

# **River Devika Rejuvenation Project**

**Source: PIB** 

### Why in News?

Recently, Union Minister of State (Independent Charge) Science & Technology sheds light on the progress of the **River Rejuvenation Project, Devika.** 

- The Devika Rejuvenation Project is nearing completion as of August 2023, with substantial progress achieved in restoring the Devika River's ecological and cultural vitality.
- This initiative, inspired by the Namami Ganga campaign, aims to safeguard the sacred Devika River's purity and health.

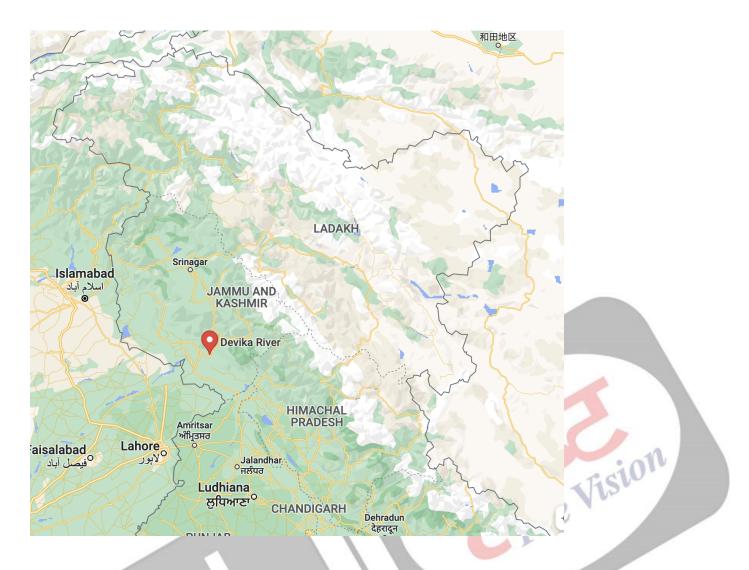
### What is the River Devika Rejuvenation Project?

- Comprehensive Waste Management:
  - Focuses on Liquid Waste Management.
  - Establishes a network of pipes and manholes connecting households.
  - The primary goal is to ensure the efficient disposal of liquid waste, preventing pollution and maintaining the river's sanctity.

Vision

- Complementary Solid Waste Management:
  - In addition to liquid waste, the project also encompasses the crucial aspect of <u>Solid Waste</u>
     Management.
    - This entails the responsible collection, disposal, and management of solid waste materials generated by local communities.
  - Proper solid waste management is essential for preventing environmental degradation and maintaining the overall health of the river and its surroundings.
- Financial Allocation Breakdown:
  - The project receives investments exceeding Rs 190 crores.
  - Allocation is shared between Central and Union Territory (UT) at a 90:10 ratio.
- Empowering Communities through PRIs:
  - Panchayati Raj Institutions (PRIs) play a crucial role in ensuring the success of the project at the grassroots level.
  - The involvement of PRIs enhances community engagement, fosters ownership, and promotes sustainable development practices.

## What are the Key Facts about the Devika River?



### • Origin:

Devika River originates from the hilly Suddha Mahadev temple in the Udhampur district
of Jammu and Kashmir and flows down towards western Punjab (now in Pakistan)
where it merges with the Ravi River.

#### Cultural Significance:

- The river holds religious significance as it is revered by Hindus as the sister of the river Ganga.
- It is believed that Devika River is a manifestation of the Goddess Parwati herself to benefit the people of Mader Desha that covers areas between river Ravi and Chenab.

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