

- It will be **linked to hundreds of offshore wind turbines** and will supply both power to households and green hydrogen for use in shipping, aviation, industry and heavy transport.
- The island will **produce and store enough green energy** to cover the electricity needs of three million European households.
- **Significance** → The move came as the **European Union unveiled plans** to transform its electricity system to rely mostly on **renewable energy within a decade** and **increase its offshore wind energy capacity 25-fold by 2050**.



DHAULIGANGA

WHY IN NEWS?

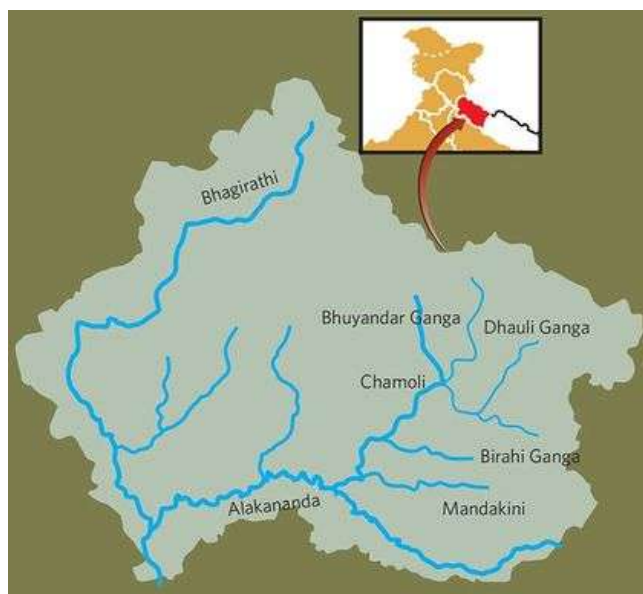
- Recently, a glacial break in the Tapovan-Reni area of Chamoli District of Uttarakhand led to massive Flash Flood in Dhauliganga and Alaknanda Rivers, damaging houses and the nearby Rishiganga power project.

ABOUT DHAULIGANGA:

- Originating from **Vasudhara Tal**, perhaps the **largest glacial lake in Uttarakhand**, the Dhauliganga flows in a meandering course, which takes it through the **Nanda Devi National Park**.
- Dhauliganga is one of the **important tributaries of Alaknanda**, the other being the Nandakini, Pindar, Mandakini and Bhagirathi.
- Dhauliganga is **joined by the Rishiganga river at Raini**.
- It **merges with the Alaknanda** at Vishnuprayag.
- There it **loses its identity** and the **Alaknanda flows southwest** through Chamoli, Maithana,

Nandaprayag, Karnaprayag until it meets the **Mandakini river**, coming from the **north at Rudraprayag**.

- After subsuming Mandakini, the Alaknanda carries on past Srinagar, before **joining the Ganga at Devprayag**.
- Alaknanda then disappears and the mighty Ganga carries on its journey, **first flowing south** then west through **important pilgrimage centres** such as Rishikesh and finally descending into the Indo-Gangetic plains at Haridwar.



NANDA DEVI NATIONAL PARK:

- **Location** → It is situated around the **peak of Nanda Devi (7816 m)** in the state of **Uttarakhand in northern India**.
- The park encompasses the **Nanda Devi Sanctuary**, a glacial basin surrounded by a ring of peaks, and drained by the Rishi Ganga through the **Rishi Ganga Gorge**.
- **Established** → The Park was established as **Sanjay Gandhi National Park** by Notification in **1982** but was **later renamed** Nanda Devi National Park.
- It was inscribed a **World Heritage Site** by the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) in **1988**.
- **Flora** → Some 312 floral species that include **17 rare species** have been found here. **Fir, birch, rhododendron, and juniper** are the main flora.
- **Fauna** → Himalayan black bear, Snow leopard, Himalayan Musk Deer etc.