




drishti

Pamba-Achankovil-Vaippar River Project

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Why in News

The Kerala government is preventing the implementation of the Pamba-Achankovil-Vaippar river link project as it will lead to diversion of water from Kerala to Tamil Nadu.

Project

- The project was envisaged in **1995** for producing 500 MW of power for Kerala and irrigating the lands in Tamil Nadu.
- The river link proposal envisages the diversion of water from the **Pamba and Achankovil rivers in Kerala to the Vaippar basin in Tamil Nadu.**

Pamba River

- It rises at an altitude of 1650m in the **Peermade Plateau** in the **Idukki district of Kerala.**
- It joins the Arabian Sea branching into a number of channels. The entire catchment area of Pamba lies in Kerala state.
- The Pamba basin is bounded on the east by Western Ghats and on the west by Arabian Sea.

Achankovil River

- The river rises in the Western Ghats in **Pathanamthitta district of Kerala** at an elevation of 700m.
- It joins the Pamba River at Veeyapuram.
- The river basin extends over an area of 1484 km² and lies entirely in Kerala State.

Vaippar River

- The river rises from the eastern slopes of the **Varushanad hill range of the Western Ghats** at an elevation of about 1500m in **Tirunelveli district of Tamil Nadu**.
- It flows in an easterly and southeasterly direction before joining the **Gulf of Mannar**.
- The basin is bounded on the west by the Western Ghats, on the east by the Bay of Bengal.

Source: TH