



Rajasthan to Get its Share of Yamuna Water

Why in News?

Recently, Rajasthan Chief Minister asserted that the state will get its share of **Yamuna water** as per the allocations specified in the 1994 agreement with Haryana.

Key Points

- Haryana and Rajasthan recently signed an agreement to jointly prepare a detailed project report for the transfer of **Rajasthan's share of Yamuna water from Hathnikund in Haryana** through **underground pipelines** and its subsequent utilisation **in areas such as Jhunjhunu and Churu.**
- The Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) was signed after a meeting between Haryana and Rajasthan CM on 17 February 2024.
 - The issue of water sharing has been a point of contention for over two decades since the signing of the MOU on May 12, 1994, allocating water shares among co-basin states.

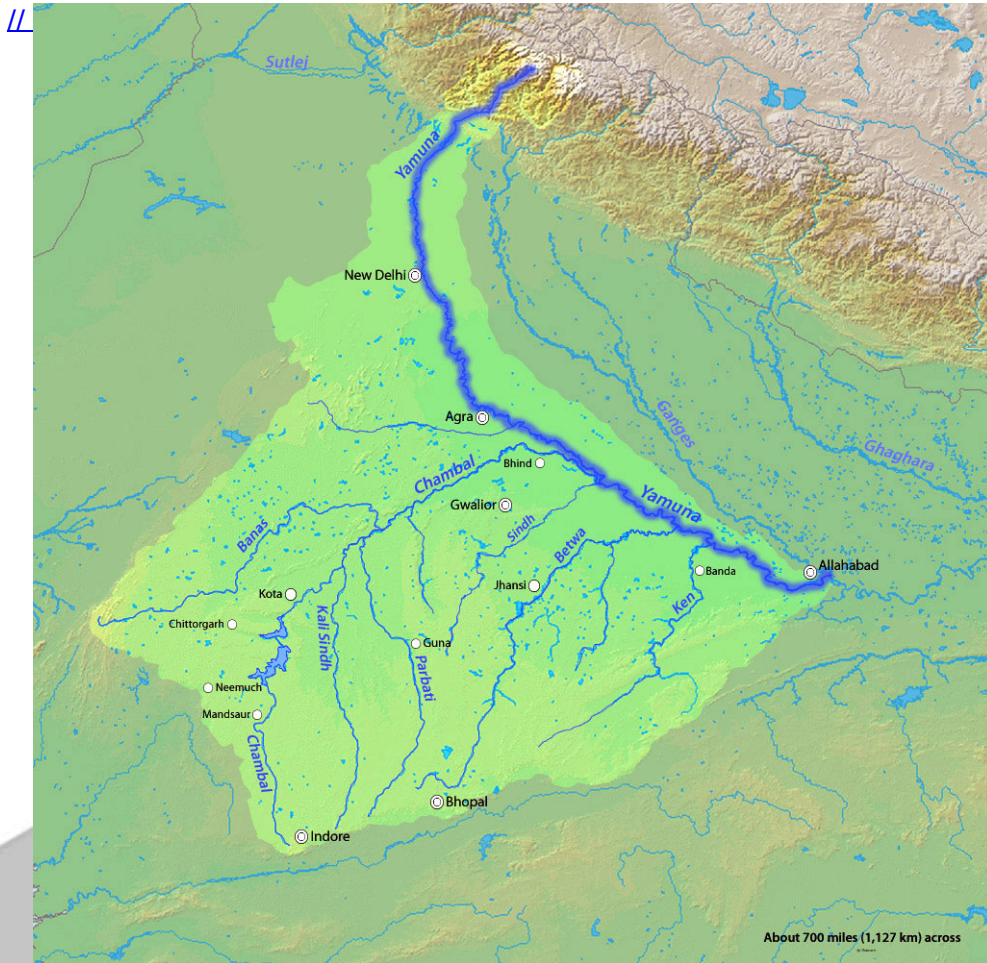
Sutlej-Yamuna Link (SYL) Canal

- The Issue stems from a controversial **1981 water-sharing agreement drawn up when Haryana was carved out of Punjab in 1966.**
- **Punjab:**
 - Punjab vehemently **opposes sharing any additional water** with neighboring states. They stress that Punjab lacks surplus water and highlights the reduction in their water allocation over the years.
 - Many areas in Punjab may **go dry after 2029** and the state has already **over-exploited its groundwater** for irrigation purposes as it fills granaries of the Centre by growing wheat and paddy worth Rs 70,000 crore every year.
 - Water in about **79% of the state's area is over-exploited** and in such a situation, the government says sharing water with any other state is impossible.
- **Haryana:**
 - Haryana strongly advocates for the canal's completion, **citing a looming water crisis and asserting that Punjab** has been utilizing Haryana's share of water.
 - It says that providing irrigation is tough for the state and there was a problem of drinking water in **southern parts of Haryana**, where groundwater has depleted up to 1,700 feet.
 - Haryana has been **citing its contribution to the central food pool** and arguing that it is being **denied its rightful share in the water as assessed by a tribunal.**

Yamuna River

- The Yamuna River is one of the major tributaries of the Ganges in Northern India.
 - It forms an integral part of the **Yamuna-Ganga Plain**, one of the world's most extensive alluvial plains.
- **Source:** It has its source in the **Yamunotri Glacier at an elevation of 6,387 meters** on the southwestern sides of **Banderpooch crests** in the **lower Himalayan ranges.**
- **Basin:** It meets the **Ganges at the Sangam (where Kumbh mela is held)** in Prayagraj, Uttar Pradesh after flowing through **Uttarakhand, Himachal Pradesh, Haryana and Delhi.**
- **Important Dam:** Lakhwar-Vyasi Dam (Uttarakhand), Tajewala Barrage Dam (Haryana) etc.

- **Important Tributaries:** Chambal, Sindh, Betwa and Ken.
- **Government Initiatives Related to Yamuna River:**
 - Yamuna Action Plan
 - Delhi Government's Six-Point Action Plan to Clean Yamuna by February 2025.



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