



River Linking Project

Why in News?

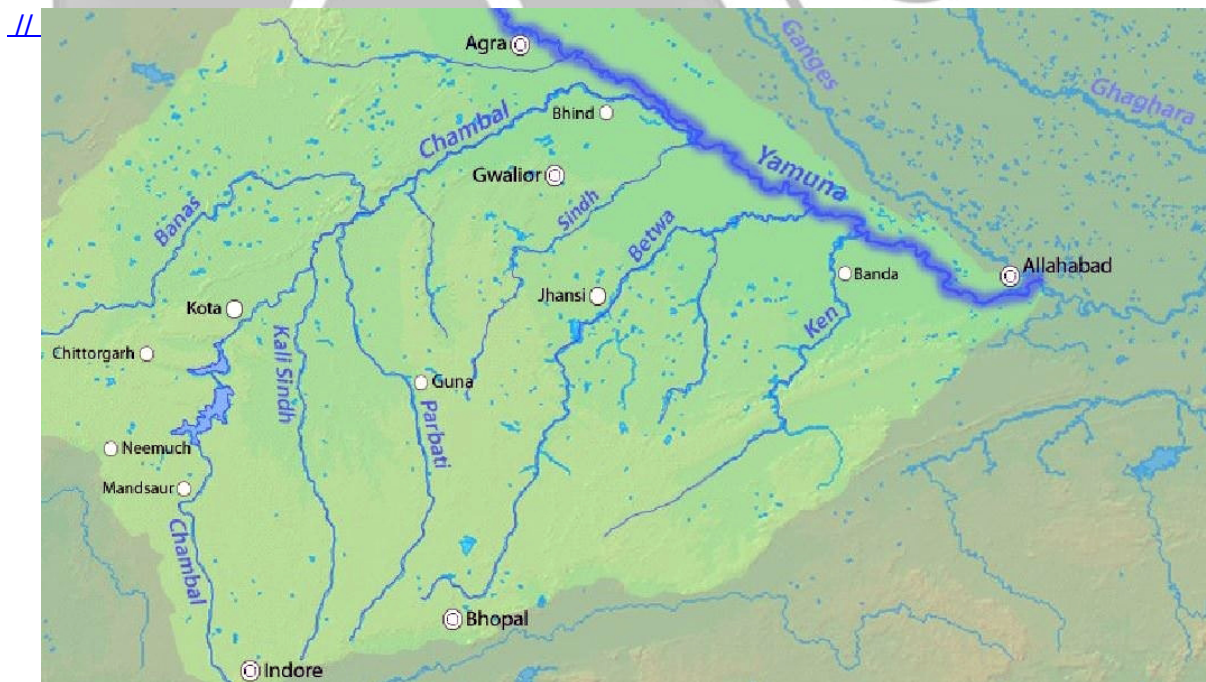
Recently, **Madhya Pradesh and Rajasthan** Chief Ministers signed [Memorandum of Understanding \(MoU\)](#) for the implementation of the Rs 72,000 crore **Parbati-Kalisindh-Chambal river linking project in Bhopal**.

- This project aims to harvest surplus water available during the rainy season in **rivers in Southern Rajasthan** such as **Chambal** and **its tributaries, including Kunnu, Parvati, Kalisindh**, and use this water in south-eastern districts of the state, where there is scarcity of water for drinking and irrigation.

Key Points

- The project would **provide water to 13 districts in Rajasthan**, and **Malwa and Chambal regions in Madhya Pradesh**.
 - It would also **aid in irrigating at least 2.8 lakh hectares in both states**, including supplementing rural tanks.
- Both the states would benefit from the river linking project, which would also strengthen the relations between the states.
- Efforts will also be made to **build a corridor from Khatu Shyam temple in Rajasthan to Mahakal Shiv temple in Ujjain** in Madhya Pradesh.

Chambal River



- It **originates at the Singar Chouri peak** in the northern slopes of the **Vindhya mountains** (Indore, Madhya Pradesh). From there, it flows in the North direction in Madhya Pradesh for a length of about 346 km and **then follows a north-easterly direction for a length of 225 km through Rajasthan.**
- It **enters Uttar Pradesh** and flows for about 32 km before joining the **Yamuna River** in Etawah District.
- It is a rainfed river and its **basin is bounded by the Vindhyan mountain ranges and the Aravallis.** The Chambal and its tributaries drain the Malwa region of northwestern Madhya Pradesh.
- The **Hadauti plateau in Rajasthan** occurs in the upper catchment of the Chambal River to the southeast of the **Mewar Plains.**
- **Tributaries:** Banas, Kali Sindh, **Sipra, Parbati**, etc.
- **Main Power Projects/ Dam:** **Gandhi Sagar Dam, Rana Pratap Sagar Dam, Jawahar Sagar Dam**, and **Kota Barrage.**
- The **National Chambal Sanctuary** is located along river Chambal on the tri-junction of Rajasthan, Madhya Pradesh and Uttar Pradesh.
 - It is known for critically endangered **gharial**, the **red-crowned roof turtle**, and the endangered **Ganges river dolphin.**

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