

March - 07

NATIONAL

Supreme Court verdict on ECI appointment

Revamp mode


A Constitution Bench hearing a series of petitions seeking functional independence for ECs, is examining various aspects:

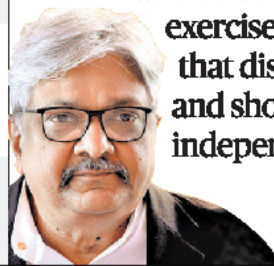
■ Appointment of CEC and ECs by a Collegium of PM, CJI and Leader of the Opposition

■ Equal protection to CEC and ECs and common procedure of removal

■ Rule-making power to Election Commission like Supreme Court, Lok Sabha and Rajya Sabha

■ Independent secretariat, budget for the commission

 Independence is not an unruly horse ... Independence also partakes in playing by the rules of the game. In areas where he [EC] has discretion, he should exercise that discretion and show independence



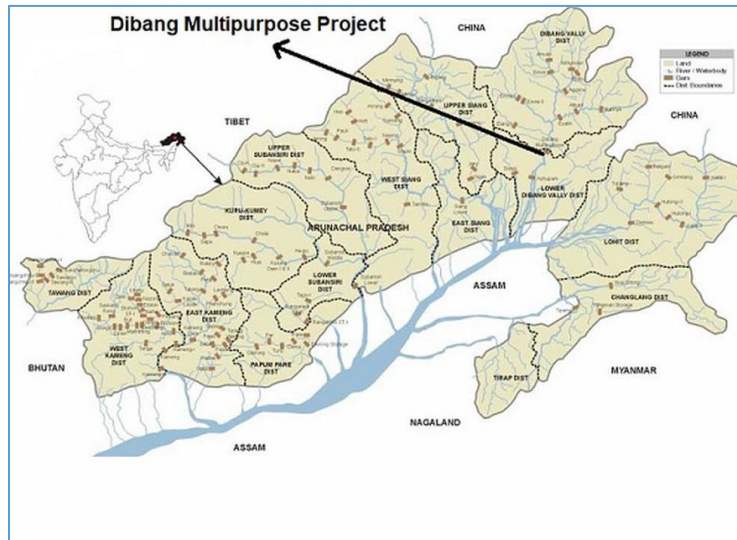
**JUSTICE
K.M. JOSEPH**

- ❖ The Supreme Court held that the appointment of an Election Commissioner for a tenure less than six years is in “clear breach” of law.
- ❖ The court’s observation came while discussing the designation of Arun Goel as an Election Commissioner.
- ❖ Mr. Goel appointment took place on November 18 last year, has a term of a little over five years.
- ❖ Section 4(1) of the Election Commission (Conditions of Service of Election Commissioners and Transaction of Business) Act, 1991 requires that Chief Election Commissioners and Election Commissioners should separately have a period of six years in office.

Dibang Multipurpose Project

- ❖ India approved its largest ever hydropower project in Arunachal Pradesh.
- ❖ This multipurpose project is being set up close to China’s border on the Dibang River.
- ❖ The Dibang project is estimated to take nine years to build.

- ❖ This project will be developed by National Hydroelectric Power Corporation (NHPC) Limited.
- ❖ Dihang, Dibang, and Lohit are the major tributaries of Brahmaputra.
- ❖ Dibang joins River Lohit near Dibru-Saikhowa Sanctuary.
- ❖ The tributaries of Dibang are Emra, Ithun, Dri, Rangon, Mathun, and Sisar.



Ornamental fish aquaculture

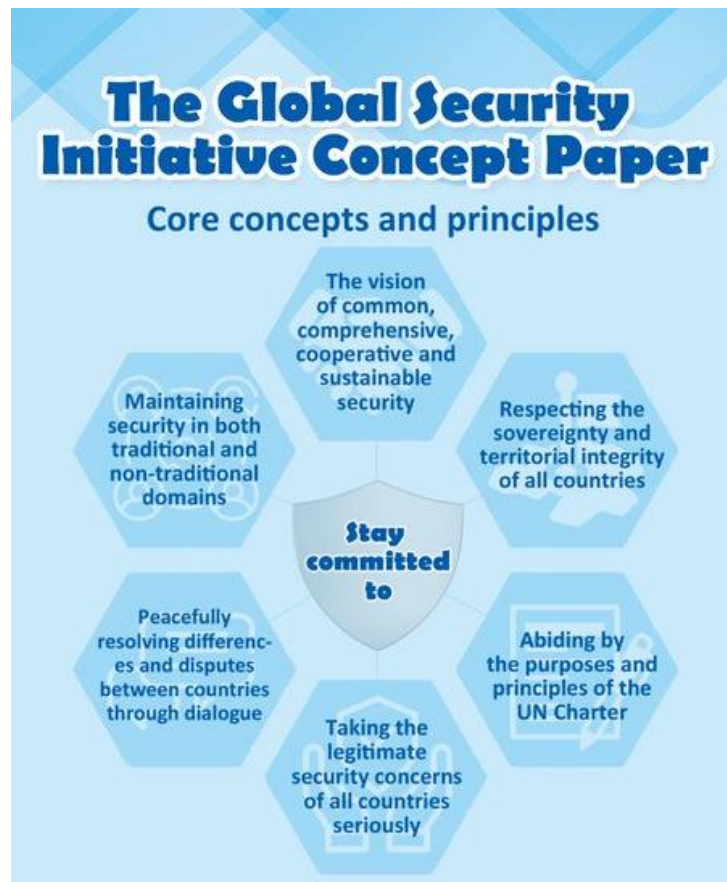


- ❖ Community-based ornamental fish aquaculture, using local resources, is expected to help women in the Lakshadweep islands.
- ❖ This takes the first step towards self-reliance through concerted activities.

- ❖ It is the first-of-its-kind experiment, as many as 82 islanders, 77 of them women, were selected and underwent intensive training.
- ❖ They have formed groups for ornamental fish aquaculture with technical support from the ICAR-National Bureau of Fish Genetic Resources (NBFGR).

INTERNATIONAL

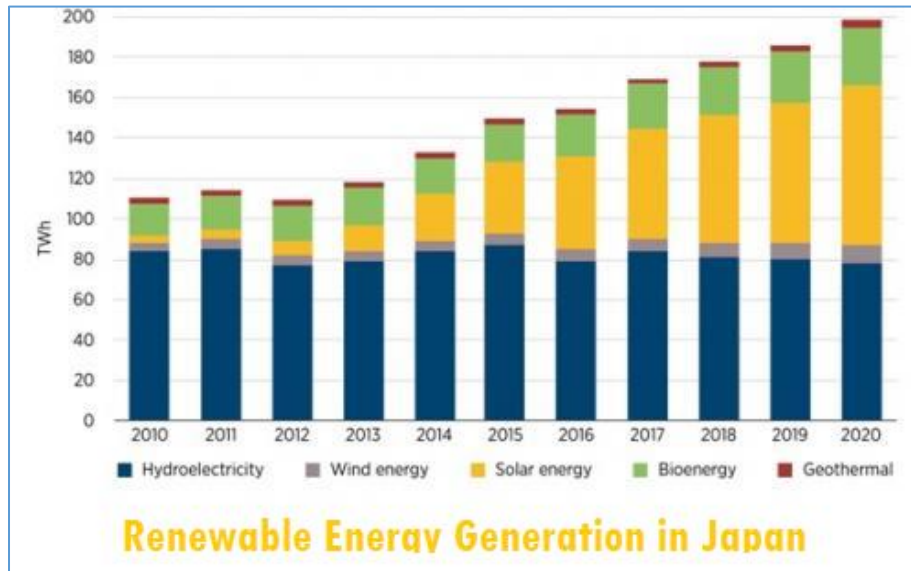
Global Security Initiative



- ❖ A new Global Security Initiative (GSI) was proposed by Chinese President Recently.
- ❖ GSI calls for a "common, comprehensive, cooperative and sustainable" security and building an Asian security model of mutual respect, openness and integration".
- ❖ It aims to counter the US Indo-Pacific strategy and the Quad (India, US, Australia, Japan grouping).
- ❖ China held that the Global security initiative is envisaged to uphold the principle of "indivisible security".

- ❖ The principle of "indivisible security" means that no country can strengthen its own security at the expense of others.

Asia Energy Transition Initiative (AETI)



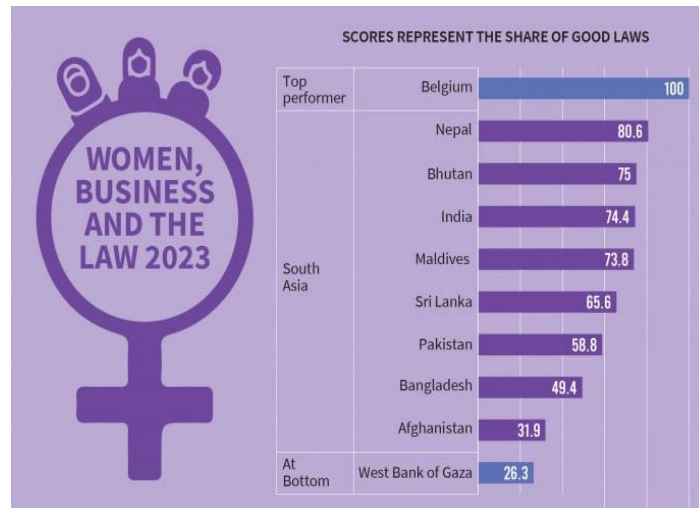
- ❖ Japan plans to provide support to India to drive the transition to clean energy, expanding Japan's 'Asia Energy Transition Initiative'.
- ❖ Japan's Asia Energy Transition Initiative (AETI) was launched in 2021.
- ❖ Initially it supported the Association of South East Asian Nations (ASEAN) countries towards achieving net zero emissions.
- ❖ India has set an ambitious target of achieving net zero by 2070.
- ❖ Japan has initiated a goal of becoming net zero by 2050.
- ❖ The countries are utilising new technologies and economic models that would help reduce emissions.

REPORTS AND INDICES

Women, Business and the Law 2023 report

- ❖ Women, Business and the Law 2023 is the 9th in a series of annual report of World Bank.
- ❖ It analyses laws and regulations affecting women's economic opportunity in 190 economies.
- ❖ It has eight indicators such as Mobility, Workplace, Pay, Marriage, Parenthood, Entrepreneurship, Assets, and Pension.

- ❖ A perfect score of 100 on the Index means that women are on an equal standing with men.
- ❖ Only 14 countries scored a perfect 100.
- ❖ India scored 74.4 in the index which was higher than the 63.7 average for the South Asian region.
- ❖ But it is lower than Nepal which had the region's highest score of 80.6.
- ❖ The Index used data on the laws and regulations applicable in Mumbai.
- ❖ In 2022, the global average score is 76.5 out of 100.



STATES

International Dharma Dhamma Conference



- ❖ The President of India, inaugurated the 7th International Dharma Dhamma Conference in Bhopal, Madhya Pradesh.

- ❖ Theme of the event is "Eastern Humanism for the New Era"
- ❖ It is organised by the India Foundation in collaboration with the Sanchi University of Buddhist-Indic Studies.
- ❖ India Foundation is a New Delhi-based independent think-tank that focuses on issues, challenges and opportunities of Indian polity.

Indian States' electricity transition Report

Dimension 1	Dimension 2	Dimension 3	Dimension 4	
Karnataka	Karnataka	Karnataka	Haryana	Quartile 1
Rajasthan	Punjab	Andhra Pradesh	Gujarat	
Punjab	Telangana	Gujarat	Karnataka	
Haryana	Gujarat	Maharashtra	Chhattisgarh	
Tamil Nadu	Haryana	Telangana	Rajasthan	Quartile 2
Andhra Pradesh	Delhi	West Bengal	Maharashtra	
Gujarat	Andhra Pradesh	Odisha	Delhi	
Delhi	Tamil Nadu	Tamil Nadu	Punjab	
Maharashtra	Odisha	Madhya Pradesh	Uttar Pradesh	Quartile 3
Telangana	Chhattisgarh	Chhattisgarh	Madhya Pradesh	
Madhya Pradesh	Rajasthan	Punjab	Bihar	
Odisha	Maharashtra	Delhi	Telangana	
Uttar Pradesh	Uttar Pradesh	Rajasthan	Tamil Nadu	Quartile 4
Bihar	Bihar	Uttar Pradesh	Andhra Pradesh	
West Bengal	Madhya Pradesh	Haryana	West Bengal	
Chhattisgarh	West Bengal	Bihar	Odisha	

- ❖ India's energy transition report was prepared by the Institute for Energy Economics and Financial Analysis (IEEFA) along with EMBER India.
- ❖ The report has analysed 16 states, which together account for 90% of India's annual power requirement.
- ❖ Karnataka and Gujarat are among the major states making the most progress in transition to clean electricity.
- ❖ The analysis has tracked four dimensions of transition module.

PERSONALITIES, AWARDS, AND EVENTS

Asian Chess Excellence Awards 2023

- ❖ Indian Grandmaster D Gukesh has been honoured with Player-of-the-Year award by the Asian Chess Federation (ACF) annual summit at Abu Dhabi, United Arab Emirates.
- ❖ This is award for clinching the gold medal with a record-breaking score of 9/11 in the 44th Chess Olympiad at Mahabalipuram last year.

- ❖ Tamil Nadu Chief Minister M K Stalin has been conferred with Man-of-the-Year award for his effort in the successful hosting of the FIDE Chess Olympiad in Chennai.
- ❖ The Indian women's team, comprising of Koneru Humpy, D Harika, R Vaishali, Tania Sachdev and Bhakti Kulkarni, was adjudged the 'Best Women's team of the Year'.
- ❖ Grandmaster R B Ramesh bagged the men's Coach-of-the-Year award.
- ❖ Grandmaster Abhijit Kunte won the Women's Coach-of-the-Year awards.
- ❖ The All-India Chess Federation (AICF) bagged the 'Most Active Federation' award.



SPORTS

Men's long jump Record



- ❖ Tamil Nadu's Jeswin Aldrin hogged the limelight with a national record in men's long jump in the second AFI National Jumps Competition, held at Karnataka.
- ❖ He leapt 8.42 metres to erase the previous mark of 8.36 metres set by India teammate M Sreeshankar last year.

IMPORTANT DAYS

World Wildlife Day - March 03



- ❖ The 68th session of the United Nations General Assembly (UNGA) designated this Day on December 20, 2013.
- ❖ It aims to raise awareness of world's wild flora and fauna.
- ❖ It was on March 3 when the adoption of the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES) took place in 1973.
- ❖ The convention helps ensure that international trade doesn't pose any threat to the species.
- ❖ This March 3 marks the 50th anniversary of the convention.
- ❖ The theme for this year is 'Partnerships for Wildlife Conservation'.

World Hearing Day - March 03

- ❖ This Day is observed to encourage ear and hearing care worldwide and to increase awareness of ways to avoid deafness and hearing loss.
- ❖ The World Health Organization has been hosting this event since 2007.

❖ The theme for this year is "Ear and hearing care for all!"

