luva
- D) Pune
- E) None of these

Answer

A) Gurugram



Explanation

- Union Minister **Jitendra Singh** stressed on requirement of **multilateral action rather than bilateral coordination for streamlining the judicial processes and timely disposal of cases.**
- Addressing the G20 meeting of the Anti Corruption Working Group in Gurugram, the Minister said bilateral coordination proves to be more complex and presents obstacles in making progress in cases related to foreign economic offenders and the recovery of the related assets.
- **Mr. Singh asserted that India is strengthening mechanisms for speedy confiscation of the proceeds of crime,** both at home and abroad will force the offenders to return to their home country.
- Mr. Singh added that **this government had brought a fugitive economic offender law in 2018,** which was a major breakthrough to tackle corrupt practices.



NATIONAL AFFAIRS



➤ **Second Environment & Climate Sustainability Working Group meeting will take place in _____?**

- A) Gujarat
- B) Tamil Nadu
- C) Punjab
- D) Kerala
- E) None of these

Answer

A) Gujarat



Explanation

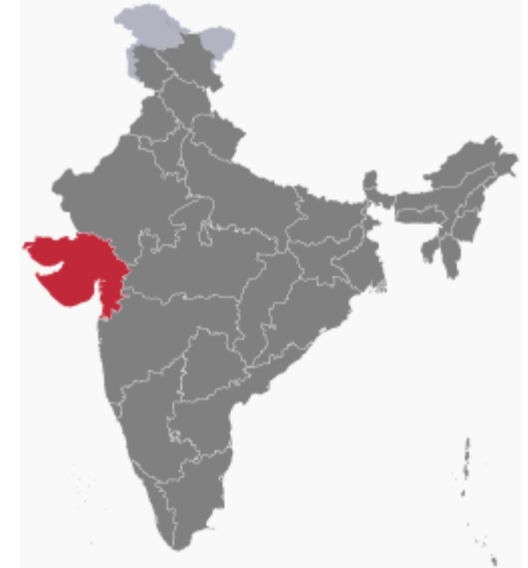
- The **Second Environment and Climate Sustainability Working Group (ECSWG) meeting will be held at Gandhinagar in Gujarat from 27 to 29 March.**
- The Second ECSWG will commence with a side event on water resources management wherein presentations on **the Best Practices in Water Resources Management by G20 member countries will take place.**
- In a statement Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change said that this will be followed by an excursion and a site visit to Adalaj Vav which demonstrates the ancient water management practices of India.



Titbits

Gujarat

- Capital: **Gandhinagar**
- CM: **Bhupendrabhai Patel**
- Governor: **Acharya Dev Vrat**
- Language: **Gujarati**
- National Park: **Gir Forest National Park**
- Wildlife Sanctuary: **Kutch Desert Wildlife Sanctuary**
- Ramsar Site: **Thol Lake Wildlife Sanctuary, Nalsarovar Bird Sanctuary, Wadhvana Wetland, Khijadia Wildlife Sanctuary**
- Power Station: **Kutch Lignite Thermal Power Station**
- Dams: **Abhalwad Dam**
- RRB: **Baroda Gujarat Gramin Bank (BOB), Saurashtra Gramin Bank (SBI)**
- UNESCO Site: **Champaner Pavagadh Archaeological Park, Rani-ki-Vav, Historic City of Ahmadabad, Dholavira (Harappan City)**



QUICK RECALL



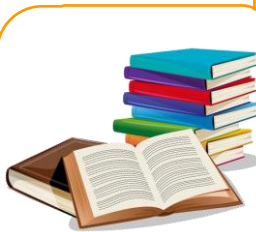
- ❖ Zero Discrimination Day 2023
- ❖ World Civil Defence day 2023 celebrated
- ❖ SBI raises \$1 bn under 5-year syndicated social loan for ESG funding
- ❖ ESAF Bank, V-Guard partners to finance rooftop solar systems
- ❖ IDFC & Federal Bank partner with Sa-Dhan on UPI123PAY
- ❖ Axis Bank becomes the owner of Citibank's India Consumer Business
- ❖ All-India House Price Index rises 2.8 pc in Q3
- ❖ IRCTC partners with HDFC Bank to launch India's most rewarding co-branded travel credit card



QUICK RECALL



- ❖ Bola Tinubu wins Nigeria's presidential election
- ❖ India Wins GSMA Government Leadership Award 2023
- ❖ Hindi writer Vinod Kumar Shukla wins US literary award
- ❖ India hosts first meeting of governing board of BIMSTEC Energy Centre
- ❖ CM Patnaik launches 'Odisha SDG Indicator Framework-2.0' to achieve 2030 goals
- ❖ India's unemployment rate rose to 7.45% from 7.14% in January
- ❖ G-20 meeting of Anti Corruption Working Group begins in Gurugram
- ❖ Second Environment & Climate Sustainability Working Group meeting to take place in Gujarat



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