

World Bank Loan for Water Management Project

Why in News?

Recently, the **Department of Economic Affairs** under the **Union ministry of finance** has **granted its approval** to the state government's request for a loan from the <u>World Bank</u> for the ambitious **Bihar Integrated Water Resources Management Project (BIWRMP).**

Key Points

- The BIWRMP, aligned with the state government's ongoing initiative 'Har Khet Tak Sinchai Ka Pani Nishay' and 'Jal-Jeevan-Hariyali Abhiyan', would be implemented in a span of six years.
 - It has an estimated cost of Rs 4,415 crore, out of which 30% would be borne by Bihar, while the World Bank would provide loan for the remaining 70%.
 - It will address the completion of the long-pending Western Kosi Canal Major Irrigation
 Project, but will also help restoration of age-old dams in Bihar.
 - It includes crucial projects of interlinking of rivers, control of excess water flow from major rivers to mitigate floods and employing new techniques for long-term protection of river embankments.
- Advanced measures will be implemented in vulnerable areas along rivers like <u>Ganga</u>, <u>Gandak</u>, <u>Kosi</u>, <u>Mahananda</u>, **Burhi Gandak**, **Kamala**, <u>Bagmati</u>, etc. to <u>safeguard</u> them for long-term from erosion.

World Bank

- It was created in 1944, as the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development (IBRD) along with the IMF. The IBRD later became the World Bank.
- The World Bank Group is a unique global partnership of five institutions working for sustainable solutions that reduce poverty and build shared prosperity in developing countries.
- The World Bank is one of the United Nations' specialized agencies.

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